

Bio of Alan B. Morrison

Alan B. Morrison is the Lerner Family Associate Dean for Public Interest & Public Service at The George Washington University Law School. In that position, he is responsible for creating pro bono opportunities for students, bringing a wide range of public interest programs to the law school, encouraging students to seek positions in the non-profit and government sectors, and assisting students find ways to fund their legal education to make it possible for them to pursue careers outside of traditional law firms. For most of his career, Dean Morrison worked for the Public Citizen Litigation Group, which he co-founded with Ralph Nader in 1972 and directed for over 25 years. His work there involved law reform litigation in subjects ranging from open government, to opening up the legal profession, to suing agencies that fail to comply with the law, to enforcing principles of separation of powers, to protecting the rights of consumers, and protecting unrepresented class members in class action settlements. He has argued 20 cases in the Supreme Court, including victories in *Goldfarb v. Virginia State Bar* (holding lawyers subject to the antitrust laws for using minimum fee schedules); *Virginia State Board of Pharmacy v. Virginia Citizens Consumer Council* (making commercial speech subject to the First Amendment); and *INS v. Chadha* (striking down over 200 federal laws containing the legislative veto as a violation of separation of powers). He currently teaches civil procedure and election law at GW, having previously taught, mainly on a part-time basis, at Harvard, NYU, Stanford, Hawaii, & American University law schools. He is a member of the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers and was its president in 1999-2000. Among other positions, he served as an elected member of the Board of Governors of the District of Columbia Bar, a member and then senior fellow of the Administrative Conference of the United States, a member of the American Law Institute, and a member of the Committee on Science, Technology & Law of the National Academy of Science. He is a graduate of Yale College and Harvard Law School, served as a commissioned officer in the US Navy, and was an Assistant United States Attorney in New York.