April 2007

April 2007 Docket

Georgia State University College of Law

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Everybody Loves...The Docket!

The votes are in...
Everyone is glad The Docket is back!

Me again! I promised you that there would be more to come.

This edition is jam packed with information about your fellow classmates and their graduation plans, interviews with faculty and staff members and we even designed a new puzzle for you to figure out. It was suggested that we have a Sudoku puzzle, but, since it is almost exam time, we hardly need an addictive game to take away our focus. Maybe in the Fall. But, there is a catchy law humor song for you to hum along to as you prepare for studying.

Inside you will have the opportunity to meet Professor Lombardo, Valencia Lewis and the outgoing leaders of Law Review, Moot Court, SBA and STLA. Also included is the Law Week schedule and an all-inclusive guide to the student organizations available at the COL.

Well, I want you to turn the page, so, I'm ending with this: Congratulations to the graduates;
Good luck on exams;
Good luck on your litigation trials and enjoy the summer!
The Docket will return in September. Thank you for welcoming the paper back with open arms! And thank you to the talented staff of The Docket for making it such a success.

Suzanne Lee-Jackson
Editor-in-Chief

Honors Day Lunch:
In honor of Student Achievements
As part of the Law Week festivities, all College of Law students are invited to attend the Honors Day Luncheon on Wednesday, April 4, from 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., in the Student Center's House and Senate Salon. The Honors Day Luncheon is the one opportunity each year for the entire College of Law community to assemble and honor our students for their achievements.

Georgia State University College of Law ranked #11. The list is derived from votes cast by legal recruiting professionals (including law firm recruiting managers, law firm hiring partners and corporate counsel) throughout the United States. Recruiters were asked to name law schools that, based on their experience as hiring managers, are underrated. Recruiters were also asked to provide comments about underrated schools. Said one respondent about our great school, "The student body includes a high percentage of individuals who were accomplished in another career before attending law school. As a result, they are highly valuable as associates." More proof of what we already know!

A Brief Encounter
COL students are encouraged to attend A Brief Encounter, the reception and recruitment program for all admitted prospective Fall 2007 law students and their families. These prospective students will have an opportunity to meet members of the administration, faculty, staff, students and alumni, and encounter GSU Law. A Brief Encounter is tentatively scheduled for April 10, 2007, from 5:30-8:30pm in the Urban Life Building. To assist or participate in this effort, email M'Renald Tuck at lawrec@langate.gsu.edu or call him at 404 651 4163, with your commitment, or if this is in conflict with any events currently on your calendar.

Not only Law Week, but...
Time to celebrate Law Day!
The first day of May of each year is designated as Law Day, U.S.A. It is set aside as a special day of celebration by the American people in appreciation of their liberties and the reaffirmation of their loyalty to the United States of America; of their rededication to the ideals of equality and justice under law in their relations with each other as well as with other nations; and for the cultivation of that respect for law that is so vital to the democratic way of life. (36 U.S.C.A. § 113)

Learn more at http://www.lawday.org.
Stressed Out???

Rent a Boat - With the temperature creeping into the 80s it's almost time to bring out the swimsuits. Check out Park Marina at Lake Allatoona where you can rent a 21' Pontoon Boat for about $25 per person (plus the price of fuel, assuming a full boat load of 12 people) for 8 hours. Visit http://www.parkmarina.com/rentaboat-allatoona-rates.htm for more information.

Ride a Bike - The Silver Comet Trail is a converted-rail trail with about 60 miles of trail extending from Smyrna to the Georgia-Alabama state line. The trail has a tree-lined, 2-lane paved trail from Smyrna out to Rockmart, Georgia. You can start at mile 0, just off I-285 at Atlanta Road in Smyrna, or go to the Depot at mile 4 where you can rent bikes and rollerblades. As the temperature gets hotter the shady trail offers a nice respite from the heat. Visit http://www.trailexpress.com/silvercomet/ for maps and directions to trailheads.

Go for a Run - Cochran Shoals on Interstate Parkway in Marietta is just a few short minutes from downtown Atlanta but a great escape from the city landscape. This recreation area on the Chattahoochee River has a great 5K loop that is relatively flat and mostly shady. The running loop stays pretty busy so it is also a safe place to run. The trail is dog-friendly but don't let Fido drink the water. Overburdened sewers have contributed to the pollution of the river, so while it's pretty to look at, it's not clean. Visit http://www.nps.gov/cha/planyourse/loops.htm for maps and more information.

