



VIRGINIA LAW WEEKLY

2017, 2018, & 2019 ABA Law Student Division Best Newspaper Award-Winner

A Look Heedful Advice for Outgoing 1Ls.....3
Inside: Exiled...in Texas?.....4
Law Weekly 3Ls Say Farewell.....5

The Law Weekly presents the final edition of Volume 72. See you in August!

Wednesday, 15 April 2020

The Newspaper of the University of Virginia School of Law Since 1948

Volume 72, Number 24

SBA Update: Current and New Initiatives

Katharine Janes '21
SBA President

Hi all,

It has been quite the month to be a student at UVA Law. When this piece is published, it will have been exactly four weeks since classes went from in-person to online. Since that time, we started taking courses on entirely new platforms; rallied as a student body in support of grading policy changes, against academic policy injustice, and in favor of contract worker wellbeing; and we've found new and creative ways to remain engaged with one another. I have been so proud to be a part of the community we occupy and, as SBA President, I am working tirelessly to ensure student voices are heard as decisions are made throughout this time. I wanted to take this chance to outline how SBA has been—and will continue to be—advocating on your behalf.

The transition to online learning has brought to light many structural problems of concern to students, and SBA has heard student feedback loud and clear. In response, SBA plans to undertake a thorough review of the policies and procedures that impact students at UVA Law.

In line with recent conversations with students and SBA, and following the recent charge by Dean Goluboff in the *Law Weekly* to “[gather] student views to make recommendations to the curriculum and academic review committees,” we plan to form an ad hoc committee that will investigate three key areas of governance at the Law School: academic policies, transparency in decision making, and student representation within the shared governance structure. This working group—comprised of both SBA and non-SBA members—will serve as a conduit for student feedback on these focus areas, and it will work with stakeholders throughout the school to propose effective solutions to the problems that have been brought to light. It will complete this mission with an eye towards increasing transparency, fostering better communication between students and the administration, advocating for marginalized and underrepresented students, and increasing the power of the student voice in

SBA UPDATE page 3

Love in the Time of Corona: Celebrating 3Ls (Safely)



Pictured: The Strong, Beautiful Men discussing the possibility of finding a t-shirt large enough to use as a communal sleeping bag while still maintaining social distancing guidelines. Photo Courtesy of Ben Stietevan '22.

Ben Stietevan '22
Events Editor

As both society and the Law School adapt to the new realities and challenges that coronavirus brings, many aspects of life that once seemed a given are in flux. From online classes and grocery shopping to grabbing a drink with friends and hitting the gym, activities as we know them are changing before our eyes due to quarantining and social distancing. So too are love and modern romance. In this serious and anxious time, the staff at the *Law Weekly* thought it would be intriguing, pleasantly distracting, and (dare we say it) heartwarming to hear how couples and singles alike are handling romance in light of all these changes. You've heard of Love in the Time of Cholera, but get ready for Love in the Time of Corona.

This week's guests are a gaggle of 3Ls, reflecting on their #love for each other and this place.

Hey y'all! Thanks for coming on Love in the Time of Corona. Let's get some basics: Who are you and how do you know each other?

The Landing Crew: Nellie Black, Manal Cheema, and Eleanor Schmalzl. We were all section-mates and live together now. Since we're in quarantine together (but also because we absolutely adore each other), we decided to answer these questions as a

group. While some members of the Landing Crew cannot be with us (shout-out to Jordin Dickerson!), they are with us in spirit.

Anna and Kareem: Anna Noone and Kareem Ramadan. We met at a party (yeah, we partied) when Anna was a sophomore in high school, and Kareem was a junior. Eight years later, we reconnected when we were living and working and committed to coming to UVA Law. We ended up in the same section, sitting next to each other in pretty much every class. We started dating in October of 1L.

The Strong, Beautiful Men: We are the Strong, Beautiful Men—Ben Cabranes, Scott Caravello, Sam Connor, Zach Gaver, Jeremy Gordon, Taz Jones, Kevin Leitao, Michael McQueeney, Read Mills, and David Wang. We met in an online chatroom. We then consolidated into two houses, united by Taz's occasionally irritating social enthusiasm, but pushed apart by Zach's poorly behaved Husky. [Zach disagrees and insists that Fletcher is a nice boy.]

Some deep 1L roots here! Any favorite memories from your 1L section?

TLC: When our LRW professor announced the best memo award, our section-mate Jake Sendar '20 proceeded to ask, “Mine was second though, right?” It was super awkward. Also, every time he was late and

multiple professors passive-aggressively (or very directly) called him out. And when Jake was late to our Civ Pro mid-term. And our Civ Pro final. Really, any time Jake Sendar was late.

A&K: The very first week of class 1L, one of our professors just failed to show up for class. They barely acknowledged it next time we saw them, just saying “that was weird, hope that doesn't happen again.” Our section stayed in the room for at least twenty-five minutes before we gave up. It was really unexpected and funny!

TSBM: Not from 1L sections, but learning that Ben does not understand iPhone keyboard shortcuts. Also, storming the Corner after the Wahos swept the NCAA Tourney in 2019.

Let's pivot for a second to address the elephant in the room. What do you consider to be the biggest disruption that coronavirus has caused for the Class of 2020?

