JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

The Pre-Law e-Newsletter from Pre-Professional Programs & Advising
Best viewed in HTML

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Friday, April 8, 2016
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1. MESSAGE FROM ANA L. DROSCOSKI, ESQ.

Because law school is an expensive venture and financial investment, it is good to explore any subsidy and award options available. In addition to what may be offered by individual law schools, there are other funding sources available. The following link on the ABA website is a great resource for exploring what may be available while in law school, once in practice and following graduation:
http://www.americanbar.org/groups/legal_education/resources/student_loan_repayment_and_forgiveness.html

2. LEGAL EDUCATION & THE LEGAL INDUSTRY IN THE MEDIA

Sloan, Karen. "**Debt, Diversity and Job Prospects After Law School Are Focus of Research Grants.**" *The National Law Journal*. Web. 5 April 2016. http://www.nationallawjournal.com/home/id=1202754181858?slreturn=20160308112557. -- reports that the Access Group has awarded $335,000 in research monies to study law school admissions, costs, and employment after graduation (the grants will to go The American Bar Foundation, the University of South Carolina School of Law, and the University of Pennsylvania's Graduate School of Education).

"US university in Scalia law school acronym blunder." *BBC News*. Web. 6 April 2016. http://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-35975832. -- George Mason renamed their law school -- twice, after late U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, when the initial renaming prompted hilarity over its unfortunate acronym.

Wexler, Ellen. **"Law School Co-Deans: 'Like a Marriage.'"** *Inside Higher Ed*. Web. 6 April 2016. https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2016/04/06/why-universities-hire-two-deans-lead-their-law-schools. -- discusses the rise of law school co-deans.

3. OPPORTUNITY: INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT PARALEGAL, MORGAN, LEWIS & BROCKIUS LLP (WASHINGTON, DC)

For those of you looking for a gap year opportunity, this could be an excellent option. If you have any questions regarding the position, feel free to contact ***Jeremy Esperon (JHU '08) at jeremy.esperon@morganlewis.com****, who is an Associate Attorney in the Investment Management group at Morgan Lewis.*

Auto req ID: **744BR**
Posting Title: **Investment Management Paralegal**
Job Location: **Washington**
Employment Type: **Full Time**

Job Description

Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP, one of the world's leading international law firms is seeking an entry level Paralegal in the Investment Management Practice Group who will be resident in our Washington DC office. Reporting to the Director – Investment Company Services and under the supervision of attorneys and management, the IM Paralegal works as an integral part of various client teams to perform a variety of basic and increasingly complex paralegal tasks within the Investment Management practice area. Demonstrates strong leadership and organizational skills to manage ongoing projects and assist attorneys in meeting project deadlines and client needs. Day-to-day activities include, but are not limited to: preparing timelines for new and ongoing projects; assisting attorneys in the preparation and review of mutual fund prospectuses, Statements of Additional Information, Part Cs, and other fund disclosure documents; working with financial printers to facilitate electronic filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission's EDGAR database; preparing agendas, materials and minutes for client board of trustees and directors meetings; preparing first drafts of memoranda; maintaining client records and files, including ERooms and other web-based client sites; and conducting research of federal and state securities laws. Over time, acquires and grows knowledge of the federal securities laws and legal concepts and terminology and demonstrates the ability to apply such knowledge to daily tasks to contribute to work products in a thoughtful and effective manner. Applies solid computer skills and becomes proficient with practice-specific technologies.

Essential Job Functions

- Performs a variety of basic and increasingly complex paralegal work under the supervision of attorneys and with the guidance of supervisory or experienced paralegals.
- Prepares project timelines and serves as the "gate keeper" for ongoing projects, monitoring progress to ensure that projects remain on track and maintaining organized project files.
- Assists attorneys in the preparation of various disclosure documents, such as mutual fund prospectuses, Statements of Additional Information, Part Cs, and

proxy materials, and coordinates, oversees and facilitates the filing process to file electronic filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

- Interacts with clients and working team members to distribute draft documents for review and to coordinate receipt and reconciliation of client comments on distributions.
- Prepare agendas, materials and minutes for client board of trustees and directors meetings.
- Composes first drafts of memoranda and other communications for clients and attorneys.
- Proofreads various fund documents.
- Organizes and maintains client records and files and makes client documents and files easily accessible for attorneys and working groups.
- Prepares and maintains compliance calendars for ongoing and anticipated projects, including anticipated regulatory filings and annual board approval items.
- Performs research of federal and state securities laws.
- Demonstrates good judgment, common sense, and ingenuity to apply knowledge to assess alternatives and to identify and recommend solutions.
- Gains solid experience with common processes, best practices, and frequently used methods and systems.

