“The right of access to public accommodations and common carriers is a civil right. It is a basic right indispensable to participation in the community, a substantive right to which all are fully and equally entitled.”

ABOUT THE SYMPOSIUM
Jacobus tenBroek founded the National Federation of the Blind—the first national organization of the blind led by the blind—in 1940. A law graduate and blind himself, tenBroek served on the faculty of the University of California, Berkeley. As a scholar of constitutional law, his groundbreaking treatises on the Fourteenth Amendment helped to provide the United States Supreme Court with the necessary tools to invalidate the separate but equal doctrine in the landmark Brown v. Board of Education decision. Dr. tenBroek extended this work by making explicit the idea that civil rights are applicable to disabled Americans as much as to any other minority. That blind and other disabled people have been able to gain a substantial measure of participation in American life is largely due to Dr. tenBroek’s thought and energy.

To carry forward tenBroek’s work in disability rights, the National Federation of the Blind is hosting the Jacobus tenBroek Disability Law Symposium. The 2009 symposium, the second of what we anticipate will be an annual event, will examine new perspectives on disability law both in the United States—brought about by the election of a new administration and the signing of the ADA Amendments Act—and internationally—as a result of the ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Documentation for CLE credits will be provided.

New Perspectives on Disability Law: Advancing the Right to Live in the World

A law symposium offered by the National Federation of the Blind Jernigan Institute with support from the Texas Journal on Civil Liberties and Civil Rights and the American Bar Association Commission on Mental and Physical Disability Law.

Chairman: Marc Maurer, President, National Federation of the Blind

PAYMENT INFORMATION
Registration Fee................................................$150.00
Students.................................................................$20.00
A limited number of scholarships to cover the registration fee will be available to individuals with demonstrated financial need.
To register online, go to http://www.nfb.org/nfb/Law_Symposium.asp and click on the register online link. Payment must be made by credit card at the time of registration when registering online.
To register by mail or fax, download and complete the registration form available at http://www.nfb.org/nfb/Law_Symposium.asp. Completed registration forms with credit card information may be faxed to Lou Ann Blake at (410) 659-5129. Mail forms giving credit card information or enclosing a check made payable to the National Federation of the Blind to:
Lou Ann Blake, Law Symposium Coordinator
National Federation of the Blind
1800 Johnson Street
Baltimore, MD 21230

HOTEL INFORMATION
A block of rooms has been reserved for law symposium participants at the Holiday Inn–Inner Harbor, located at 301 West Lombard Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201. Rooms may be reserved for April 16 and 17, 2009, at the rate of $157.00 per night, plus applicable taxes and surcharges, by calling the hotel directly at (410) 685-3500 and requesting the National Federation of the Blind block, group number 373400. Reservations must be made by 3:00 p.m., March 26, 2009. The NFB will provide a free morning and evening shuttle between the hotel and Jernigan Institute. Participants who will be staying at the Holiday Inn and who require accessible transportation should contact Lou Ann Blake by April 1, 2009.

2009 JACOBUS TENBROEK DISABILITY LAW SYMPOSIUM

AGENDA

Friday, April 17, 2009

7:45 - 8:30 AM Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:30 - 8:45 AM Welcome, Introductions, and Opening Remarks
Marc Maurer, President
National Federation of the Blind

8:45 - 10:00 AM Panel I—The Obama Administration’s Perspective on Disability Policy.
Representatives from the Obama administration

10:00 - 10:30 AM Break

10:30 - 11:45 AM Panel II—Perspectives on Enforcement of Disability Law.
Lead Presenter: Maura Healey, Assistant Attorney General and Chief, Civil Rights Division, Office of the Attorney General, Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Commentators:
• Tim Fox, Principal, Fox & Robertson, P.C.
• Amy Robertson, Principal, Fox & Robertson, P.C.

11:45 AM - 1:15 PM Lunch and Keynote Address
Ari Ne’eman, Founding President
The Autistic Self-Advocacy Network

Lead Presenter: Gerard Quinn, Professor of Law, National University of Ireland, Galway

Commentator: Katherine Guernsey, International Lawyer and Adjunct Professor, American University School of International Service

2:30 - 2:45 PM Break

2:45 - 4:00 PM Panel IV—The Future of the ADA: Making It Work Better.
Lead Presenter: Samuel Bagenstos, Visiting Professor of Law, University of Michigan Law School; Professor of Law, Washington University School of Law

Commentator: Christine Griffin, Commissioner, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

4:00 - 5:15 PM Closing Remarks and Open Session
Lead Presenter: Peter Blanck, University Professor and Chairman, Burton Blatt Institute, Syracuse University

5:15 - 7:30 PM Reception