



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

Best viewed in HTML

Vol. 11, No. 1

Friday, September 15, 2017

- ~~~~~
- 1. Message from Ana L. Droscoski, Esq.**
 - 2. Legal Education & the Legal Industry in the Media**
 - 3. Opportunity: Fall 2017 Full-Time/Part-Time Internship, Kids in Need of Defense (KIND), Baltimore, MD**
 - 4. Interview: Elizabeth Stock, Assistant State’s Attorney, Homicide, Baltimore City Assistant State’s Attorney’s Office**
 - 5. Upcoming Pre-Law Student Meeting & Program Announcements**
- ~~~~~

1. MESSAGE FROM ANA L. DROSCOSKI, ESQ.

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and has had a smooth kickoff to the 2017-2018 academic year.

Please note that on Tuesday, October 3, pre-law walk-ins will be offered from 12-1pm every Tuesday and Wednesday throughout the semester. Walk-ins are 10 minute sessions and meant for quick questions only. Walk-ins will be first come, first served, and sign up for them begins at 11:45am on the days they are offered.

Individual appointments are also available throughout the semester and can be scheduled using the following link: <https://booknow.appointment-plus.com/vkb5m10/10>

Best of luck to those of you taking the LSAT tomorrow!

2. LEGAL EDUCATION & THE LEGAL INDUSTRY IN THE MEDIA

Joyce, Stephen. “**Two More Law Schools Won’t Require the LSAT.**” *Bloomberg BNA*. Web. 08 Aug. 17. <https://bol.bna.com/two-more-law-schools-wont-require-the-lsat/> -- There are currently a total of four law schools that will accept either a GRE or LSAT score from applicants: University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law, Harvard Law School, Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, and Georgetown University Law Center.

Dwoskin, Elizabeth. “**This Silicon Valley start-up wants to replace lawyers with robots.**” *The Washington Post*. Web. 14 Sept. 17.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/innovations/wp/2017/09/14/this-silicon-valley-startup-wants-to-replace-lawyers-with-robots/?utm_term=.4be671ffc5bo

profiles a Silicon Valley entrepreneur — his newest legal technology start-up is actually incorporated as a law firm — who seeks to "create a law firm full of technology turbo-charged lawyers who can offer clients more efficient services for a single, transparent bill."

Furlong, Jordan. "Should you go to law school?" *Law21*. Web. 05 Sept. 17. <https://www.law21.ca/2017/09/go-law-school/> -- A thoughtful piece, which states, in part: "I'm convinced that from a business perspective, the role of the lawyer will change profoundly in the years to come. But I'm equally certain that from a societal perspective, the importance of lawyers will not change at all — unless it's to become even more pronounced. Every few decades, during a moment of crisis, society remembers why it really has lawyers: to protect the rule of law and advance the cause of human dignity."

3. OPPORTUNITY: FALL 2017 FULL-TIME/PART-TIME INTERNSHIP, KIDS IN NEED OF DEFENSE (KIND), BALTIMORE, MD

Kids in Need of Defense (KIND) is an innovative partnership among the Microsoft Corporation, Angelina Jolie and other interested philanthropists, law firms and corporate supporters. As the leading national organization that works to ensure that no refugee or immigrant child faces immigration court alone, KIND is dedicated to providing pro bono representation as well as positive systemic change in both law and policy to improve the protection of unaccompanied immigrant and refugee children. KIND also assists children who are returning to their home countries through deportation or voluntary departure to do so safely and to reintegrate into their home communities. In addition, we work to ensure the voices of these children are heard and we help them become their own advocates. Launched in fall 2008, KIND is headquartered in Washington, DC and has 10 field offices across the United States.

KIND is seeking candidates for both full- and part-time internships for Fall 2017. For part-time internships, a minimum of 8 hours per week is required, though a commitment of 16-20 hours is preferred. Interns are required to commit a minimum of 10 weeks, though a commitment of 12 weeks or longer is preferred. This internship is unpaid.

