

THE JOHN FLEMING CENTRE FOR ADVANCEMENT OF LEGAL  
RESEARCH, ANU COLLEGE OF LAW AND  
THE AUSTRALIAN SENATE PRESENT:



## SENATE OCCASIONAL LECTURE

# COMPENSATING VICTIMS OF DISASTERS

The United States' experience using administrative alternatives to litigation

**Mr Ken Feinberg**  
Washington DC Attorney

Friday 20 June, 12.15 – 1.15pm  
The Theatre  
Parliament House, Canberra

Admission free – bookings not required

Enquiries to Senate Procedure Office – E: [research.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:research.sen@aph.gov.au) or T: (02) 6277 3074

### THE LECTURE

In this lecture Mr Feinberg will discuss whether, and to what extent, it is wise for legislative bodies to enact special laws designed to provide public compensation to a small segment of eligible citizens who are the victims of life's misfortunes. Should a Congress or duly elected Parliament provide special generous compensation to a narrowly defined group of eligible claimants, while neglecting to do the same for others who suffer misfortune through no fault of their own? How can Parliament justify such a Program? Should it enact such special compensation laws?

### THE LECTURER

Ken Feinberg, a Washington DC attorney specializing in mediation and alternative dispute resolution, was appointed by the Attorney General of the United States to administer the September 11 Victims' Compensation Fund, which ultimately distributed over \$7 billion in public compensation to over 5,000 families of those who died on 9/11 and victims of the terrorist attacks who were physically injured. The Fund was established by an Act of Congress, signed into law by the President.

Kenneth Feinberg is in Australia as a Visiting Fellow of The John Fleming Centre for Advancement of Legal Research at the ANU College of Law.

The views expressed in this seminar are those of the presenter and do not necessarily represent the views of The Australian National University.