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The Docket

Law School Newsletters

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2001

## The Docket (January 26, 2001)

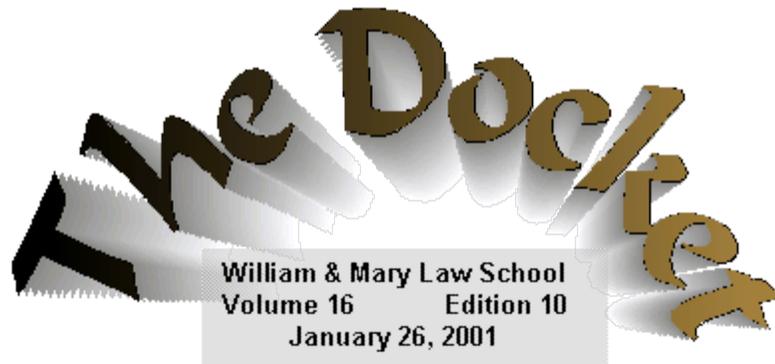
William & Mary Law School

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## NEWSWORTHY NEWS

It was with great sadness that we said good-bye to **Jeanne Gordon**, Faculty Support Center last Friday. We wish the Gordon family well on their relocation to Connecticut.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR



*law schools.*

Thinking about studying in Madrid this summer, but want to know more about it? **Professor John Levy** will *answer questions regarding William & Mary's summer law program in Madrid* on Friday, February 2, 11:30 am to noon, in room 239. Stop by and get the answers you need or bring your lunch and listen to everyone's questions. **Update:** *As of Wednesday, January 24, we have received 10 registrations from students from eight different*

The Admission Office has three *Friday Information Sessions* planned on January 26 and February 9 and 23 for prospective applicants. Please assist by welcoming and sharing information with visitors to the Law School.

*Essential Elements of Coastal Science for Lawyers:* (a workshop for students and professionals) will be held on *Friday February 23, 2001; 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m., at Waterman's Hall, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Gloucester Point, VA.* The workshop is designed to be a basic, non-mathematical introduction to key issues and processes in coastal science. Topics will include foundations in water chemistry and hydrology; nutrient management; water resource use; shoreline processes; environmental risk assessment; endangered species; wetlands function, ecology and restoration; and other introductory topics. The objective is to provide participants with insights and information to help them make better-informed decisions regarding coastal environments and resources. Free transportation will be provided from the William & Mary Law School. Refreshments, lunch and post-seminar reception will also be

provided to all participants. Contact the Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve at (804) 684-7144 or e-mail: [cbnerr@vims.edu](mailto:cbnerr@vims.edu) for further information or to register.

## RANKS

Ranks will be distributed by February 15th. A reminder that 1L students are not ranked until the end of their second semester of law school.

## MPRE

Applications are available on the handout shelves in the library. There are a growing number of states that require this exam. A complete list is found in the application booklet. Please check it as well as contacting specific bars to determine if you need to take the exam.

## BAR INFORMATION

Specific bar information for all states and Puerto Rico is on reserve in the library. Virginia (as do a number of other states) pro-rates the application fee. It is wise to check the requirements for any bar for which you might sit well in advance of making application. Virginia bar character forms are available on the handout shelves in the library. 3Ls planning to sit for the Virginia Bar, should block [Wednesday, March 21, 3:30-4:30 p.m., room 120](#) on their calendars for a Virginia Bar information session regarding application and taking the exam. More information will be posted regarding this event sponsored by OCPP and the Administration.

## STUDENT FINANCIAL AID



*Attention all 1Ls and 2Ls:* Information was placed in your hanging files on December 7, 2000 regarding financial aid for the 2001-2002 academic year. If you did not receive this information, additional copies are available from Faye Shealy (Office #105). The FAFSA is required for educational loans and need-based financial aid. A representative from the William & Mary Office of Student Financial Aid will be available to meet with law students regarding proper filing of the FAFSA, lender terms, loan application procedures, etc. Please contact the Financial Aid Office by calling 221-2426 if you wish to schedule an appointment.

## NOTE TO STUDENTS REVIEWING EXAMS

Exams should be reviewed in the Faculty Support Center (FSC) or in surrounding areas. Exams **cannot** be taken out of the building, nor should they be copied. If you

have any questions about the review process, please speak to Della or Felicia in the FSC.

## **FROM LEGAL SKILLS**

### **~~~ LEGAL SKILLS II ~~~**

First-year students are continuing their library labs and turning in secondary research memoranda to their partners. They are being introduced to the Bluebook, and will begin primary research labs next week. Any contracts students who still need a copy of their client's contract can pick it up in the Legal Skills Office.

