



The Pre-Law e-Newsletter from Pre-Professional Programs & Advising
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Friday, October 27, 2017

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1. MESSAGE FROM ANA L. DROSCOSKI, ESQ.

For those of you that are STEM majors and interested in a career in patent law, please note the following program next week:

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.

Registration required: <https://booknow.appointment-plus.com/vkb5m10/10>

2. LEGAL EDUCATION & THE LEGAL INDUSTRY IN THE MEDIA

Hernández, Gabrielle Orum. “AI Goes To Law School.” *Legaltech News*. Web. 16 Oct. 17. <http://www.law.com/legaltechnews/almID/1202800497952/> -- reports that "as AI's presence increases, law schools are beginning to consider what their relationship to such technologies could and should look like."

Coyle, Marcia. “Columbia Law, Embracing GRE for Fall 2018, Is Latest School to Join Wave.” *New York Law Journal*. Web. 17 Oct. 17. <http://www.law.com/newyorklawjournal/almID/1202800642127/> -- Columbia Law School will join six other law schools, including Harvard and Georgetown, in accepting the Graduate Record Exam for admission as an alternative to the LSAT."

Weiss, Debra Cassens. "**The legal profession's 'status-health paradox': BigLaw success brings more depression, study says.**" *ABA Journal*. Web. 24 Oct. 17. http://www.abajournal.com/news/article/the_legal_professions_status_health_paradox_biglaw_success_brings_more_depr/ -- according to a new study from the University of Toronto, "People with higher income typically have better mental health. But the opposite is true for lawyers in the United States and Canada."

3. OPPORTUNITY: 39th Annual Summer Law Internship Program, Volunteer Undergraduate and Graduate Students (Non-Law) -- NEW YORK STATEWIDE

The New York State Office of the Attorney General (OAG) is seeking talented undergraduate and graduate students for its 2018 Summer Law Internship Program (SLIP). The SLIP officially runs for 8 weeks between June and July (10-week appointments are available, if required by the applicant's funding source). The 2018 SLIP will begin on June 4, 2018. Interns commit to work full time for the entire duration of the program. These internships are either volunteer positions, externships for course credit, funded by a public service grant obtained by the student, or work study funded by a college.

Placements are available statewide within the Divisions of Criminal Justice, Economic Justice, Social Justice, State Counsel, Appeals and Opinions, Regional Affairs, Executive and Administration. Undergraduate and graduate students assist professional and support staff in all phases of their work including but not limited to: non-legal research; data entry; drafting of correspondence and memos; assisting with consumer complaint intake and mediation; and performing clerical tasks such as filing, answering telephones, scheduling meetings. We are seeking hardworking interns who are committed to public service and have excellent research and writing skills; fluency in other languages (e.g., Spanish, Mandarin, Russian, Korean, etc.) in addition to English is a plus, but not required.

Students selected for the SLIP will be assigned to one of the bureaus in the main offices in either Manhattan or Albany, or to one of the smaller regional offices. The practice area of a bureau is generally reflected in its name.

Regional offices are located in Binghamton, Brooklyn, Buffalo, Harlem, Suffolk, Nassau, Plattsburgh, Poughkeepsie, Rochester, Syracuse, Utica, Watertown, and Westchester. The regional offices are full-service locations that handle matters such as: consumer fraud complaints and mediations; consumer frauds and related criminal prosecutions; civil rights and labor law prosecutions; and the investigation and prosecution of environmental law violations. In addition, they handle State Counsel matters in defense of the state, its agencies and employees in lawsuits brought in state and federal courts. For more information about the work of a bureau or regional office, please visit the Divisions and Media Center sections of our website.

Students should only apply for those bureaus and/or regional offices of interest to them. Location preferences will be honored; however, bureau assignment may ultimately be made based upon the needs of the OAG.

HOW TO APPLY

The following section provides detailed information about the application process and application requirements. Please review the complete list of instructions prior to preparing and submitting your application materials online.

Applications for the 2018 SLIP are being received online. To apply, please visit the careers website: <http://www.ag.ny.gov/job-postings>

- Please apply to no more than five (5) bureaus/regional offices.
- Applications are submitted separately for each bureau/regional office, and an applicant's candidacy for each application is determined separately by each bureau/regional office.
- Applicant deadline is March 16, 2018, but please note that positions are filled on a rolling basis.

The following documents are required for each application that is submitted:

- Cover Letter (CL)
- Resume
- List of three (3) references
- Transcript (unofficial is acceptable)
- Writing Sample (a piece that best demonstrates your ability to analyze, synthesize and organize a cohesive document that efficiently and effectively conveys information to your target audience)

Cover Letter Details:

- Please address CL to Sandra Jefferson Grannum, Esq., Bureau Chief, Legal Recruitment.
- If applying to multiple bureaus/regional offices, we recommend that you submit the same cover letter for each application, ranking those bureaus/regional offices in order of your preference.
- Indicate in your cover letter whether there are any work-study funding or other deadlines related to your candidacy.

Reference Details:

- Only submit professional (i.e., supervisor or professor) references.
- Indicate your professional relationship to each reference.
- Include contact information and email addresses for each reference.

Failure to submit a complete application will delay the consideration of your candidacy.

Please submit your application for the 2018 SLIP at least two (2) weeks prior to any deadlines that could impact your candidacy (e.g., work study funding deadline) and note this in your cover letter.

