



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

\*Best viewed in HTML\*

**Vol. 6, No. 3**

Friday, October 12, 2012 – Thursday, October 25, 2012

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**1. MESSAGE FROM ANA L. DROSCOSKI, ESQ.**

I hope everyone that wanted to attend the law fair this past Monday was able to make it. It was great to hear from some of you regarding your good experiences and that you took advantage of the opportunity to speak with admissions representatives from your law schools of prioritized interest.

For those that took the October LSAT, I hope it went well. Congratulations on having that behind you!

Finally, for everyone that is applying this cycle, if you have not already completed your applications, do your best to submit them within the next 3 weeks. It is still the early end of the general application cycle and submitting early can really boost your admission chances.

**2. YALE LAW SCHOOL WEBINAR**

Interested in applying to Yale Law School? Join the Yale Law School Admissions Office for a video webinar with other prospective law school applicants from Georgetown, Johns Hopkins, and the University of Virginia. Craig Janecek, Director of Admissions, will be on hand to answer your questions about legal education, the application process, and life at Yale Law School.

**Monday, October 15, 3 – 4 pm EDT**

Advance registration is required. To register for this event, please visit:

[law-yale.adobeconnect.com/georgetownjhuuva12/event/event\\_info.html](http://law-yale.adobeconnect.com/georgetownjhuuva12/event/event_info.html)

The event is open to current students, alumni, and staff of Georgetown, JHU, and UVA. No special computer hardware or software is required to attend the webinar, just a modern web browser (Chrome, Internet Explorer, Firefox, Safari, etc.) and a recent version of the Adobe Flash plug-in. After you register, you will be sent a link through which you can test your computer and Internet connection prior to the event. If you are not able to join at the above date and time, the webinar will be recorded and made available to individuals who register for the event.

**3. THE INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMISSION (IRC) IN BALTIMORE**

*If you have an interest in international and refugee issues, human rights and civil liberties, consider an internship or volunteering with the International Rescue Commission (IRC) in Baltimore.*

**BACKGROUND:**

The International Rescue Committee (IRC) is the leading nonsectarian, voluntary agency worldwide. The agency, founded in 1933 at the request of Albert Einstein, is committed to freedom, human dignity, and self-reliance. This commitment is reflected in global emergency relief, rehabilitation, resettlement assistance and advocacy for refugees.

Established in July 1999, IRC-Baltimore has resettled approximately 700 refugees of all ages and from over 20 nations out of their Southeast Baltimore office. Their mission is to help newly arrived refugees become independent and self-supportive by assisting them with services such as temporary financial assistance, job placement, cultural and community orientation, and referrals for English language study, health, education and social services.

**You can learn more about IRC-Baltimore by visiting their website:**

<http://www.rescue.org/us-program/us-baltimore-md>

**Currently, Family Mentor for Refugees and Employment Mentor for Refugees volunteer opportunities appear to be available. In the spring, Case Management Internship(s) should open.**

**To learn more about volunteer and internship opportunities, visit IRC-Baltimore's website (above) and the following link:**

<http://www.idealists.org/view/org/XpcXczcdGwSP/>

#### **4. INTERVIEW: MARISSA REICH, STAFF ATTORNEY, FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION (FTC)**

Marissa Reich is a Staff Attorney in the Midwest Regional Office of the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). Since joining the FTC in 2007, she has focused on consumer protection matters, including matters involving spam email, robocalls, and debt reduction companies. Before joining the FTC, Marissa was an Associate in the General Litigation group at Sidley Austin LLP, for three years. Ms. Reich had been a Summer Associate at Sidley Austin in 2003, following her second year of law school.

Ms. Reich graduated *cum laude* from Northwestern University School of Law in 2004. While at Northwestern, she was Senior Articles Editor for the *Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology*, published two articles, was a member of the Admissions Committee and a volunteer for the Street Law Education Program. During her first year summer, she was a Summer Associate at Goldberg, Kohn, Bell, Black, Rosenbloom & Moritz, Ltd. Prior to entering law school, Ms. Reich was a Production Assistant for The Maury Povich Show, and a Marketing Assistant at Bookspan in New York City, from 2000 to 2001.

Ms. Reich received her BA in American Studies from Cornell University in 2000, where she was Chairman of the Willard Straight Hall Program Board. During the Spring of her junior year, she interned in the Chief of Staff's Office at the White House.

Marissa Reich is admitted to practice in Illinois.

#### **1) Describe a day in the life of a Staff Attorney at the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).**

I work in the Midwest Regional Office (Chicago) of the Consumer Protection Bureau, and we spend the majority of our time in this office bringing lawsuits against companies and individuals to stop them from using deceptive and/or unfair business practices, pursuant to the Federal Trade Commission Act. My days vary based on the status of the cases on which I'm working. Before we bring a case against a company, we thoroughly investigate our potential targets, which may include interviewing consumer victims, talking to former employees, or sending Civil Investigative Demands (similar to subpoenas) to third parties to get records on the companies. Once we decide on a target, we work collaboratively within the office, and with others at the Bureau and Commission levels in Washington, D.C. to develop our case against that target. After filing a complaint in court, we go into full litigation mode and spend our days briefing various issues and representing the FTC in court.

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

The Federal Trade Commission appealed to me because I felt the work I would do there could actually have a positive impact. We are able to stop businesses from defrauding consumers, and it is extremely rewarding to be able to provide redress to people who were injured by one of our defendants. I also enjoy my job because it allows me a broad range of experiences and is certainly never boring.

**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?**

There are several layers of review at the FTC, which is great because you get the insight of many smart people, but also slows down the litigation process and can at times be frustrating. Also, working for the government comes with the tradeoff on resources -- I do a lot more photocopying myself at the FTC than I did when I was at a private firm! Overall, though, I don't think that working for a government agency is much different than what I had expected -- I get to work among a group of lawyers who have tons of experience and are all working hard for the American public.

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

As one would expect, most federal government jobs are located in DC. Therefore, I think that students who would like to work in government jobs right out of law school may want to consider law schools in the DC area. Many professors at those schools previously worked in the federal government and can be great resources for them. In addition, it is also useful to seek out internship opportunities -- both before and while in law school -- that give relevant experience and provide the ability to connect with people in a specific area of interest. Of course, it's also important try to take classes in the relevant legal areas while in law school.

**Contact Information:**

If you would like to learn more about Northwestern University School of Law, the Federal Trade Commission, or if you have additional questions for Marissa Reich, you may reach her by using the following contact information: [mreich@ftc.gov](mailto:mreich@ftc.gov)

**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:** December 1, 2012/Saturday, February 9, 2013/Saturday, June 10, 2013/Monday

**Time:** Registration begins at 8.30a for the February exam – consult with LSAC for all controlling details.

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The Administrative Coordinators are available to answer questions regarding your file:

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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.

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