

Michelle Belco  
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## **EDUCATION**

Ph.D. University of Houston, May 2013

Fields of Study: American Institutions, Policy, and Public Law

Dissertation Title: *Unilateral Orders and the Legislative Process*

M.A., University of Houston (Political Science), 2010

Doctor of Jurisprudence, South Texas College of Law, 1996, Licensed in Texas, 1997 to present

Post-Graduate Study, Pennsylvania State University (Fine Arts and Art History), 1973-1975

B.S., Western Michigan University (Industrial Engineering and Fine Arts), 1973

## **AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION**

American Institutions: Presidency and the Executive Branch, Congress, and Bureaucracy

Policy: Administrative and Legislative Policy Processes, Regulatory Design and Implementation; Policy Areas Include Energy and Environment, Immigration, and Trade

Public Law: Constitutional Law, Administrative Law, Judicial Review

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Belco, Michelle and Brandon Rottinghaus, "In Lieu of Legislation: Executive Unilateral Preemption or Support During the Legislative Process," *Political Research Quarterly*, Forthcoming 2014

Belco, Michelle, "Teaching the Presidency: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Election, *Presidents & Executive Politics (PEP) Report*, Section of the American Political Science Association, Fall 2012.

Belco, Michelle and Brandon Rottinghaus, *Unilateral Orders in a Separated and Shared Power System*, Book Manuscript Under Review, Cambridge University Press, March 2014 (R&R)

Belco, Michelle and Brandon Rottinghaus, "Presidential Proclamation 6920: Using Executive Power to Set a New Direction for the Management of National Monuments," *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, Volume 39, No. 3, September 2009, 605-618

Rigby, Elizabeth and Michelle Belco, "Providing Public Goods: Alternative Policy Approaches," in Kent Tedin (Ed.), *The People and American Government, Volume II*. 2009, New York: Pearson Custom Publishing

## **WORK IN PROGRESS**

"Presidential Unilateral Orders as a Policymaking Tool," Invited to Submit, *Encyclopedia of Public Administration and Policy*

Book Manuscript: *Unilateral Orders as a Legislative Policymaking Tool*

"Surviving Change: The Durability of the President's Administrative Policy"

"Using Presidential Directives to Control the Bureaucracy"

"President George H. W. Bush and Ethics Reform"

“Is There A Partisan Divide on State Immigration Laws?”

“Immigration Reform and the Three Branches of Government”

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Lecturer, University of Houston, 2012-Present (The Presidency, Introduction to Public Policy, The Politics of Social Policy, U.S. and Texas Constitution and Politics- Honors)

Adjunct Faculty, University of Houston –Downtown 2012 to Present (American Government I and II)

Adjunct Faculty, Lone Star College, 2010 to Present (American Government I and II)

Teaching Assistant, University of Houston, 2009-2012, Department of Political Science (American Government I and II, Introduction to Public Policy)

Research Assistant, Department of Political Science, University of Houston 2008-2009

### **CONFERENCE ACTIVITY**

“Power or Persuasion: Unilateral Orders and the Legislative Process,” American Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, IL., August 2013

“Constraining the Bureaucracy Through Unilateral Action,” Southern Political Science Association Conference, Orlando, FL., January, 2013 and Western Political Science Association Conference, Los Angeles, CA., March 2013

“Do Presidents Get What They Want? Congressional Response to Unilateral Orders, 1974-2009,” American Political Science Association Conference, New Orleans, LA., August, 2012 (Conference Cancelled)

“When Presidents Proclaim, How Congress Constrains, 1977-2008”  
Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, IL., April, 2012

"In Lieu of Legislation: Executive Preemption of the Legislative Process Through Unilateral Power," with Brandon Rottinghaus, Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL., April, 2012

“When Do Presidents Get What They Want? Congressional Response to Unilateral Orders, 1977-2008”  
Southern Political Science Association Conference, New Orleans, LA., January, 2012

"In Lieu of Legislation: Executive Preemption of the Legislative Process Through Unilateral Power," with Brandon Rottinghaus, American Political Science Association, Seattle, WA., September, 2011

“Delegated Discretion and the Exercise of Unilateral Power,” Southern Political Science Association Conference, New Orleans, LA., January, 2011

“Presidential Proclamation 6920: Using Executive Power to Set a New Direction for the Management of National Monuments,” with Brandon Rottinghaus, Midwest Political Science Conference, Chicago, IL., March, 2009

“The Treatment of Federal Reserved Water Rights in Legislation: 1993 to 2008,” George Wright Society, Portland, OR., March, 2009

### **ACADEMIC SUPPORT**

Moot Court Competition Judge, South Texas College of Law, 2011- Present

Discussant, Panel on “Presidential Rhetoric: Its Causes and Consequences,” Western Political Science Association Conference, Los Angeles, CA., March 2013

Discussant, Panel on “Presidents, the Economy, and Issues of Equity,” Southern Political Science Association Conference, Orlando, FL., January, 2013.

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

*Belco & Associates, P.C., Houston, Texas:* Environmental and administrative law practice; developed environmental compliance and enforcement training program for District and County Attorneys, County Judges, Civil and

Criminal Court Judges, and Enforcement Officers.

*Regional Director, Pacific West, Inc., Houston, Texas and Salt Lake City, Utah:* Worked with state transportation and environmental agencies throughout the U.S. analyzing and developing laws and regulations to support this national company's industrial market

*Environmental Manager, Southern Pacific Railroad, Houston, Texas:* Managed environmental compliance for the railroad's fixed and operating facilities throughout the U.S.; hazardous materials responder and mitigation specialist; prepared interrogatories and questions for depositions for environmental litigation

*Environmental Specialist, Brown & Root U.S.A., Houston, Texas:* Monitored and interpreted federal and state regulations for multiple industrial sectors and served as liaison with governmental agencies throughout the U.S.; prepared environmental documents permits, and compliance plans

*Environmental Manager, Houston Transit Consultants, Houston, Texas:* Managed environmental documentation, contracts, community planning, public hearings, and agency liaison, for proposed \$2 billion mass transit program

*Project Manager, DeLeuw, Cather & Company, Washington, D.C. and San Francisco:* Environmental and cultural resource planner and consultant for major transportation and development projects throughout the U.S.

*Assistant Executive Director, Commission for Historic & Architectural Preservation, Baltimore, Maryland:* Specialized in the rehabilitation and preservation of the city's historic architectural resources; prepared documentation for the transfer of U.S. post office from the General Services Administration; federal grants manager; legislative analyst and liaison with the Maryland General Assembly

*Special Assistant to the President of the City Council, Baltimore, Maryland:* Responsible for developing community arts programs and art exhibitions

#### **COMMITTEES AND MEMERSHIPS**

United States Supreme Court Bar

State Bar of Texas

American Bar Association, Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice

Texas State Bar Association, Administrative and Public Law

American Political Science Association, Executive Politics, Legislative Studies, Policy Studies

Midwest Political Science Association

Southern Political Science Association

Western Political Science Association

Association of Centers for the Study of Congress

#### **HONORS/RECOGNITIONS/AWARDS**

Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society

State Bar of Texas College

State Bar of Texas Pro Bono College

Harris County Volunteer of the Year

Michelle Belco Day, City of Bunker Hill Village