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## Ronald Rotunda, One of Nation's Most Influential Legal Minds, to Join Chapman Law School Faculty

**Rotunda and his wife, military law expert Kyndra Rotunda, are Chapmans Latest Stellar Hires from George Mason University**

**ORANGE, Calif., May 21, 2008** Ronald D. Rotunda, one of the nations most influential legal minds and most frequently cited experts on constitutional law and legal ethics, is the latest distinguished faculty member to join Chapman University from George Mason University. Rotunda will join the Chapman University School of Law faculty as a tenured professor of law effective August 1, it was announced today by John Eastman, dean of the Chapman law school.

Rotundas wife Kyndra, a leading expert on military personnel and disability law and legal aid for military families, will also join the Chapman faculty as a visiting assistant professor of law.

I cannot be more pleased to welcome Ron and Kyndra Rotunda to the faculty of the Chapman School of Law, Dr. Eastman said. Ron is one of the most highly regarded law professors in the country, renowned for his expertise both in legal ethics and constitutional law. After nearly 30 years on the faculty at the University of Illinois College of Law, he has been at George Mason University School of Law since 2002, first as the George Mason University Foundation Professor of Law and currently as the University Professor of Law. Kyndra is carving a niche for herself in the innovative arena of clinical work for military personnel, and her new book, *Honor Bound: Inside the Guantanamo Trials*, promises a fascinating inside look at the war crimes prosecutions of illegal combatants being detained at Guantanamo Bay trials in which she played a role as a reservist in the U.S. Army JAG Corps.

The appointment of the Rotundas marks the third stellar faculty group that Chapman University has attracted in the past year from George Mason University. In July 2007, Chapman announced the hiring of Nobel laureate Vernon L. Smith, Ph.D., known as the father of economic science, and his team of scholars, establishing Chapmans new Economic Science Institute. Earlier this month, Chapman confirmed the appointment of the team of quantum physicists, earth observers and computational scientists led by Menas Kafatos, Ph.D., including the renowned physicist Yakir Aharonov, Ph.D., who will help establish Chapmans new College of Science and Center for Excellence. Chapmans chancellor, Daniele Struppa, Ph.D., came to the Orange campus from GMU in 2006.

## BIOGRAPHIES:

**Ronald D. Rotunda** comes to the Chapman University School of Law from George Mason University, where he served as GMU Foundation Professor of Law from 2002 to 2006 and University Professor and Professor of Law from 2006 to the present, teaching constitutional law and legal ethics. Prior to that, he was the Albert E. Jenner, Jr. Professor of Law at the University of Illinois. He is a magna cum laude graduate of Harvard College and a magna cum laude graduate of Harvard Law School, where he was a member of Harvard Law Review. He joined the University of Illinois faculty in 1974 after clerking for Judge Walter R. Mansfield of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, practicing law in Washington, D.C., and serving as assistant majority counsel for the Watergate Committee.

Rotunda has co-authored the most widely used course book on legal ethics, *Problems and Materials on Professional Responsibility*, and is the author of a leading course book on constitutional law, *Modern Constitutional Law*. He is the co-author, with John Dzienkowski, of *Legal Ethics: The Lawyer's Deskbook on Professional Responsibility*, and co-author, with John Nowak, of the five-volume *Treatise on Constitutional Law* and a one-volume *Treatise on Constitutional Law*. He is also the author of several other books and more than 200 articles in various law reviews, journals, newspapers, and books in this country and in Europe. His works have been translated into French, German, Romanian, Czech, Russian, and Korean. These books and articles have been cited more than 1000 times by state and federal courts at every level, from trial courts to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Rotunda has been widely interviewed on national radio and television on legal issues, both in this country and abroad. In 1993 he was the Constitutional Law Adviser to the Supreme National Council of Cambodia, and assisted that country in writing its first democratic constitution. He has consulted with various new democracies in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, including Moldova, Romania and Ukraine, on their proposed constitutions and judicial codes. He chaired the subcommittee that drafted the American Bar Association's Model Rules for Lawyer Disciplinary Enforcement; is a member of the Publications Board of the A.B.A. Center for Professional Responsibility since 1994; was a member of the A.B.A. Standing Committee on Professional Discipline (1991-1997); and was Liaison to the A.B.A. Standing Committee on Ethics and Professional Responsibility (1994-1997). He was a Fulbright Professor in Venezuela in 1986 and a Fulbright Research Scholar in Italy in 1981. In 1996 he assisted the Czech Republic in drafting the first Rules of Ethics for lawyers in that country.

During the spring 1999 semester, he was Visiting Professor at the University of Alabama School of Law, holding the John S. Stone Endowed Chair of Law. During the summer and fall of 2000, he was the Visiting Senior Fellow in Constitutional Studies at the Cato Institute in Washington, D.C. During November-December 2002, he was Visiting Scholar, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Faculty of Law, Leuven, Belgium. In May 2004 and December 2005 he was visiting lecturer at the Institute of Law and Economics, at the University of Hamburg, Germany. From

early June 2004 to May 2005, he was the Special Counsel to the General Counsel of the Department of Defense. He was on the panel of contributing editors that produced *Black's Law Dictionary* (2006 edition). In May 2000, American Law Media, publisher of *The American Lawyer*, the *National Law Journal* and the *Legal Times*, picked Professor Rotunda as one of the ten most influential Illinois lawyers. Also in 2000, a lengthy study published by the University of Chicago Press, which sought to determine the influence, productivity and reputations of law professors over the last several decades, listed Professor Rotunda as the 17th highest in the nation. The 2002-2003 New Educational Quality Ranking of U.S. Law Schools (EQR) ranks Professor Rotunda as the eleventh most-cited of all law faculty in the United States.

On a lighter note, Rotunda is known for his eccentric and colorful collection of bow ties. He claims to own several dozen, including special ones for such holidays as Lincoln's birthday and St. Patrick's Day, as well as one emblazoned with sharks carrying briefcases.

**Kyndra Rotunda** is the former Director of the Clinic for Legal Assistance to Servicemembers at George Mason Law School, where she devised and taught a military curriculum to second- and third-year law students and directly supervised students representing military families in various civil legal disputes. Rotunda and her students recovered tens of thousands of dollars for combat-wounded troops. Rotunda began her legal career as an officer in the U.S. Army JAG Corps, where she served in many capacities, including civil litigation and representing soldiers before disability boards at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. She remains in the U.S. Army Reserve, and was recently selected for promotion to Major.

While on active duty, Kyndra Rotunda served in several missions related to the global war on terror. She was the deputy of a family assistance clinic at Walter Reed, where she assisted war casualties and their families; deployed to Guantanamo Bay, where she advised the detention camp commander and worked with the International Committee of the Red Cross; served a tour with an elite investigatory team that pursues international investigatory leads related to terrorism; and was a prosecutor with the Military Commissions Prosecution Team, where she prepared cases for trial before the first military commissions since World War II. She has written several op-eds on military issues for such publications as the *Wall Street Journal* and *Christian Science Monitor*, and is the author of the new book *Honor Bound: Inside the Guantanamo Trials*, published this spring by Carolina Academic Press. Kyndra Rotunda is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Wyoming and earned her law degree at the University of Wyoming College of Law.