Experience

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited four year college.
- Strong leadership and organizational skills.
- Strong attention to detail.
- Strong communication skills (written and verbal).
- Ability to think critically and see "big picture" effects.
- Ability to multi-task and shift priorities to meet moving and demanding deadlines.
- Ability to follow up and follow through on tasks and project deadlines.
- Ability to interact effectively and work well in a team environment.
- Ability to be proactive and a self-starter to serve as a "go to" person for both internal and external needs.
- Ability to maintain strict confidentiality of client and firm affairs.
- Ability to work overtime.

Morgan Lewis is an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.

To Apply

Visit https://www.morganlewis.com/careers. In the dropdown menu, select "A Prospective Staff Member," click Go, and then search for Auto req ID 744BR.

4. INTERVIEW: BILL HEYMAN, BUSINESS ADVISORY AND COMMERCIAL LITIGATION ATTORNEY, LAW OFFICE OF WILLIAM S. HEYMAN (BALTIMORE, MD)

Bill Heyman was born in Baltimore and attended Swarthmore College, from which he graduated with Honors in Political Science and History in 1991. He graduated with Honors from University of Maryland School of Law in 1994 and, after many years with large law firms, opened the Law Office of William S. Heyman in 2015. His firm maintains a focus on business law, both transactions and litigating. Bill is married to Andrea and has three wonderful children with whom he loves to spend time (particular on the slopes).

His complete profile, law office and practice description can be found at the following link: http://www.heymanfirm.com/

Describe a day in the life of a Business Advisory and Commercial Litigation Attorney.

My regular day starts with either driving my kids to school or heading immediately to the office. I keep a schedule that shows when certain tasks are due and spend much of my time writing letters, pleadings such as complaints or legal memoranda. At times cases go to trial and when a trial is taking place it is a whirlwind of work. As the legal profession has changed, mediation is much more likely and I thoroughly enjoy mediations with competent mediators and opposing counsel, as we work together to try to bridge the gaps between the parties and resolve their dispute.

One of the good things about litigation is that there are many memorable moments. Perhaps my most memorable was settling a case on behalf of a group of African Americans who were applying for a certain type of license from the SBA, and who (as a result of our team's hard work) we proved had been denied the license due to the SBA's discriminatory view of our client's application. The case involved systemic issues concerning the lack of capital received by African Americans and other minorities through an SBA leveraged investment program. The case resulted in a positive settlement and made me feel that I was contributing something positive to the world through our team's work. Unfortunately, lack of access to capital remains a major issue in minority communities.

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

I had always enjoyed history, political science and debate. Being the second person in my family to attend college and following my brother who also became a lawyer contributed to my choice. I practice litigation and one of the major rewards of the profession is the ability to give honest advice and to help clients achieve their business and individual goals. I also enjoy being methodical and analyzing issues "step-by-step," it is rewarding to put together an argument and (we hope) have success. Another thing I enjoy about the profession is having the freedom of not having a "9 to 5" job.

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?

A major downside of the law has been the commodification of the legal marketplace and a change in the way law has been practiced. What once was an honorable profession to most is now infused with more of a corporate spirit in which the dollar rules. It also has become much harder for younger lawyers to grow and learn, as teaching younger lawyers takes time away from the "billable" hour. Another major difference has been the use of technology for writing and research, in contrast to having to go to a library and look through the stacks to find that perfect case. While that has made my life easier, such resources (as well as those involved in electronic discovery) have made more junior lawyers much less necessary to a firm's practice then when I graduated from law school in 1994.

Another downside of litigation is the stress that goes with handling companies' and individuals' disputes. If you are not good at handling stress, and if you can't keep cool and think on your feet, then being a litigator is probably not the best path in the law for you to take.

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

My main advice is to do your research and really take the time to consider whether this is the path you want to take. It has gotten much tougher for younger lawyers – both in terms of work life balance and starting salaries, for those lucky graduates who are able to find a job. If you love the law and truly want to be a lawyer, then go for it. But if you are not sure, I would consider another field or take some time off before going to law school. Actually – although I didn't do it – my best advice would be to take a year or two off and not go directly to law school. The real world experience will help you later on, and one should not feel rushed to go directly to law school.

Contact Information

If you would like to learn more about being a Business Advisory and Commercial Litigation Attorney, or have additional questions Bill Heyman, you may reach him via email at: wheyman@heymanfirm.com.

5. UPCOMING PRE-LAW STUDENT MEETINGS & PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming LSAT Administration

Location: Visit http://www.lsac.org/jd/lsat/testing-locations for testing location information.

Date: June 6, 2016

Time: Registration begins at 12:30 pm 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

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The Administrative Coordinators are available to answer questions regarding your file:
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Please visit our website http://web.jhu.edu/prepro/ for additional information.

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