

JONATHAN F. WILL

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE SCHOOL OF LAW

J. Will Young Professor of Law

Founding Director, Bioethics & Health Law Center

Courses Taught:

Bioethics & Law

Civil Procedure I & II

Comparative Health Law

Contracts I & II

Constitutional Law

Health Care Law

Mergers & Acquisitions

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER

Affiliate Faculty (Center for Bioethics & Medical Humanities)

2011 – Present

MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE SCHOOL OF LAW

Associate Dean (Academic Affairs/Faculty Development)

FALL 2015 – 2022

MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE SCHOOL OF LAW

Assistant/Associate Professor

FALL 2009 – 2015

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH SCHOOL OF LAW

Adjunct Professor (Bioethics & Law)

Spring 2009

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Associate, Corporate Finance

2005 – 2009

PUBLICATIONS

Health, Privacy, and Privilege in the Digital Age, 95 Miss. L.J. 965 (2026).

Embryonic Children, Double Effects, and the Regulation of Reproductive Technologies, 95 Miss. L.J. 139 (2026).

IVF, Double Effects, and Risks to Embryonic Persons, 55 HASTINGS CTR REPORT 2 (Sept-Oct 2025).

Alabama IVF Law Doesn't Solve Questions about Embryo Personhood, BLOOMBERG LAW (March 27, 2024); <https://news.bloomberglaw.com/us-law-week/alabama-ivf-law-doesnt-solve-questions-about-embryo-personhood-1>.

Covid-19: Medical Decisions, Mandates, and High-Risk Minors, 52 HASTINGS CTR REPORT 4 (May-June 2022).

Biden's Health Care Agenda: What is on the Horizon, Health Law Section of the MS Bar Newsletter (March 2021).

Restricting Reasons – A New Battleground in Abortion Regulation, 50 HASTINGS CTR REPORT 7 (Sept-Oct 2020).

Dying with Dignity; Living with Laws (and Ethics), 49 HASTINGS CTR REPORT 6 (May-June 2019).

Defining Life and Regulating Reproductive Choice, 48 HASTINGS CTR REPORT 3 (Sept-Oct 2018).

Personhood Seeks New Life with Republican Control, 93 IND. L. J. 499 (2018); with Eli Adashi, MD (Brown Medical School) and I. Glenn Cohen (Harvard Law School)).

Religion as a Controlling Interference in Medical Decision-Making by Mature(?) Minors, (Cambridge University Press 2017) (Ch. 23 in LAW, RELIGION, AND HEALTH IN THE UNITED STATES, Ed: Lynch, Cohen, Sepper).

Finding Purpose: Perspective from a "Non-Elite" Journal, 33 TOURO L. REV. 431 (2017); special issue dedicated to the future of student-edited law journals).

Membership Has Its Privileges? Life, Personhood, and Potential in Discussions About Reproductive Choice, 43 J. L. MED. AND ETHICS 358 (2015) (peer reviewed).

Religion, Clinical Misconceptions, and Access to Contraception, 14 AM. J. OF BIOETHICS 40 (2014) (peer reviewed).

Beyond Abortion: Why the Personhood Movement Implicates Reproductive Choice, 39 AM. J. L & MED. 573 (2013) [Boston University School of Law, peer reviewed].

Conscience Legislation, the Personhood Movement, and Access to Emergency Contraception, 4 FAULKNER L. REV. 411 (2013) (symposium issue).

When Potential Does Not Matter: What Developments in Cellular Biology Tell Us about the Concept of Legal Personhood, (with Eli Adashi, MD (Brown Medical School) and I. Glenn Cohen (Harvard Law School)), 13 AM. J. OF BIOETHICS 38 (2013) (peer reviewed).

The Possible Ramifications of Pre-Embryonic Personhood, JURIST (Nov. 7, 2011); <http://jurist.org/forum/2011/11/jonathan-will-personhood-amendment.php>.

Measure 26: Fear Mongering, Self-Execution & Potential Implications for Birth Control, 81 MISS. L. J. SUPRA 63 (2011).

Mississippi's Ambiguous 'Personhood' Amendment, (co-authored with Glenn Cohen (Harvard Law School)), NY TIMES (October 31, 2011); http://www.nytimes.com/2011/10/31/opinion/mississippi-ambiguous-personhood-amendment.html?_r=1&ref=contributors.

