

Letter from the Editor

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

At the end of every Volume of the *DePaul Law Review*, the Editor in Chief has the privilege to reflect on the past year's accomplishments. I am proud to continue this tradition and honored to have had the opportunity to work with the Editors and Staff Members of Volume 63 of the *DePaul Law Review*. The Editorial Board of this Volume is far and away the most intelligent, hard-working, and kind group of people I have ever had the pleasure to work with. Simply put, the future of the legal profession is that much brighter because of people like those who contributed their time and energy to Volume 63. The past year was full of hard work and long hours, but it was nonetheless a fun and rewarding year which culminated in a strong Volume.

The *Law Review* derives much of its strength from the contributions of alumni who continue to hold the journal in high regard. Chief among these supporters is Mr. Robert Clifford. Every year Mr. Clifford partners with the journal to host the Clifford Symposium on Tort Law and Social Policy, one of the country's leading symposia and a major contribution to legal scholarship. The Twentieth Annual Clifford Symposium, *Judge Jack Weinstein's Impact on Civil Justice in America*, reflected on Judge Weinstein's influence on topics including torts, civil procedure, the law of evidence, and what it means to seek justice in the American court system. We are proud to have contributed to the ever-expanding scholarship on civil justice, and we cannot overstate our debt of gratitude owed to Mr. Clifford, as well as to Professor Stephan Landsman, who was instrumental in organizing the Symposium.

The journal also hosted the Twenty-Fourth Annual DePaul Law Review Symposium, *Building the Solution: Connecting the Pieces of Mental Health Law to Improve Mental Health Services*. Organized by Volume 63's Symposium Editor, Jenna Moran, the Symposium brought together leading judges, academics, attorneys, and mental health practitioners to shed light on the current state of mental health law. The Symposium stimulated discussion on the interaction of mental health issues and the criminal justice system, involuntary commitment, confidentiality laws, and integrated health services. Jenna's Symposium was a resounding success—truly one of the proudest moments of the year for the Editors of Volume 63.

Another highlight was the Ninth Annual DePaul Law Review Alumni Reception, organized by our Business Manager, Kyle Molitor. An opportunity for the journal to thank its alumni, this event is always well-attended and enjoyed by the federal and state judges, attorneys, and other legal professionals who rose from the ranks of the *DePaul Law Review*. Each year, the *Law Review* honors a distinguished alumnus who represents the values of the journal and a commitment to excellence in the legal profession. This year we were proud to honor Mr. Robert Hermes with the Sapientia Award in recognition of his accomplishments in the field of reinsurance litigation. A long-time partner at Butler, Rubin, Saltarelli & Boyd, Mr. Hermes is a model for any student or young attorney aspiring to have success as a true courtroom litigator, and we are proud to call him one of our own.

As for the content of Volume 63, we are proud to have worked with leading scholars from around the country and our own student-authors to publish articles covering a wide array of topics including intellectual property, alternative litigation finance, corporate law, immigration law, family law, and many others. None of these articles would be appearing in Volume 63 if not for the unwavering dedication of the Editorial Board.

Kyle Simcox, Executive Editor of Volume 63, was the backbone of this journal for the past year. Occupying in my opinion the most demanding position on the Editorial Board, Kyle was an authority on the Bluebook and was always available to explain its intricate rules to confused Editors and Staffers. An expert at his craft, Kyle was quick to criticize the inconsistencies within the rules of the Bluebook, often by way of direct complaint via the “Contact Us” link on the Bluebook’s website. Kyle made the *Law Review* office his home, and was typically the last to leave at the end of the night. Without his hard work and sense of humor, the completion of Volume 63 would not have been possible.

Matt Novaria, Managing Editor of Lead Articles of Volume 63, had the unenviable tasks of sorting through hundreds of article submissions, selecting lead articles, and coordinating with authors, Editors, and Staffers. As the point man for all of the journal’s communications with its lead authors, one might describe Matt as the “face” of the *DePaul Law Review*. Matt succeeded in selecting articles that challenge scholars and practitioners alike to re-examine legal topics including intellectual property, corporate law, and immigration law, among other areas. A frequent recipient of “urgent” emails from me,

Matt was always professional and happy to contribute in whatever way he could. The journal owes Matt a significant debt of gratitude.

Jonathon Reinisch, Managing Editor of Notes and Comments of Volume 63, was the lead editor on student-written articles, the organizer of the Inter-Journal Write-On Competition, and, perhaps most importantly, the lead mentor for the *Law Review* Staffers as they struggled to complete the writing program. With his guidance, the Staffers were able to write many interesting and timely articles covering a wide array of legal topics, some of which will appear in Volume 64. Jonathon was what one might describe as a “heavy” editor in our line meetings. Oftentimes, his line-meeting copy was a bloodbath of red-pen markings—many of our student authors feared the subsequent work necessary to get their article up to Jonathon’s standards. Every journal needs an editor that does not hesitate to eliminate bad writing, and Jonathon was our guy.

