



AMERICAN
CONSTITUTION
SOCIETY FOR
LAW AND POLICY

MEDIA ADVISORY
Monday, April 9, 2007

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WHAT: Experts discuss the latest of four death penalty cases this Supreme Court term arising out of Texas

WHO:

- **Richard C. Dieter**, Executive Director, Death Penalty Information Center
- **Anthony J. Franze**, Counsel to Amici Legal Historians in *Panetti v. Quarterman*; Associate, Arnold & Porter LLP
- Moderator, **Virginia E. Sloan**, President, The Constitution Project

WHEN: Tuesday, April 10, 2007, 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

WHERE: The National Press Club, 529 14th Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20045

At a time when many states are considering death penalty moratoriums or even abolishing capital punishment outright, Texas executes more inmates than any other state. This term, the Supreme Court is hearing four death penalty appeals arising out of the state of Texas--the last of which, *Panetti v. Quarterman*, is scheduled for oral argument on April 18th. Our panel will discuss the legal issues behind *Panetti*, which considers whether the Eighth Amendment permits Texas to execute a mentally ill inmate who believes he is being executed for "preaching the gospel," and will also ask whether Texas' relatively high number of executions represents a break with a developing trend among the several states.

A light breakfast will be served. **Members of the press interested in attending this event should contact Ian Millhiser at imillhiser@acslaw.org.**

The American Constitution Society for Law and Policy (ACS) is one of the nation's leading progressive legal organizations. Founded in 2001, ACS is a rapidly growing network of lawyers, law students, scholars, judges, policymakers and other concerned individuals. Our mission is to ensure that fundamental principles of human dignity, individual rights and liberties, genuine equality, and access to justice enjoy their rightful, central place in American law. The views of speakers are their own and should not be attributed to ACS. For more information about the organization, which has established student chapters at 155 law schools around the country and lawyer chapters in over 25 cities, please visit www.acslaw.org.

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The American Constitution Society for Law and Policy

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