TLC: The cancellation of everything. In-person classes, everything we were looking forward to, the bar exam, saying goodbye to people who we won't see for a long time.

A&K: Probably postponing the bar. Other than that, not getting to see our friends again and say bye to them, especially the ones practicing in different jurisdictions

CORONA LOVE page 2

around north grounds

Thumbs up to possibly the wildest school-year of the century coming to a close at UVA Law.

Thumbs sideways to over a month of quarantine. While ANG was sad at first to not see ANG's friends and family, ANG then remembered that ANG has no friends or family anyway and finally doesn't have to pretend anymore.

Thumbs up to the *Law Weekly* for putting out five (5) hilarious, possibly award-winning, editions even after the world ended.

Thumbs sideways to “UVA Cares.” While a nice gesture from the Law School Administration, ANG would prefer to see administrators put their law degrees to use and advocate for UVA to pay its contract employees.

Thumbs up to all the virtual interns who'll work as hard as ANG this summer.

Thumbs sideways to the UVA Talent Show Facebook group. While ANG appreciates seeing students' talents, ANG does not appreciate being banned from the group for commenting, “I could do that too, I just don't want to” on every video.

Thumbs up to Libel for still putting out videos during this Corona Craze™. ANG certainly didn't ask for them, but ANG's definitely bored enough to watch them.

Thumbs down to the Office of Student Records for not telling ANG that third-year practice certificates were due on Tuesday. ANG knows that public service students won't be the primary alumni donors, but still!

Thumbs sideways to spring. Is ANG coughing because of ANG's allergies, or does ANG have COVID-19?

CORONA LOVE

continued from page 1

than us. We also wanted to go to beach week!

TSBM: Since Bilt and Virg have closed down, no one can go back to get their phones, wallets, or keys.

Have you found any creative ways to deal with these disruptions?

TLC: We all uniformly hate Zoom, so we use it sparingly. We have been working out more to pass the time and get outside, and have been watching lots of Netflix and eating group dinners. We try to stay in touch with people outside the apartment by texting and calling, but it's weirdly hard to do these days. Maybe it's too much screen time.

A&K: We won't get to take grad pictures with our friends...other than that, we have done Zoom happy hours

and game nights to keep up with everyone. For people still in town, we have found that going on walks with folks is a responsible way to see each other but stay six feet apart.

TSBM: Well, over on Huntwood Lane, Scott is blasting the heat and audibly doing hot yoga in the living room while Read and Jeremy are in their Zoom class. At JPA, Zach's Husky, Fletcher, is slowly adjusting to life with Taz's Husky, Levon, but Michael has moved out for fear of getting caught up in a dogfight. Sam has been hiding out on the beach for weeks now, and David won't stop throttling the fog machine(s). So no, Law Weekly, we haven't "found creative ways to deal with the disruptions." But we have learned to coexist without burning our houses down.

Walking: America's newest and favorite pas-

time. Let's go back down memory lane and do a lightning round. Favorite class/professor?

TLC: Criminal Law with Professor Bonnie.

A&K: We are both Gilbert fans; between us, we have taken a total of six Gilbert classes.

TSBM: Local Business Dynamics and Emerging Craft Brew Technologies, taught by Professor Sheri at Durty Nelly's.

Favorite experience/involvement at the Law School?

TLC: Our ScoCo monitoring. We had our table of authority. You all know what we're talking about.

A&K: We were on an inner tube water polo team with a bunch of our friends—shout-out Trent, Laura, Vik, Carter, Henry, Caroline, Ryan, Jordan, Maureen, Megan, and Amanda! We had varying success (the UVA swim team had a terrifying team), but always had a great time.

TSBM: Monthly excursions to Fellini's for our favorite local band, Chickenhead. Additionally, being the liveliest folks in the building for WWE Live at JPJ [which *Law Weekly* rightfully noted in a previous ANG column on Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2018, Vol. 71, No. 7].

What will you miss most about your time at UVA Law?

TLC: Our friends, all the good food, hiking trails, Bilt, the snack room, Mandy, the

Civil Procedure lunch crew, and just the beauty of this place. It's a one-of-a-kind city.

A&K: This is the last time we will all be students, so we will miss seeing all of our friends every day. Also, all the food (see: Bang, Thai Fresh, etc.). Also, free polo at King Family Vineyards! As a horse girl, that never got old for Anna.

TSBM: First, our fog machines, and second, our service to the VJIL Editorial Board.

Funniest story?

TLC: Sydney Mark '20 twerking at every softball game, and screaming at the other team for not playing enough Pitbull. And our section team beating the mercenary team in the fall NGLS playoffs. We can take anybody on a good day.

A&K: We were total Gunners 'n Roses groupies—we will both miss seeing them at our favorite local bars. Mostly when they sang ABBA.

TSBM: That one time we got on base in softball!

Nicely done! We have one question from our readership directly for the Strong, Beautiful Men: Is it true that at night all ten of you climb into one giant t-shirt and use it as a sleeping bag?

TSBM: No comment.

I guess we'll never know, UVA Law. Let's end on some sap. What has UVA Law meant to you and is there anything

you'd like to say to the Law School community at large?

TLC: *sobs uncontrollably* HAGS!

