



The Pre-Law e-Newsletter from Pre-Professional Programs & Advising

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Friday, April 26, 2013 – Thursday, May 9, 2013

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1. MESSAGE FROM ANA L. DROSCOSKI, ESQ.

This is the final e-Newsletter of the 2012-2013 academic year.

Good luck to everyone in wrapping up this semester, and a big congrats to the seniors!

Have a wonderful summer!

2. LEGAL EDUCATION & THE LEGAL INDUSTRY IN THE MEDIA

The third NY case by law school graduates against their alma mater -- in this instance, Brooklyn Law School -- over the accuracy of reported employment statistics/placement data has been dismissed. The first two cases were against New York Law School and Albany Law School. Although these lawsuits are failing in court, they have positively impacted how law schools are reporting out recent graduate employment data and started a dialogue regarding the regulation of said data, all in an effort to optimize the accuracy of the data.

To read blog commentary on the case(s), visit:

<http://blogs.wsj.com/law/2013/04/24/judge-tosses-lawsuit-against-brooklyn-law-school/>
http://taxprof.typepad.com/taxprof_blog/2013/04/ny-court.html

3. OPPORTUNITY REPOSTING: JHU ALUM SEEKS SUMMER 2013 LEGAL INTERN(S) FOR TRADITION (NORTH AMERICA), INC.

This was originally posted in February; one intern spot remains for the summer of 2013:

A JHU alumnus in NYC is seeking summer interns for the legal compliance group of Tradition (<http://www.tradition-na.com/index.html>), a fully diversified inter-dealer broker. The internship would be based in New York City and will most likely be unpaid. For those interested in corporate law this could be a great opportunity, as interns would gain exposure to the legalities of multi-national finance and trade.

Interested? Please direct all questions, resumes, and applications to:

Mr. Casey Miller
Assistant Director of External Relations
JHU Career Center
3rd Floor Garland Hall
3400 North Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21218
410.516.4796 (p)
410.516.5357 (f)
casey.miller@jhu.edu

4. INTERVIEW: MHER HARTOONIAN '00, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LITIGATOR & OF COUNSEL, HOLLAND & HART LLP



Mher Hartoonian is Of Counsel at Holland & Hart LLP in Denver, CO. A significant portion of his practice is devoted to intellectual property litigation. To that end, Mr. Hartoonian provides counsel to clients in a variety of industries, including global pharmaceutical companies, printing systems manufacturers, consumer food groups, technology companies, and more.

Mr. Hartoonian's intellectual property experience includes both prosecution and litigation. He identifies and protects patentable ideas for clients, as well as enforces patents and defends against patent infringement in federal courts. Mr. Hartoonian's expertise spans trademarks, copyrights, and licensing, as well as domain name complaints pursuant to ICANN's dispute resolution policy.

Prior to his position at Holland & Hart LLP, Mr. Hartoonian was an Intellectual Property Associate at Cohen Pontani Lieberman & Pavane LLP in NYC from 2004 to 2011. Prior to this, he was an Intellectual Property Associate at Levisohn Berger & Langsam LLP in NYC from 2003 to 2004.

Mr. Hartoonian received his Juris Doctor from the University of Houston Law Center in 2003, and a Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering, with an Electrical Engineering Concentration from The Johns Hopkins University in 2000.

Mher Hartoonian is currently licensed to practice in New York and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Questions

1) Describe a typical day as an Intellectual Property Litigator who is Of Counsel at Holland & Hart LLP in Denver, CO.

It is hard to describe a typical day because my practice is broad in scope and focuses on all facets of Intellectual Property (IP) litigation: patents, trademarks, copyrights, and trade secrets. Litigation is also unpredictable. Some days are quiet, other days are extremely busy. Managing your time wisely is key. Generally, the first thing I do when I wake up is review my e-mails and listen to my voicemails. I will respond to those that are urgent before going into the office. When I get to work, I may spend my day doing a number of things such as writing briefs, drafting discovery requests or responses, participating in team meetings, interacting with clients, or attending depositions. I also analyze a lot of patents with respect to infringement and validity issues. Rarely do IP litigators spend large amounts of time in the courtroom because the vast majority of cases settle before trial. Of course there are court appearances related to, for example, scheduling conferences and discovery disputes. I would say that the bulk of my day involves reading, analysis, and writing.