Life and Law – The Commitment to Pre-Embryonic Personhood, MISS. BUS. JOURNAL (September 23, 2011); <http://msbusiness.com/2011/09/op-ed-life-and-law-%E2%80%94the-commitment-to-pre-embryonic-personhood/>.

A Brief Historical and Theoretical Perspective on Patient Autonomy & Medical Decision Making, Part I: The Beneficence Model, CHEST. 2011; 139(3): 669 (peer reviewed).

A Brief Historical and Theoretical Perspective on Patient Autonomy & Medical Decision Making, Part II: The Autonomy Model, CHEST. 2011; 139(6): 1491 (peer reviewed).

Diagnosing American Health Care: Economic Stakeholders and Bioethical Considerations, 29 MISS. C. L. REV. 313 (2010).

My God, My Choice: The Mature Minor Doctrine and Adolescent Refusal of Life-Saving or Sustaining Medical Treatment Based Upon Religious Beliefs, 22 J. CONTEMP. HEALTH L. & POL'Y 233 (2006).

DNA as Property: Implications on the Constitutionality of DNA Dragnets, 65 U. PITT. L. REV. 129 (2003).

CONFERENCES/PRESENTATIONS

Organizer/Moderator, *Health Care Privacy*, MC Law CLE Program (October 3, 2025).

Presentation, *Reproduction, Privacy, and Privilege in the Digital Age*, University of Mississippi Law Journal Symposium (September 8, 2025).

Presentation, *What is Fundamental about the Right to Procreate (and why it matters)?*, American Society of Law, Medicine, and Ethics 48th Annual Health Law Professors Conference (June 5, 2025).

Presentation, *Embryonic Children, Double Effects, and the Regulation of Reproductive Technologies*, Touro Law Center, Institute for Health Law, Bioethics, and Policy Inaugural Symposium (March 20, 2025).

Presentation, *The Politics of Personhood, Double Effect, and the Regulation of Reproductive Technologies*, AALS Annual Meeting – Law, Medicine, and Health Care: Politics, Courts, and Health Equity (January 9, 2025).

Moderator/Organizer, *From Crisis to Collaboration: Addressing Mental Health Challenges in the Criminal Justice System*, Mississippi CLE Program (September 24, 2024).

Presentation, *Embryonic Persons, Regulating Risk, and the Future of Reproductive Technologies*, American Society of Law, Medicine, and Ethics 47th Annual Health Law Professors Conference (June 7, 2024).

Presenter, *Global Health and AI: Realizing Potential While avoiding Pitfalls*, International Seminar on the Impact of AI on Constitutionalism and Rule of Law, joint collaboration with MC Law and University Institute of Legal Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh, India (March 30, 2024).

Moderator/Organizer, *Health Law Section Spring Bootcamp CLE*, Mississippi CLE Program (April 14, 2023).

Presenter/Organizer, *The Case of the Vanishing Trial*, Charles Clark Inn of Court, Jackson, MS Chapter (March 27, 2023).

Moderator/Organizer, *Health Law on the Horizon*, Mississippi CLE Program (December 1, 2022).

Presentation, *Adolescent Refusals of Vaccinations*, National Vaccine Law Conference, Antonin Scalia Law School - George Mason University (September 15, 2022).

Presentation, *Your Body, My Choice – When Parents Refuse to Vaccinate High-risk Minors*, American Society of Law, Medicine, and Ethics 45th Annual Health Law Professors Conference (June 2, 2022).

Moderator/Organizer, *Health Care Transactions During COVID, Spotting Issues and Expecting the Unexpected*, Mississippi CLE Program (December 4, 2020).

Moderator/Organizer, *Mississippi 2020: A Panel Discussion on the 2020 Election*, Jackson, MS (October 29, 2020).

Moderator/Organizer, *Prop 65/65A, Medical Marijuana on the MS Ballot*, Jackson, MS (October 22, 2020).

Presenter/Organizer, *Navigating Professional Relationships Between #MeToo & the Billy Graham Rule*, Charles Clark Inn of Court, Jackson, MS Chapter (September 23, 2019).

Presentation, *Recent Trends in Abortion Legislation*, Jackson Young Lawyers (May 17, 2019).

Presentation, *Artificial Intelligence and the Practice of Law*, Charles Clark Inn of Court, Jackson, MS Chapter (September 24, 2018).

Organizer, *Health Care Compliance Bootcamp*, Jackson, MS (April 12-13, 2018).

