FORGING ALUMNI CONNECTIONS

The most rewarding aspect of serving on the Villanova Law Review is not the ability to recall Bluebook rules by memory; the journal experience is enriched by the relationships built with fellow students, faculty, authors, and alumni.

Thus, we have revamped our alumni newsletter with a new purpose: to galvanize the most paramount of those relationships—those between current students and all of you, our alumni. By communicating with you biannually and actively seeking your participation, we aim to not only honor your contribution to the Law Review, but also highlight your accomplishments as Villanova lawyers. Similarly, we hope this newsletter will catalyze networking opportunities between students and alumni to strengthen Villanova Law’s position within the legal and academic community. We will feature student and alumni profiles, as well as a “Clerkship Corner” to highlight those who have secured state and federal clerkships. We sincerely welcome your input as we shape future issues.

Each newsletter will also update you on the Law Review’s latest news. This year, we have set a rigorous publication schedule that competes with the most prestigious journals in the country. We are actively recruiting expert authors to contribute to prominent legal debates. We have also streamlined our production process, launched a new website, and will continue to position Tolle Lege, the Law Review’s online companion, as the go-to resource for practitioners. On Friday, October 20, 2017, we will welcome national and international government transparency scholars to campus to discuss the Freedom of Information Act during our annual Norman J. Shachoy Symposium.

The Law Review continues to grow thanks to your efforts and support, and this newsletter gives us an opportunity to thank you. As a student, you worked tirelessly to publish and later pass down a publication worthy of serving as Villanova Law’s flagship journal. As the Law Review’s current student editors, we are grateful for your efforts to exceed the highest standards of journalistic quality. We strive to emulate your example. Indeed, many of you continue to provide us with mentorship and support. We are indebted to you for your generosity and kindness.

As you scroll through these pages, know that we will always welcome your feedback. We hope to see you on campus on Friday, October 20 for the Shachoy Symposium.

- Valerie Caras
Editor-in-Chief, Volume 63
SHACHOY SYMPOSIUM - OCTOBER 20, 2017: FIFTY YEARS OF THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

On July 4, 1966, President Lyndon Johnson begrudgingly signed into law the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), which became operational one year later on July 4, 1967. This landmark federal transparency law, which courts have described as enabling citizens to know what their government is up to, has frequently played an important role in ventilating executive branch controversies and enabling oversight over the federal executive.

But FOIA too often requires time consuming litigation to secure agency compliance and the law’s limited scope leaves legislative and judicial functions inadequately scrutinized. On October 20, 2017 the Law Review will mark fifty years of operation under FOIA by engaging in a probing review of the issues as experienced on the ground. To that end, the symposium will feature a group of distinguished FOIA and transparency scholars, governmental officials, and FOIA requesters and litigants.

The symposium will be held at the Law School on Friday, October 20 from 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM. Registration opens at 8:00 AM. Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. Participants can receive up to 5.5 Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credits. To obtain additional information, view the program, or register, visit our website, www.villanovalawreview.com, or visit the registration page here. We especially would like to thank Professor Tuan Samahon for his leadership and efforts in organizing this year’s event.

- Jason Kurtyka, Executive Editor & Jourdan Simko, Managing Editor of Operations


Volume 62, issued in 2017, marked another successful year for the Law Review. Led by Editor-in-Chief Lauren Anthony, student-editors published articles on a variety of topics on matters including criminal procedure, property, environmental, and corporate law. Professor Michael Risch served as faculty advisor.

Volume 62 by the numbers:

- 54 total members:
  - 20 members on the Editorial Board
  - 7 Senior Staff
  - 27 Staff Writers
- 33 total articles published in both the print journal and Tolle Lege, including:
  - 20 articles by outside authors
  - 11 student Casenotes and Casebriefs
  - 2 lectures
  - More than 4500 footnotes
- 1 symposium, Exploring Police Accountability in America, featuring:
  - 18 speakers
  - 5 panels
  - More than 130 attendees

- Arianna K. McLaughlin, Managing Editor of Production

HELP US PROMOTE YOU

Do you have an event or accomplishment that you would like us to promote? Contact Managing Editor of Operations Jourdan Simko at jsimko@law.villanova.edu.

TOLLE LEGE: SUBMISSIONS WANTED

We are actively seeking alumni contributions to Tolle Lege. For additional information, contact Managing Editor of Tolle Lege Matt Hall at mhall14@law.villanova.edu.

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Website: www.villanovalawreview.com
Twitter: @villanovalawrev
E-mail: review@law.villanova.edu
NICOLE PEDI

- VLS Graduation Year: 2015
- Notable Professional Accomplishments: I co-authored the article Delaware’s Two Courts for Trade Secrets and Restrictive Covenants which was published on January 26, 2016, by the Commercial and Business Litigation Committee of the ABA Section of Litigation (http://apps.americanbar.org/litigation/committees/commercial/articles/winter2016-0116-delawares-two-courts-trade-secrets-restrictive-covenants.html). I also assisted with a presentation titled “Be an Expert on Experts!” at the ABA Section of Litigation Annual Conference in San Francisco, California on May 5, 2017. The panel highlighted issues concerning the 2010 amendments to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26, and provided practical advice and pitfalls to avoid when deposing and examining expert witnesses. I’m a member of my firm’s Protection From Abuse team, which collaborates with Delaware Volunteer Legal Services to obtain protection from abuse orders for pro-bono clients.

J.J. WILLIAMSON

- VLS Graduation Year: 2012
- Current Position/Firm: Litigation Associate at Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP. Practice focuses on white collar criminal defense, complex commercial litigation, and appellate matters.
- Notable Professional Accomplishments: I write semi-frequently on white collar issues. Most of those publications, though, are client alerts and probably not in the vein of what you are looking for. I did co-author an article in the Syracuse Law & Civic Engagement Forum regarding the ethics of capital punishment. Basically, the position we took was that in order to make a capital punishment system work, you need to put money upfront and provide qualified trial-level counsel so that the appeals process is not dragged out over the course of decades. These articles can all be found here: http://www.drinkerbiddle.com/people/w/williamson-james-j.

ARE YOU CLERKING?

In our Spring issue, we will list alumni clerking during the 2017–2019 terms. To be featured in this “Clerkship Corner,” please contact Executive Editor Jason Kurtyka at jkurtyka@law.villanova.edu
Professor Catherine J. Lancot serves as the Law Review’s faculty advisor. The Harry S. Cherken, Jr. Law Review Fund continues to provide financial support for the Law Review.