2) What initially attracted you to this field? What are some of the rewards of this area of law and the legal profession?

I was attracted to intellectual property because I'm fascinated by technology and equally intrigued by the law. My biomedical engineering background has been a great fit for my career because it helps me understand the science behind inventions. IP is very cutting edge and growing. It's become critical not only to global corporations, but also entrepreneurs. I truly enjoy helping clients build overall IP strategies to protect their intellectual property, assert their rights against infringers, and defend against infringement claims. One of the big rewards of this area of law is working directly with inventors. It is amazing to see how much time, effort, and money goes into research and development, and accordingly, it underscores the importance of IP protection.

3) What are some of the downsides of this area of law? How would you compare the reality of your profession to the picture you had of it while in school?

I don't think there are any downsides to intellectual property in particular. However, litigation is adversarial and fast-paced. It's not for everyone. From time-to-time, working late nights or weekends may be required to meet pressing deadlines. Something not emphasized enough in law school is that as lawyers, we are providing a service to clients. Every client is different. You have to learn how to meet -- if not exceed -- each client's expectations. Also, generating business is not taught in law school. Almost all private practice lawyers at some point in their career will need to find new clients and build upon existing client relationships. Students often forget about the business side of a law firm.

4) Do you have any advice for an undergraduate interested in pursuing this body of law and the legal profession?

For those interested in intellectual property, I would recommend taking a variety of classes. It's important to be well-rounded. A common misconception is that you cannot pursue a career in intellectual property without a technical background. In fact, although such a background is required for patent drafting and prosecution, it is not required for many aspects of intellectual property. Several of my colleagues who are IP litigators do not have science or engineering degrees. However, having those types of degrees will undoubtedly give you an edge when seeking employment after law school.

Also, pursue internships or volunteer opportunities related to the law. Most of what lawyers do is not what you see on television. Any real-world exposure to the law will help you decide whether you should

pursue a legal career. Going to law school should be taken seriously; it's three years of your life and can be expensive.

Contact Information

Mher Hartoonian's law firm biography and contact information can be found at the following link:
<http://www.hollandhart.com/mhartoonian/>

5. UPCOMING PRE-LAW STUDENT MEETINGS & PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming LSAT Administration

Location: Check with LSAC for testing locations (next on campus/JHU LSAT administration – Monday, June 10, 2013).

Date: Monday, June 10, 2013

Time: Registration begins at 11.30a for the June exam – consult with LSAC for all controlling details.

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**STAFF IN THE OFFICE OF PRE-PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS AND ADVISING**

Ana L. Droscoski, J.D., Associate Director, Pre-Law Advisor, Pre-Dental & Pre-Health Advisor

David Verrier, Ph.D., Director, Pre-Health Advisor

Ellen Snyderman, M.S., Assistant Director, Pre-Health Advisor

Katie Cruit, M.S., Assistant Director, Pre-Nursing & Pre-Health Advisor

The Administrative Coordinators are available to answer questions regarding your file:  
Carolyn Mae Krause, Administrative Coordinator, [ckrause@jhu.edu](mailto:ckrause@jhu.edu) 410-516-6744  
For students whose last name begins with A-L, contact Mrs. Krause.

LaTonia Sanders, Administrative Coordinator, [ladytee@jhu.edu](mailto:ladytee@jhu.edu) 410-516-4140  
For students whose last name begins with M-Z, contact Mrs. Sanders.

Angie Decker, Office Manager, [decker@jhu.edu](mailto:decker@jhu.edu)

Please feel free to use the resource library between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. every day or visit our website <http://web.jhu.edu/prepro/> for additional information.

Ana L. Droscoski, Esq.  
Associate Director  
Office of Pre-Professional Programs & Advising

Johns Hopkins University  
Garland Hall Suite 300  
3400 North Charles Street  
Baltimore, MD 21218  
Tel: 410.516.4140

Fax: 410.516.4040  
email: [adrosco1@jhu.edu](mailto:adrosco1@jhu.edu)  
web.jhu.edu/prepro