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BIOETHICS LAWYER TO SPEAK AT UM

MISSOULA –

In the ongoing debates surrounding thorny issues of abortion, stem cell research and human cloning, Nikolas T. Nikas has put himself on the front lines.

Nikas, the president and general counsel of the Bioethics Defense Fund, has directed national legal strategy on the issues of human cloning, embryonic cell stem cell research, abortion and end-of-life issues since 1992.

He will speak on “Bioethics at the Brink: Law and Policy on Human Cloning and Embryonic Cell Research” at noon Thursday, Nov. 30, in Room 202 of the School of Law at The University of Montana.

Nikas impacts legislative strategy by drafting life-protective model legislation and by consulting with legislators nationwide. He has testified before the U.S. Senate on abortion and First Amendment rights and consults with the President’s Council on Bioethics in Washington D.C.

Nikas received his bachelor’s degree in government and international relations and his master’s in political philosophy from the University of Notre Dame. He received his juris doctor, magna cum laude, in 1986 from Arizona State College of Law, where he graduated in
the top five percent of his class.

The speech is sponsored by the Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies, a group of conservatives and libertarians interested in the current state of the legal order. The group was founded on the principles that the state exists to preserve freedom, that separation of governmental powers is central to our Constitution and that it is emphatically the province and duty of the judiciary to say what the law is, not what it should be.

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