



Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity

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Citizens United v. FEC: A Panel Discussion on Corporate Personhood

A panel discussion will examine both the legal and social implications of the recent Supreme Court decision in *Citizens United v. FEC*, which extended the meaning of free political speech to corporate expenditures in federal elections and thus granted broad First Amendment rights to corporations under the corporate personhood doctrine. The discussion, sponsored by the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity, will be held on Monday, April 12, at 6 p.m., in Saxbe Auditorium at The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law, 55 West 12th Avenue.

The Fourteenth Amendment weighs heavily in the origins of corporate personhood cases on which *Citizens United* depends, though the amendment's original purpose was to grant slaves the status of "person." Discussion will explore what the *Citizens United* decision means for social and racial justice, and the history of the Court and corporate rights.

Speakers will include John A. Powell, executive director of the Kirwan Institute and Gregory H. Williams Chair in Civil Rights and Civil Liberties at the Moritz College of Law; Greg Coleridge, director of the Northeast Ohio American Friends Service Committee; and Cliff Arnebeck, chair of the Legal Affairs Committee of Common Cause Ohio and national co-chair and attorney for The Alliance for Democracy.

This event is free and open to the public.

The Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity was established in 2003 as a center for interdisciplinary research at The Ohio State University. The Kirwan Institute partners with people, communities, and institutions worldwide to think about, talk about, and act on race in ways that create and expand opportunity for all. For more information about the Kirwan Institute, go to:

<http://kirwaninstitute.org/>.

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