

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO LAW REVIEW

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Dear Members of the Class of 2019:

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

The *Law Review* is a student-run quarterly journal of legal scholarship. We publish articles and book reviews submitted by law professors, judges, and practitioners, as well as Comments written 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 valuable training in legal research and writing. Staff members also learn a great deal of substantive law by writing Comments and editing other authors' scholarship.

Former members of the *Law Review* include prominent legal figures such as Judges Danny Boggs, Robert Bork, Frank Easterbrook, Douglas Ginsburg, Michael McConnell, Abner Mikva, Lee Rosenthal, and David Tatel; as well as 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, Sonja West, and Stephen Yelderman.

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. Eligibility to grade on to the *Law Review* is conditional on performance in the Writing Competition. The threshold performance for grading on is defined as scoring in the top sixty submissions or the top 60 percent of submissions, whichever is more generous. Additionally, we will evaluate the first seven submissions below this threshold using a more holistic, standard-based approach. Selection of the final one-third of our members will be based exclusively on performance in the Writing Competition. Sign-ups for the Competition will be open from May 3, 2017, to May 24, 2017. The Competition itself will begin on Monday, June 5, 2017, and conclude on Sunday, June 18, 2017. 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 total 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. New staff members *must* be in Chicago the evening of Friday, August 11, 2017, and all day Saturday, August 12, 2017, to attend the *Law Review's* 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 as members of the *Law Review* if they complete a publishable Comment. Topic Access program participants are assigned to an editor who guides them through the Comment-writing process. Students who gain membership through the Topic

Access program must complete the same editorial duties described below. Additional details about this program are available on the *Law Review's* website.

Staff Responsibilities

Staff members have three main responsibilities: editing the *Law Review*, helping vet articles for publication, and writing a Comment. Editorial assignments are known as cite checks, and entail five to ten days of work meticulously ensuring the accuracy of each citation in a Comment, Article, or Book Review and editing for style and technical errors. Staff members also help evaluate the novelty and impact a particular Comment or Article might have, and contribute to other essential production tasks.

In addition, completion of a Comment is a requirement of journal membership. During their first year of membership, staff members write Comments with the goal of publication. A Comment Editor and a Faculty Advisor with expertise in the relevant topic area provide feedback and guidance throughout the Comment-writing process. Comments are eligible to satisfy the SRP graduation requirement.

Law Review membership is a two-year commitment for all members, regardless of whether they choose to join the Managing Board. New staff members will receive their first *Law Review* assignments in July 2017. During their first year of membership, each member will complete his or her Comment and at least five cite checks. Staff members should expect to spend an average of twenty hours per week working on the *Law Review* during their first year of membership, but please note that the workload for any particular week is quite variable. Staff members who do not join the Managing Board will continue to help edit the *Law Review* during their second year of membership, though their workload will be reduced relative to their first year.

Why All the Work Is Worth It

Law Review members have a unique chance to solve problems in the law, contribute to legal scholarship, and develop legal research, writing, and reasoning skills. Additionally, journal work is eligible for three pass/fail credits through the Law School. Most importantly, it is a fantastic opportunity to work with classmates toward a common objective: publication of a renowned journal. The *Law Review* is a team, and its members form meaningful connections with one another that outlast their time on the journal. We hope you will consider applying. Feel free to reach out to any member of the Managing Board with any questions about the *Law Review*, membership, or staff selection.

Sincerely,

The Volume 85 Managing Board:

Patrick Ward, *Editor-in-Chief*
Carly Gibbs, *Executive Articles Editor*
Grace Bridwell, *Managing Editor*
Patrick Fuster, *Managing Editor*
Sofie Brooks, *Articles Editor*
Robert Golan-Vilella, *Articles Editor*
Nicole Heise, *Articles Editor*
Eian Katz, *Articles Editor*
Lael Weinberger, *Articles Editor*
Brett Wierenga, *Articles Editor*
Thomas Garvey, *Online Articles Editor*
Kathryn Running, *Online Articles Editor*
John McAdams, *Online Development Editor*

Kyle Jorstad, *Executive Editor*
Joel Wacks, *Executive Topics & Comments Editor*
Brenton Cooper, *Managing Editor*
John Tienken, *Managing Online Editor*
Linnet Davis-Stermitz, *Comments Editor*
Roisin Duffy-Gideon, *Comments Editor*
Allison Hugi, *Comments Editor*
Eric Maier, *Comments Editor*
Mila Rusafova, *Comments Editor*
Bianca Chamusco, *Topic Access & Recruitment Editor*
Matthew Deates, *Topic Access & Recruitment Editor*
Anagha Sundararajan, *Book Review & Symposium Editor*
Mark Burnside, *Business & Communications Editor*