Online Guest Lecture, *The Ethics of Medical Decision Making*, Loyola University Chicago School of Law (October 5, 2017).

Presentation, *Restricting Abortion Based on the Status of the UnBorn – Unanswered Questions from Whole Woman’s Health*, American Society of Law, Medicine, and Ethics 40th Annual Health Law Professors Conference (June 10, 2017).

Presentation, *Some Ethical Issues in Estate Planning from the Beginning to End of Life*, Central Mississippi Financial Planning Association Symposium (May 4, 2017).

Moderator/Organizer: *Telehealth in Mississippi and Beyond*, a symposium hosted by Mississippi College School of Law Bioethics & Health Law Center (April 10, 2017).

Presentation, *Discovery Abuses – Judges Detest What Lawyers Contest*, Charles Clark Inn of Court, Jackson, MS Chapter (March 27, 2017).

Presentation, *Religion as a Controlling Interference in Medical Decision Making by Mature(?) Minors*, AALS Mid-Year Meeting – Shifting Foundations in Family Law (June 24, 2015).

Presentation, *Religion as a Controlling Interference in Medical Decision Making by Mature(?) Minors*, American Society of Law, Medicine, and Ethics 38th Annual Health Law Professors Conference (June 5, 2015).

Presentation, *Religion as a Controlling Interference in Medical Decision Making by Mature(?) Minors*, Harvard Law School, 2015 Annual Conference: Law, Religion, and Health in America (May 8, 2015).

Presentation, *Beyond Abortion: Pre-Embryonic Personhood and the Constitutionality of Restrictions on Contraception*, Yale Law School (April 22, 2015).

Moderator/Organizer: *Access to Health Care*, a Medical-Legal Policy Symposium hosted by Mississippi College School of Law Bioethics & Health Law Center (April 10, 2015).

Presentation, *Adolescent Refusal of Life-Saving Medical Treatment*, 17th Annual Meeting of the Southern Association for the History of Medicine and Science (March 14, 2015).

Presentation, *Membership Has Its Privileges? Life and Law in the Debates about Personhood*, University of Las Vegas Boyd School of Law (November 24, 2014).

Panelist, *Developing Health Law Programs*, American Society of Law, Medicine, and Ethics 37th Annual Health Law Professors Conference (June 5, 2014).

Presentation, *Religion, Morality, and Reproductive Choice*, Intersections in Reproduction Workshop hosted by the Program for the Study of Reproductive Justice at Yale Law School (April 18, 2014).

Moderator/Organizer: *Mental Health in Mississippi*, a symposium hosted by Mississippi College School of Law Bioethics & Health Law Center (March 28, 2014).

Presentation, *Beyond Abortion: Pre-Embryonic Personhood and the Constitutionality of Restrictions on Reproductive Choice*, American Society of Law, Medicine, and Ethics 36th Annual Health Law Professors Conference (June 8, 2013).

Moderator/Organizer, *Implementing Health Care Reform in Mississippi: Considering Policy and Economics*, a panel hosted by Mississippi College School of Law Bioethics & Health Law Center (April 5, 2013).

Panel Discussion, *The Constitutional Implications of National Federation of Independent Business v. Sebelius*, (with Cynthia Nicoletti and Matthew Steffey (MC Law), Mississippi Women Lawyers Association (November 7, 2012).

Presentation, *Conscience Legislation, the Personhood Movement, and Access to Emergency Contraception*, Faulkner Law Review Symposium (October 26, 2012).

Presentation, *Beyond Abortion: Potential Implications of (Pre)Embryonic Personhood on Reproductive Choice*, Law and Society (June 5, 2012).

Presentation, *When Personhood Came to Mississippi*, Lecture Series: Current Issues in Health Law, University of Pittsburgh School of Law (January 9, 2012).

Moderator/Organizer, *Amendment 26 – Exploring the Implications of Mississippi's Personhood Initiative*, a symposium hosted by Mississippi College School of Law Bioethics & Health Law Center (October 25, 2011).

Presentation, *Medical Decision Making for Individuals with Diminished Mental Capacity*, Mississippi Department of Mental Health Spring CME Symposium (April 2011).

Moderator/Organizer, *Anesthetic Gas Reclamation – Medical Invention from a Legal and Health Care Provider Perspective*, panel discussion hosted by Mississippi College School of Law Bioethics & Health Law Center (April 2011).

