

THE INFORMER

Thomas Jefferson School of Law

Volume 2 Issue 1

August 30, 2010

IN LOVING MEMORY OF VINCENT WRIGHT



R.I.P. Vincent Wright
January 2, 1960 - August 24, 2010

Vince Wright was a quiet gentleman, a hard worker, and a personal friend. I remember seeing Vince while riding the trolley, and we would exchange stories about life, Thomas Jefferson School of Law, and anything else that interested us. Vince, knowing I was not made of money as a student, always pointed me in the right direction for competitively-priced food at various grocery stores and great San Diego restaurants. We will miss Vince for his honesty and friendliness. Godspeed Vince!

Jeremy M. Evans
Student Bar Association, President

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Another Lack Luster Performance

By: Jonathan Cooper, Managing Editor

Thomas Jefferson did not succeed in all his endeavors; however his passion and determination led to many life altering moments both personally and for our country. Likewise, the students of Thomas Jefferson School of Law have also been dealing with life altering decisions over the past several years. Although most of these decisions revolve around the moment we decided to follow our passion and zest for law; we are now beginning to look forward and make decisions regarding our future after we leave Thomas Jefferson.

Everyone had their own reason for wanting to attend law school. Some of us wanted a career change, others were following a childhood dream and for some of us it was simply the next step after undergrad. Whatever the reason may be, the one thing we all have in common is that we applied and were ultimately accepted into Thomas Jefferson School of Law. During the application process there were numerous questions we were asking ourselves regarding our selections. However, the questions we should have been asking were; upon graduation how successful are Thomas Jefferson students? What is the career placement like? How much support does the school provide their students? And ultimately what are the bar passage rates?

Although some of these statistics are harder to predict than others, one thing has remained consistent; our inability to master the California State Bar Exam. Even though there have been years where we performed at admirable levels, deep down I would challenge that we are not reaching our full potential.

After reviewing the statistics reported on The State Bar of California website, I assembled a chart comparing Thomas Jefferson School of Law to the average of all California ABA approved law schools. The chart depicts both the February and July bar passage rates, for first time takers, over the last 6 years.

TJSL Bar Passage Rates
(%)
First Time Takers

| July | 2010 | 2009 | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 |
|-----------------------------|------|--------|-------|--------|-------|-------|
| TJSL | | 46 | 76 | 56 | 51 | 38 |
| CA ABA Approved Law Schools | | 79.3 | 83.2 | 75.9 | 73.7 | 70.2 |
| Deviation | | - 33.3 | - 7.2 | - 19.1 | -22.7 | -32.2 |

| February | 2010 | 2009 | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 |
|-----------------------------|-------|--------|------|------|--------|--------|
| TJSL | 52 | 42 | 61 | 61 | 47 | 32 |
| CA ABA Approved Law Schools | 60.1 | 53.2 | 62.2 | 60.8 | 59.7 | 57.7 |
| Deviation | - 8.1 | - 11.2 | -1.2 | + .2 | - 12.7 | - 25.7 |

<http://admissions.calbar.ca.gov/Examinations/Statistics.aspx>

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Back to School

By: Katie Tooma, Editor-in-Chief

It seems that with each increasing year in law school your summer decreases. Some of us had 40-hour a week jobs, some of us had class, some of us did both. It's almost like we're in training for never having a summer vacation. It's kind of sad.

Last year I worked about 10 hours a week and took Evidence. I was on the beach almost every day and studied for my final while lying on a blanket listening to the waves. This summer, I went to the beach three times. I feel like I'm committing an ultimate sin! I could partly blame it on the fact that the clouds ate up most of my beach time and the temperature has yet to go above 75 degrees, but still it feels like the end of something much bigger than just summer.

This summer my office had two cases going to trial, I was taking Professional Responsibility (PR) and studying for the Multistate Professional Responsibility Exam (MPRE). Saying I was busy was an understatement. However, since I left home after high school, I've always traveled back to New York to see my family twice a year, sometimes three if I got lucky. I was making my summer plans to travel back for not only a great friend's wedding, but for my godson's second birthday and my grandfather's 90th, when I realized I was broke and responsibilities had me SWAMPED! Everything collided with my PR final, the MPRE and a motion I was assisting with for one of the cases going to trial. I was very homesick, missed my family and I felt my summer fun-time slipping away.

This summer I also watched friends study for the bar exam, practically locking themselves in their apartments or in the library for nearly three months. That situation is looking more and more like my summer next year and although I have been mentally preparing myself for it, I am not looking forward to it.

But for a change of tone, here's what I've come up with. It's probably the stupidest idea ever considering I owe my first born in exchange for student loan payments, but right after the bar exam I'm traveling to Europe! That's right! Whatever I have not spent, I'm taking and just going. I'm traveling until I run out of money and then I'll come home (I will buy some semblance of a round-trip ticket).

Now for the parental chink in the armor, I told my mom this the other day and she pretty much just laughed hysterically and told me, "You're not going." I'll probably listen. So, viva Las Vegas!! Who's with me?! I can at least hitch a ride home after I lose all of my money! Regardless of where I will be going for a summer vacation it will happen. I need to retain some part of my spoiled life even if I will be working 70 hours a week trying to hit a 48-hour deadline, if I even have a job.

While we all think about something ridiculously fun for us to do after the dust of our busy schedules clears, for now, enjoy September! Hopefully, the sun will soon shine warm enough for us all to hit the beach!

PERFORMANCE: Continued from 1

Thomas Jefferson School of Law represents opportunity and growth for many of us. Thomas Jefferson looks beyond the numbers and statistics when admitting students, but my question for you is; Why are we as students struggling to increase our statistical performance? I feel as though the answer to this question involves two parties.

I believe that Thomas Jefferson has an obligation to prepare students and help us to increase our dismal performance. However, at the same time a quick scan from the back of any lecture will reveal that many of us spend our time in class playing scrabble or reading the news. This behavior is part of a systemic academic problem that lies at the heart of our bar passage rate. Passing the bar exam is not simply the result of students' efforts and dedication during the months leading up to the exam. A student's success on the bar exam is the cumulative result of everything that the student has done SINCE THE DAY THEY STARTED LAW SCHOOL. Every missed class, uncompleted practice exam, or unattended review session directly affects a student's success on the bar exam.

I am not slighting the students, most of whom are extremely hard working and dedicated to the success of their studies. However, after the sheen of the first semester wears off and the years stuck inside a casebook drag on, we all have to admit that the motivation can wane. Sitting in Constitutional Law at 8am on a Friday will test the mental fortitude of any student. However, every time you click and open a new window, remember that passing the bar exam is half your responsibility and half the schools' responsibility. So, make sure you make the best of your half.

The China Experience

By: Joey Willmore

Oh, China! I had hoped that for my homecoming, you'd go a bit easier on me. But no, apparently my Asian blood isn't enough to give me the iron stomach necessary to handle you. That said, what an adventure, and an amazing experience I will never forget! I have now participated in both the Nice and China study abroad programs through Professor Tiefenbrun, and she certainly knows how to run amazing and unforgettable programs.

My Asian adventure started a bit earlier than most, as I first ventured to Hong Kong before continuing onto Hangzhou, where the study program is located. I booked my Hong Kong hotel mere hours before taking the Coaster up to Los Angeles, and then continued onto my 14 hour flight. I had never been on a flight this long, so I had assumed that the next 14 hours would be the worst of my life. However, a few complimentary adult beverages and a few episodes of Modern Family somehow put me into a peaceful slumber for a whopping 8 hours! Needless to say, I arrived in Hong Kong crusty-eyed, mildly rested, and ready to tackle my first stop in Asia.

Hong Kong is an excellent first stop in Asia for an American traveler. Being a former British colony, English is very common and the locals are reasonably accommodating to the foreign traveler. Hong Kong is also a beautiful city with a rich and vibrant history that blends elements of a modern city with the old traditions of South China. To tackle my first Asian city, I figured Cantonese cuisine, which had ranked among my favorite foods, would be a perfect finish to my day. In retrospect, it might not have been such a great idea.

Unfortunately, my weak stomach cut a bit of adventure out of my Hong Kong travels, but I didn't let it get me down. I managed to pull myself together, stuck primarily to safe foods, and continued onto Hangzhou. After landing in Hangzhou, I managed to get through the chaos of the airport and get a cab. This, of course, was no small task, but with our destination written out (and our tragic attempts at saying it in Mandarin), we finally got a cabbie to drive us to our hotel.

Signing up for the weekend trips is an absolute must for the China program. We were introduced to Hangzhou by the very beautiful Ting Ting ("beautiful girl"), our tour guide who accompanied us for all the weekend trips. Hangzhou is a beautiful city set on a lake, and one of the wealthiest cities in China. Being that one of Hangzhou's main tourist attractions is its lake, Ting Ting first brought us to a boat tour. We embarked on a beautiful ride that showcased the scenery, the culture, and the wind! Hair and wardrobe malfunctions offered a comical preview of the bonding experiences and interesting things we'd learn about our classmates over the next few weeks!

Our boat tour was followed by a tour of a temple and garden, a visit to a tea leaf farm, and topped off by a visit to Zhejiang University – where our classes were held. Here, we met our Chinese classmates that introduced themselves with interesting English names they had chosen, including Michael Jordan, Dragon, and Sirius (Harry Potter was a popular inspiration).

One of the most rewarding aspects of the program is the opportunity to learn in a global setting with perspectives and insight from students we normally wouldn't get to associate with in a classroom. Many lively debates ensued between Chinese and American students about political views, history, legal doctrines, and what defines "good" law.

Shanghai was my personal favorite for our weekend trips. The trip started out a bit rocky, with a long (and miserable) bus ride that gave us our first taste of the Chinese highways. Our first stop in Shanghai was at a law firm, where we had a very informative presentation by a Chinese lawyer.

Our first night in Shanghai was a bit rainy, but that didn't stop us from going on a harbor cruise of the city. Shanghai is gorgeous, and known as China's "World City" by the sea. Day two in Shanghai, like every other day while in China, started at 7am. Our second day in Shanghai was spent at the World Expo, a fair described as a "grand gathering of the world cultures." To me, it was a "grand gathering" of endless lines of complete chaos amongst some of the most hygienically-challenged people that I've ever been so unfortunate enough to cross paths with.

