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## A Tribute to Professor Penny White

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## A Tribute to Professor Penny White

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# TENNESSEE JOURNAL OF LAW AND POLICY

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## TRIBUTE

### A TRIBUTE TO PROFESSOR PENNY WHITE

*E. Alan Groves\**

In August 2017, Professor Penny White<sup>1</sup> stepped down from her position as faculty advisor to the *Tennessee Journal of Law and Policy*. On behalf of the journal's editors, I write to express our warmest thanks and deepest appreciation for Professor White's steadfast commitment to the journal and its members, both past and present.

Professor White's relationship with the *Tennessee Journal of Law and Policy* dates back to the journal's founding in 2004 when she agreed to serve as one of the journal's original faculty advisors. As a former Tennessee Supreme Court justice, a successful former litigator, and an accomplished academic, Professor White brought a wealth of experience to the journal. She shared this experience by helping the journal with fundraising,

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\* J.D. Candidate, May 2018, The University of Tennessee College of Law.

<sup>1</sup> Penny White serves The University of Tennessee College of Law in three different capacities: She is the E.E. Overton Distinguished Professor of Law, the Director of the Center for Advocacy and Dispute Resolution, and the Interim Director of Clinical Programs.

article solicitation, and publishing a written work of her own.<sup>2</sup>

Further, Professor White has been instrumental in allowing the *Tennessee Journal of Law and Policy* to co-host an annual symposium with the College of Law's Center for Advocacy and Dispute Resolution. Each year, the journal invites professionals from various academic disciplines to speak about contemporary issues in law and public policy. The annual symposium continues to ignite the imagination of the campus community and provides journal members with unique opportunities to interact with policy experts and well-respected members of the bench and bar. These annual events are made possible by the vision of Professor White, the administrative support of her assistant Jenny Lackey, and the financial support of the Center for Advocacy and Dispute Resolution.

Finally, Professor White has served as a remarkable mentor and role model for the student editors of the journal. Students who have served as Editor in Chief or Symposium Editor have personally witnessed the time and energy Professor White has invested in the journal. These students have also witnessed the grace and humility with which Professor White conducts her daily affairs; she does not lord her titles over students or colleagues, and, no matter how busy she is, Professor White always makes time to meet with students in her office. To everyone on campus, Professor White is known for her strength, her integrity, and (most of all) her love for people.

Thus, it is with sad hearts that the editors of the *Tennessee Journal of Law and Policy* bid farewell to our longtime faculty advisor. Of course, we will no doubt

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<sup>2</sup> See generally Penny White, *If it Ain't Broke, Break it—How the Tennessee General Assembly Dismantled and Destroyed Tennessee's Uniquely Excellent Judicial System*, 10 TENN. J.L. & POL'Y 329 (2015).

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continue to learn from Professor White in clinics and in the classroom, and we will forever be touched by the example of her life and her legacy in the law. Turning the page, we now look forward to continuing this journal's tradition of excellence under the supervision of our current faculty advisor, Professor Bradley A. Areheart.