WhirlyBall - And now for something completely different... WhirlyBall is as fun as its name sounds. It is considered a cross between bumper cars, basketball and lacrosse. You drive around in bumper cars while trying to scoop up a ball and the goal is to get the ball into the net at the other end of the court. This is a team sport so bring at least 9 of your friends with you. Check out http://www.whirlyballatlanta.com/for locations and more information.
Guide to Student Organizations

American Constitution Society
To promote the exchange of ideas and the creation and development of new scholarship.

Asian American Law Students
To foster an environment where Asian American law students can flourish and achieve their full potential.

Association of Women Law Students (AWLS)
To promote the study of international law and legal topics that affect the careers of business and law students.

Black Law Students Association (BSLA)
To foster a broad understanding of business issues facing attorneys today and to provide a forum for students to work together to build their legal careers.

Business & Law Society (BI&LS)
To provide an organization for students with a legal interest in various Moot Court competitions.

Christian Legal Society
To promote the study of international law and legal topics that affect the careers of business and law students.

Child Advocacy Society
To provide a forum for law students to explore the field of environmental law; a network of students and professionals to support professional growth.

Civil Society
To provide a forum for law students to explore the field of international law and legal topics that affect the careers of business and law students.

Environmental Law Society
To promote the study of international law and legal topics that affect the careers of business and law students.

Federalist Society
To protect the freedom of speech and to preserve the separation of powers.

Hispanic Student Bar Association
To provide an environment conducive to the continued advancement of Hispanic law students.

Immigration Law Society (ILS)
To further the interest of immigration issues, volunteer with the Atlanta legal community, and seek to increase interest in the practice of Immigration law.

International and Comparative Law Society
To promote the study of international law and legal topics that affect the careers of business and law students.

Ipswich constitutional law students.
To provide a forum for students to work together to build their legal careers.

International and Comparative Law Society
To promote the study of international law and legal topics that affect the careers of business and law students.

Jewish Law Student Association
To provide an organization for students with a legal interest in various Moot Court competitions.

Law Review Board Announces Publication Selections
The Law Review Board announced that the following notes and comments were selected for publication for the 2007-2008 year:

An Unhealthy Nation: Why Lobbying Restrictions for Voluntary Health Care Organizations Don't Make Sense
By Catherine Hammer

The Problem and the Solution: Using the Internet to Resolve Internet Copyright Disputes
By Ted Solley

Lying to Catch the Bad Guy: The Eleventh Circuit's Likely Adoption of the Clear Error Standard of Review for a Denial of a Franks Hearing
By Brittany Soutlernd

School Choice: Constitutionality and Possibility in Georgia
By Patrick Ouzts

Roaming Off-Road Without a Map: The Supreme Court Rides with BLM in Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance and Steers NEPA towards Dangerous Territory
By Cylinda Parga

The Constitutionality of Georgia's Sex Offender Residency Statute
By Melisa Sandvold

Does the Power to Tax Compensation for Nephysical Personal Injuries Really Involve the Power to Destroy?: Murphy v. IRS and the Constitutionality of Section 10464(f)
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Analyzing the Whistleblower Protection Act: At-Will Employment and the Future Fate of Georgia Whistleblowers
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It's Their Body of Law: Let Them Do What They Want: The Supreme Court's Likelihood of Ruling that State and Local Laws Should Determine CERCLA Liability for Successor Corporations
By John Sugg

Alternate 1: As Hurricanes End, Legal Storms Begin: The Insurance Battle Under State Vested Policy Law
By Christopher Conway

Alternate 2: The One-Year Limit on Removal: An Ace Up the Sleeve of the Uncrampus Litigant?
By Katie Ford

Alternate 3: Societal, Legal and Scientific Issues Surrounding Victim Recantation in Child Sexual Abuse Cases
By Cylinda Parga

Congratulations!