### **~~~ LEGAL SKILLS IV ~~~**

Second-year students have been doing an excellent job as advocates in their bench trials, and our local practitioner judges have been impressed. We are halfway through the bench trial docket, with the last trials scheduled for February 2nd. Students who have no appealable issues or prosecutors who lost their case should come to the Legal Skills office for a replacement case as soon as possible.

Students have been successfully using technology in all of their bench trials, some students are even making use of witness testimony by videoconference. Many thanks to all of our technology clerk volunteers and the Courtroom 21 staff for their training and support throughout the trials.

The hard work of our second-year advocates and witnesses is not going unnoticed by those outside of the William & Mary Law School community; our trials have been observed by a U.S. Bankruptcy Court Judge and Clerk of Court, the undergraduate mock trial team prior to their scrimmage, and an 8th grade class in Rocky Mount, Virginia via video conference.

For the first time, bench trials are being recorded on audio CDs as well as videotapes. Both CDs and videotapes can be checked out from the Legal Skills office.

## **FROM OCPP**

*World Wide Websites of the Week:* SUMMER HOUSING INFORMATION - Information on summer sublets is available from several sites:

- 4 <http://www.nalp.org>
- 4 <http://www.subletswap.com/>
- 4 <http://www.summerexchange.com/>
- 4 <http://www.jdpost.com/>
- 4 <http://www.college.rent.net/>
- 4 [www.law.nyu.edu/residentallife/summer.html](http://www.law.nyu.edu/residentallife/summer.html) (for New York University's information - also see the file in the Application File Cabinet in OCPP - "Summer Housing in NYC.")
- 4 [www.georgetown.law.edu](http://www.georgetown.law.edu) (See "Summer Housing in DC" file in Application File Cabinet for information about housing at Georgetown Law's Residence Hall)

~~~ UPCOMING PROGRAMS ~~~

? *Lunch with Lawyers: Labor & Employment*, Monday, February 5, 12:30 p.m. Employer's Lounge (Space is Limited; please sign up in OCPP.)

? *Lunch with Lawyers: Public Interest Law*, Wednesday, February 7, 12:30 p.m. Employer's Lounge (Space is Limited; please sign up in OCPP.)

**1L & 2L Public Interest Summer Opportunity** - The National Association for Public Interest Law (NAPIL) offers two summer fellowship programs for students interested in working for public interest employers: 1) National Summer Legal Corps (NSLC) - an AmeriCorps program - offers loan repayment assistance to 100 law students who spend their summers providing direct services to low-income individuals. Participants select a nonprofit organization located anywhere in the U.S. 2) NAPIL/VISTA Summer Legal Corps places 60 law students in service alongside full-time AmeriCorps/VISTA members and other public Service advocates nationwide. This program offers loan repayment assistance and a monthly living stipend. Project locations have been pre-selected. Details about both of these programs are available in the NAPIL National Summer Legal Corps/NAPIL-VISTA Summer Legal Corps binder in OCPP shelved with the Public Interest materials. Applications forms are available in the Application File Cabinet. Applications will be received until the positions are full. Please see Dean Kaplan or Dean Thrasher if you have any questions about these programs.

**When An Employer Requests a Transcript**, you may provide the employer with a copy of your most recent **Grade Report**. The Grade Report serves as an unofficial transcript, which is acceptable to the vast majority of employers. You may want to plan ahead and make several copies of your most recent Grade Report. Official transcripts need only be provided when an employer specifies "official" transcript. Until grade reports are

issued, you may type a list of your courses, grades, and GPA, with your name at the top, on paper that matches your resume.

*THE NALP APARTMENT EXCHANGE - Find or lease a sublet for the summer on-line* - The NALP Apartment Exchange (at [www.nalp.org](http://www.nalp.org) AFTER January 15<sup>th</sup>) is an on-line service where you may list your own apartment or look for an apartment in the city of your summer job. The *Exchange* will be available until May 1.

*Be A Witness in the Regional Trial Team Competition* - The Young Lawyers Conference of the Virginia State Bar seeks witnesses for the Regional Trial Team Competition to be held *February 8, 9 and 10* in Richmond. Trials will be held Thursday, February 8, 4:30 - 8:00 p.m.; Friday, February 9, 4:00-7:00 p.m. and 6:30-10:00 p.m.; and Saturday, February 10, 8:00-11:30 a.m., 12:30-4:00 p.m. and 4:00-8:00 p.m. There will be free food and an opportunity to mingle with attorneys from the Richmond Bar. If you are interested, please contact *Betsy Skora at (804) 788-0624* or via e-mail at [mes@spottsfain.com](mailto:mes@spottsfain.com)

#### ~~~~ CLERKSHIP CORNER ~~~~

*2Ls Interested in Judicial Clerkships with the U.S. District Court (E.D. Virginia, Norfolk) for Fall 2002* - SEE THE ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE COURT in the Post-Graduate Judicial Posting Binder (only one application is necessary for several of the judges in Norfolk and Newport News). Also, as noted in the materials in the Judicial Clerkship binder, *the Court's absolute application deadline is Friday, February 2 at 5:00 p.m.*

