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Daniel T. Kobil



Professor of Law

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Professor Dan Kobil joined Capital in 1987. He currently teaches constitutional law, criminal procedure, and comparative constitutional law. Since entering teaching, Professor Kobil has researched and published extensively on the subject of executive clemency, especially as it relates to the death penalty. He also writes on First Amendment Law. His work has been cited by courts, including the United States Supreme Court, and legal journals. He also is a frequent contributor to newspaper, television, and radio reports on constitutional issues.

Career Highlights

- Editor-in-Chief, *The University of Toledo Law Review*
- Law Clerk to The Hon. Albert J. Engel, Circuit Judge, The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- Litigation Associate, Baker and Hostetler (Columbus, OH.), with focus on commercial litigation and appellate practice
- ACLU Cooperating Attorney (counsel of record as *amicus curiae* in *Ohio Adult Parole Authority v. Woodard*, 523 U.S. 272 (1998))
- Invited to testify before U.S. House of Representatives Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on the Constitution [[Read Testimony](#)]



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Selected Publications

- "Should Mercy Have a Place in Clemency Decisions?" in *Mercy Forgiveness, and Clemency* (Stanford University Press, 2007)
- "The Evolving Role of Clemency in Capital Cases" in *America's Experiment With Capital Punishment* (Carolina Academic Press, 2003)
- *Due Process in Death Penalty Commutations : Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Clemency*, 27 *University of Richmond Law Review* 201 (1993)
- *The Quality of Mercy Strained : Wrestling the Pardoning Power from the King*, 69 *University of Texas Law Review* 569 (1991)

[View full list of publications](#)

Courses

- Constitutional Law
- Criminal Procedure
- Comparative Constitutional Law

Education

- J.D., magna cum laude, Order of the Coif, University of Toledo College of Law
- Bradshaw Fellow, University of Virginia (Graduate Program in English)
- B.A, summa cum laude, University of Toledo

Online Resources

- [Full Bio \(PDF\)](#)
- [Email](#)
- [Death Penalty ProCon.org](#)
- [Online article: *How to Grant Clemency in Unforgiving Times* \(PDF\)](#)
- [Online review of Kobil's book chapter in *Mercy, Forgiveness, and Clemency*.](#)
- [Profile in Success](#)



Interests

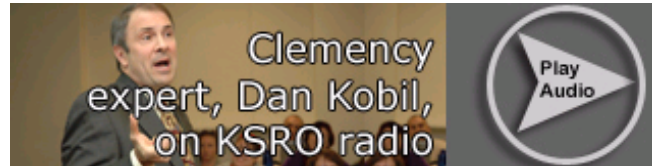
- Reading Fiction (favorite authors include V.S. Pritchett, Penelope Lively, J. R. R. Tolkien, Marilynne Robinson, Henry David Thoreau, and Kingsley Amis)
- Popular Music (favorite performers include Elvis Costello, Aimee Mann, Van Morrison, Ella Fitzgerald, Nirvana, Louis Armstrong, Richard Thompson, and, The Beatles)
- Films (some favorites include *The Wizard of Oz*, *Love and Death*, *The Meaning of Life*, *Bladerunner*, *The Princess Bride*, and *Juno*)
- Sports (skiing, tennis, hiking, bird-watching, and cycling)

Feature Stories

- Clemency Expert Professor Dan Kobil Appears in Variety of National Media Outlets on the Subject of Presidential Pardons
- Professors Dan Kobil and Brad Smith publish opposing op-ed's in the Oct. 13 *Columbus Dispatch*: "How might next president affect the Supreme Court?" [[Read Kobil's](#)] [[Read Smith's](#)]
- Professor Dan Kobil Spearheads Effort Among Governors to Submit Brief in U.S. Supreme Court Case
- Profersso Dan Kobil Quoted in *San Diego Union-Tribune* on Notorious Fugitive Case

Video and Audio Resource(s)

Dan Kobil was interviewed as an expert on clemency by KSRO radio, July 5, 2007.



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