About the position:

KIND's Baltimore office is seeking interns to assist KIND's Baltimore office in developing, maintaining, and overseeing the in-house and pro bono legal representation of unaccompanied children.

Duties may include:

- Assisting with In-House Direct Representation: Assist in the preparation of cases represented in house by KIND staff, including asylum and Special Immigrant Juvenile Status petitions and State Court filings.

- Legal Screening: Assist with the initial screening of unaccompanied minor children, conduct communication with child clients, adult sponsor, and other agencies.
- Research: Research country conditions and psycho-social services to support case work and clients.
- Case Management: Update case summaries, track important court dates and deadlines, process referrals and communicate with clients.

Requirements:

- Enrolled or graduated from accredited undergraduate program.
- Professional fluency in Spanish preferred, though not required.
- Experience and interest in working with children, immigrant communities and/or victims of trauma preferred.
- Strong writing skills and attention to detail.

For the complete listing and to apply, visit: <https://supportkind.org/jobs/>, click on the “Legal Services → Fall Full-Time/Part-Time Internship - Baltimore, MD” link.

Please note that current JHU student Anya Chen '18 (achen69@jhu.edu), who has been interning at KIND since spring of 2017, is happy to speak with other JHU students about the position and the organization.

4. INTERVIEW: ELIZABETH STOCK, ASSISTANT STATE’S ATTORNEY, HOMICIDE, BALTIMORE CITY STATE’S ATTORNEY’S OFFICE

Elizabeth (Liz) Stock graduated with Honors from Fox Lane High School in Bedford, NY in June of 1997. After finishing high school, she attended Lehigh University in their School of Arts and Sciences. Liz received a Presidential academic scholarship as well as a partial vocal scholarship to assist with financing her degree. She also helped cover her tuition by waiting tables at a local restaurant. Liz graduated in 2001, receiving a Bachelors of Arts in Sociology with a double minor in Communications and Public Relations. She completed her Sociology thesis on the study of how incarceration affects juveniles.

After graduating from Lehigh, Liz was given the opportunity to stay on tuition-free for one year because she graduated with a GPA above 3.5. She declined the opportunity in favor of immediately attending law school at the University of Maryland. While attending the University of Maryland School of Law, she took a full course load every semester while also working at a local sports bar to cover the cost of tuition. This financial assistance allowed her to accept unpaid internships each summer with a different prosecuting agency so that she could obtain insight and work experience in the field of criminal prosecution, which was her main focus in law school. Liz worked for two different district attorney’s offices in her home state of New York, in Westchester County, and then in Brooklyn, to see the difference between suburban life and city life. In order to have a balanced perspective in the field of criminal justice, she enrolled in the Criminal Defense Clinic while in law school to gain exposure to both sides of the criminal justice system.

Knowing that criminal prosecution was her end goal and upon graduating from law school in 2004, Liz quickly accepted a part-time position with the Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office in the Domestic Violence Misdemeanor Jury Trial Division. Because the position was part-time, she was able to continue working in the office while studying for the bar exam and continuing her employment at local restaurants where she could stay connected to the Baltimore City community as well as supplement a part-time income. When Liz passed the July 2004 bar exam, she continued working at the Baltimore City State's Attorney's Office, then as a law clerk, until a position as an Assistant State's Attorney became available in July of 2005. Since then, she has worked her way up through district court, misdemeanor, narcotics, general felony, firearms prosecutions, and now her current position in the homicide division. She has attended every training opportunity that came her way to constantly grow and develop as a trial attorney. Liz loved the exposure and experience she gained with each unit she moved through and is currently thriving in her "dream job" as a homicide prosecutor.

Questions:

Describe a day in the life of an Assistant State's Attorney.

The one thing I really love about this job is that every day is different depending on what's "high priority" that day. If I am close to a trial date, I will spend the day reviewing evidence, which **could** include listening to recorded statements, looking over police reports and photographs. Trial prep for a murder trial usually takes a good two weeks. I need to draft a timeline of the murder and its investigation. From that, I go through all the evidence and decide which pieces of evidence will be used in the trial, and who I will be getting them in through. Then I create my witness list. Once that is done, I will meet with each witness and go over what their testimony will include and what evidence I will be showing them.