Our last day in Shanghai, however, was among the highlights of my Asian adventure. Ting Ting brought us to a "typical" Chinese neighborhood in Shanghai and arranged for us to go inside and meet our hosts, who cooked us a delicious lunch. Of course I was terrified to eat the food, but knew that it was culturally inappropriate to go into an Asian household and turn down the food. Reluctantly, I ate – and actually ate quite a lot – and to my surprise, this was one of the few meals I had that didn't make me sick!

Our last weekend trip was to Beijing, a city rich with history... and bargains! The Silk Street Market is where many students and professors were found buying knock-offs of pretty much everything!



Aside from shopping, other Beijing highlights included visiting a Chinese Court, touring the Forbidden City, and venturing outside the city to the Great Wall! The Great Wall is probably one of the most spectacular sights I have ever seen, and I was lucky enough to trek up it a decent length.

Our last morning in Beijing involved touring a Chinese park and another temple. It was very interesting to see the Chinese exercises, games, dances, and other Sunday leisure activities in the park, but the real adventure was in the Temple of Fire. Getting lost amongst chaos always seems to give me a high – perhaps it's the feeling of danger – but I somehow made it back to the bus in the nick of time.

All good things must come to an end.

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**THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN SAN DIEGO COUNTY
IS PLEASED TO INVITE YOU TO A NEW STUDENT
AND NEW LAWYER MIXER
SEPTEMBER 9, 2010**

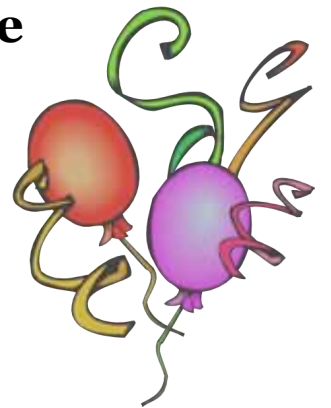
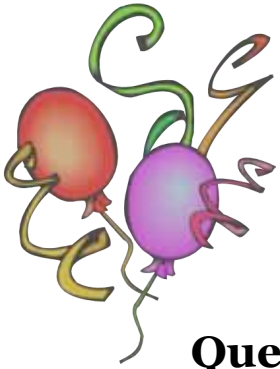
5:30PM – 7:30PM

*Current and New
Students are
Welcome!*

*Networking, Advice and
Meet New Friends*

**Learn how the BANSDC
can help your career!!!!**

**Please join us for hosted food and drinks at the
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located at
251 North El Camino Real
Encinitas, CA 92024**



**Questions or to RSVP: Call Jennifer S. Creighton, Esq. at (760) 758-4261
By email: jscreighton@wpwlaw.com**

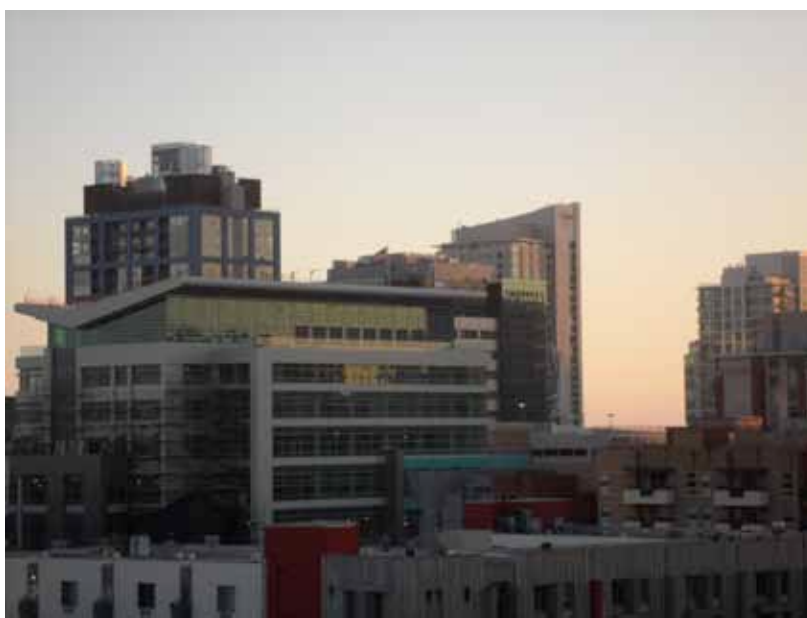


Hours:

**Mon-Thu, Sun 5 pm - 10 pm
Fri-Sat 5 pm - 12 am**

Daily Discounts

**Beverages and selected food items from
5pm --7pm Daily**



**Our New Downtown
Location**

China: Continued from 2

We take our finals and say goodbye to our new Chinese friends. Over the course of the program, we all bonded with each other while on this unforgettable adventure that put all of us in situations we likely would have never contemplated. Passports were lost, buses were missed, and, worst of all – no Facebook for three weeks.

For me, my Tour de Asia was not over just yet! I continued on to Tokyo and spent five days exploring the city. Tokyo is an amazing city and quite possibly the cleanest city I have ever been to. Lucky for me, a good friend lives there and was kind enough to show me around. Five days just wasn't enough to fill my sushi and Hello Kitty fix, but it was enough for me to fall in love with the city.

I'm pretty sure that my China experience is a bit different from most, but it certainly was an unforgettable experience that I'm glad to have been a part of. I definitely recommend going... just be forewarned of the above worst-case scenario!

Family Law Society Attorney Panel

By: William Sung

Family Law Society (FLS) is pleased to sponsor one of the first professional panels of the Semester. Our FLS panel will be hosting esteemed Family Law attorneys in the field including Ms. Myra Fleischer. The Law offices of Myra Fleischer serves clients throughout Southern California including offices in Del Mar as well as Beverly Hills. Ms. Fleischer has been practicing law in civil litigation and family law since 1997.

Other attorneys on the family law panel are as follows:

Ms. Dawn Davies practices family law in San Diego County but is also experienced in domestic issues such as Pensions, step-parent adoptions, domestic partnership, and dependency.

Mr. Frank Nageotte has been a certified legal specialist of family law since 1989. He is experienced in serving as Judge Pro Tem and arbitrator in family law issues around San Diego County.

Mr. Shawn Weber began his practice in 2001 and became a partner of his firm since 2006. Mr. Weber is trained in mediation to resolve difficult issues that arise between disputes such as alimony and child custody.

Ms. Barbara Brown began her private practice specialized in family law after serving as an Assistant United States Attorney. She have held other prestigious positions such as the President of the Lawyers Club of San Diego and two terms in the Executive Committee of the family law specialists in the San Diego County Bar Association.

This panel will discuss in depth the areas of collaborative law, mediation, divorce, and child support. This information will be helpful in your understanding of Family Law as a field as well as issues that may arise while you practice law.

The panel will be held on campus on **Tuesday, September 14, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.**

Truly "doing BIG things"

By: Pejman Kharrazian

The Outdoors Club Back to School BBQ at scenic Kate Sessions Park last Sunday was a great success. The event had over seventy participants and was sponsored by BarBri Bar Review. The Outdoors Club is one of the newer groups on campus. The club's theme for the year of "doing BIG things" involves



taking the club to new heights with a focus on internal leadership, growing with an engaged membership, and providing fun and exciting events that allow its members to create real bonds in an often tense law school environment. If last

Sunday's event is any indication of things to come this year for the Outdoors Club, they will truly be "doing BIG things."

For more information contact the Outdoors Club at outdoors@tjssl.edu and find them on Facebook.



Phi Alpha Delta Presents...

Wine, Cheese, and Judges Pet Peeves

By: Zoi Jones

Welcome back colleagues, and welcome class of 2013! It still amazes me how quickly the summer passes and we find ourselves back to reading cases, jaywalking to the library, and finagling our schedules to fit as much in as possible. We are fortunate to have many wonderful organizations at Thomas Jefferson, which sponsor great events for networking, academic support, and career preparation.

How do you know which to attend? *Wine, Cheese, and Judges Pet Peeves*, should definitely be on your list. Every year Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity hosts an event that brings more than 200 law students, lawyers, judges and professors to Thomas Jefferson. You don't want to be that new lawyer who is guilty of courtroom blunders like unscrewing a water bottle or chewing gum!

Wine, Cheese, and Judges Pet Peeves is a unique opportunity to hear from judges on courtroom etiquette and the do's and don'ts in the courtroom. Law school teaches you contracts, res ipsa loquiter, the elements of murder, and diversity jurisdiction. Students have to look to seminars, panels and externships to learn how to be a lawyer. How often do you have judges at your fingertips answering your questions and giving you courtroom education? *Wine, Cheese and Judges Pet Peeves* gives you the chance to listen to judges, take notes, enjoy a variety of wine and cheeses, and is great for networking. We all remember how Dean Kransberger stressed networking at orientation!

This September Phi Alpha Delta will be co-sponsoring the event with BLSA and will be hosting the panels and guests following the event in the courtyard to give students the opportunity to network with the legal community. Phi Alpha Delta and BLSA look forward to seeing you there! In the words from Judge Haller in *My Cousin Vinny*, "when you come into my court looking like you do, you not only insult me, but you insult the integrity of this court." Don't be that attorney!

Wine, Cheese and Judges Pet Peeves will take place on **Thursday, September 23, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.**

OUTLaw Aids Walk

By: Jennifer Leys, Editor

Every year approximately 60 percent of men are infected through homosexual sex, 25 percent through injection drug use, and 15 percent through heterosexual sex. Of these newly infected men, approximately 50 percent are black, 30 percent are white, 20 percent are Hispanic, and a small percentage are members of other racial/ethnic groups. (Center for Disease Control and Prevention. HIV Strategic Plan Through 2005. January 2001).

Of new infections among women in the United States, approximately 75 percent are infected through heterosexual sex and 25 percent through injection drug use. Of these newly infected women, approximately 64 percent are black, 18 percent are white, and 18 percent are Hispanic. (Center for Disease Control and Prevention. HIV Strategic Plan Through 2005. January 2001).

I don't even need to say the word AIDS in the opening paragraphs in order for you, dear reader, to know what I am taking about. AIDS is no secret. It affects all of the people around us. The people who are most at risk could be living in your house with you or in your neighborhood.

For too many people, having HIV and AIDS is a harsh reality. In 1989 the HIV/AIDS Walk & Run began because the community decided that it could no longer ignore the growing problem. Since then, this organization has raised over 8 million dollars for AIDS research and community outreach.

Also, since then, HIV has become a more livable disease. There are medications to keep a person healthy for longer. But is "healthy for longer" enough for us?

