

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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WASHINGTON GAME: WHO HAS THE POWER? WITH LAURENCE TRIBE AND THEODORE OLSON AT THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

Philadelphia, PA (January 8, 2007) – As the gavels change hands in both houses of the U.S. Congress, the National Constitution Center and the University of Pennsylvania Law School have joined together with visiting scholars **Laurence Tribe**, a Harvard law professor, and **Theodore Olson**, George W. Bush's longtime attorney, in a tug of war about the separation of powers. CNN legal analyst Jeffrey Toobin will moderate. This program, titled *Washington Game: Who Has the Power?* will take place on Monday, January 29, 2007 at 5:30 p.m. at the National Constitution Center. Tickets cost \$15 for non-members, \$12 for members, including Cato Institute members, and \$6 for students and K-12 teachers. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 215-409-6700.

Laurence Tribe and Theodore Olson both played vital, opposing roles in *Bush v. Gore*. In this program, they come together once again in yet another high volume debate about the fundamental function of checks and balances among the three branches of government. This continues to be the number one issue underlying debates today in Washington, ranging from the war in Iraq to judicial appointments.

Tribe is one of the most respected names in constitutional law in America today. He is the Carl M. Loeb University Professor and Professor of Constitutional Law at the

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Harvard Law School. He has taught at Harvard since completing his clerkship with Justice Potter Stewart in 1968. Professor Tribe has argued before the Supreme Court more than 35 times. He received both his undergraduate and graduate degrees at Harvard. He is the writer of several books and articles, including “The Anti-Emergency Constitution” in the *Yale Law Review* and “The Unbearable Wrongness of *Bush v. Gore*” in *Constitutional Commentary*.

Olson, now a partner in the Washington, DC office of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, served as Solicitor General of the United States from 2001 to 2004. *New York Times* columnist William Safire described Mr. Olson as this generation’s “most persuasive advocate” before the Supreme Court and “the most effective Solicitor General” in decades. Olson has argued 43 cases before the Supreme Court. He received his law degree from the University of California at Berkeley where he was also a member of the *California Law Review*.

This program was inspired, in part, by a report of the Cato Institute, “Power Surge,” by Gene Healy and Timothy Lynch.

The National Constitution Center, located at 525 Arch St. on Philadelphia’s Independence Mall, is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to increasing public understanding of the U.S. Constitution and the ideas and values it represents. Opened on July 4, 2003, the Constitution Center is a museum, an education center, and a forum for debate on constitutional issues. The museum dramatically tells the story of the Constitution from Revolutionary times to the present through more than 100 interactive, multimedia exhibits, film, photographs, text, sculpture and artifacts, and features a powerful, award-winning theatrical performance, “Freedom Rising”. The Center also houses the Annenberg Center for Education and Outreach, which serves as the hub for national constitutional education. Also, serving as a nonpartisan forum for constitutional discourse, the Center presents – without endorsement – programs that contain diverse viewpoints on a broad range of issues. The National Constitution Center’s programs earned the organization a 2006 Best of Philly® award from *Philadelphia* magazine as the “Best Place To Smarten Up”. For more information, call 215.409.6700 or visit www.constitutioncenter.org.

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