A&K: It will always hold a special place with us, and we can't wait to come back and enjoy all the places we expected to go this spring. See you guys on the flip side.

TSBM: [UVA Law has meant] learning how to work as a team, like when we all split fried chicken buckets at Wayside; figuring out how to make Scott really angry, as we've come to master; watching Michael grow from a boy into a man; and long and romantic Lime rides together in the warm summer breeze.

And that's a wrap, folks. Many thanks to the Landing Crew, Anna and Kareem, and the Strong, Beautiful Men for helping to spread the love on Love in the Time of Corona! Congratulations to the Class of 2020 on their graduation—we love you, we will miss you, and we are so thankful for everything you brought to this community. This column may be ending with the school year, but be sure to make like The Black Eyed Peas and keep asking yourself "Where is the Love?" during these troubled times. Stay safe, buckle down to round up those Ds on your finals, and cross your fingers that this column doesn't need to continue this fall. @bes4cf@virginia.edu.

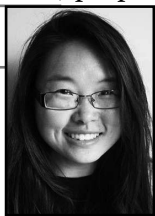


Anna Noone '20 and Kareem Ramadan '20 smoldering their way to their respective legal careers. Photo Courtesy of Kareem Ramadan '20.

Grace's Tangy Recipes for Surviving Quarantine

There is a saying going around the Internet that after quarantine is over, people

Grace Tang '21
Lifestyle Editor



will emerge as either master chefs or alcoholics. I'm not sure about either of those statements, but I have been doing a ton of baking and cooking to chase away the boredom and restlessness of staying indoors. Over the course of two weeks, I have created more new dishes than I have in the past year.

Through my journey of making daily meals, I've discovered some fool-proof, delicious, and easy recipes that are perfect to make during quarantine. Hopefully, these recipes will inspire some new adventures in the kitchen!

Brunch Pizza

Brunch and good pizza are two of my favorite things, so this recipe is a match made in heaven. I'm a sucker for an over-easy or poached egg, so I had to incorporate them into my pizza. This recipe was inspired by the fresh basil plant I got at Harris Teeter. The brunch pizza is super flexible. I made mine in an Italian margherita style, but feel free to get creative and add on bacon, ham, spinach, onion, or other toppings!

Ingredients: Store bought thin-pizza dough or large soft tortilla, tomato sauce, shredded mozzarella cheese, eggs,

salt, pepper, pepper flakes (optional), fresh basil (optional).

(1) Preheat the oven to 400F, then prepare the tomato sauce by adding in salt (if necessary), pepper, pepper flakes for a kick (optional) and stir thoroughly.

(2) Spread the tomato sauce on the pizza dough of your choice and top with any optional toppings.

(3) Cover pizza with liberal amounts of mozzarella cheese. Note, the cheese must be mozzarella or else the flavor will be too strong.

(4) Make a small hole in the pile of toppings with a spoon, then crack a raw egg on top and season with lots of black pepper.

(5) Bake the pizza for 8-12 minutes in the oven, depending on how large the pizza is and what kind of crust was used.

(6) If fresh basil is being utilized, add the washed basil leaves on top of the pizza 1 minute before removing them from the oven.

(7) Serve pizza hot with thinly sliced fresh avocado if available.

Simple Bread (Toast or Dinner Rolls)

Before the COVID-19 quarantine, I had never made bread before. It always seemed like a difficult task best reserved for the bakery. However, I had plenty of time (and flour) on my hands so I decided to give it a try. To my surprise, the whole process was super easy!

Since then, I have become an advocate for home-made bread. All-purpose flour or self-rising flour both work for the recipe. The KEY to fancy looking, shiny smooth bread is all in the egg wash. Before baking, make sure to glaze the tops of the buns with egg yolk and your finished product will be hella Instagrammable. Additionally, grilled cheese with homemade toast is incredible (I recommend gruyère and swiss).

Ingredients: Flour (4 cups), warm water or milk (2.5 cups), yeast, pinch of salt, and sugar (1/2 cup optional), egg yolk (for washing). I recommend water for salty bread and milk for sweet bread-making:

(1) Take 1/2 cup of warm water or milk and warm in the microwave for 30 seconds until the liquid becomes lukewarm to the touch.

(2) Add in 2 teaspoons of yeast and stir into the warm water or milk.

(3) Heat the rest of the water or milk until it is lukewarm to the touch.

(4) Combine the flour, salt, optional sugar for sweet bread, and all the liquids.

(5) Knead the mixture for 5-7 minutes, adding in small amounts of flour if necessary, until the dough is no longer sticky and forms a smooth ball.

(6) If there is difficulty in kneading, leave the dough to sit for 15 minutes and knead again.

(7) Let the dough sit for at least 2 hours. Once the dough

has reached double its size, take the dough out and knead again to remove the air bubbles.

(8) Split the dough into smaller rounds for dinner rolls or shape into a football shape for making toast.

(9) Let the dough rise a second time, until it roughly doubles in shape.

(10) Finally, wash the tops of the dough with pure egg yolk and bake at 375F until the bread becomes golden brown.