*2Ls and 3Ls - State Clerkships in New Jersey* - As of December 2000, there were nearly 370 judicial clerkships available for the 2001- 2002 (3Ls) term and over 400 for the 2002-2003 (2Ls) term. Application procedures are available in the Post-Graduate Judicial Clerkship Binder in OCPP.

*3Ls - The Administrative Law Judges of the U. S. Department of Labor in Newport News* has an opening for an Attorney Advisor/Law Clerk to commence in August of 2001. See the notice in the Post-Graduate Judicial Clerkship Binder.

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*The Robert M. Cover Public Interest Law Retreat* will be held *March 2-4 in Peterborough, NH*. This year's conference, entitled "Merging Missions: Exploring the Realities of Progressive Collaboration," will celebrate public interest law as an "all-encompassing practice of separate disciplines." The conference is intended to give law students, legal practitioners and academics a chance to share their experiences, aspirations and philosophies with others. The conference will include a variety of speeches, panel discussions and workshops to present a number of various interacting fields of public interest law. Additional information is in the Application File Cabinet under "Cover Public Interest Law Retreat" or you may e-mail the conference planning

committee at [coverconf@hotmail.edu](mailto:coverconf@hotmail.edu). Registration materials are *due by February 23, 2001*.

*Rebellious Lawyering Conference* - Yale Law School is hosting The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Rebellious Lawyering Conference on *February 16-18*. The conference brings together legal practitioners, advocates, activists, scholars, and law students from around the country and the world to discuss innovative strategies for achieving social change. For additional information and to register visit: [www.reblaw.org](http://www.reblaw.org) or see the information in the Application File Cabinet in OCPP.

*US Department of Justice Summer Volunteer Program for 1Ls and 2Ls* - The US DOJ each year hires volunteer legal interns to assist in various offices. Detailed information regarding the program is available in the DOJ Legal Activities Booklet, '*Do Your Legal Career Justice: Opportunities for Entry-Level Attorneys and Law Students.*' Extra copies of the booklet are available in OCPP on the bookshelf with the Judicial Clerkship materials. Links to all DOJ divisions are available at <http://www.usdoj.gov> Also see the US DOJ 'Volunteer Summer Legal Intern Positions' Booklet in the Application File Cabinet.

*Platinum Plunger Rejection Letter Contest* - OCPP announces the 15th Annual Platinum Plunger Rejection Letter Contest. Submit your most outrageous, humorous, revolting letters to Carolyn Chambers, Dean Kaplan or Dean Thrasher. Awards ceremony to be held in April.

*Law School Funding for Summer Government and Public Interest Jobs* - Application materials for the seven Law School-funded summer stipends are available in the OCPP Applications Drawer under William and Mary Summer Public Interest/Government Fellowship and William and Mary Public Service Fund. *Application deadline for funding is 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 27.*

*Updated Resource: 2001 Legal Times Directory of Greater D.C. Law Offices* includes basic information on over 1200 law firms in DC and the surrounding Maryland and Virginia suburbs. Firms are indexed by practice area and location. Shelved with the directories (red and blue dots) in OCPP.

*Writing Competition Update* - Throughout the academic year we receive announcements regarding essay competitions and invitations to submit papers for publication in law reviews and journals. This information is posted on the bulletin boards around the corner from OCPP. In addition to the intellectual and often economic benefits of these contests, the competitions are another way for you to demonstrate your legal writing abilities to employers. Because they are often sponsored by bar associations and other professional groups, they also provide excellent networking opportunities. Keep in mind that faculty members are a good source of ideas and guidance if you.

We have recently received a notice regarding the following upcoming competition:

... *Inter-American Bar Association* announces its Best Paper Student Awards for papers on one of three pre-set topics. Topics are posted outside OCPP. *Deadline to submit paper is March 31, 2001.*

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THE DOCKET is a biweekly publication of the William & Mary Law School produced during the academic year. All submissions (in Microsoft Word or WordPerfect) are due to Cassi Fritzius, (room 108) or by e-mail (cbfrit@wm.edu) no later than 5:00 p.m. the Wednesday prior to the Friday publication date.

**2001 publication schedule**

January 12, 26, February 9, 23; March 9, 23; April 6, 20

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