



# The 2020 Grall Neafsey Lecture

Co-Sponsored by the  
Ecumenical Institute at Assumption College

## Col. (ret.) Randy Bagwell: Do the Geneva Conventions Still Matter?



**Thursday, March 19, 4 pm, Kennedy 112**

In 2019, the Geneva Conventions turned 70 years old. Is it time to reexamine our commitment to these rules? In a world where armed conflicts are being waged predominantly by non-State armed groups, rather than governments, are the Geneva Conventions still relevant? Should US military forces comply with the rules of war when the other side doesn't? Have limitations, such as the prohibition on torture, run their course? Who decided that the Geneva Conventions should apply to the United States? Do these rules really reflect American values or are they European rules designed to make us weaker? Join us to discuss these important questions!

**Randy Bagwell** is the Senior Director at the American Red Cross responsible for the dissemination of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) throughout the United States. He served over 35 years in the US Army as an infantry officer and Judge Advocate. He deployed twice to Afghanistan and once to Iraq. Col. Bagwell has taught IHL to soldiers, commanders and the public in over 20 countries, at the International Institute of Humanitarian Law, the US Naval War College, and the Army Judge Advocate General's School, where he also served as Dean. He has twice testified before the Human Rights Commission in the U.S. House of Representatives on IHL related issues.



Free and open to the public.

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