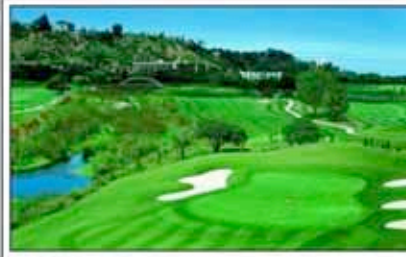
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Golf Tournament Details:

Location: Riverwalk Golf Course
1150 Fashion Valley Rd.
San Diego, California 92108

Date: Friday, October 15, 2010

Times: 11:00 a.m. Registration
11:30 a.m. Putting Challenge
12:30 p.m. Shotgun Start
5:30 p.m. Awards Banquet (approx.)



All Proceeds Benefit TJSJ's Veteran's Legal Assistance Clinic!

The Clinic is a successful collaboration with Veterans' Village of San Diego. Our students provide legal services to veterans struggling to regain full participation in society. Please partner with us to support our veterans.

Early Bird Specials

TJSJ Alumni—\$120 per player
Friends of TJSJ—\$140 per player
TJSJ Students—\$65 per player (*16 only*)

After 9/17/2010

\$130 per person for TJSJ Alumni
\$155 per person for Friends of TJSJ

Entry fee includes: Putting Contest, Green Fee, Cart, Range Balls,
2 Free Drink Tickets, Giveaways, Dinner, Awards & Raffle

All player information must be completed and payment made to finalize registration.
Please register on or before Tuesday, October 12, 2010.

**Students will not be excused from classes for this event.*

Register online at:
<http://alumni.tjsl.edu/events/rsvp.asp?eventid=162>
TJSJ is a 501(c)3 non-profit.

Alumni Relations • 2121 San Diego Avenue • San Diego, CA 92110 • 619.297.9700x1497 • alumni@tjsl.edu

Padres Game & Tailgate

FOOD • BASEBALL • NETWORKING



Saturday, September 11, 2010
11:00 a.m. Tailgate / 1:35 p.m. Game
\$25 per person

**Price includes fully-catered tailgate party & game*

Petco Park
100 Park Blvd., San Diego

**Tailgate directions to be provided with ticket*

Sponsored by TJSJ's Alumni Association

PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

Tickets can be purchased online at: <http://alumni.tjsl.edu/events/index.asp?eventid=175>
or
at the Alumni Relations office with cash or check made payable to TJSJ.

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The Worst Job In Baseball

By: Jessica Stocks, Editor

From TheFatWhiteGuy.com

A couple weeks ago, my boyfriend and I decided to stroll on over to Petco Park and take in a Padres game. Unfortunately, the Dodgers were in town, so the game was sold out. The next night, after the Dodgers packed up and left town, Petco returned to its desolate old self, so we bought ourselves a pair of \$10 bleacher seats (don't judge, we are poor law students). We file into the stadium, buy peanuts that surely must have been made of gold (\$5 for *peanuts!*) and make our way to our seats. Now I know that when it comes to ballpark tickets, you get what you pay for, and was prepared for a bad view and baseball players the size of sea monkeys. What I was not prepared for: the sandbox. Yup, in dead center field, right behind the fence, is a sandbox for the youngster baseball fans to play while their parents watch the game.

Allow me to digress. When Petco Park was built some years ago it was a gem. Beautiful, state of the art, perfect. Until one day just a couple weeks before opening day someone pointed out that something...I can't quite put my finger on it...seems to be missing.... *THERE ISN'T A VISITORS' BULLPEN!* Clearly two teams can't be expected to share the beautiful Padres' bullpen that had been built, so in a brilliant maneuver a makeshift, half-ass bullpen was shoved into first base side foul territory.

So let me make sure we are all clear on the situation. The engineers and architects building the stadium overlooked the fact that a professional baseball stadium generally requires two bullpens, but by golly they sure did a top notch job on that sandbox!!

Back to the sandbox that induced the above rant. Ok, so it might be understandable, California baseball is known for weird things, like sushi bars, coming late and leaving early, monkeys believed to incite rallies (that one is legit), but seriously, a *sandbox?* "No little Timmy, it would be best for you not to sit in the seat we paid for and spend some quality father son time, go get tetanus in the sandbox instead."

The worst part of the sandbox is that I could not, for the life of me, concentrate on the game. All of the action was happening more than 300 feet away, but right in front of my face was a fabulous little microcosm of society. There were the cool kids in the corner filling up buckets with sand, the ADD kid throwing sand at unsuspecting children, the strange kid eating the sand, and the troubled artist just trying to create his masterpiece until ADD kid destroyed it.

That is when I made this astonishing anthropological discovery: the worst job in baseball. I had previously been led to believe that the worst job in baseball probably had something to do with cleaning the bathrooms or sweeping up peanut shells, but alas, I was wrong. The worst job in baseball is in fact the Petco Park Sandbox Security Guard. That's right, there was a security guard posted at the sandbox, and I'm not talking about an usher who just stood there. This security guard meant business. She was a fully uniformed, walkie-talkie toting, ear bud wearing security guard who would have made the Secret Service proud. Obviously taking her job far too seriously, this glorified babysitter went as far as to confiscate a plush baseball from a small child.

Apparently the Sandbox Security Guard is a job that requires one to be on their toes at all times. There is no room for error. After 5 long innings, things were getting a little dicey so a call was made to the bullpen, and out came trotting Relief Sandbox Security Guard. After a short meeting, Sandbox Security Guard got a pat on the butt and was sent to the showers after 5 innings of shutout guarding. Not a single dead kid; bravo! Relief Sandbox Security Guard did some solid work, but after a couple innings it was time for the big guns: Sand Box Security Guard Closer.

By now the kids were cranky, dirty and likely to incite unlawful activity and storm the field at any moment. It's a good thing Petco Park made a clutch offseason acquisition when they got Sand Box Security Guard Closer for a concession stand worker and two ushers to be named later.

Unfortunately, the Padres' lead was lost (oh yeah, a baseball game was going on), and here we go extra innings. But since this is California, and it was getting chilly, we left after 9.

My Summer in JAG

By: Sarah Steward-Bussey, Staff Writer

There's a saying in the military that we get more done before 9am than most people do all day. My experience with the Army JAG Corps summer internship at Fort Knox absolutely embodied this phrase. My days often began with a 4 mile run around Fort Knox, starting at 0630. Despite the early hour, the weather often reached 80 degrees. But even in the brutal heat, I loved this early morning ritual. These grueling runs led to a bond between the soldiers I worked with that you cannot find in the civilian world. No matter how difficult the morning workout is, it's hard not to be motivated by the echo of military cadence throughout the post.

By the time physical training was over, I had to rush to shower and eat breakfast before returning for work call. Once I set foot in my office, the day took off at a sprinting pace, hardly ever slowing down until 1700 (5pm) when I was released. During my stay at Fort Knox, I worked in three different sections within the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate. The first four weeks I spent working in the Military Law and Ethics (MLNE) section. This section is the catch-all of the office. If it wasn't a criminal issue (which went to Military Justice) or a soldier's personal legal problem (which would go to Legal Assistance), it came to MLNE. I spent two weeks each at the latter sections.

The work I did in MLNE was primarily legal writing, drafting legal reviews of ethical issues sent down from the SJA. Ethical issues that arise in the military can be as benign as whether a local university can present the Fort Knox Commanding General with a polo t-shirt as a gift, or something so serious as whether a soldier that committed suicide was considered 'in the line of duty' (which will determine whether or not his family will receive benefits). The MLNE section also served as the 'emergency legal advice' section. During an Article 32 hearing, the military equivalent of a pre trial hearing, we were called to advise the board as to whether unlawful command influence had occurred. The soldier was at risk of being kicked out of the military for being overweight and failing several physical training (PT) tests. The investigating officer (IO) had made a statement that the soldier in question had acted in a manner that would not be tolerated by his command. The IO is supposed to be unbiased, and because he outranked the other members of the board, his statement may have influenced the other member's voting decisions, constituting unlawful command influence. We concluded that the board could not continue, as this soldier deserved an ethical and unbiased board hearing. I quickly learned the amount of responsibility placed on a member of a military legal office is enormous.

The other section I worked in was the Legal Assistance Office (LAO), which aids soldiers of all ranks and specialties on any legal issue that they happen to encounter. We most often advised the junior enlisted soldiers, who had likely recently graduated boot camp, and were rarely over the age of 25. More often than not, these soldiers came in for advice concerning divorce or to have a will drafted, because they were getting ready to deploy to Afghanistan or Iraq. Nevertheless, I truly enjoyed serving in the LAO. I was privileged in having a hand in helping soldiers on a personal level. You don't realize how much of your legal education you take for granted until you're trying to explain clauses of an apartment lease to an 18 year old soldier, and you find yourself searching for other ways to describe phrases like 'implied warranty of habitability.'

In the military, you don't get to pick your clients, but I wouldn't have it any other way. One morning, I had a private who was still in boot camp come into my office. He had just found out that his wife was in jail because of two felonies she had committed, and he needed help in transferring guardianship of their child to his parents. This young private hadn't even earned phone privileges in boot camp yet, and had to deal with this monstrosity of a problem. In this case, all that was required of me was helping him fill out a power of attorney and making a few phone calls to the police station and his parents, but the gratitude this private expressed for my help was priceless.

My experience at Fort Knox culminated in a contested court-martial. A National Guard soldier was being charged with AWOL (absent without leave) and assault, but he asserted a duress defense. He claimed that his wife was being stalked and harassed, and therefore he could not deploy to Iraq with his unit; he had to protect his family. This situation is uncommon in Military Justice, as most AWOL cases are guilty pleas.

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Religion, Sensitivity, and the First Amendment

By: Allyson Evans, Staff Writer

In the current political campaign cycle an interesting debate has arisen in the east. Congressional hopefuls are not debating the economic recession, the war in Afghanistan, or the recent Supreme Court decision that equates limiting a corporation's financial contribution to a political campaign as a violation of the corporation's first amendment rights. Instead, the sound-bites are about a community center "only steps from" ground zero. The debate is based on whether or not it is proper for this community center to build its mosque in close proximity to where a few men caused the deaths of over 2000 civilians because those men happened to practice Islam. By the time of publication, it will only be a few days from the ninth anniversary of one of the worst attacks on American soil, and there is no doubt that the debate will reach its apex with reckless disregard of the laws designed to protect every American citizen.

