

Are We Ready Yet?: The Legal and Ethical Issues of Preparing for and Responding to a Bioterrorist Attack

March 5, 2009

12:30 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

*Schulze Grand Atrium
Univ. of St. Thomas School of Law
1000 LaSalle, Minneapolis, MN*

Featuring Keynotes:

**Dr. Michael
Osterholm**

*Director of the Center
for Infectious Disease
Research and Policy
(CIDRAP)*



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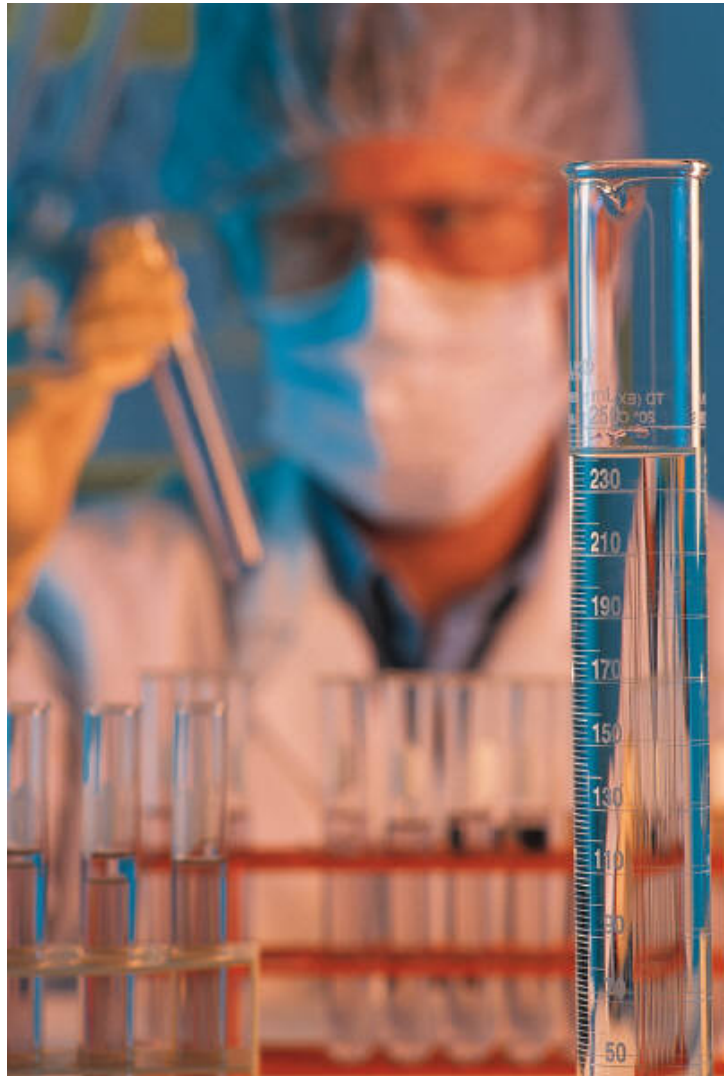
**Dr. Victoria
Sutton**

*Director, Center for
Biodefense, Law and
Public Policy, Texas Tech
University School of Law*



**Five Other
Distinguished Speakers:**

*Dr. Kavita Berger
Professor Barry Kellman
Professor R. Gregory Evans
Lt. Col. Larry Shireley
Professor JanLori Goldman*



In the summer of 2001, several public health and counterterrorism organizations conducted an unprecedented exercise: a simulated attack against the United States with a weaponized variety of the smallpox virus. At the end of the simulation, the findings were grim: within just a few weeks there were 100,000 casualties and both American government and healthcare were overwhelmed at all levels. A few months later, a weaponized strain of anthrax was sent in the mail to figures in the American government and media, proving that bioterrorism was more than just an abstract possibility. Seven years after these events, the question remains: are we ready for the **ethical** and **legal** challenges of a biological attack?