Four Ingredient Vietnamese Fresh Rolls with Two Ingredient Peanut Sauce

Fresh rolls are so delicious and healthy. They are a kind of spring roll made from rice paper found in any grocery store in the Asian aisle. Feel free to get creative and use them for any kind of ingredient, like rotisserie chicken, stir fry, various veggies, etc. The classic recipe includes garden mix (carrots, lettuce, etc.), shrimp, and vermicelli noodles. The key to all of this deliciousness lies in the sauce. I personally prefer a classic peanut sauce, but sriracha mayo and fish sauce also work well with this recipe.

Ingredients: Rice paper wrappers (medium or large), raw peeled shrimp (roughly two per roll), vermicelli noodles, spring salad mix. For two ingredient peanut sauce: Hoisin Sauce, Peanut Butter (smooth or crunchy), and water.

(1) Boil the raw shrimp in hot water until it is just cooked, (do not overcook the shrimp), then transfer shrimp into cold water to stop the cooking.

(2) Remove the tail on the shrimp, then cut each shrimp down the middle through the length of the shrimp. Thinner pieces of shrimp make the roll easier to roll. But feel free to use whole shrimp.

(3) In the hot water used to cook the shrimp, add in 200-300g of vermicelli noodles (thin rice noodles) and boil for 3-5 minutes until cooked. Stir in a small amount of vegetable oil into the cooked noodles if you are not assembling right away to avoid noodles sticking.

(4) To assemble: On a large plate, soak each rice paper for 20 seconds in warm water until it is softened. The rice paper will be sticky, so keep the rice paper flat.

(5) Add in 4 shrimp to each roll, vermicelli noodles, and a handful of raw garden mix. Fold the ends of the rice paper in on either side and roll the entire spring roll up like a burrito. The rice paper is sticky and will seal off easily.

(6) **Peanut Sauce:** On low heat, stir in equal amounts of peanut butter and hoisin sauce. Add in a few tablespoons of water to thin out the sauce and serve with the fresh rolls.

gt5ay@virginia.edu

SBA UPDATE

continued from page 1

decision-making. A comprehensive report will be produced by the end of the summer, to be presented to Deans Goluboff and Kendrick for review and implementation. This project will be seeking student leadership and participation, and more details about the initiative and how to be involved will be coming to your inboxes soon, so please keep an eye out!

SBA committees have also been hard at work to keep students connected with one another during our time apart. SBA Health and Wellness (H&W), led by Page Garbee '21 and Chance McGraw '21, recently initiated the Unsung Hero award to draw attention to acts of compassion and thoughtfulness completed by UVA Law students, faculty, and staff. Our first winners—Will Kelly '21, Jana Ruthberg '21, and Cat Guerrier '21—are wonderful models of what UVA collegiality means in practice. H&W's Care Package Swap and Quarantine Buddy programs have been wonderful community-building additions, and personally, I have loved their weekly recipe suggestions.

SBA Programming (headed by Taz Jones '20 and Read Mills '20) recently unveiled the Lawhoos Eat Local initiative, which aims to support local businesses across the country while giving away eighty free meals a week to students. Finally, Program-

ming's Card and Letter Writing Campaign aims to send love to the contract staff members of the UVA Law family. I have seen firsthand how difficult it is to coordinate and launch events and activities from afar, so to these committees and all members of SBA, thank you for your time, effort, and service over these past few weeks.

As a final, more personal note, I would just like to thank all UVA Law students for your outreach and involvement over these past four weeks. I, like you, have oscillated between feelings of connectivity and isolation, joy and distress, while we have been apart. These circumstances are not easy for anyone to navigate, but through it all, we have rallied around the mission of keeping students' best interest at heart. If you want to be a part of our structural reform efforts, our programming initiatives, or have ideas you would like to see implemented—please email, text, or call me. I love talking through ideas of how SBA can best serve students, and I look forward to working with you. I hope to see you in-person soon, but until then, I will be sending positive vibes to wherever you may be.

All the best,
Katharine

kmj4vg@virginia.edu

Sage Advice for Outgoing 1Ls

Our semester is ending with silence, as we consume Netflix and wait to die of loneliness. Therefore, like Tho-

Drew Calamaro '21
Satire Editor



reau writing Walden alone in the woods, or Montaigne, alone in his tower writing his Essais, or an administrator writing an email telling a student they have twenty-four hours to appeal a decision, I have taken it upon myself to write to you my unfiltered¹ and unchecked² ideas of how to live in a post-COVID-19 world. This advice column is my closing gift of wisdom to you, 1Ls, as you go out into the world³ toward the end of this semester and beyond.⁴

If you aren't on a journal, you are a failure, and you always will be.

Did you know that journals are run by the most impressive, prestigious, and

- 1 Pre-edits.
- 2 *Id.*
- 3 Grocery stores.

4 But I couldn't help but wonder, was this my gift of wisdom to the reader or was it the reader gifting me with the opportunity to selflessly provide them with this knowledge?

learned students of this school and that you'll never ever measure up to them if you aren't on a journal? Sure, most successful people in the world weren't on a journal, and sure, it doesn't actually provide you with foundational skills necessary to life, happiness, and a successful career, and sure, law schools are full of insecure people that judge anyone who does anything different and most of them will amount to a statistical blip on the ninety-five year generational scales, but you are still a total failure for not being on a journal. Just remember with shame.

Pass/fail is going to ruin your chances of getting that clerkship.