The law is plain in this instance. Regardless of the rhetoric of politicians, any prohibition on the building of the mosque is a violation of federal law. The First Amendment of the Constitution prohibits any state action which limits the free exercise of religion, including building places of worship. In addition to the Constitution, Congress passed 42 USCS 2000-cc, Protection of Religious Exercise in Land Use and by Institutionalized Persons (RLUIPA). This federal statute provides that "no government shall impose or implement a land use regulation in a manner that imposes a substantial burden on the religious exercise of a person, including a religious assembly or institution ..." If the city of New York were to attempt to move or to prevent building the mosque, the city would first have to prove that such action "is in furtherance of a compelling governmental interest." Even if the city could manufacture such an interest, RLUIPA requires the city to prove that its action was "the least restrictive means" of furthering its interest. Under the First Amendment, strict scrutiny would apply – an almost identical test as RLUIPA.

The interesting aspect of this debate is that the city approved the Muslim community center and mosque, and there appears to be no interest on its part to prevent the planned building. The clamor for its halting comes from a small population of the private groups who are trying to persuade the builders of the mosque to stop based on sympathetic reasoning. Once the legal issue was addressed, the debate moved to a request for understanding. The news cycle is littered with *think of the victims and survivors, or the mosque is being insensitive towards the tragedy*. Former mayor of New York City, Rudy Giuliani, is quoted as asking of those planning to build the mosque if "they are displaying the sensitivity they claim by building it." The real question to Mr. Giuliani and the others who use this argument of sensitivity, is whether or not they are being reckless with the ideals that they claim are American and that they embody. **Continued on 7**

Duty v. Principle

By: Nikolas Antovich, Staff Writer

As future lawyers we will forever be bound by "duties." A few include the duty to act in good faith; duty of care to the client, duty of competence and diligence when executing a claim, duty of confidentiality, and by far the most important – the lawyer's principal duty to see that the client is given the benefit of all his or her legal rights. These duties are self-evident and necessary in order to ensure confidence in our judicial system and provide the justice we seek.

There may be another duty, one that is at best controversial and at worst non-existent – the duty to one's principles. More specifically, does one have a duty to litigate only those laws one agrees with? Conversely, does one have a duty to not participate in litigation which employs a law one doesn't agree with?

The omnipresence of controversial laws is clear, they exist in every area of the law: eminent domain, three strikes law, gay marriage bans, abortion laws, death penalty sentences, drug laws, seatbelt law, and gun laws.

As future lawyers we will not be charged with simply following the laws we agree with. Our relationship to the law is much more developed. For example, we not only have to follow the law, at times we may help to enforce it. The question follows, is there such a thing as the duty to one's principles that one must apply when deciding whether to bring suit against an individual with the violation of a law one disagrees with?

The difficulty in the concept of a duty to one's principles lies in the underlying contradicting obligations which make it up. That is, a lawyer may have a strong negative opinion about a particular law while at the same time feel compelled to provide representation. The reason for this may be the lawyer's belief that as a legal practitioner, he has a duty to represent individuals who simply want to use the law (passed by a democratically elected legislature) to make a legitimate claim.

Being in law school, a hypothetical seems appropriate: A young attorney has been hired by a prominent San Diego firm. His leading reason for joining the firm is because it deals primarily in intellectual property claims. At the time, he is aware that the firm is expanding into a new field beginning with opening a small tort claims division. On his first day the boss approaches and explains that the firm has been offered a lucrative case involving a defamation suit against a major newspaper. The boss goes on to request the young attorney's assistance. As a devout libertarian, the young attorney is strongly opposed to all defamation laws considering them an unconstitutional restriction on the freedom of speech. What should he do in this scenario? There are two clear options:

The first is that the young attorney can keep his mouth shut and represent the client with the vigor that is required of all attorneys who agree to take on a case. Despite being personally against the law, the young attorney may justify his decision by settling on the idea that one defamation case will not make a difference in the larger scheme of things; or, that because someone else would surely take the case, he may as well accept the job.

Continued on 11

CAREER SERVICES

“NAIL YOUR JOB INTERVIEW” LUNCHEON

Attention all 1Ls, 2Ls, 3Ls and 4Ls: Learn to interview from the experts! TJSL alumni Srinivas Hanumadass, Esq. (2003) and Genail Anderson, Esq. (2004) along with authors of “Nail Your Law Job Interview,” Natalie Prescott, Esq. and Oleg Cross, Esq. will discuss best practices in approaching your interviews. Learn strategies and ask questions about interviewing attire, common pitfalls, demeanor, what to bring to the interview, what not to bring, how to handle on-campus interviews and call-back interviews, questions to ask, and questions not to ask.

LUNCH PROVIDED!

September 2
12:00 p.m. CYB 200

To attend, you must RSVP via the Events section of Symplicity:
<https://law-tjssl-csm.symplicity.com/students/>

JAG INFORMATION SESSION

Army JAG

Wednesday, September 8th
11:30 - 12:30 in CYB 101
with CPT Kenneth Borgnino

Navy JAG

Thursday, September 16th
11:45 - 12:45 in LLB 301
with LT Jennifer Myers

Come learn more about opportunities for summer internships and post-graduation JAG officer positions, including benefits, requirements, application information and deadlines.

Lunch will be served at both sessions.

To attend, you must RSVP via the
Events section of Symplicity:

<https://law-tjssl-csm.symplicity.com/students/>

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Thomas Jefferson School of Law is committed to a policy of non-discrimination both in educational and employment opportunities. The school's policy is to prohibit discrimination based on race, color, national origin, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or age. An exception to our policy of non-discrimination is granted to representatives of the U.S. Department of Defense who discriminate on a basis not permitted by our policy. This exception is made in order to avoid the loss of federal funds that would otherwise be imposed by the 1996 Solomon Amendment.

CAREERS IN INTERNATIONAL LAW

DISTINGUISH YOURSELF THROUGH INTERNATIONAL LAW
OPPORTUNITIES

FEATURING PROFESSOR MATT WILSON, UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING COLLEGE OF LAW, AN EXPERIENCED INTERNATIONAL LAW ATTORNEY AND INTERNATIONAL LAW PROFESSOR

THIS PROGRAM WILL COVER TOPICS INCLUDING WHAT INTERNATIONAL ATTORNEYS DO, KEYS TO SUCCESS, THINGS YOU CAN DO NOW TO GET EXPERIENCE, WHERE THE JOBS ARE, AND JOB SEARCH TIPS FOR INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES. SPONSORED BY CAREER SERVICES, THE INTERNATIONAL LAW SOCIETY, THE BLACK LAW STUDENTS ASSOCIATION, AND LA RAZA.

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED. TO ATTEND, YOU MUST
RSVP VIA THE EVENTS SECTION OF SYMPPLICITY:
[HTTPS://LAW-TJSSL-CSM.SYMPPLICITY.COM/STUDENTS/](https://law-tjssl-csm.symplicity.com/students/)

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 9TH
FROM 11:30 - 12:45 P.M.
IN LLB 301

Religion: Continued from 6

There is no question that the attacks of the World Trade Center and Pentagon on September 11, 2001 were a tragedy. The protestors to what is coined as the “Ground Zero Mosque” also claim that it is offensive for the mosque to be built in its planned location. The attitude of “this is America” should give the protestors pause because the very right they exercise in questioning the building of the mosque is the one they are trying to prohibit another from exercising. “Even if people are offended, they are required to put up with the speech or religious exercised under the First Amendment,” commented Professor Bryan Wildenthal, when asked about the mosque debate. This dispels the sensitivity argument because whether one is offended by the mosque or by the protestors, one must grin and bear the offense because such action is protected. The only defense to poor speech is more speech.

Weird Legal News

By: Brandi Haefs, Senior Writer

1. A man in Oregon filed a \$146,000 lawsuit against a pest control company claiming he suffered hearing loss when a worker used explosives to remove rodents on his neighbor's property.
2. Massachusetts police cited a woman for running down a man who was legally named "Lord Jesus Christ" as he crossed the street.
3. In England the owners of an obese bull terrier learned not to over feed their pets because the authorities took the dog away and sent her to animal fat camp after learning of the problem.
4. A California pedestrian injured by a motorist while following her online directions from Google Maps has filed a lawsuit seeking more than \$100,000 claiming Google supplied unsafe directions because they led her to a four-lane road without sidewalks that was "not reasonably safe for pedestrians".
5. A New York state man was arrested after allegedly driving a snowmobile while drunk...in June.
6. Fed up with tourists wandering the streets in their swimsuits, authorities in parts of Spain have printed posters showing a couple in swimming costumes with a red line across it along with another couple dressed normally but without the red line.
7. A Kitchener truck driver is facing a careless driving charge after pulling his own tooth while he was behind the wheel.
8. Some people flunk their driving tests because they can't parallel park and others fail out of the fear of flunking itself, but the Netherlands just launched a special driving exam for people who suffer from "test anxiety" by allowing drivers to take a "time out" if the pressure becomes too much for them.
9. A Connecticut official has won the right to run for state attorney general after she had to sue herself to prove her qualifications to meet the required 10 years of active legal experience.
10. A woman left locked alone in a plane at Philadelphia International Airport is suing for false imprisonment, infliction of emotional distress and negligence after she fell asleep for about four hours.
11. A woman in an upstate New York nearly had to pay \$79,000 in fines for her hobby of picking through curbside trash because she let many of the items pile up in her yard and her neighbors reported her for code violations.
12. Police say a burglar broke into an Iowa Subway shop and helped himself to a bunch of cold cuts and made sandwiches for the journey home but left the store's cash behind.
13. A Delaware man has been charged with faking his way into Harvard and duping the Ivy League school out of \$45,000 in financial aid, grants and scholarships by falsely claiming he had earned a perfect academic record at one school and that he studied for a year at MIT as well.
14. The ACLU is suing the police in Pennsylvania for issuing tickets with a jail sentence to people for swearing, claiming that the right to use profanity is protected by the U.S. Constitution.
15. Italy is holding its first Divorce Fair, offering services such as life coaching, "anti-stalking help", and beauty advice.

Law vs. Happiness

By: Tanya Kivman, Staff Writer

Most of us have given some thought to the question "why law?" but we only have a very vague understanding of what we really want to do with our law degree.

Just having a law degree doesn't guarantee us happiness. In fact, pursuing a professional degree more likely causes much more stress and anxiety than a life without higher education. Choices are a big part of our life. We all have decisions to make on a daily basis and most of us in law school have made some difficult ones. We made the choice to come to law school for instance, and sooner or later we will have to choose what kind of law we want to practice. The more effort we put into deciding what we want to do with our law degree now, the more likelihood we have of finding something that will keep us happy in the long term. And being happy in the long term is most important, right? Thinking that our career will just work itself out when the time is right is not an answer – at least not one that will lead us toward being the happiest we can with our career choices.

