

SYMPOSIUM

THROUGH A GLASS STARKLY:
CIVIL PROCEDURE RE-ASSESSED
CELEBRATING THE SCHOLARSHIP
OF STEPHEN SUBRIN

INTRODUCTION

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It is a privilege for the Nevada Law Journal to publish this symposium issue celebrating the scholarship of Professor Stephen N. Subrin: a distinguished scholar, innovative teacher, and—perhaps most of all—*mensch*. Steve has been a friend and mentor to so many in the legal profession and legal academy. His legacy endures not only in his scholarship (including a leading casebook and several particularly prominent articles)¹ but also in the generations of students who have taken his courses and are now judges, lawyers, and academics. That legacy further endures in the generations of academics who have benefitted from his example, guidance, and mentorship, as well as enjoying his friendship.

Steve Subrin has been a professor at Northeastern University School of Law for forty-five years. In December 2015 he will teach his last Civil Proce-

* William S. Boyd Professor of Law, William S. Boyd School of Law, University of Nevada Las Vegas. Steve Subrin will forever be my teacher, role model, and hero. I could never thank him enough for all that he is done for my career and for me.

** Doris S. & Theodore B. Lee Professor of Law, William S. Boyd School of Law, University of Nevada Las Vegas. Although I cannot claim the former student and co-author relationship Thom Main has with Steve Subrin, my own contact with him for more than twenty-five years reflects Steve's imprint on so many in the field as someone unusually willing to give time, insight, and support to others outside his own institution.

¹ Among the dozens of articles and books that he has authored (including three in prior volumes of this law journal), Professor Subrin published *CIVIL PROCEDURE: DOCTRINE, PRACTICE, AND CONTEXT*, a popular casebook, soon in its fifth edition. He also wrote the seminal articles *How Equity Conquered Common Law: The Federal Rules of Civil Procedure in Historical Perspective*, 135 U. PA. L. REV. 909 (1987), and *David Dudley Field and the Field Code: A Historical Analysis of an Earlier Procedural Vision*, 6 LAW & HIST. REV. 311 (1988).

ture class. Ordinarily, one's home institution would publish a festschrift of this sort, but because Northeastern University School of Law does not have a traditional, printed law journal, UNLV filled this void. In April 2014, Northeastern—and Professor Margaret Woo in particular—hosted the physical conference celebrating his scholarship. We are grateful to Dean Jeremy Paul of Northeastern and Dean Daniel Hamilton of UNLV for their generous support of this symposium.

The ever-modest Professor Subrin was reluctant to allow a celebration of his manifold contributions. The compromise was a symposium filled not with reminiscences and sentimentality, but rather a volume filled with serious scholarship by admirers who follow in Steve's footsteps—mining the history of procedure, appreciating the actual practice of law, and genuinely trying to make a difference in the lives of ordinary (and extraordinary) people who rely upon the system of civil justice for the vindication of their substantive rights. The depth and breadth of the articles in this volume reflect the depth and breadth of Steve's interests and influence in the field of civil procedure.