Not the economic damage from the virus, not the personal toll the virus is going to take on everyone in the country including yourself. No, what will ruin you is pass/fail, which means you won't be able to get above a 3.6 this semester, which means that you won't be able to get that clerkship with the one federal judge who can feed you to the Supreme Court which I can only assume passes you on to Nirvana. You need to work for that elderly person swaddled in robes from the Lord of the Rings set, or else all of your planning is for naught. Abandon hope now.

Lawyers do NOT hold the power to help real people experiencing real harms that they think law-

yers can help them with.⁵

Yes, lawyers have the power to make the law, to affect companies, institutions, and nations.⁶ Yes, law is made and not found, and will eventually be made by any law student, past or present. Yes, it is the job of the school to ensure that you employ this power with integrity and responsibility.⁷ However, even though you know you have the power to help people and to do the right thing, you should never, EVER use that power. If you must use it because, say, someone under your chain-of-command messed up what is objectively a no-brainer decision and you have to reverse it, wait until that decision is made public and make sure you allow the ensuing uproar to occur for a full day at least before reversing that decision. And if anyone questions you on Zoom as to why you didn't use that power sooner or even asks you what color the sky is, just hide behind a privacy act.

You are better than the way certain administrations have acted.

I don't have any snarky

5 Citation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oNHRfftnfCk> at 2:50.

6 *Id.*

7 *Id.*

ADVICE page 8

Practicing Social Distancing and Adverse Possession

In these times of social distancing, staying away from other people while not going insane in your apartment

Stan Birch '22
News Editor



has become an artform. More and more I feel like Jack in The Shining. I'm living in a really nice place, but I feel like I've always been there. So then I had the same "great idea" to get away from my apartment that anyone who owns a tent has had: camping. I eagerly hopped online to see the restrictions on the East Coast's few National Parks, only to find that too many people thought of this option across the country. A select group of people have acted so poorly that they have ruined Parks access for all of us.

Then I had another "great idea:" Let's try and camp around the Law School. The Law Weekly touched base with the Dean of Students to see if I could make use of the part of my tuition that goes towards facilities access and upkeep. Unfortunately, setting up a tent would be "erecting a structure on [G] round[s]" that would be "prohibited without a special permit." I didn't think quick enough to reply that I would just hang a hammock, as many students do around Grounds, in Spies Garden.

Ah, the missed opportunities. Well, with the National Parks closed and Grounds being off-limits, I had to find my own space. I learned about adverse possession in Property, so I thought I would give Land Piracy a shot.^{1, 2}

Armed with my old backpacking rig, I sought to find a spot to relax and unwind in the wild. I grew up camping, and my backpack has always been packed to go... or so I thought. Turns out that my mother, still a Scoutmaster to this day, had "borrowed" a few things from my bag when I left it at home for a month before Law School. The "borrowed" items included my sleeping bag, larger sleeping mat, and camp pillow. Some people would have called it a day and gone back to bed, but I agreed to write an article for your entertainment, so I laid on the cold floor of my tent, wrapped in a picnic blanket from my car, and pushed through the night.

My thoughts included the following: "Why am I here? Will this even be that funny of an article? It won't. I should go home. That sounded like a deer. Why did it get cold the day after I agreed to do this? Ok,

1 For obvious reasons, this is all a fictionalization . . .

2 . . . or is it?

that was definitely a deer. At least I'm not listening to lectures at 1.5x speed." The night was mostly quiet, with a few sounds of civilization here and there. The biggest stir was the sound of a few deer trotting by, wondering what the hell this little gray and yellow dome was in the middle of their path. Besides some tossing and turning, it was a wonderful and peaceful night.

I woke up with a smile to start my day with the birds chirping as nature's alarm was getting me going early. I rolled over and checked my phone: 4 a.m. The birds decided I needed to get out of their space and were having none of me sticking around for a few more hours. Have you ever tried sleeping through thirty different alarms going off at different times, all to different tunes? It's not what I would call a restful sleep. I tossed and turned until I found an angle that blocked out most of the noise. An hour later, I woke up to my alarm and suspiciously little sound from the birds.³

