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Editor's Note

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Editor's Note

This issue of the *Washington and Lee Journal of Civil Rights and Social Justice* is dedicated to our Fall 2017 Symposium titled, *Taking the Pulse: Understanding the Complexities of Healthcare Law*. The Symposium was sponsored by the Roger Mudd Center for Ethics, Class of 1960 Endowment for the Institute of Honor, the Washington & Lee Provost's Office, and the Washington & Lee School of Law Dean's Office.

The symposium papers reflect the content of our Fall 2017 symposium and explore a variety of issues including bioethics, access to healthcare, the continuing debates surrounding the Affordable Care Act and its implementation, the administration of federal healthcare programs, and reproductive rights. Both the symposium and this issue explore and contribute to the ongoing conversation revolving around healthcare in America.

This issue also includes three student notes written by members of the 2017–2018 Editorial Board. These notes reflect how civil rights and social justice issues infiltrate a wide variety of legal disciplines. The notes focus on topics reflecting further on healthcare issues in the United States, as well as address the potential of geriatric parole release, and address the rights of independent voters in open primaries.

This publication would not be possible without the efforts of a dedicated team of accomplished individuals. I would like to thank the entire Editorial Board and the administration for their contributions and support. Specifically, I would like to thank Executive Editor, Anne Steel, for her unparalleled commitment to the Washington and Lee Journal of Civil Rights and Social Justice, Dean Mason, for her continuing support and encouragement of the journal, and Lisa Gearheart, for her tireless work and patience. The Journal is also grateful for the contributions and support of Professor Joan M. Shaughnessy, a constant resource, who inspired the Symposium's subject matter and helped it materialize into the wonderful and educational event it became. Without the dedication of these individuals, and countless others, we would not have seen the Journal continue to advance as one of the premiere civil rights and social justice journals in the nation.

Erica Sieg
Editor in Chief