SHLA
Co-Presidents: Ennese Brawley & Sean Desaintes
VP: Jonathan Lee Morris
Treasurer: Eric Gamby
Events Coordinator: Heather Leigh Carter

BLSA
National First Runner Up Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial Competition
By Aaron Kappler

Law Review
The Award for 2006-2007 Best Student Note or Comment
By Ted Solley

Oglethorpe Society
President: Eric Rogers
Executive VP: Patrick Kunes
Vice President: Matt Swape
If you attended last month’s lecture “Racially Tailored Medicine: Troubled History, Current Controversy”, you had an opportunity to see Professor Paul Lombardo in action. You learned that he recently joined the GSU faculty, that he’s published extensively on topics in health law, medico-legal history, and bioethics, and that he’s currently working on his next book “The One Sure Cure: Eugenics, the Supreme Court and Buck v. Bell.” What you didn’t learn is that Professor Lombardo recently won The Daily Show’s annual “Late Night Competitor” contest, a filmwriting competition that is, for many people, a “bad” habit in law school that you would do all over again: To go to fewer classes. A Professor’s annoying habit that you hated as a student that you now find yourself doing on occasion: Telling too many personal stories. Favorite Professor in law school: Walter J. Wadlington, Health Law Professor. What did you want to be when you were growing up: Marine Biologist. Name of law schools that you were not admitted to: Only applied to one (UVA) and got in. What to look forward to: Professor Lombardo’s classes on Bioethics and the Law, Genetics and the Law, Mental Health Law, and the Legal Regulation of Human Research. 15th memorial Holocaust Museum traveling exhibit, Deadly Medicine: Creating the Master Race in America, starting April 30th (Lombardo was a contributor and consultant for this exhibit); and Naqoontiko (aka The Golden Door), winner of six awards at the Venice Film Festival, the story explores the impact of eugenics screening on early 20th Century immigrants at Ellis Island (Lombardo was a consultant for this film).
The Face Behind the Emails... Valencia Lewis

By Suzanne Lee-Jackson

You know the name, you’ve received the emails; let’s get to know the person! Valencia Lewis is the Business Affairs Coordinator of the College of Law. In addition to making sure we have lockers to keep our 100 pounds of books in, she is also the “go-to” person for every single event on campus. I still can’t imagine how she keeps track of everything. I also can’t imagine what her “Outbox” looks like! It is no surprise that Valencia’s favorite superhero is Wonder Woman—what I think of when I consider all she keeps track of for the students at the College of Law. Enjoy!

Name: Valencia Lewis

Birthplace: Lexington, Mississippi

Hometown: Lexington, Mississippi

Position at the law school: Business Affairs Coordinator

Major responsibilities: Oversees Student Organization Budgets and Online Room Reservation Scheduling

Favorite thing about working with law students: Meeting and getting to know all the new students and keeping a relationship with them when they graduate. I have two very close friends that I met since I have been working here.

Why Georgia State University College of Law? I can echo what Tricia Rackliffe said in her interview, if you hang around it all worth coming to work everyday.

Favorite sport: Not a sport person

Favorite vacation spot: St. Simon Island

What did you want to be when you were growing up: Elementary School Teacher

Favorite book: The Left Behind Series (Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins)

Favorite author: Richard Lyle, Gerald Levert and Alicia Keys

Favorite movie: The Color Purple, Pretty Woman (Richard Gere fan) and any movie with Vin Diesel.

Favorite TV show: The Cosby Show and Walker Texas Ranger

Favorite musical group: No particular group.

Favorite Restaurant: C'est Bon Cajun Restaurant

Favorite watering hole: I frequent Manuel’s Tavern a lot.

Favorite musical group: No particular group.

Favorite Legal T.V. show: Boston Legal and The Practice

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Favorite Legal T.V. show: The Cosby Show and Walker Texas Ranger
By Sherrie Brady

How many teenagers spend ten years in prison for having consensual oral sex with their classmate?

A wild New Year’s Eve two years ago has landed Genarlow Wilson in prison for 10 years on charges of child molestation. The outrageous injustice made state legislators rework the strict law that put him behind bars. However, the law was not applied retroactively. Wilson sits in prison despite being a good son, a good athlete and a high good school student with a 3.2 grade point average, because he had consensual oral sex with a classmate.

New Year’s eve Wilson and a group of friends had the kind of bash no parent would want their teenager to attend. Crime scene investigators searching the room of a Days Inn in the small town of Douglasville, Ga., found evidence of drinking, as well as condoms and wrappers littered all over. Plus, there was a video camera that contained, among other things, various sexual acts that happened at the party.

In one portion of the tape Wilson was having intercourse with a seventeen-year-old girl who appeared to be either intoxicated or sleepy, but never talks about it. Other portions of the tape show a second girl, who was fifteen, and later said she did not drink that night. She was recorded having oral sex with several boys in secession, including seventeen-year-old Wilson.

