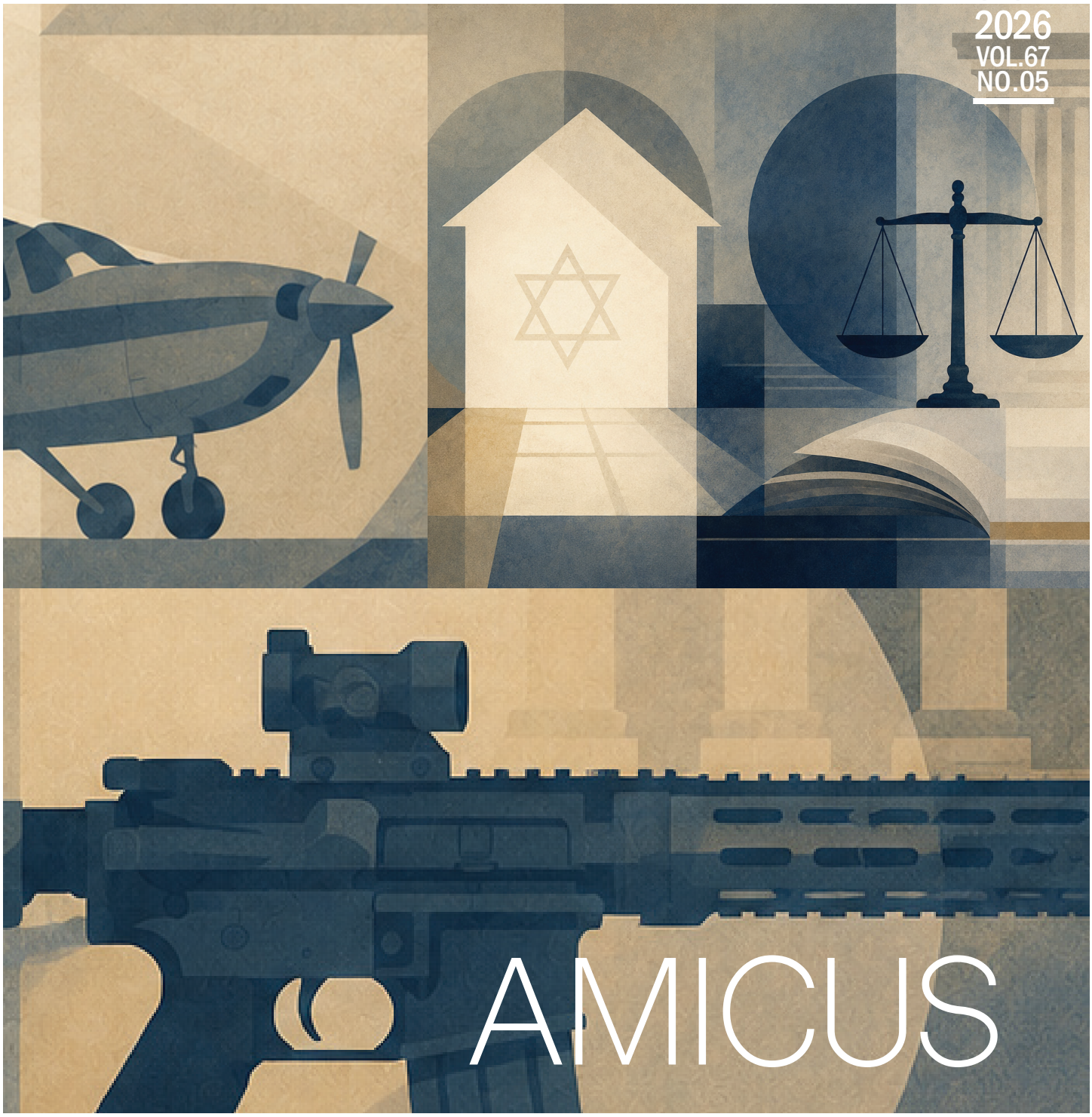
IMLA

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AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

2026 IMLA DeWitt F. "Mac" McCarley

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS:

DILINI LANKACHANDRA
Assistant Counsel for the Unified Government of Wyandotte County /Kansas City, Kansas

CAROLINE LETTRICH
Assistant Director of Law City of Cleveland


Caroline Lettrich


Dilini Lankachandra

As part of its commitment to building generational involvement in local government law, IMLA created the McCarley Scholarships, named in honor of Dewitt F. "Mac" McCarley. Mac has practiced municipal law for more than 45 years, having served as the Charlotte, North Carolina City Attorney from 1994 to 2011 and continuing as a partner at Parker Poe where he focuses on local government matters, including service as the town attorney for Southern Pines. Mac was an IMLA President, a recipient of the Charles S. Rhyne Lifetime Achievement award and was instrumental in creating IMLA's Institute for Local Government Lawyers (ILGL).

Offered each year at the IMLA Annual Conference, ILGL is a one-day boot camp providing an interactive and experiential program for attorneys new to local government law (or for those seeking a refresher). Mac, who has been a member of the ILGL faculty since its inception, exemplifies giving back to IMLA. It is in that spirit that the McCarley Scholarships were created.

IMLA will be publishing their articles in upcoming issues of *Municipal Lawyer*, and we look forward to meeting Dilini and Caroline in person as they join us for IMLA's upcoming Annual Conference in Salt lake City, Utah!

ML