Please allow at least three (3) business weeks for your application to be processed and reviewed by the hiring bureau/regional office. After three (3) weeks, to request a status update, please [click here](#).

If you have questions about a position with the OAG, the application process or need assistance with submitting your application, please contact the Legal Recruitment Bureau via email at recruitment@ag.ny.gov

The application deadline for the 2018 SLIP is Friday, March 16th.

4. INTERVIEW: NICK KARNO, DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY, LOS ANGELES CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Nick Karno grew up in Los Angeles. He and his sister were raised by a single mother who owned a small candy shop. After applying to several colleges around the country, Nick chose to attend Tufts University in Boston, largely because it was a chance to experience life on the East Coast.

Nick decided to take a wide variety of classes in college: Psychology, Religion, Astronomy, Mythology, etc. – until eventually settling on majoring in English. Outside of academics, Nick worked several jobs, played soccer, and performed in the college improv comedy troupe. Nick spent junior year studying abroad at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and traveled in the Middle East and Europe. But while college provided broad and enriching experiences, Nick was still undecided on what career to pursue.

After graduation in 1991, Nick worked a wide range of jobs in his quest, including: Hotel Front Desk Receptionist, Nonprofit Job Developer, Bookkeeper, Bilingual Middle School Teacher, and Freelance Writer at the LA Weekly. It was working in journalism that sparked an interest in politics and government, so Nick applied to law school. While attending the American University's Washington College of Law, entering in the Fall of 1997, Nick joined the Administrative Law Review, worked as a legal fellow at Congressman Berman's office, and participated in the Community Economic Development law clinic, representing economically disadvantaged communities. It was his experience on Capitol Hill where Nick found the Federal government too large and impersonal and decided to return to Los Angeles and work in local government after graduating in 2000.

After passing the California bar, Nick joined the Mayor's office in Los Angeles as a Business Development Representative, working with the Chamber of Commerce and Business Improvement Districts to help local businesses. From there, Nick transferred to the Los Angeles City Attorney's office, where he has worked since 2002. Over his 15 years at the City Attorney's office, Nick has remained a prosecutor in the Criminal Division in a variety of different enforcement units: the Central Trials unit where he tried a wide variety of cases, the Nuisance Abatement unit where he brought civil injunctions against gangs and other nuisance properties, and in the Neighborhood Prosecutor Program where he filed cases for a community in South L.A.

In 2010, Nick joined the Environmental Justice Unit (EJU), where he works with multiple City, County, and State Environmental agencies. The types of cases he handles include oil and gas spills from pipelines and drill sites, fish and wildlife violations, illicit discharges from chrome platers, scrapyards and landfills, and other Environmental crimes. In 2014, Nick started Climate Cents, a nonprofit crowdfunding platform for local environmental projects.

Questions:

Describe a day in the life of a Deputy City Attorney.

My days either start with a court appearance, or I go straight into the office and start working on one of my cases. I spend much of my time usually conducting investigations, which could be obtaining more info from our enforcement agencies, visiting crime scenes, interviewing witnesses, or doing legal research. My most memorable day on the job was when I participated in a police "prostitution trick task force", where we watched undercover officers conduct sting operations at night. There are many memorable days - which is one of the real perks of the job - and most prosecutors are not without crazy stories and experiences.

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

In 2006, I saw 'An Inconvenient Truth', and it was then that I knew I wanted to work to fight climate change. It is incredibly rewarding working with so many excellent people dedicated to protecting our Environment, and learning more about the challenges.

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?

While I didn't study Environmental law while in law school, there are many things that surprised me once I started practicing in this area of law. First, there are considerable bureaucratic challenges. The agencies we work with are way too underfunded and understaffed, and the jails are so overcrowded that it isn't a real deterrent for enforcement. Second, there are legal and political challenges, such as preemption, that can frustrate enforcement actions. Third, it's important to know the limitations of enforcement - it is punishing polluters after the pollution has been released into the Environment. There are some clean-up efforts that are successful, but it's different than professions that work to prevent the pollution from ever happening in the first place. It's important to know the difference before working in this field.

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

I would clerk at a prosecuting agency, such as mine, so you get a real feel for the work and understand its limitations.

Contact Information:

Nick Karno is happy to answer questions and can be reached by email at: nick.Karno@lacity.org. Nick also recommends www.climatecents.org and the blog 'Saving the West', which you can sign up for on their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/SavingtheWest/>.

5. UPCOMING PRE-LAW STUDENT MEETINGS & PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

STEM Majors: Considering a Career in the Law?

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Location: Student Financial Services, Room 143, Garland Lobby

Date: Thursday, November 2, 2017

Time: 12:00-1:00pm

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Registration required: <https://booknow.appointment-plus.com/vkb5m10/10>

Financing Your Graduate Education Session

Location: Maryland 110

Date: Tuesday, November 28, 2017

Time: 12:00-1:00pm

Description: Kim Siwarski, AFC, Manager, Education and Pre-Law Services at AccessLex will discuss how to finance your law school, medical or other health professions school education.

Registration required: <https://booknow.appointment-plus.com/vkb5m10/10>

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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Ana L. Droscoski, J.D., Associate Director  
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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  
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Please visit our website <http://studentaffairs.jhu.edu/preprofadvising/> for additional information.

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