

## **Speaker Biographies – Press Conference – 4/2/2009**

### **Jeffrey M. Gamso**

Legal Director, American Civil Liberties Union of Ohio

Jeff Gamso, a Toledo defense lawyer and former ACLU of Ohio volunteer attorney, assumed leadership of the agency's statewide legal department and litigation docket on June 1, 2004

Gamso has been an active member of the ACLU since 1984, serving as past president of the Northwest Ohio chapter and vice president of the Ohio Board of Directors. He is president and co-founder of the Maumee Valley Criminal Defense Lawyers Association and was appointed by the Ohio Supreme Court to the Public Defender Commission. A passionate opponent of the death penalty, Gamso has represented about 5% of Ohio's death row prisoners at any given time.

### **Katherine Hunt Federle**

Professor of Law; Director of Justice for Children Project; Director, Center for Interdisciplinary Law & Policy Studies

Professor Federle began teaching in 1986 at the University of Hawaii School of Law where she held a dual appointment as a researcher at the Center for Youth Research. She subsequently joined the faculty at Tulane Law School in 1990 where she taught Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, and Juvenile Law. Professor Federle was selected by the 1996 graduating class to receive the Felix Frankfurter Distinguished Teaching Award.

Professor Federle has been especially active in the field of juvenile law. She is admitted to practice in Ohio, Washington, Hawaii, and the District of Columbia, and draws on her extensive experience as a lawyer for children in her teaching and writing. Professor Federle has given Congressional briefings on law-related education and child witnesses, has spoken and presented papers at conferences across the country and around the world on issues pertaining to children's rights and criminal law, and has written numerous articles on the rights of children.

Professor Federle is a past chair of the American Bar Association Family Law Section's Committee on Juvenile Law and the Needs of Children. While serving as chair, Professor Federle helped draft the ABA's Standards for the Representation of Children in Abuse and Neglect Cases. She also serves as the faculty advisor to a law student organization, Advocates for Children.