



## **William Banks**

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Professor William C. Banks is recognized internationally as an expert on constitutional and national security law and counterterrorism. Since 1987, when the Federation of American Scientists asked him to provide a legal perspective on first use of nuclear weapons, Banks has helped set the parameters for the relatively new field of national security law.

Working with Steven Dycus, Arthur Berney and Peter Raven-Hansen, Banks wrote the leading text in the field. *National Security Law* was first published in 1990 and is now in its third edition. Banks is also the author of numerous other books, book chapters and articles including *Constitutional Law: Structure and Rights in Our Federal System, Fourth Edition*, "Troops Defending the Homeland: The Posse Comitatus Act and the Legal Environment for a Military Role in Domestic Counter Terrorism," and "Targeted Killing and Assassination: The U.S. Legal Framework."

In addition to teaching United States law subjects, Professor Banks lectures extensively on these and other national security and constitutional law-related topics and on comparative legal systems throughout the United States and Canada as well as in South and Central America, the Caribbean, Asia, Africa, and Europe. Banks' current research interests include domestic and international terrorism, emergency powers, covert war powers, problems of official corruption, civil/military relations, and appropriations powers.

A graduate of the University of Nebraska (B.A. 1971) and the University of Denver (J.D. 1974, M.S. 1982), Banks joined the faculty of the Syracuse University College of Law in 1978. Since 1998, he has also been a Professor of Public Administration in SU's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs. He was named the Laura J. and L. Douglas Meredith Professor for Teaching Excellence in 1998. Other honors include being named Special Counsel to the United States Senate Judiciary Committee in 1994. Banks worked with the committee on the confirmation hearings for Supreme Court nominee Stephen G. Breyer.

