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The *National Security Law Journal* is a student-edited legal periodical published twice annually at George Mason University School of Law in Arlington, Virginia. We print timely, insightful scholarship on pressing matters that further the dynamic field of national security law, including topics relating to foreign affairs, intelligence, homeland security, and national defense.

We welcome submissions from all points of view written by practitioners in the legal community and those in academia. We publish articles, essays, and book reviews that represent diverse ideas and make significant, original contributions to the evolving field of national security law.

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FOREWORD

This is the fifth issue of the *National Security Law Journal*, and also the fifth issue on which I have had the opportunity to work. The *Journal* has come a long way over the last two years, and I am thrilled I have been able to help shape what promises to be a strong publication for years to come.

We begin this issue by printing two sets of remarks. First, we are pleased to publish an address by former U.S. Attorney General Michael B. Mukasey, whom we welcomed to George Mason University School of Law last year to speak on the NSA, warrantless wiretapping, and the data collection program known as PRISM. Next, we are excited to partner with the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (“ODNI”) and the Brookings Institution to publish remarks by Robert S. Litt, the current General Counsel of ODNI. We then round out this issue with two professional Articles and two Comments authored by law students at George Mason.

This issue will not be without controversy. You may find what you read here to be discomfiting at times, and on a personal note, I do not agree with everything we have printed in the pages that follow. But our policy has always been that we welcome scholarship from a range of views, and we hope the diverse ideas you read here—even if you disagree—will prompt you to think and respond. National security law should not be an easy subject: it is about life and death, freedom and coercion, tranquility and war, the rights of citizens and the power of the state—and what is right and just in a world of hard choices, bounded by laws that can, at times, evolve. This journal is about generating discourse, provoking new dialogue, and pushing the boundaries of legal thinking. We support a willingness to read and think about new arguments, even when they may seem wrong. If you disagree with what you read here, and want to argue back, then please do. We would welcome your response.

With the publication of this issue, we now transition to a new Editorial Board for the 2015-2016 academic year. I must take a moment to thank all those who worked so hard on this issue and throughout the year. This year alone, our team of student Editors and Members published 525 pages, edited 2,244 footnotes, built a network of over 780 e-mail subscribers, and hosted four successful events on the Arlington Campus of George Mason University. We became well respected within the Mason Law community and across the broader community of national security scholars and practitioners. We published quality work, and did so on time. To my fellow graduates, thank you, sincerely, for all you have done. You have made my experience working on the *National Security Law Journal* truly memorable. I will miss our work together.

To our incoming Editorial Board: I have the utmost confidence that you will do great work. I know the *National Security Law Journal* is in capable hands, and I am eager to see all you will accomplish next year.

To our many readers and supporters—at Mason Law, in the national security community, and around the world—thank you for all you have done to support our work. We would not have been successful without you.

With that, here is our longest and perhaps most controversial issue to date. Enjoy the read.

Alexander Yesnik
Editor-in-Chief