It seems to be an everyday occurrence that people get burned out from their jobs, and lawyers are no exception to this. The more effort and thought we put in to learning about what we can use our law degrees toward, the less frustrations we will have in the future when we find ourselves unhappy with our jobs, and the more comfortable we will be when it comes to making decisions about our careers two, five, or ten years out of law school. If you simply get an understanding of what the practice of law is really like before accepting any job offer and "settling" then at least you will have a strong understanding of all options, realistic and even idealistic ones that may come in to use once the "burn out" stage appears.

People come to law school not necessarily knowing what the future will hold for them; some really enjoy the atmosphere and with closed eyes and minds, blissfully move through the three or so years thinking they've found a career they love. These people often regretfully come to realize that the practice of law is not even a close relative to anything they loved during law school. Meanwhile they have also failed to search for what they desire from their professional life.

It is up to the career services office to make students aware of the importance of gaining legal experience. As a 1L, after spending an hour talking with a counselor, I felt comfortable accepting the fact that the "right" experience would come my way sooner or later. But even though opportunities are everywhere, effort should be given to make use of such an opportunity.

Being open with oneself is the first place to start. Perhaps make a list of the types of law and potential paths you could pursue, like starting your own small property firm, working for a small sized tax firm, working a non-profit, or turning towards academia. Make your list as long as you like, because once it's developed, then you can slowly or quickly begin gaining more information on each path. The career services center can be of help as can talking with professors, alumni, and other professionals in San Diego. Most people are very willing and eager to help; we just need to motivate ourselves with why this is an important exercise to start on now.

A Techno-Steal

By: Joshua Goodrich

Thomas Jefferson SBA is happy to inform you that Microsoft Office Professional Academic 2010 can be purchased for a very low rate of \$79.95. This version of Office is currently only for Windows. Microsoft has not yet released the new version for Mac. When Office 2011 for Mac is released by Microsoft, we will announce the release for all the users that currently using an Apple computer.

This deal is a great option for students for several reasons. Buying this version of Microsoft Office through the Microsoft Ultimate Steal Program provides you with professional versions of Microsoft Outlook, Access, and Publisher. These programs are not sold in the Microsoft Home and Student Version, which sells in stores for \$149.99. Essentially, you would pay more and get only the standard Office applications; Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and OneNote.

The Microsoft Deal that is being offered allows you to have the full version of Microsoft Office Professional, which sells for \$499.99. The version of Office available to you through this deal is being sold with what is called a "perpetual license." This allows you to have the product for life, unlike some of the agreements offered through some schools where you must uninstall the software when you leave school. If this your last year of school and you are thinking about setting up your own firm after you graduate, you can save \$420.00 by ordering this software now.

As part of this deal you are also able to order Microsoft Windows 7 Professional Upgrade for just \$29.99. This upgrade usually sells in stores for \$199.99. This upgrade will allow students with Windows XP or Windows Vista to upgrade to the Windows 7 at a fraction of the cost without this deal.

The process to order this software is very simple. You can go to the SBA Facebook page and click the link for the Microsoft Office deal, or you can go to <http://student.theultimatesteal.com/z/15/CD3352/>. Once you are at the main page just click "Buy Now" this will take you to a page to enter your Thomas Jefferson School of Law email address and a username and password link will be emailed to you. You then can buy Microsoft Office through one of two methods; you can download the software or pay extra to have a CD sent to you.

Those of you who use Microsoft OneNote to take notes in class will find that the new version of Microsoft OneNote 2010 will allow you to backup/store your notes online with a Windows Live Id (Hotmail account). This feature will help insure that if your computer crashes, get lost, or stolen that all your notes are not lost.

Welcome to TJSJ! We have designed brief overview on specific research tools to help our 1Ls in their legal writing classes. These overviews, called mini-classes, will provide students with a basic understanding of how to find cases, how to find statutes, what are legal encyclopedias, etc. They are presented in the first floor of the Law Library. Each class is short usually lasting 10-15 minutes each. Other classes may be offered as the semester progresses. For those who are evening students, we will be happy to offer these classes by appointment to fit into your classroom schedule. For information, please contact June Mac Leod, ext.1101, in the library.

Below you will find the on-demand link for the video series
<http://www.tjsl.edu/tjsl-library/research/tutorials>

LIBRARY MINI-CLASS SCHEDULE FALL 2010

| DATE | TIME | MINI-CLASS TOPIC |
|--------------------|-------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Monday, Sept. 13 | 11:30-11:45 | Thomcat, Online Library Catalog |
| Monday, Sept. 13 | 11:45-Noon | How to translate some Legal Abbreviations |
| Monday, Sept. 13 | Noon-12:15 | What is a Digest |
| Tuesday, Sept. 14 | 11:30-11:45 | What is a Treatise |
| Tuesday, Sept. 28 | 11:45-Noon | How to Locate a Case |
| Tuesday, Sept. 28 | Noon-12:20 | How to Locate a Statute |
| Thursday, Sept. 30 | 11:15-11:30 | Thomcat, online catalog (repeat) |
| Thursday, Sept. 30 | 11:30-11:45 | What are legal encyclopedias |
| Monday, Oct. 4 | 11:30-Noon | How to Research |
| Monday, Oct. 4 | Noon-12:15 | How to Locate case/statute (repeat) |
| Tuesday, Oct. 5 | 11:30-11:45 | What are ALRs |
| Tuesday, Oct. 5 | Noon-12:30 | Intro to ALWD Citations |
| Thursday, Oct. 7 | 11:15-11:30 | What are Treatises (repeat) |
| Thursday, Oct. 7 | 11:30-Noon | What are Digests (repeat) |

These classes will be held in the Law Library, 1st floor. Check in at the Circulation Desk. June Mac Leod, a reference librarian and adjunct professor, will be conducting these classes. For evening students, we will present these classes per appointment basis.

JAG: Continued from 6

My responsibilities in preparation for the court-martial quickly expanded as the judge advocate trying the case (who I was assisting) needed emergency surgery, and the new trial counsel had never tried a court-martial before.

I spent most of my hours functioning at full speed, contacting the senior enlisted and officers that would serve as members (military jury), creating the script for the trial, contacting law enforcement officials in the soldier's home state regarding the assault, visiting the facility the soldier was being held in to collect all of his military paperwork, drafting motions, researching the soldier's possible defense of duress and whether he had in fact met the requirements for avoiding hazardous duty. I was exhausted at the end of each day, but never complained; the judge advocates would spend several more hours in the office after I left. The day the court-martial began, my work let up and I was able to sit and watch the trial. It was inspiring to watch a new trial counsel have his first day in court, with only one year in the JAG Corps, and perform very well. We quickly noticed the members were skeptical of the soldier's duress defense, once they learned he was arrested for domestic assault while he avoided deployment to 'protect his family.' As the court-martial came to an end, having run from 0900 (9am) to 2330 (11:30pm), the members came back with a charge of guilty for desertion, a greater offense than AWOL. The soldier would serve 12 months, would be demoted to E-1 and receive a bad conduct discharge from the Army. We had tried our case and won.

I have never experienced anything as rewarding as this internship with the JAG Corps. I wasn't treated merely as a lowly intern, subject to menial tasks. I was treated as part of the team, and expected to perform alongside JAG attorneys in both physical training and in the work place. Each day I walked into work with a purpose. Each day, I was serving my country, and serving our Army's soldiers. These soldiers put their lives on the line every day to preserve our freedom, and they deserve the best legal aid available.

Welcome 1Ls!!

By: Hunter Bjorkman, Staff Writer

Welp, that was quick! But, here we are TJSLiens, back on the grind and hittin' those books. Damn it feels good, right!? Yeah I know, I'm sick, and if you aren't yet, well than you are probably just new. So on that note, let's give a big WELCOME – clap, clap, clap – to all the new students! Congratulations on your entry into TJSL and double congrats on the fact that you will be the last class to get down and dirty with Old Town's two favorite pals, CYB and LLB. While at times they may look a little scary, they're really nice... kind of like Kelley's. If unlike me you don't know your way around town by the locations of certain bars, Kelley's Pub is down the street from school. You would be wise to go there on occasion to unwind and imbibe. However, there is a chance that your brain could melt because you can't find the door of the library before this Informer even hits the stands. People will try and scare you, but in reality law school is not that bad. It can even be really enriching and gratifying if your mind and heart is into it and you understand a few simple things (like the location of Kelley's).

Do you IRAC?

This is all you need to know. Seriously. Learn the “R” to spot the “I” so you can do the “A” which leads to a “C.”

Professor Parking

I'm sure by now you are sick to death from hearing about parking. The situation = the worst. However, this can be easily mitigated if you arrive early enough to give yourself some time to circle around like a lost bird searching for its nest. Or, better yet, more students should carpool or take public transportation. The walk up and down from the trolley station/closest bus stop is actually quite refreshing after a long day. Hopefully, more students will use these modes of transport once we are all downtown.

Pump the brakes.

I know it seems overwhelming right now, but there is no need to tread water until you drown by studying for hours on end. The only test that matters, the final exam, is months away and by then you will feel like you speak a different language anyway so just stay with it and soon it will click. A wise partner at a large firm once told me, “The secret to law school is keeping it like a job. You work 8-9 hours a day then go home and forget about your work and enjoy yourself for a few hours.” At the time it seemed too simple, but now it makes perfect sense. Balance your life with school. Trust me you do not want to become that person that starts to physically atrophy from too many hours sitting in the library, stuck in a semi-studying insomniac state. You will start to spot these people around midterms; they resemble zombies. Do not become this person/zombie. There is no reason to really. We are young, smart, and we live in San Diego not Nebraska. Get out at least once a week! There is literally something for everyone beaches, boating, scuba, mountain biking, hiking, bars, museums, galleries, concerts, etc., the list is endless. The San Diego County area is truly a playground not to mention the entire state of California and the Baja region.

Scratch backs.

It's all about networking. Life, law school and the profession of law all prove that the old cliché is very true, “it is all about who you know.” It is a hustle, and the product is you. For now it should always be “what can I do for you?” not “what can you do for me?” Your back will be scratched in due-time.

Oh, and P.S. don't get me started on the new building. I, like everyone else, could not be more stoked! Well I guess Kelley's will be bummed, but whatever, the other neighbors never liked us anyway.

