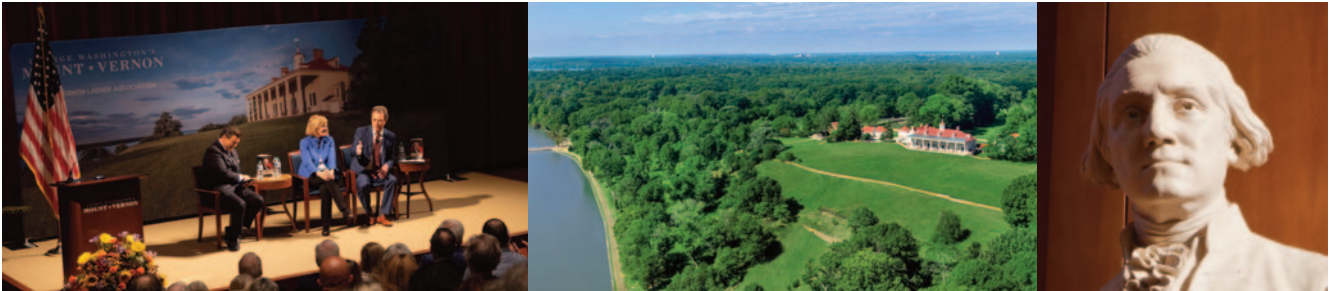




# Virginia Law Foundation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Constitutional Law Institute Returns to George Washington's Mount Vernon for America's 250th Commemoration



CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA, **April 28, 2026** — The Virginia Law Foundation (VLF) and George Washington's Mount Vernon are partnering to present the Constitutional Law Institute at the George Washington Presidential Library at Mount Vernon on September 24-25, 2026. Last presented in 2019, the Institute returns in partnership with VA250 to commemorate America's 250th anniversary and will explore Virginia's ongoing work in building a 'more perfect union.'

"We are thrilled to partner with the Virginia Law Foundation to share the fundamental relationship between law and history," states **Dr. Lindsay M. Chervinsky**, executive director of the George Washington Presidential Library at Mount Vernon. "As the nation celebrates its 250th anniversary, this is the perfect place to study the origins of the Constitution and legal precedents, many of which start with Washington in the Founding Era."

Virginia's foundational role in shaping American constitutionalism brings together legal leaders, scholars, historians, educators, students, and the public for this unique event that combines public programming with continuing legal education at a site of national significance. The Constitutional Law Institute kicks off on the evening of September 24 with the Founding Debates program, a free public program that examines critical issues from America's founding era and their relevance today. Legal scholars **Dr. Mary Sarah Bilder**, a professor at Boston College Law School, and **Sarah Isgur**, the editor of SCOTUSblog and a legal analyst for ABC News, will explore Virginia's central role in shaping the nation's founding.

Their conversation will set the stage for September 25, which will begin with welcome remarks by **Carly Fiorina**, national honorary chair of the Virginia 250 Commission. As a former Fortune 50 CEO, passionate civics advocate, and 2016 presidential candidate, her address will underscore the significance of the year and will be followed by a keynote by the **Honorable William C. Mims**, senior justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia. Following their remarks, a full day of continuing legal education panels will explore a range of topics, including Virginia's constitutional legacy, from James Madison to John Marshall, its central role in civil rights litigation, gender equality under the Constitution, and the foundations of colonial Virginia law.

"Aligned with VA250's mission, the Constitutional Law Institute seeks to engage, educate, and inspire both the public and legal practitioners to reflect on our history and the future we shape together," says **Brigadier General (Ret.) Alison Martin**, chief executive officer of the VLF. "This program reinforces our shared commitment to civic education, constitutional understanding, and the Rule of Law, and highlights the continuing relevance of these principles in American civic life."

Registration will open later this summer, with additional faculty and program details to be announced in the coming weeks. To learn more, visit [virginialawfoundation.org](http://virginialawfoundation.org).

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## About the Virginia Law Foundation

**The Virginia Law Foundation** has provided more than \$30 million in grants since its inception to support law related projects throughout the Commonwealth that further its mission to facilitate access to justice and promote an understanding of the Rule of Law. **Virginia CLE**, the VLF's education division, is the recognized leader in providing continuing education for Virginia lawyers.

The Virginia Law Foundation accepts donations year-round and guarantees that 100% of every unrestricted donation is allocated to the grants program. Its two designated funds include the Bobzien-Gaither Education Fund, which supports ongoing continuing legal education and engagement, and the Adam Roush Fund for Wellness, which supports wellness programming and equitable access to well-being resources for legal professionals.

## About George Washington's Mount Vernon

**Mount Vernon**, the home of George Washington, is owned and operated by the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association, the oldest national historic preservation organization in the United States. The estate is open to visitors and includes the Mansion, a museum and education center, gardens, tombs, a working farm, a functioning distillery, and a gristmill, as well as the George Washington Presidential Library at Mount Vernon.

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