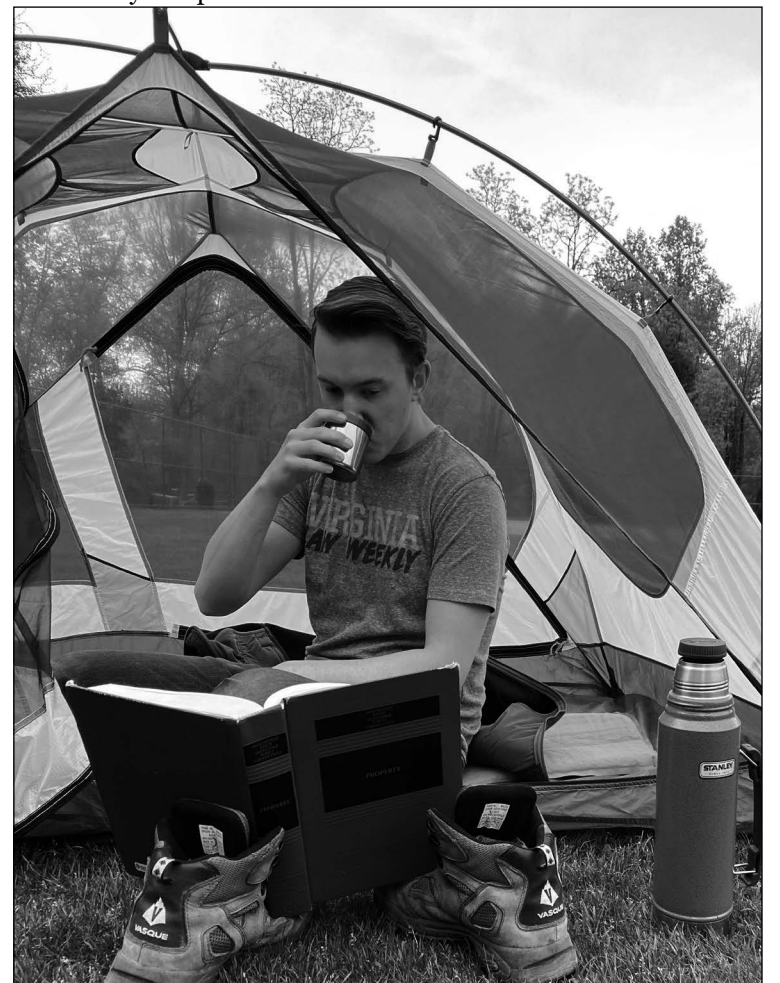
As I packed up my gear for the night, loaded up my car, and moved my tent somewhere a little more public to enjoy a cup of tea and some light reading, I was glad I had spent the night away from home. It might not have gone per-

3 Jerks.

fectly, but I know I'm going to ask my mom to mail my gear back to me for my birthday. Take time to plan your trip a little more than I did, and I guarantee you'll have a nice time getting out of your home while keeping distanced from others. If isolation continues past exams and you spot a tent out

in the wilds around Charlottesville, give a yell. It might just be me.

sfb9yu@virginia.edu



Pictured: Reviewing Property for my final and investigating the requirements of staking my new land claim. Photo Courtesy of Stan Birch '22.

Exiled – A UVA Law Student's Dispatch from Texas

After UVA Law banished its students from North Grounds,¹ students faced a

Arjun Ogale '21
Guest Writer



choice between remaining in Charlottesville and returning to their hometowns. The students who chose the first option have received considerable media attention from the *Law Weekly*,² but those who left—"the exiled"—have been largely forgotten. This dispatch attempts to remedy that.

While some students returned directly to their hometowns from spring break trips to exotic corona-free locations in Europe, others packed up their belongings in Charlottesville and began their journey home. My personal trip home involved a seventeen-hour drive all the way to east Texas.

Here's a brief recap of how the car ride went:

Hour 1: Got my Bodo's with honey pecan cream cheese, a good podcast, and plenty of

1 See President Ryan's and Dean Goluboff's emails to students on March 11, 2020 ("[Be gone, students!]").

2 See, e.g., *Love in the Time of Corona* featuring Sam Pickett and Maria Luévano, *Law Weekly*, March 25, 2020.

snacks. This isn't so bad!

Hour 4: Deep sadness and uncertainty. How many people will get sick? When will we be able to come back to school? And what will happen to our beloved Scott Commons staff?³

Hour 12: Okay, wow, this drive is bad. But hey, at least I'm not going to Oklahoma.⁴

Hour 17: Back in the greatest country in the world—Texas!⁵

Despite all the changes over the past month, many things have stayed the same. For example, I still read the *Law Weekly* cover to cover every Wednesday.⁶ And Dean Du-

3 Huge shout out to the student body, SBA, and Professors Nachbar, Coughlin, Hellman, and Schwartzman for the recent fundraising effort for our Scoco family. <https://www.gofundme.com/f/support-for-the-scott-commons-community>.

4 See, e.g., *Tiger King*.

5 Similar to how Texas is the objectively best country in the world, Lone Star Lawyers is objectively the best student organization at UVA Law. _(-'-')_/

6 Lately, the lamestream *Law Weekly* and ANG seem to have taken a liking to misquoting leaked *Virginia Law Review* emails. Sad! The *Law Weekly* must be suffering from low ratings to be roasting such

gas continues to send emails with very important links embedded within PDF attachments. Plus, ça change, plus c'est la même chose.⁷

But this isn't to say that being away hasn't also changed many things. We can no longer listen to Professor Bamzai's protracted exchanges with Mr. Joseph in Administrative Law—how are we going to learn about the ins-and-outs of the German government now?! Nor can we witness Phil Tonseth '22 dominate his opponents on the softball fields game after game.

Being isolated and away from Charlottesville also removes the option of "Social Distancing with Friends." For example, many have been taking so-called "social distancing hikes" in small groups to popular local hiking trails, only to find that literally everyone is doing the same thing. In fact, a glance at social media these days might give you the impression that you can't catch coronavirus hiking Humpback Rock, playing beer pong on Copeley Field, or lounging on The Lawn with your friends. Somebody needs to tell Dr. Fauci that UVA Law students have found the cure! All jokes aside, I feel bad

"perfect" emails.