Presentation, *End-of-Life Decision Making and the Developmentally Disabled*, meeting of the Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Nursing Network (June 2010).

Moderator, *Diagnosing American Healthcare: Economic Stakeholders and Bioethical Considerations*, a symposium sponsored by the Mississippi College Law Review (February 2010).

Presentation, *Adolescent Decision Making in Medicine*, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Adolescent Health Services (August 2005).

Presentation, *The Mature Minor Doctrine and Refusals of Medical Treatment Based Upon Religious Beliefs*, Grand Rounds, University of Pittsburgh Center for Bioethics and Health Law – CLE, CME credit (March 2005).

Guest Lecture, *The History of Bioethics*, University of Pittsburgh, nursing course (Spring 2005).

REPRESENTATIVE INTERVIEWS/MEDIA

Contributor to Harvard's Bill of Health Blog.

NPR, Colorado Debates Whether IUDs are Contraception or Abortion, Megan Verlee (March 5, 2015).

Reimagine Magazine, discussing the Mature Minor Doctrine and adolescent refusal of medical treatment (January 12, 2015).

NPR, Colorado Considers another 'Personhood' Amendment, Megan Verlee (October 17, 2014).

Governing Magazine, Mississippi Voters Turn Down Personhood Initiative, November 9, 2011.

Nature.com, Mississippi Votes Against Embryos' Human Rights, But National Debate Continues, November 9, 2011.

CNN, Mississippi Voting on Personhood, November 8, 2011.

CNN, American Morning (November 7, 2011):
<http://am.blogs.cnn.com/2011/11/07/mississippi-to-vote-on-definition-of-personhood/>.

Wisconsin Public Radio, At Issue with Ben Merens (November 7, 2011):
http://wpr.org/mobile/display_archives.cfm?Code=bme&Size=240.

Financial Times, Mississippi to Vote on Abortion, November 6, 2011.

ABC News, Mississippi's 'Personhood' Amendment a Challenge for Moderate Conservatives, November 4, 2011.

Scientific America, Mississippi to Vote on 'Personhood,' November 1, 2011.

The New York Times, Push for 'Personhood' Amendment Represents New Tack in Abortion Fight, October 25, 2011.

Newsweek (The Daily Beast), Will Mississippi Ban IVF?, October 24, 2011.

Clarion Ledger, Weighing Personhood: Initiative's Effects Could be Profound, October 8, 2011.

Mississippi Business Journal, '26' Backers in Mississippi See Amendment as "Kill Shot" to Abortion in U.S., October 6, 2011.

MEMBERSHIPS & ADMISSIONS

American Bar Association

Admitted to practice in Pennsylvania (inactive)

Benchler, Charles Clark Inn of Court (Secretary 2010-14)

Member, Discharge Advisory Committee, Mississippi State Hospital (Whitfield)

Member, Bioethics Committee, Mississippi State Hospital (Whitfield)

Past Chair of Executive Committee of Mississippi Bar Health Law Section (2022-23)

LAW SCHOOL & INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

Voted 1L Professor of the Year 15 times (CivPro: 2010-2015; 2018-2022; 2024-2026; Contracts: 2024)

MDLA Faculty Award (2017; 2023)

Law School Nominee for University Professor of the Year (2024)

Advisor, Health Law Society

Faculty Development Committee, 2015-present

Outcomes Assessment Committee, 2015-present (Chair, 2015-21)

Strategic Planning Committee, 2012-present

Study Abroad & LLM Development Committee, 2018-2023 (past Chair)

Academic Programs Committee, 2015-2019; 2024-present (Chair)

Admissions Committee, 2009-2017

Faculty Appointments Committee, 2015-2018; 2020-2026 (past Chair)
Promotion & Tenure Committee, 2015-2019
Advisor, Law Review, 2010-2015; 2016-2017
Coach, Health Law Moot Court Teams (appellate and transactional)
Faculty/Judge for Rural Interdisciplinary Case Experience (RICE) Bowl
Peer-reviewer American Journal of Law & Medicine (Boston University)

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH SCHOOL OF LAW

DECEMBER 2004

Juris Doctorate – *magna cum laude*
Law Review (Executive Editor); Order of the Coif;
Health Law Certificate

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

DECEMBER 2004

Master of Arts (Bioethics)

CANISIUS COLLEGE

MAY 2001

Bachelor of Arts (Honors College) – *summa cum laude*
English & Psychology; World Religions (minor)