

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO LAW REVIEW

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Dear Members of the Class of 2016:

We invite you to apply to join the staff of *The University of Chicago Law Review*. This letter describes the *Law Review*, the staff selection process, and the responsibilities of staff members.

The *Law Review* is a student-run quarterly journal of legal scholarship. Roughly three-fourths of each volume (comprising four issues) consists of articles and book reviews submitted by law professors, judges, and practitioners. The other one-fourth consists of comments authored by the *Law Review*'s student members.

In addition to serving as a forum for legal scholarship, the *Law Review* is committed to providing its staff with rigorous training in legal research and writing. Staff members also learn a great deal of substantive law through their editing responsibilities and by writing comments.

Former members of the *Law Review* include prominent legal figures such as Judges Frank Easterbrook, Robert Bork, Douglas Ginsburg, Michael McConnell, Abner Mikva, David Tatel, and Danny Boggs; and Professors Anthony Casey, Marvin Chirelstein, Ashley Deeks, Daniel Fischel, Lawrence Friedman, Mary Ann Glendon, Todd Henderson, William Hubbard, Anup Malani, Edward Morrison, Randal Picker, Jacqueline Ross, Elizabeth Samuels, Geoffrey Stone, and Sonja West.

Staff Selection

There are three routes to membership on the *Law Review*. The first two take place over the summer between first and second year. During the summer, we will select approximately two-thirds of our members based on first-year grades and good-faith completion of the writing competition, and one-third based exclusively on performance in the Writing Competition. The Writing Competition will begin June 9, 2014, and conclude on June 22, 2014. The Competition consists of two parts: an editing portion and a writing portion. The editing portion is worth 40 percent and the writing portion is worth 60 percent of the Writing Competition score. Our selection process for "grade-ons" and "write-ons" is entirely blind; no *Law Review* member or editor knows how any other member was selected to join the journal. These staff members *must* return to the Law School on Saturday, August 23, 2014 to attend the *Law Review*'s summer orientation. In addition, staff members will receive several assignments in August, which must be completed prior to summer orientation.

The *Law Review* also admits new staff members during their second and third years through the Topic Access program. Students participating in this program are accepted to full membership upon completion of a publishable comment. Each Topic Access program participant is assigned to an editor who is available to review proposals and drafts. Additional details about this program are available on the *Law Review*'s website.

Staff Responsibilities

The three main responsibilities of staff members are editing the *Law Review*, writing a comment, and helping vet articles for publication. During their first year of membership, staff members should expect to spend an average of at least twenty hours per week working on the *Law Review*, with the workload for any particular week being quite variable.

Staff members actively contribute to the editorial functions of the *Law Review*. Each member must complete at least four citechecks. A citecheck entails five to ten days of intense work during which the staff member meticulously ensures the accuracy of each citation in a comment, article, or book review, and edits for style and technical errors. In addition, staff members are responsible for approximately three to four proofreads, the evaluation of approximately eight comments, several preemption checks, and other essential production tasks.

At the same time, staff members work on their comments with the goal of publication; completion of a comment is a requirement of journal membership and satisfies the SRP graduation requirement. Members work under the guidance of a Comment Editor, who provides feedback at several stages. Members also consult with a Faculty Advisor with expertise in their selected topic area.

Students who gain membership through the Topic Access program must complete the same editorial duties described above.

Why All the Work Is Worth It

Law Review membership is a rewarding experience. Membership provides a chance to solve problems in the law and to contribute to legal scholarship. It is a fantastic opportunity to work with one's classmates toward a common objective: publication of a renowned journal. Working on the *Law Review* is an unparalleled learning experience.

We hope you will consider applying. Please contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

The Volume 82 Managing Board:

Alex A. Parkinson, *Editor-in-Chief*
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