Advice from a Local – Know Your Scene

By: Rachel Lebron

There are a plethora of things to do in San Diego, and many are little secrets that even out-of-towners who have been here for a few years may not know. Here are a few things that you may want to take a study break to do.

Order a California Burrito or Carne Asada Fries. If you haven't done this yet, you are missing out. Here in San Diego, we love French fries with our Mexican food. If it doesn't sound appealing, just try it. You will miss this strange concoction if you leave San Diego. Don't go to a fancy Mexican food restaurant though—the hole-in-the-walls make them best. Try Pokez on 10th and E in Downtown, they have delicious vegan and vegetarian options on top of the typical menu. Mayor Jerry Sanders frequents Lucy's on First and C, so you may hear some interesting discussions and maybe even hear him talking trash about the City Attorney. Or head to Papas and Tacos in Banker's Hill; their carne asada is some of the best in San Diego!

Go to the museums in Balboa Park. Since all of you good law students have already changed your residency to California and have surrendered your driver's licenses for your state of previous residence, you can visit various museums in Balboa Park for free. On the first four Tuesdays of each month, select museums offer free admission. The Balboa Park website has weekly updates as to which museums are included.

Kids eat free on Tuesdays. For those of you with children, here's a way to cut costs. On Tuesdays, kids eat free at various restaurants throughout the county. Anita's Restaurant (Oceanside), Bennigan's (Mission Valley), Chevy's (various locations), Chick-Fil-A (various locations), Coco's Bakery & Restaurant (various locations), Denny's (various locations), IHOP (various locations), Islands (various locations), Roadhouse Grill (Santee and San Marcos), and Ruby's Diner (Mission Valley) all have offers with certain restrictions, mostly that only one kid's meal will be free with each paying adult.

Find the local bars. T-shirts and jeans are perfectly acceptable, even on weekends. McGregor's near Qualcomm Stadium has good food, decently priced drinks, pool tables, shuffleboard, and great staff. Check out Cherry Bomb in Banker's Hill, one of the diviest of dive bars, where they charge you by how much they like you. OB Noodle House in Ocean Beach aka OB (you must learn the abbreviations of our beaches) offers \$1 pints to go with their delicious Asian infusion menu.

See the fireworks. SeaWorld has fireworks every weeknight at 8:50 p.m. and every weekend at 9:50 p.m. These spectacular shows can be viewed from Kate Sessions Park in La Jolla, by Mt. Soledad. Not only do you have an amazing view, but Kate Sessions Park is the only public place in San Diego where it is still legal to drink alcoholic beverages. You may not get to see Shamu and the other sea life, but pack a cooler and bring a chair for a free show.

Loan Money is Not Monopoly Money

By: Samantha Massau, Design Director

Disclaimer: This article is to make students aware of the debt incurred in law school and one way to minimize it. It contains suggestions. It is not directed to those who legitimately need the entire amount.

It is not a secret, *U.S. News and World Report 2010* ranked Thomas Jefferson School of Law as the number one graduate school where students incur the most debt. The average debt of the 2009 graduating class was \$131,800. <http://gradschools.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/best-graduate-schools/top-law-schools/rankings>. Students rationalize this by saying, “We pay almost \$40,000 in tuition”. Or, “San Diego has a high cost of living.” While both are true, many other law schools, including top-tier, have tuition just as high if not higher than TJSL. Further, these schools are also located in cities with a high cost of living such as Boston, MA, New York, NY, and Washington, D.C.

Why is our debt so high? I am convinced it has to do with the connection between the amount financial aid allows students to borrow and the lack of proper budgeting.

The maximum amount a full-time, entering student can borrow is \$67,980. Take student “X.” Assume tuition does not increase in the next two years and X borrows the continuing student amount, \$66,480 for each year. After graduating X has incurred \$200,940 not including money taken out for summer classes, summer cost of living, study abroad programs, a bar prep course, bar registration, cost of living during bar study, and undergraduate loans. All that *must* be paid back *with* interest. Even if X lands a high paying associate position immediately after graduating, X will still owe \$2,312.42 in monthly loan payments at 6.8% interest over 10 years in addition to X's current cost of living expenses. The recommended yearly salary to pay off this debt is at least \$277,490.40. <http://www.finaid.org/calculators/loanpayments.phtml>.

What a reality check. My hope is that after reading this article students will sit down and spend time creating a workable budget tailored to their individual needs. The goal is to achieve a student budget below the maximum borrowed amount. Even if one cuts spending by \$2,000, it adds up to \$6,000 in total savings for a full-time law student. That is \$6,000, or 8,285.69 at 6.8% interest over 10 years one will not owe in loans. Savings add up!

The two mantras applied to savings are “shop around” and “live below your means.” Two things I personally hate hearing my mom say. Begin by referring to the Financial Aid's Student Budget 2010-2011 found at http://www.tjssl.edu/student_budget.

Continued on 12

Loan Continued from 10

Out of the maximum amount to borrow, \$38,700 of that goes towards tuition. No one can change that. The only solution is to work hard and earn a scholarship.

Second, on the student budget is the "Health Insurance Fee" of \$1,540. TJSJL students are fortunate to have the option to purchase HMO health insurance through the school. I personally shopped around and found PPO coverage for less. Often students under age 25 are eligible to continue coverage under their parent's plan. It may pay-off to explore different options.

Third, on the student budget are "Books and Supplies," estimated at \$1,850. A lot of money can be cut here. Again, shop around! Deals for used or rented casebooks can be found anywhere from our bookstore to www.amazon.com. Most 1Ls will use the same books for two semesters. Get creative. Share with a friend who has the same classes. Sell books online after the semester and put the funds earned towards the new semester's books. Money left over in the book category can be allocated somewhere else or sent back to the government.

Fourth, on the student budget are "Living [Expenses]." This is an example of living below your means while in law school. The school allows for \$9,900 which breaks down over nine months to \$1,100. Yes, the hilltop one bedroom with a bay view and Vegas-style pool may seem like a must-have now. But when you are writing a monthly check of \$2,000 to the U.S. government after graduating, are you going to still be happy you lived a life of luxury while in law school? Shop around to find an affordable hidden gem and try to cut costs where you can. It works, I promise.

I set my monthly budget in an Excel spreadsheet to include: Rent, Internet/Cable, Electric, Gym, Groceries, Gas, Pet Supplies, Insurance, and Miscellaneous which includes shopping, going out, etc. I then total the monthly amount by 12 because I plan on living in San Diego for the entire year. The sum is always less than the maximum amount to borrow for nine months. I then go back and cut additional costs where I can while staying realistic. I keep track of each month to make sure I am on track and if I need to reallocate funds. For example, my rent is increasing by \$50 this year. To offset this I cancelled my gym membership because my apartment has a gym. It is a give and take process that adds up in savings.

The last two items on the student budget are "Miscellaneous Personal Expenses" and "Transportation". Say it with me, "shop around!" and "live below your means!" Sure, it would be nice to buy an iPhone 4 or spring break in Cabo on loan money but remember some day in the near future reality will hit and every penny spent today will be due with interest. To cut transportation costs, you could walk, bike or carpool to campus. This is a solution to TJSJL's parking difficulties. Now this is getting creative.

Remember, if the self-created budget proves to be too tight you can always take out more money during the school year if you initially did not request the full amount. Really try "shopping around" for ways to cut costs and "living below your means" to the extent you can. Loan money is not monopoly money. It eventually becomes due with interest. I encourage you to be proactive now so you are not cursing your checkbook in the future. Here is to raising our school rank and not our debt rankings! Happy savings!

Google UNSEND Option ABA Content from CNN

Ever have that sick-to-your-stomach, "Oh crap!" moment after sending an e-mail? Did you get immediate second thoughts about that e-mail rant to your ex? Was that blistering message supposed to be *about* your boss -- not *to* your boss? Well, at least with Gmail, there's something you can do about it. The ability to "undo" an e-mail has been a little known feature of Google's e-mail service since last year. But in the past few days, it appears to have been improved. [Google Operating System](#), an unofficial blog that shares Google news and tips, noted this weekend that a user now has up to 30 seconds to take back an unfortunate message. In reality, the feature doesn't actually pull back an e-mail that's already gone, it simply holds your message for 30 seconds before sending it out -- just in case you change your mind. When the feature first rolled out in March 2009, you had to be super-quick to use it. It only allowed five seconds to take a message back. Enabling the feature is a bit complicated if you're not familiar with Google Labs, the place where the company lets users test out experiments with [Gmail](#) and other Google projects. And it's worth noting that, because it is a testing space, anything in Labs is subject to change. But, at least for now, here's how to avoid instant e-mail remorse.

To enable 'Undo Send':

1. Log in to Gmail and go to Google Labs. If you've never gone to Labs before, click the word "more" in the very top left corner, then scroll down and click "even more."
2. In the column on the right, click "Labs." It's next to the icon of a beaker filled with green stuff.
3. Click "Gmail Labs" in the column on the right.
4. Scroll down almost all the way to the bottom until you see "Undo Send." Click "enable" and the feature is now on. Then scroll the rest of the way down and look in the bottom left corner for the "Save Changes" box. Click it.
5. Now, go back to the main Gmail page and click "Settings" in the top right. You should also see your green Labs beaker icon there now -- this will let you go straight to Labs from now on.
6. Scroll down to "Undo Send" -- it should be right above "My Picture." Your default should be set to 10 seconds. But you can use the drop-down bar to stretch that to 30 seconds.
7. Scroll down and hit "Save Changes."
8. To undo an email, just look for the box at the top of the screen that will have the words "Your message has been sent." After that, you should see the "Undo" option. Click that and you'll be sent back to the e-mail's draft form, where you'll have 30 seconds to edit or delete it before it goes out.

The Commonalities of President Barack Obama and My "Game" on the Basketball Court

By: Brett A. Goda, Staff Writer

President Obama often says, "I know when they don't poll well. But I was not sent to Washington just to do what was popular. I was sent to do what was right." This statement normally gets some laughs and applause from the crowd.

It is Friday afternoon, about two o'clock to be exact. I am in my second game of pick-up basketball. The score is tied at nine. For those of you that have played in the weekly pick-up game, you know I want the ball. As the ball is checked in to play, I swoop around the court to catch the ball off a bounce pass just behind the three point line. As I pull the ball from my hip, I heave a shot at the basket.