Jenna Moran, Symposium Editor of Volume 63, was single-handedly responsible for what I view as Volume 63’s proudest moment: the Twenty-Fourth Annual Law Review Symposium. Jenna developed the theme of the Symposium, booked the speakers, coordinated the arrangements, and was the host on the day of the event. One of the most well-attended symposia in years, a number of attendees personally told me that this was “the best symposium DePaul has ever hosted.” In addition to the long weeks of work she put in organizing the Symposium, she also served as a managing editor on Issue 4 and contributed to budgetary and other pressing needs that the journal encountered this year. Jenna was a meticulous editor and professional in all respects, facts made known to her fellow Editors by Jenna’s habit of reading her emails out loud to herself while typing.

Kyle Molitor, Business Manager of Volume 63, played a central role in the advancement of the *Law Review*. Almost immediately after assuming his financial duties, Kyle took on the role of “IT Manager” and coordinated with the law school’s administration to update the *Law Review* website. Expected to be up and running by the time next year’s Editors begin their work, the website will bring the journal up to speed with the rest of the country’s esteemed legal journals. Kyle was also instrumental in seeing that Volume 63 stayed significantly under budget for the first time in years. The journal—and the school’s treasurer—owes Kyle a big thank you.

The *Law Review* is also deeply indebted to the Associate Editors of Volume 63, whose tremendous efforts and editorial input were indispensable over the past year. Emily Steinberg brought a sunny disposition and her trademark laugh to school every day, which made the

Law Review office an even more pleasant place to be on a daily basis. Tasked with some of the longest and heavily cited articles in this Volume, she never missed a deadline. Only Courtney Mathews was given longer assignments (sorry Courtney), and Courtney went above and beyond her duties to complete them. Courtney was more than willing to work on weekends and sacrifice time with her family in order to complete her edits and assist Staffers as they worked on articles.

Sydney Hutt was an editor who took ownership of her assigned articles, and it showed during our line meetings. Voted the “editor you would most like to represent you in a murder defense case,” Sydney was not one to back down easily from her position on a given line-meeting argument. Fortunately, she is also objective and reasonable, and thus a truly great editor.

Emily Jenkinson was one our strongest editors simply because her writing is so good—one need only read her article published in Issue 3 to confirm. Emily was quick to point out bad writing and always ready with a suggestion for improvement. Tara Kennedy, another one of our published authors in Volume 63, had perhaps the busiest work-school-*Law Review* schedule of any of us, and somehow she managed to meet every deadline and was seemingly happy to do so. Some people perceive *Law Review* as group of arrogant know-it-all types; anyone who meets Tara is immediately disavowed of that misperception.

Perhaps no person spent more hours on the couch in the *Law Review* office than Kevin Wender. But make no mistake, Kevin toiled as diligently as anybody and it showed in his work. The articles Kevin worked on were favorites of Kyle Simcox and myself, simply because by the time Kevin had finished his frontline editing, there just wasn't much work left to do. Andrew Donovan was another favorite among both the Editors and the Staffers. To the Editorial Board, Andrew was a great editor and hilarious friend; to the Staffers, he was a kind mentor; to the Chicago Bulls, he was a cockeyed optimist.

Rounding out the Associate Editors is Mike Cannell. Anyone who follows the distribution of CALI Awards for Academic Excellence knows that when Mike is around, he is the smartest person in the room—but he is simultaneously one of the most humble, easy-going people I know. Considering Mike's work ethic and the way he commits to his responsibilities, I am shocked to have never seen him appear stressed. This group of Associate Editors made the office a place where we could edit, study, and most importantly, have fun. Every day at school was that much better, simply because I got to hang

around this particular group of law students. Thanks to all of you for making this year so much fun.

Lastly, there are two groups who deserve our gratitude before I conclude this letter. To the Editors of Volume 62, thank you for putting together such a cohesive and intelligent group. And to the Volume 63 Staffers, as much as you may not have believed it while you were cite checking, your value to the journal is immeasurable and you are appreciated by all of your Editors. Thank you for putting in the hard work. In sum, it has been an honor to play a role in continuing the *DePaul Law Review's* tradition of expanding the universe of legal scholarship. I can only hope the rest of my legal career is as challenging and rewarding as this past year has been.

*Daniel Connors**

* Editor in Chief, DePaul Law Review, Volume 63. I would like to thank Professor Alberto Coll for allowing me to assist in his research and to soak up some of his wisdom and kindness for the past two years. I would also like to thank Professor Max Helveston for his guidance throughout my tenure on this journal. Finally, thank you to Richard, Karen, Brian, Kevin, Martha, and Dolores for the never-ending support you gave me during my time in law school.