7 "The more things change, the more things stay the same."

for the 3Ls whose graduations and bar exams have been disrupted. The 3Ls just can't seem to catch a break lately. Take for example the recent "Congratulations UVA Law Class of 2020" Facebook group. The group was meant to be a surprise for the graduating class, and a way for 2Ls and 1Ls to express their gratitude for everything the 3Ls have done for them. Unfortunately, the 3Ls were added to the Facebook group a good five days ahead of schedule—well before most people were able to wish them. Alas, when it rains, it pours.

Being away from Charlottesville has some silver linings. Many of us are spending a lot of unexpected and precious time with family. And as law students, we are fortunate

that we can remain productive and engaged in our work despite our physical distance from our workplace, which isn't the case in many parts of the economy right now.

Yet, although the saying goes "everything is bigger in Texas," my desk in Texas is much smaller than my desk in my apartment in Charlottesville, and I can't wait to be back at the Law School with everyone. Time for me to take my horse to the old town road (kidding), lasso some cattle (also kidding), and pick up some local Mexican takeout (not kidding).

apo8xb@virginia.edu



Pictured: This local grazing pasture is usually teeming with cattle, but it turns out they are social distancing too. Photo Courtesy of Arjun Ogale '21.

Summer Jams to Keep Your Playlists Spicy

"Creature Comforts"-Trella

Even the wildest folks have a comfort zone. I have found this to be especially

Kolleen Gladden '21
Photographer



true of the largely risk-averse law school population. Trella proves she's human like the rest of us with this tribute to a beautifully uneasy love. Perhaps my favorite thing about this song is that it isn't describing a reckless romance that throws you into the deep end. Rather, Trella describes someone sneaking into the corners of her heart, something gently disarming her emotional barriers. It brings to mind a conversation I had with Eleanor Schmalzl '20 this year. I had remarked to her that I couldn't picture her with

anyone but her fiancé, Jansen VanderMeulen '19, a view shared by just about anyone who's met the pair. She replied, "I can't either anymore. Before I knew him, I had an idea of what I thought would be a good match for me. Then I met Jansen, who was completely different than what I'd had in mind—and he was perfect." Aside from being an absolutely gorgeous sentiment, I think there's an important underlying lesson here that extends even beyond relationships. It's key not to become so caught up in searching for what we think is good for us that we miss out on something better. I can't count the number of times I thought I knew what I wanted only to be blindsided by a greater option that I'd never considered. You never know what beauty might be waiting just past your "Creature Comforts."



Pictured: PRIZM is exactly who your parents warned you about. Photo Courtesy of @wearprizm on Instagram.

"All Night"- PRIZM

If you're looking for the synthy 80's retro-pop soundtrack of your dreams, look no further than PRIZM. A criminally underrated duo from Fort Worth, Texas, PRIZM makes the kind of lighthearted music that all of us could use more of right now. "All Night" is one such bop, reminiscent of the times when we could go outside and socialize with other human beings. It's just an upbeat song about staying out and dancing until sunrise. That's it. No frills. This is the kind of tune that makes reality just a little bit quieter. Their entire discography has that effect, actually. So go ahead, give them a listen and get some of that sweet, sweet serotonin.

"Bby"- Two Feet

Two Feet knows how to set a mood. This has never been more evident than

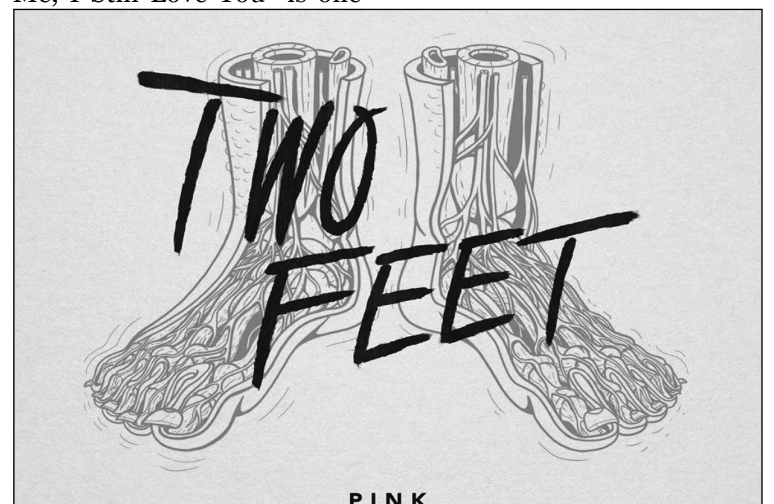
in his newly released album Pink. His smoky, cool-guy vocals paired with impressively evocative instrumentals come together to produce the kinds of sounds that will make anyone feel something. Sometimes, he forfeits his voice entirely, instead letting his hands do the talking. "Call Me, I Still Love You" is one-

minute long and features no vocals, but the tune tells you everything you need to know. The versatility of Pink ensures that every person who listens to it will pull something different from it depending on what they're going through. "Bby" is one of my personal favorites just for the intro. There are only four distinct lines in the entire song, and there's certainly no need for more. The passionate opening hook does all of the heavy lifting, and it just works. I sent "Bby" to a friend who responded with: "The guitar part makes me want to get undressed." To that I say, we're in social isolation, my friends. If you've worn pants at all in the last three weeks, it might be time to re-evaluate.

kegzar@virginia.edu



Pictured: Trella during an intense jam-sesh. Photo Courtesy of @TrellaTunes on Instagram.



