



The Pre-Law e-Newsletter from Pre-Professional Programs & Advising
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Vol. 11, No. 2

Friday, September 29, 2017

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1. MESSAGE FROM ANA L. DROSCOSKI, ESQ.

There are many preparation options for the LSAT, ranging from commercial prep courses to self-study. Either can be effective. If you are comfortable studying and creating structure independently, you may elect to self-study. LSAC (who creates and administers the LSAT) offers prep materials at a reasonable rate. They offer test prep books and bundles of official tests.

Learn more by visiting the following link: <https://www.lsac.org/jd/lsat/preptools>

2. LEGAL EDUCATION & THE LEGAL INDUSTRY IN THE MEDIA

Ward, Stephanie Francis. **“JDs from middle-ranked schools in states with many public colleges may give best investment return.”** *ABA Journal*. Web. 15 Sep. 17. http://www.abajournal.com/news/article/jds_from_middle_ranked_schools_in_states_with_many_public_colleges_may_give/ -- reports on new research by Jerry Organ that shows "between 2010 and 2014, net tuition declined the most at middle ranked law schools, due to merit scholarship patterns associated with maintaining or improving rankings." (You can read more on Professor Organ's article [here](#).)

Rubino, Kathryn. **“25 Percent Of Law Schools Say They Plan To Accept The GRE.”** *Above the Law*. Web. 18 Sep. 17. <https://abovethelaw.com/2017/09/25-percent-of-law-schools-say-they-plan-to-accept-the-gre/> -- reports that "in a survey done by Kaplan Test Prep of admissions officials from 128 law schools, a full 25 percent say accepting the GRE is an admission policy they plan on implementing."

Hadfield, Gillian. **“Law schools are letting down their students and society—here are three steps they can take to fix things.”** *Quartz*. Web. 20 Sep. 17. <https://qz.com/1082266/law-schools-are-letting-down-their-students-and-society-here-are-three-steps-they-can-take-to-fix-things/> -- a law professor from USC argues that "Law schools in the US today have become depressingly single-purpose: training members of a closed profession and failing to equip them to tackle the full breadth of problems facing economies and societies that are undergoing extensive transformations," and offers three practical suggestions for turning the ship around.

3. OPPORTUNITY: PARALEGAL – VOCATDIG (FT), STATEWIDE ADVOCACY SUPPORT UNIT, BALTIMORE CITY

For those of you graduating in December 2017 and looking for a full-time position while gaining experience in criminal law, consider the following paralegal position in Baltimore City:

The Baltimore City office announces a full-time paralegal position available to qualified applicants. The position is for a paralegal to assist, under the supervision of an attorney, victims and survivors of domestic abuse and sexual assault and to ensure that their rights are protected throughout the criminal justice system. The paralegal will be assigned to the Baltimore City office, but will also work on-site at least three days a week in the Baltimore County office of TurnAround, Inc. This is a two-year grant funded position awarded through the Victims of Crime Assistance (VOCA) program, administered through the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention.

Under the supervision of an attorney, paralegals handle all functions related to case work from initial intake through representation of clients at administrative and other hearings permitted by law. Paralegals work with attorneys on cases or projects and some may perform non-casework functions. Tasks assigned to paralegals may include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Screen clients for eligibility and make referrals, as appropriate.
2. Conduct preliminary and subsequent interviews with clients and witnesses.
3. Conduct factual investigations and analysis, and legal research.
4. Perform litigation support, such as preparing discovery; drafting pleadings, correspondence and other documents; and supporting attorneys at trial.
5. Assist in or develop case theory and strategy for the representation of clients.
6. Provide administrative support, including scheduling appointments, hearings, etc.
7. Conduct community and institutional outreach and education.
8. Perform other duties, as assigned; within the scope of the essential functions of the position.

Anyone interested in applying must send an updated resumé and cover letter to Erica LeMon, Director of Advocacy for Children and Families.

To apply online, visit: www.mdlab.org/contact/employment or this URL https://workforcenow.adp.com/jobs/apply/posting.html?client=legaidbeu1&jobId=194121&lang=en_US&source=CC4 or click [here](#).