If I'm not in "trial mode" I am usually reviewing files to get discovery materials sent out to defense attorneys. If I am all caught up on my discovery disclosure obligations (which hardly ever happens), I will spend my day working on written motions in post-conviction matters.

And if that all wasn't enough, I am constantly receiving new homicide investigations. So I will periodically check in with the investigating detectives and see what assistance they need on unsolved murders.

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

The fact that every day is new and challenging is really appealing to me. The energy of being in trial is great. I can't imagine spending my days doing document review and legal writing. I am adversarial by nature, so the trial work is the best part of the job. But the end result is the most rewarding. Helping a family have some closure about an absolutely horrific life event is indescribable. To help the family of a murder victim be a

little bit more okay with the violent loss of their loved one makes the stress of the job seem more manageable.

How would you compare the reality of your profession to the picture you had of it before entering and while in law school? Are there downsides to your field?

Everything moves a lot slower in real life than it does on TV! I always saw myself in the role of a criminal prosecutor, so to still be doing my dream job after 13 years of work experience, and to reach this level, is great. There are always downsides to every job. Working with homicide victims, and dealing with such violence is emotionally draining, and sometimes it's a thankless job that is constantly being scrutinized.

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

Try to get as much exposure to different things while you can. You can always find a way to make money, but if you come home after an 8 or 10 hour day hating the way you just spent your time, will it really be worth it?

Contact Information:

Elizabeth Stock is happy to talk to students and can be reached by email at: EStock@statorney.org

5. UPCOMING PRE-LAW STUDENT MEETINGS & PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fourth Annual Baltimore Regional Law Fair

Hosted by the University of Baltimore School of Law

Location: John and Frances Angelos Law Center, 1401 N. Charles St., Baltimore, MD 21201

Date: Wednesday, October 25, 2017

Time: 6:00 to 7:30pm

Description: An anticipated 70+ law schools from across the country -- from California to Massachusetts -- will be represented at the Baltimore Regional Law Fair. No R.S.V.P. required -- walk-ins welcome. For more information, including a list of participating law schools, visit

http://law.ubalt.edu/admissions/regional_law_fair/

Columbia Law School Information Session

Location: Hodson 210

Date: Thursday, October 26, 2017

Time: 12pm to 1pm

Description: An admissions representative from Columbia Law School will present an information session and answer questions.

Georgetown University Law Center Group Interviews
2018 Cycle/current applicants ONLY

Location: TBD

Date: Monday, October 30, 2017

Time: 2-3pm & 3-4pm

Description: Only for those applying for Fall 2018 J.D. admission, Andy Cornblatt, Dean of Admissions, will host 2 group interviews. **ADVANCED SIGN UP REQUIRED. Details to follow.**

Georgetown University Law Center Information Session

Location: TBD

Date: Monday, October 30, 2017

Time: 4-4:30pm

Description: Andy Cornblatt, Dean of Admissions, will host an information session for all interested Johns Hopkins Students.

Upcoming LSAT Administration

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

Date: September 16, 2017 / December 2, 2017 / February 10, 2018

Time: Report at no later than 8:30 am for the September exam -- consult with LSAC for all controlling details.

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

Kelli R. Johnson, J.D., Director  
Ana L. Droscoski, J.D., Associate Director  
Ellen Snyderman, M.S., Assistant Director  
Shannon Jensen, M.A., Assistant Director

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 visit our website <http://studentaffairs.jhu.edu/preprofadvising/> for additional information.

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

Johns Hopkins University  
Garland Hall Suite 300  
3400 North Charles Street  
Baltimore, MD 21218  
Tel: +1 410.516.4140  
Fax: +1 410.516.4040  
Skype: preprof\_adrosc01  
Email: [adrosc01@jhu.edu](mailto:adrosc01@jhu.edu)  
Website: <http://studentaffairs.jhu.edu/preprofadvising/>