As it leaves my hand... I have the next 1.8 seconds to consider? Wonder? Did I do what was Right? As I look at the faces of my teammates, I see a look of angst, uncertainty as the ball is traveling through the air. At that moment, with the outcome of the game hanging in the balance, I see the four faces of my team members and realize what I just did was not popular.

Glancing back at the ball, milliseconds before the fate of my decision, I ask did I do what was right. Decisions like the one I made occur every day in a person's life. The outcome of those decisions are in the eyes of the beholder, furthermore, the outcome can not be decided until some point in the future. When I play basketball, I have to live with what is right and what is popular for 1.8 seconds, President Obama has to live with his decisions for an amount of time that is undeterminable and unknown to the future.

The President and myself do and will continue to make decisions that are unpopular but what we feel is right, for his sake I hope he gets some of my luck...

SWISH! (Actually it banked in; it might not be pretty... but my decision was Right.)

Duty: Continued from 6

Adopting the logic of the first option requires that a lawyer never decline a case for personal reasons (whether they be moral, political, or otherwise). By choosing not to inject his personal beliefs into the mix, the young lawyer in our scenario unwittingly becomes a blind agent of the State.

In other words, the lawyer is in effect contributing his expertise to the enforcement of a law despite his diligent opposition to the law itself. One may choose to adopt this ideology for several reasons including, but not limited to: the belief that, as a society of laws and not of men, a lawyer has a duty to provide representation despite personal disagreements; the lawyer cares more about making a name for himself; or, the lawyer simply wants the paycheck.

The second option seems to me to be much more compelling (even if not conducive with employment opportunities) -- refuse to take the case. When a potential client seeks representation, the lawyer has significant freedom to accept or reject the request. To wit, a lawyer may refuse a representation for any reason. After all, who wants to be an accessory to the application of laws that are at odds with one's personal beliefs?

The purpose of this scenario is not to provide a foundation from which to lecture on the intricacies of professional responsibility. Instead, it aims to shed light on the countless cases lawyers accept despite strong opposition to the very laws they will employ in the litigation. It isn't a stretch of the imagination to believe that lawyers consistently accept cases despite personal reservations. Now that we have chosen this occupation, is it possible to separate work from personally held convictions? Is it responsible to do so?

We are law students. As law students, it's likely we all have strong political opinions. These opinions manifest themselves in the laws society deems necessary. As young ambitious lawyers we will undoubtedly be presented with a situation which clashes with our personal beliefs. When that time comes, which option will you choose?



OBJECTIONS!

Compiled By: Sterling Williams, Staff Writer

Objection to working harder during the summer than during the regular school year!

Objection to not getting a pizza coupon as a 3L when I'm graduating!!!

No objection to taste testing the food for Barrister's this year!

No objection to coming and going to class halfway through; the life of a 3L...

Objection to the school allowing the new owners to do construction when we start,

Objection to Lebron James in Miami

Objection to girls who don't act right!

Objection to what "girls acting right" means!

No objection to getting that Financial Aid check!

Objection to good grades followed by bad grades...

Objection to these random girls friend-ing me on Facebook to cast a vote for them in modeling competitions!

Objection to rooms not having AC!!!!!!

Objection to the professors who try to fight the fact that they teach a blow off class.

No objection to the talent that is the Chicago White Sox!

Objection to women wearing the optional wedding ring on the ring finger; very confusing ladies!

Objection to California drivers; you guys are terrible!

OUTLaw: Continued from 4

Year after year the community answers, *no, healthy for longer is not enough*, when they rally together and raise money for this walk and run. The community wants a cure for this deadly disease.

This year OUTlaw and ILS are joining forces to co-sponsor a team for the AIDS/HIV Walk & Run. The walk is a 5k and the run is a 10k. I must admit that this article is written with a little bit of bias, my being an OUTlaw board member. Yes, I am plugging.

That said, join us in the 21st Annual AIDS/HIV Walk and Run! It is on September 26, 2010. The runners take off at 8:00am, closely followed by the walkers at 8:05am. It's a great cause that will help people in ways that you or I may never be able to comprehend.

Thanks to ILS and Planned Parenthood, the registration fee for the walk will be covered. All you have to do is get out there and raise a few bucks...and then feel good about doing the right thing.

AIDS affects us all. Go back and read the two opening paragraphs that I stole from the CDC. Think about it. How many people do you know who fall into the at risk categories?

If we work together we can beat this. But we must work together.

For more information on how you can join the AIDS Walk TJSJL Team contact outlaw@tjsl.edu or a ILS/OUTlaw representative. Or you can find The TJSJL OUTlaw Society on Facebook!

Recognize, Realize, Relax: The Art of Balancing

By: Red Fox

It's that time of year again. School's back in session and everyone is excited to get involved and lend their hand to help create a memorable school year. However, often times it seems as though we get too ambitious and forget how much time and work all of our commitments actually takes. So, do yourself a favor and take these tips into consideration as the semester gets underway.

Tip #1: Say "No" once in a while. If you never say no, you may find yourself disappointing your peers and not performing up to your standards. Although you want to be involved, by learning to say no, you can avoid potential personal and professional conflict created by being unable to keep up with your responsibilities.

Tip #2: It's okay to be selfish. Everyday take a few moments of time for you. It can be when you first wake up in the morning, an afternoon pick-me-up or an evening ritual. Whatever it may be, never compromise that time for anyone else, as it will help in maintaining your sanity.

Tip #3: Put down your phone! One reason we are more productive these days is because we are working even when we are "not working." Set a time each night when you are done with e-mails. Take time to relax and wind down from the day before going to bed. Do not send out emails up until the time you close your eyes. Likewise, do not start reading e-mails the minute you wake up. Although it might be tempting, put the phone down, wake up, and prepare for the day before you open those stress-filled e-mails.

Tip #4: Stay organized. The easiest way to miss events, panels or to over commit yourself is by forgetting what you have already have on your plate. Invest in an organizer or planner, or use the free calendar that comes with your TJSJL Gmail account.

It is that easy, I promise. Simply writing down your commitments can go a long way to help you stay organized.

Tip #5: Get Outside. Sure you might love going to panels and brushing up on your networking skills, but take some time to put the books down and enjoy some good old-fashioned fun. Get outside and frolic in the world-famous San Diego weather. Enjoy some fresh air, drink some H2O and take a breather. An easy way to enjoy some outdoor fun in is to be involved with SBA's intramural sports; flag football in the fall, soccer in the winter and basketball and softball in the spring.

Tip #6: Prioritize. It is great to be involved in multiple organizations. But this can cause you to overextend yourself. To avoid this, make sure you have varying levels of responsibility. Set your priorities and stick to them. Every club cannot be the most important club and every activity cannot be the most important activity. Although everyone would like to think they are the most important, reality is they cannot all be the most important to you. Figure out what takes the most work, or what you are most passionate about, and invest your time and energy accordingly. Then, learn how to balance your remaining obligations; never forgetting that your classes are the top priority.

Overall, it is most important that you relax and enjoy your time at TJSJL. The semesters fly by and before you know it, you'll be sitting for The bar exam, and getting ready to step into the real world.

THOMAS JEFFERSON
SCHOOL OF LAW
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

Please Join
The Diversity Committee,
The OUTLAW Student Organization,
The Center for Law and Social Justice
and Career Services
for a

Solomon Amendment Teach-In and Discussion

with Professor Bryan Wildenthal

Learn about the Solomon Amendment, the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell Policy," and TJSJL's Anti-Discrimination Policy

Friday,
September
3, 2010

11:00 a.m.-
12:30 p.m.

Room 200

Refreshments
will be
provided



Semester Study Suggestions

1. Make a personal schedule - include:
 - a. Class times
 - i. Always go to class
 - ii. Try to be on time
 - iii. Pay attention (no web surfing)
 - b. Reading/Briefing Time
 - I. Allocate enough time for class
 - II. If you don't understand, use a supplement
 - III. Don't over brief
 - c. Daily Review Time
 - I 1/2 hour per class
 - II. Review notes
 - III. Ask questions
 - d. Personal Time
 - I. Family
 - II. Friends
 - III. Exercise
 - IV. Relax
2. Use the syllabi to make a road map
 - a. Revise as needed
 - b. Add info from classes (ie: law)
3. Set up weekly meetings with a mentor
 - a. Review concepts from prior week
 - b. Ask questions on readings
 - b. Review practice essays
4. As you finish major concepts
 - a. Begin to outline the concept
 - b. Pull model answer from past exams
 - c. Write practice exams

Using these study suggestions will help in alleviating any unnecessary stress and confusion when it comes time to study for midterms and finals. Make the best out of this semester. Good Luck!



The San Diego County Bar Association (SDCBA) invites Thomas Jefferson students to take part in any of the following events taking place through September. The SDCBA's online calendar (www.sdcba.org/calendar) includes comprehensive event information, so be sure to check there if you are interested in a particular program as you will be able to download CLE flyers, read about programs and most importantly, register for seminars and events. Please keep in mind that while it is rare, changes to event times or cancellations do occur at the last minute, however, up-to-the-minute event information is maintained on the SDCBA online calendar.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Young/New Lawyers Division Law Student Mentoring Program for 3Ls

The SDCBA's Young/New Lawyers Division is pleased to offer third year law student members a unique opportunity to connect with practicing attorneys through the Law Student Mentoring Program. As a participant in the Law Student Mentoring Program you will be paired up with a practicing attorney who has at least two years experience. Pairs will be matched based on professional and personal interests. This program is designed to give you insight into aspects of everyday legal practice. All participants will be invited to a kick-off event on October 8, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. at the Bar Center. If you are a third year law student member and would like to sign up as a Mentee, go to www.sdcba.org/lawstudentmentoring.

9/30/2010 Law Student Welcome Reception and Section & Committee Fair 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

The SDCBA's Law Student Welcome Reception and Section & Committee Fair is an excellent opportunity for students to network with attorneys and judges of the San Diego legal community and explore the benefits of the SDCBA in a fun, relaxed environment. The SDCBA's various Sections and Committees along with other various local membership associations will be on hand to give students insight into various practice areas and specialty bar associations. Register for this event online at www.sdcba.org/lswelcome.

**11/3/2101 SAVE THE DATE: What You Need to Know Before You Take the Exam: 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM
Insight from the California State Bar Examiners**

Representatives from the State Bar will be on site to lend insight into taking the Bar Exam as well as answer questions from students. More information to come!