The complete listing can be found here: <https://www.idealists.org/en/nonprofit-job/aeec7ab77f674b3eab756b9fd3052fb6-paralegal-vocatdig-legal-aid-bureau-inc-baltimore?>

4. INTERVIEW: KELLY CRAWFORD, SENIOR ATTORNEY, FEDEX GROUND

Kelly Crawford grew up in Pittsburgh, PA and started undergrad at the University of Pittsburgh. After two years of trying a class from nearly every major -- engineering, math, psychology, stats, neurobiology, and even ROTC -- Kelly realized her desire to go into criminal law. As a result, Kelly transferred to Indiana University of Pittsburgh for her last two years, received a BA in Criminology, and went to American University (AU) for law school.

Kelly focused heavily on criminal law while at AU, interning at the Montgomery County State's Attorney's Office, the Arlington County Commonwealth's Attorney's Office, and the US

Department of Justice and working at the US Sentencing Commission. Kelly also competed in mock trial and participated in the Criminal Law Clinic. Upon graduation, Kelly accepted a job as a Deputy District Attorney at the Dauphin County District Attorney's Office in Harrisburg, PA where she stayed for approximately three years before moving to the Allegheny County District Attorney's Office in Pittsburgh.

After 7 years as a district attorney (DA), Kelly moved into labor and employment law at U.S. Steel and then with a local health system before finally accepting employment at FedEx Ground in 2016. Now, Kelly practices contract and transportation law with a heavy focus on counseling and training.

Questions:

Describe a day in the life of a Senior Attorney, FedEx Ground.

I am the attorney on-point for both the western region and central region of the country. On any given day, I receive phone calls and emails from field management, safety representatives, and contractor relations specialists seeking advice on matters involving the contracted service providers and I participate in projects aimed at drafting new contractual language.

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

My main focus was always criminal law, but I heard very good feedback about this company and was very intrigued by the position, not necessarily the field of law. I enjoy the counseling nature of this position and I love having a million different things happening at once. In that regard this position is similar to the DAs office. The field of law is complex and new to me and I love the challenge of learning all of the nuances.

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?

The reality of criminal law was very different from my expectations in one key way – the salary. When you start law school with a goal of reaching your dream job, you don't think about the reality of paying bills and school loans. The reason that I left the DAs office was financial and it was heartbreaking.

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

There are so many different avenues in the legal profession. Be sure to learn about as many as possible so that you can find a field that will be both exciting and challenging.

Contact Information:

Kelly Crawford is happy to answer questions and can be reached by email at: kelly.crawford@fedex.com

5. UPCOMING PRE-LAW STUDENT MEETINGS & PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

Penn State Law Information Session

Location: Krieger Hall 205

Date: Wednesday, October 4, 2017

Time: 6:30 to 8:00pm

Description: Julian Morales, Director of Admissions, will host an information session on Penn State Law. Pizza will be served.

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: 12:00-1:00pm

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: Sherwood Room, Levering Hall

Date: Monday, October 30, 2017

Time: 2:00-3:00pm & 3:00-4:00pm

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 through:

<https://goo.gl/2z3YHW>.

Georgetown University Law Center Information Session

Location: Sherwood Room, Levering Hall

Date: Monday, October 30, 2017

Time: 4:00-4:30pm

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

STEM Majors: Considering a Career in the Law?

UC Berkeley Law School Information Session for STEM majors

Location: Student Financial Services, Room 143, Garland Lobby

Date: Thursday, November 2, 2017

Time: 12:00-1:00pm

Description: STEM Majors -- Considering a Career in the Law? Your science background can lead to a career at the intersection of law and technology. Intellectual property (who owns innovation), privacy, the accountability of algorithms, the control of online speech, the financing of clean tech -- these are

among the many issues that lawyers will be deciding in coming years. Jim Dempsey, Executive Director of the UC Berkeley Center for Law & Technology, will discuss the curriculum, activities, and opportunities available at UC Berkeley Law and answer questions about pursuing a career as a lawyer with a STEM background.

Upcoming LSAT Administration

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

Date: December 2, 2017 / February 10, 2018

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

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

Kelli R. Johnson, J.D., Director  
Ana L. Drososki, 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.

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

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