On the day Wilson was supposed to sit for the SAT, he was arrested and his life changed forever. He was charged with inappropriate acts of sexual conduct. A jury acquitted him (after less than an hour deliberation) of rape charges pertaining to the seventeen-year-old girl. However, he was convicted of Aggravated Child Molestation for a voluntary act of oral sex with the fifteen-year-old.

Along with the label “child molester” which will require him to register as a sexual offender for the rest of his life, Wilson received a sentence of eleven years—a mandatory 10 years in prison and 1 year on probation.

As a result, on July 1st, 2006, the new Romeo and Juliet law went into effect in Georgia for any other teen that engages in consensual sexual acts. Now, no teen prosecuted for consensual oral sex could receive more than a 12 months sentence or be required to register as a sex offender. Had this law been in effect when Wilson was arrested, he would not now be in jail.

While Wilson and his mother are overjoyed that no one else in Georgia will have to know their pain, the legal fight continues for Genarlow Wilson, who has been incarcerated since February 25, 2005.

What Can You Do? Visit www.wilsonappeal.com/index.php to:

- Sign the online petition demanding Wilson’s freedom and that he not have to register as a sexual offender.
- Donate to the Wilson Defense Fund- Monies collected will go to legal expenses and when released, an education fund for him.
- Email and Write the Legislators.

For additional information, contact Genarlow’s attorney: The Bernstein Firm, P.C., Attn: BJ Bernstein, Esq.
621 North Avenue, Building E, Atlanta, Georgia 30308
Phone: 404-522-1200, Fax: 404-810-9092

By Nichole DeVries

How many pro bono hours have you enjoyed lately? Taking the time to volunteer is not for the faint of heart this time of year with finals and summer sun right around the corner. Check out a few of the following opportunities that will help you contribute to the community:

State Bar of Georgia Docent
The Docent Program at the State Bar of Georgia seeks to incite enthusiasm for the law in students of all ages. The day starts with an introduction to Woodrow Wilson and his life, includes a law lesson, and a mock trial. By the end of the day docents walk the short distance back to the law school with confidence that future lawyers were inspired.

Contact: Sharon@gabar.org

Southern Center for Human Rights
SCHR is a non-profit, public interest law firm dedicated to enforcing the civil and human rights of people in the criminal justice system in the South. Volunteers are always needed for the Fairness for Prisoners’ Families Program, hotline advocates, and office support.

Visit www.schr.org for more information.

Taking the Time

By Nichole DeVries

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The Campaign for College Affordability

By Nichole DeVries

On January 17, the House of Representatives took an important first step toward softening the blow of student debt by overwhelmingly passing a bill that cuts interest rates for subsidized Stafford student loans in half. It’s now the Senate’s turn to promote opportunity for all by making college more affordable!

In addition to supporting the active legislation to cut subsidized Stafford loan interest rates in half, other plans to increase access to higher education include:

1. Increasing need-based grant aid by raising the maximum Pell Grant award to $5100.
2. Making student loans more affordable by lowering interest rates, limiting the percentage of income students spend repaying loans, expanding loan forgiveness programs for critical public service careers and reinstituting the refinancing of existing loans.
3. Cutting waste in the student loan programs by passing the Student Aid Reward Act to give money to students and parents, not banks.

On January 11, 2007, The Campaign for College Affordability held a press conference and lobbied Congress at the Capitol in D.C., while people across the country called on their representatives to make college affordable. They hope to keep up the momentum until everyone has the opportunity to receive a quality higher education without accruing a crushing debt load.

Some great legislation has already been introduced. To get involved with this national coalition seeking to make college more affordable, or for more information visit: http://collegeaffordabilitynow.org.

Westlaw

Sign up for April Westlaw Certification Classes Now!

Wednesday, April 4th
PREPARE TO PRACTICE-USING WESTLAW EFFICIENTLY IN THE REAL WORLD
Noon: Room 100
3pm: Room 230
Pizza and Soda will be served.

Wednesday, April 11th
PREPARE TO PRACTICE-JUDICIAL AND GOVERNMENT CLERKS
Noon, 4pm and 5pm
6th floor Training Lab

Wednesday, April 18th
LAST CHANCE PREPARE TO PRACTICE- USING WESTLAW EFFICIENTLY IN THE REAL WORLD
Noon, 4pm and 5pm
6th floor Training Lab

To register, email Sue Moore at: sue.moore@thomson.com or sign up on lawschool.westlaw.com and click on "Check out the Westlaw Training Calendar" link.
BETSY BULAT TURNER

Betsy Bulat was awarded the Best Student Note or Comment in Volume 23 of the GSU Law Review (2007). Betsy still has time to be a Graduate Research Assistant with Professor Marjorie Ginth and Adjunct Professor Greg Jones. In addition, she has been an active member of the Law School community, serving as Treasurer in 2006-2007. An avid runner and travel companion, Greg and Betsy have taken trips to France and Greece—just to name a few. In the future, Tracy is hoping to return to her part-time job in the legal community, while still being able to travel and experience the world. To learn more about Betsy’s journey, read her full profile on the next page.