SECTION & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

| | | |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 4/05/2010 | Children at Risk Committee Meeting | 5:15 PM - 7:00 PM |
| 9/07/2010 | Elder Law Section Meeting | 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM |
| 9/07/2010 | Children at Risk Committee Meeting | 5:15 PM - 7:00 PM |
| 9/14/2010 | Military Law Section Non-CLE Meeting | 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM |
| 9/16/2010 | Social Security Disability Section Meeting | 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM |
| 9/23/2010 | YNLD Networking Happy Hour at Playa Grill | 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM |
| 9/24/2010 | Immigration Law Section | 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM |

CLE SEMINARS

| | | |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 4/27/2010 | How Water Quality Regulations are Changing the Way We Build | 12:00 PM - 1:15 PM |
| 9/14/2010 | Would You Like Cumis with That? Everything You've Wanted to Know About the Cumis Doctrine, but Have Been Afraid to Ask | 5:30 PM - 7:45 PM |
| 9/15/2010 | Green Leases: Pitfalls and Promises | 12:00 PM - 1:15 PM |
| 9/21/2010 | Advance Waivers & Ethical Screens: When and Why They Might Work to Solve Your Conflicts | 12:00 PM - 1:15 PM |
| 9/22/2010 | Maximizing the Court's Civil Mediation Program | 5:30 PM - 7:45 PM |
| 9/30/2010 | Animal Law – What is it and How Can I Practice It? | 12:00 PM - 1:15 PM |

The Student Bar Association of TJS� Presents

PROFESSIONALISM: A Panel Discussion

Presented by TJS� SBA, together with TJS� Career Services, American Bar Association, North County Bar Association, San Diego County Bar Association, and attorneys from our community

Distinguished panelists will discuss professionalism, resués, interview techniques, attire, etiquette, networking, and other topics.

Wednesday, September 8, 2010 from 7:15 - 9:00 p.m.
Old Town campus, Courtyard Building, Room 201
2120 San Diego Avenue, San Diego, CA 92110

Please join the Panelists for Appetizers and Refreshments in the Courtyard Following the Panel Discussion

Moderated by Associate Professor Leah Christensen
Areas include: Professional Responsibility, Evidence, and the China Program
University of Iowa College of Law

Our Distinguished Panel:

The Honorable Lillian Y. Lim

Presiding Superior Court Judge by the assignment of the Chief Justice, Riverside County, since Aug. 07.
Credited as the first Filipina judge in the United States
Appointed by Governor George Deukmejian in 1986
Deputy Attorney General for the California Department of Justice for 9 years, with some work in the Medi-Cal fraud unit
Thomas Jefferson School of Law '77

The Honorable Polly Haisha Shamoon

San Diego Superior Court
Appointed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in 2008
Deputy District Attorney, San Diego County for 15+ years prior to her appointment
University Of San Diego School Of Law

Jennifer Creighton

Winet, Patrick & Weaver, LLP
Hiring Partner for her Law Firm
Vice-President of the North County Bar Association
California Western School of Law

Marc B. Geller

The Law Firm of Marc B. Geller, APC
Private Criminal Defense
California Western School of Law

Jon H. Epsten

Epsten Grinnell & Howell, APC
Areas of practice: Community Association Counsel, Construction Defects for Community Associations and Commercial Buildings, Civil Litigation and Mediation
Adjunct Professor of Law at California Western School of Law
Thomas Jefferson School of Law '82

From The President By: Jeremy Evans

Thursday, August 12, 2010

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to Thomas Jefferson School of Law and congratulations on your decision to join our wonderful community! Two years ago, I started the same journey you are now beginning and, at that time, I was asking myself some of the same questions you are thinking about as you read this letter. Did I make the right decision? Will my courses be hard? Will I make it past the first year? Will I meet some great people? Will I pass the Bar? The answer to all of those questions is YES! If you remember one thing in law school, it is this: law school and all related activities are what you make of them.

When I arrived at Thomas Jefferson School of Law in the fall of 2008, I made a commitment to myself to get involved, and to give 100-percent to those activities. This does not mean that you get involved in 100-percent of the activities available, but that you stay true and honest to your commitments. My pastor from my hometown used to say, "If you sign up..." and then there would be a pause before the congregation would respond "...you show up!" Law school is what you make of it. At the end of day, it is not only your grades that decide your future, but also the friendships, experiences, and connections you make while in law school, and just showing up is half the battle.

As Student Bar Association (SBA) President, I and my fellow SBA leaders promise you and current Thomas Jefferson students this: professionalism, respect, direct and constant communication, and compassion for your concerns, while also providing platforms and venues for exciting and fun social events. The SBA is here to address your concerns, whether about academics, social events, athletics, or general involvement with the school and community activities. The SBA stands as a bridge between the students and the administration and all student-run on-campus organizations.

A few planned highlights of the 2010-2011 academic year include: The Back to School Bash, The Halloween Party, Intramural Sports, Panel Discussions, The SBA and its many projects, writing for *The Informer Newsletter*, The New School Party, and Barristers Ball 2011 ("The Great Gatsby" theme).

This does not include all of the great events that Thomas Jefferson Student Organizations will host. A complete calendar is available online at the "Tjsl Sba" Facebook page and on the TJS� Website (www.tjssl.edu), which includes the school's weekly newsletter, *The Advisor*.

Beginning now, you can get involved as a 1L Class Representative or write for *The Informer Newsletter*. For more information, please email sba@tjssl.edu. In the meantime, please add "Tjsl Sba" as a friend on Facebook, connect with us on Twitter, and join the SBA TWEN page through Westlaw. The TJS� website (under the "Students" link) also provides a list of all SBA and Student Organization Officers. There are over 35 student organizations on campus representing many religious, cultural, political, and professional backgrounds. All of these sites and organizations will guarantee that you are communicating with your school and have access to all of the information that you may desire.

I wish you all the best and look forward to meeting you in the upcoming year. Thank you!

Best Regards,

Jeremy M. Evans
Thomas Jefferson School of Law '11
Student Bar Association, President (2010-2011)

REMEMBRANCE OF VINCE WRIGHT

It's the little things that we will miss most about Vincent Edward Wright, a valued member of the TJSJL Facilities Team and the TJSJL Community. Whether it was helping Professor Bisom-Rapp carry her books up the stairs, hanging pictures for Angie Valdiconza in her office, rushing a package to Fed Ex for June MacLeod at the end of the day on his way home or simply saying "rise and shine" to Lynette Metra every morning while delivering the inter-office mail. Those are just a few of the things we will miss and remember about Vince.

On Tuesday, August 24, Vincent Wright passed away. The TJSJL family will miss him very much as expressed in the remembrances that follow:

What I enjoyed about Vincent was that he was so sincere and so very kind hearted. I remember when our mail delivery procedure changed and our mail was supposed to be placed in our mailboxes instead of being delivered to us personally. Vince continued to personally deliver our mail to us, and I when asked him why he continued to do this ... he said "because I want to and I get to see everyone and say 'Hi'."

Kim Grennan
Registrar

I will dearly miss his sweet smile, and him saying "hey KJ" in the halls everyday without fail. Whenever I needed something--extra chairs for an event or an American flag, he was on it. A classic hard-working American, Vince has a special place in my heart--a feeling of family.

Professor K.J. Greene

I knew Vincent for 2 years and he was usually the first person I saw in the morning who came by and without fail said "hello" or "good morning" to me. On days when I was particularly preoccupied, I felt comfort knowing I could count on Vincent to get me through the day. Vincent was warm, funny and thoughtful. He made me feel like I was someone, not invisible. We lost a great person, but his memory will be a part of all of us at the law school.

Dovie King and Family

Associate Director of Career Services

"To live in the hearts we leave behind is not to die." ~ Thomas Campbell

Rest in peace Vincent, I will miss you.

Angela Bayne

Associate Director of Student Services

I'm a feeder. I show my respect and affection for people by supplying them with fresh fruit, juice and home-baked goods. Every class morning I fill a large table with food. I often noticed that Vince was always the first person in the room loading up plates of food. Then one day I noticed him not eating the food but rather giving the plates of food to students who were struggling and couldn't buy breakfast and lunch. He gave freely and always with that big smile. It goes without saying that Vince's big open smile was one of the constant joys of my time at TJSJL.

Nancy E. Johnson

Director of Academic Success Program

I'll always remember Vince for his warm smile, willingness to help anyone who asked and his love of Skittles and Starburst candy! I'm going to miss you Vince.

Angie Valdiconza

Externship Coordinator

Librarians are known for having jars of candy on our desks and I'm no exception to that unwritten rule. Vincent, one day, dug out a Starburst and told me how they were his "all-time favorite" candy and from then on I kept a bag in my drawer just for him. I still have his last bag with his name penned on it. Vincent had a good heart and I'll miss him.

Jan M. Hedlun

Library Technician

Vincent was my ice cream buddy. He liked peppermint chocolate chip and I liked chocolate. I think between the two of us we polished off two gallons of ice cream with in about two months!

Denice Menard

Communications Coordinator

Last year when I was without a vehicle, as luck would have it, Vince and I would ride the same trolley. The first time that we bumped into each other we sat and chatted until we arrived at our destination where we made our exit to begin our walk to campus. I really got to know Vince more during these trolley rides because he told me all about his daughter in Chicago and that he was a grandpa, too! He mentioned his family in Lake Elsinore and that his favorite ice cream flavor was chocolate chip! I'll miss him.

Veronica Sanchez

Library Technician, Acquisitions

For 5 years I had not seen Vince with a sad face, not even once. Always smile any time and any day that was the Vincent I once knew and remember! I am sure his happiness is with him forever!

Nancy Vu

Chief Financial Officer

Vince always had the kindness to smile and say hello to me. Because he did so, I started to smile and interact more with him. His outreach constantly reminded me to always make that extra effort myself to reach out and make a human connection with colleagues, even when I felt tired and busy and rushed.

Professor Bryan Wildenthal

I can remember my first conversation with Vincent. We didn't talk for very long, but it was enough to leave a very deep impression on me. What I recall most was how thankful he was for the simple things in life. It helped me better appreciate the things that are really worth caring about.

Professor Richard Winchester

He seemed to love being a part of what we do here and to draw sustenance from it. And in many ways, that's how I feel, too. What a blessing to be able to earn a living under such conditions. And what a blessing to have known Vincent Wright.

Professor Susan Bisom-Rapp

Vince was one of the first people I met last semester, when I was an adjunct professor rushing in from Los Angeles. Vince always had a smile for me - he made me feel welcome, and taken care of. He made me feel like this place called TJSJL that I had found was a good one.

Anastasia Boles

Faculty Fellow