The passage of the crown jewel of the Civil Rights Movement, the Voting Rights Act, came only after much strife and sacrifices by African-Americans seeking nothing less than the opportunity to participate fully in our electoral process, which serves as the bedrock of our democracy. Now 45 years later, as evidenced by the 2006 reauthorization of key provisions of the VRA, although much progress has been made the struggle that our Nation has undergone to reconcile our racial history with political, societal, and economic realities continues today. This presentation will focus on the impact on hotly contested issues of felon disenfranchisement, current constitutional challenges to the VRARA, early voting, and the impact of the 2010 Census on restriction of the protections of the Voting Rights Act to citizen voting age population and redistricting, all of which have the potential for a discriminatory impact on racial and ethnic minority American voters.

Friday, October 22, 2010, 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
Peabody Hotel

PANELISTS

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Elizabeth M. Yang
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