DOUGLAS OHLSON

Douglas Ohlson served as the Treasurer for the Business & Law Society in 2005. Douglas says law school has been 3 of the best years of his life and if he could put a time out for it, he might not have left.

We all know Douglas Ohlson as a major networker and the de facto social chair of the law school, but there is a lot more to the man behind the charmer. Fluent in the Persian dialect of Farsi, Doug has been volunteering for the International Rescue Committee translating for and working with refugees from Iran for the past two years and has accumulated over 300 hours work. On top of all this, Doug has established with Judge Thelma Wyatt Cummings Moore at the Fulton County Superior Court, and was a GRA for undergraduate Professor Palmer, all while working for an immigration firm doing asylum work.

Doug hopes to continue working in immigration in a small firm or for the government after graduation.

ANTHONY YONNONE

Tony Yonnone is proof that sleep is seriously overrated! In addition to taking classes to satisfy a dualdegree (and still finishing with his class) he has been involved with the SBA since his first year and currently serves as the Vice-President.

“I never expected that law school would be a stepping stone to the pinnacle of my life. I mean, at least that’s what they say. From that distant place in time where getting out of the-Nong Water Park in the heart of the Phöng Nong horizon, I saw the law as integral to everything, and no matter what after dreams I had formed or was forming for my future, law was [not just as a regular of Egypt I wanted to understand the law-it felt that it was my obligation. But as a natural person, with the need for knowledge, I was drawn to the touch of the law.”

Serving on the SBA Board fits into the long-range plan, too (just wish that I could do it again next year!) It’s been a great experience, allowed me to do some good work for the school (though not nearly as many as I would have liked), and give me a chance to exercise my leadership skills. I love people and law has provided me with endless opportunities to hone my leadership skills (I left active duty as a Lieutenant about two weeks before school started back in 2005), and the problems my board squad and I solved for Uncle Sam have no doubt in my mind that a smart, motivated team of people can do just about anything, but there’s always more to learn (a LOT more) and I’m grateful to the rest of the SBA board, the student body, and the faculty (especially Debra Soler) for being my patient teachers.

In addition to the JD here at State, I’m working on an MCRP over at Tech. This dual degree program is one my favorite things about Trinity...not only will I get you the right foundation in both the law and regional planning (which are both vital), but I get to study in the very city I want to help ‘redevelop.’

If all goes well, over these next 1-4 years I’ll graduate with two new degrees in May 2008 and have a great job in the world of real estate (development), all while keeping my eye on the prize. From there, the world is my oyster (as they say) and I’ll be able to continue to work in the area of development.

ANNA NICHOLS

Alana is a proof that 11s do not have to bury their heads in the books for an entire year. Alana spearheaded PreLaw Day in recognition of Minority Recruitment Week. With almost 100 students in attendance, the event was truly a success.

“Growing up in rural Mississippi, becoming an attorney was one of those seemingly unattainable dreams. Just the thought of escaping the confines of dirt roads and the truth that many of my childhood friends would be left behind never even crossed my mind. I just kept me busy. However, I did it. I left home at 17 and enrolled in the Mississippi School for Math and Science and haven’t looked back since, except during my bouts of homesickness! The most rewarding of my endeavors was establishing PreLaw Day—solidifying the part of the day was thinking that I had helped someone else. One of the most enjoyable things I gained from this event was also the ability to work closely with some wonderful people in the Office of Admissions, who made the event a stunning success. The experience has had thus far been one of my greatest achievements yet. One of the things that I found most important is that law is truly only too short to talk with miniscule things. I love the way my mind works and I know it sounds, as long as I am able to do that, then I’m content.” Alana attended Louisiana State University where she earned a degree in Marketing. She has dedicated over 350 hours to community service, and intends to continue to do so throughout her legal career.
The revolutionary new way to prepare for the Multistate Bar Exam.

www.AdaptiBar.com
Enroll online and receive a $50 discount or call us toll-free at: 1.877.466.1230