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Introduction

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SYMPOSIUM

THE SUPREME COURT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT LAW 1994-95 TERM

INTRODUCTION

Dean Harold I. Abramson:

Good morning, I would like to welcome everyone to today's superb program. I am here today on behalf of Howard Glickstein, the dean of the law school who is unfortunately out of the country today and has asked me to come here to welcome you to this conference on the Supreme Court and Local Government Law. As you know, this is the seventh annual program that we have held here at the law school on the Supreme Court and Local Government Law. It is also the seventh program that has been put together by Judge Leon Lazer. For those that know Judge Lazer, the fact that he put this program together is in itself a guarantee of quality.

When I was asked to make the welcoming remarks, I told Judge Lazer that I thought I would take this opportunity to discuss my favorite case decided during this past term, probably a case in the First Amendment area. Judge Lazer responded in a way that those of us that know him would expect -- with great candor and directness. He instructed me that it was not necessary

to make any comments of any substance today. There will be plenty of people here much more qualified than I to speak on the subject of the Supreme Court. I must admit that he is right. We do have a very good program today with some excellent speakers that I reluctantly agree are much better qualified than I to speak on the subject.

I think this year's program has an additional benefit because it can help prepare today's participants to attend the next program that we will be holding. On Wednesday, October 18th at 6 p.m., the Honorable Antonin Scalia, Justice of the United States Supreme Court, will be speaking at a public lecture in this room. Justice Scalia will be at the law school as part of our Distinguished Jurist in Residence program. He will be visiting the law school on October 18th and 19th, attending classes and giving occasional comments during the course of those classes, and meeting with faculty, students and practicing lawyers and members of the bench. I invite everyone here to attend that program. Again, I want to welcome everyone, and hope that you will have a very productive and educational experience. Thank you.