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10-3-2005

Albuquerque Journal interviews Moore about War On Terror meeting

Jennifer Moore University of New Mexico - School of Law

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Recommended Citation

Jennifer Moore, Albuquerque Journal interviews Moore about War On Terror meeting, Albuquerque Journal (2005).

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War On Terror Meeting Planned - Role of Law To Be Conference Focus

Albuquerque Journal October 3, 2005

Legal scholars and diplomats, from the International Committee of the Red Cross to an author of the Bush administration memorandum on torture, will look at the role of law in the war on terrorism at a conference Friday in Albuquerque.

"Speaking Law to Terror" was organized by faculty at the University of New Mexico Law School and will take place at 1 p.m. in Room 2401 of the law school, 1117 Stanford NE. It is free to the public.

The conference offers an opportunity for dialogue about the relevance of the U.S. Constitution and international law to the government's anti-terrorism policy, said **Jennifer Moore**, a professor of refugee law at UNM who spent five years in Africa working for the U.N. High Commissioner on Refugees.

"There are just so many issues," she said, from allegations of widespread mistreatment at places like Bagram Air Force Base and Guantanamo to concerns for due process of those accused of criminal activities. Where the first panel will take a "big picture" approach, the second will review more specific applications of law, she said.

Panelists represent a range of perspectives.

Norman Bay, UNM constitutional law professor, will moderate the first panel from 1 to 2:45 p.m., about the applicability of the Geneva Conventions to those detained for alleged terrorism.

Panelists will include Moore, University of California at Berkeley law professor John Yoo and Geoff Loane, a nonlawyer diplomat who heads the U.S.-Canada delegation to the International Red Cross.

Yoo, as a U.S. Department of Justice attorney wrote much of a controversial August 2002 memorandum for the White House that examined executive authority to use extreme interrogation techniques. Yoo argues that detainees are not subject to the Geneva Conventions.

Loane, whose organization mandated to promote access to the Geneva Conventions, has headed International Red Cross delegations in Serbia and East Africa and managed relief activities worldwide, as well as publishing articles on humanitarian issues.

UNM international law professor Sherri Burr will moderate the second discussion, from 3 to 4:45 p.m., looking at the treatment of individuals detained by the U.S. government.

Attorneys may receive continuing legal education credits by registering with the law school.