



AMERICAN  
CONSTITUTION  
SOCIETY FOR  
LAW AND POLICY

## **Experts on Both Sides Address Major Campaign Finance Cases Regarding the First Amendment Rights of Unions**

### **MEDIA ADVISORY**

**Thursday, December 21, 2006**

**Contact:** Ian Millhiser | 202-741-0687 | [IMillhiser@ACSLaw.org](mailto:IMillhiser@ACSLaw.org)

**WHAT:** Discussion of two consolidated Supreme Court cases questioning whether the First Amendment protects political activity by unions paid for with non-member fees.

### **WHO:**

- **Larry Gold**, Associate General Counsel, AFL-CIO & of counsel, Lichtman, Trister & Ross, PLLC
- **James Bopp, Jr.**, General Counsel, James Madison Center for Free Speech & Member, Bopp, Coleson & Bostrom
- Moderator, **Amanda Frost**, American University Washington College of Law

**WHEN:** Thursday, January 4, 2007, 9:30 am – 11:00 am EST.

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

On January 10, the Supreme Court will hear oral argument in *Davenport v. Washington Education Association* and *Washington v. Washington Education Association*, cases that deal with the extent to which the First Amendment protects unions from campaign finance restrictions. In 1986, the Supreme Court held that unions that engage in collective bargaining on behalf of both members and non-members must give non-members the opportunity to "opt-out" of fees that could be spent on political activity. Twenty years later, the Court will now consider whether states may further restrict political speech by unions, or whether the First Amendment forbids an "opt-in" regime, where non-member fees may not be spent on political activities without the non-member's affirmative consent. Our panel will feature attorneys on both sides of this case, with expertise in both campaign finance and labor law.

A light breakfast will be served. **Members of the media interested in attending the event should contact Ian Millhiser at [IMillhiser@ACSLaw.org](mailto:IMillhiser@ACSLaw.org) to confirm their attendance by 5:00pm on Wednesday, January 3.**

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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 over 150 law schools around the country and lawyer chapters in over 25 cities, please visit [www.acslaw.org](http://www.acslaw.org).

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