Pictured: Use your two feet to walk to a computer to turn on and jam to Two Feet. Photo Courtesy of @TwoFeetMusic on Instagram.

A Farewell to the *Virginia Law Weekly's* 3Ls



Lena Welch '20

Outgoing Teen Romance Editor and New Media Editor Emeritus

What are you going to miss most about the Law School?

We all know I've already bragged about my friends in this publication, but I'll miss being surrounded by my friends the most. I'm getting a taste of the separation now, and it's pretty sad.

What's the funniest thing that happened to you?

I was the butt of a joke in a rejected Libel sketch. That's pretty funny. Or that Erin Seagars '20 and I convinced Molly Cain '20 to come to New Orleans with us. But it's hard to come up with something funny that's happened to me, since I am a comedian at heart. Thank you, thank you very much.

What's the most embarrassing thing you've done?

I embarrass myself more than most people, and I can't share the *most* embarrassing thing, but I pretty regularly embarrass myself in the *Law Weekly* office. Top hits include doing the dances from *High School Musical*, coming up with subheads for Tweedles, and just generally sharing all of my secrets.

Where are you headed after graduation?

Disability Rights North Carolina in Raleigh, N.C., to do special education work.

What's your walk-out song?

"I Wanna Dance With Somebody (Who Loves Me)"—~*~Whitney~*~.

What pokémon are you and why?

Snorlax. Likes to eat and sleep and has "lax" in his name.

What's your fondest memory in law school?

The 2018 PILA Live Auction. It was awesome to see that event come together after a lot of hard work. And I'll never forget the bidding war on my cookies (Thanks, Professor Shin)!

Fondest *Law Weekly* memory?

Staying late to goss with Boss, Tuna, and Superman. Alternatively, LLMs Attend T-Pain Concert.

What was the best meal you ate in Charlottesville?

Probably the first time I ate at Bang! with Dana Raphael '20. Pretty sure it brought tears to my eyes three times during the meal. But I also love to crush a shake from The Villa and a pretzel croissant from MarieBette.

How are you coping with your impending senility and death?

Good news is that I leaned into spinsterhood super hard my senior year of college, so I've been prepping for this for five years. I've got hobbies, and I've got a cat.

Words of advice for those left to mourn your absence?

Catch you on the flippity-flip.



David Ranzini '20

Dave

What are you going to miss most about the Law School?

Free Lexis points.

Where are you headed after graduation?

I have a ten-month professional Japanese-for-lawyers course lined up at the Inter-University Center in Yokohama, and then I'll be working in the



Eleanor Schmalzl '20

Dethroned Newspaper Tyrant

What are you going to miss most about the Law School?

Friday softball field-hopping. I played a lot of softball in my three years at UVA Law, but wish I could've played more.

What's your walk-out song?

"Temperature" by Sean Paul.



Anand Jani '20

New Editor, Who Dis?

What are you going to miss most about the Law School?

The custodian in the University of North Carolina sweatshirt, dude was a nice guy. Sorry that I never caught your name.

What's the funniest thing that happened to you?

Found friends along the way.



Taylor Elicegui '20

The Feature of Our Hearts

What are you going to miss most about the Law School?

Cliche but true: the people. I'll miss being so close to my friends and knowing exactly where to find them! There's nothing better than rolling through ScoCo, knowing I can always find some of my Section A ladies holding down their table (@Manal, Jordin, Eleanor, Nellie, etc.). I'll also miss learning and having my major commitments be reading!

What's the most embarrassing thing you've done?

I'll confine this to most embarrassing during law school, for the sake of my personal pride. During the 1L Softball Tournament, my team made it to the finals. It was a super close and intense game against Section C. I was playing catcher, the go-to position for those who lack any actual softball ability. I tried to make a play at home and broke the cardinal rule of softball by putting my glove in front of my face. Alas, I missed, but managed to stop the ball with my nose! One trip to the ER and ENT later, and my nose was actually not broken, thanks to my sunglasses that absorbed some of the impact. And that was the end of my UVA softball career.

Where are you headed after graduation?

New York, New York.

What's your fondest memory in law school?

Definitely Libel! I enjoyed Libel both years, but last year was the best. I loved so many of the skits and I got to be Lauren of Career Services alongside my best friend and mentor, Darcy Whelan. Lauren and Kevin got to do some matchmaking as Career Services pivoted to also provide dating services. And we got to make some digs at Omaha! What's better than that?

Fondest *Law Weekly* memory?

Our end of year dinner in 2018. The whole crew went to Peter Chang's, and we were much smaller then, so we all piled in around one table and feasted, family-style. I really liked getting to learn why others cared about the *Law Weekly* so much and it inspired my own love for the paper. We do important work by creating a record of the goings-on around the Law School! I also really enjoyed writing COPAs and coming up with my landmark legal doctrine: 1Ls lose.

What was the best meal you ate in Charlottesville?

My personal favorite food item in Charlottesville is, by far, the parmesan garlic fries with a side of Forty Mile Cheese from Three Notch'd.



corporate department at Morrison Foerster in Tokyo.

Is cereal a soup?

Though the physical properties of cold breakfast cereal most closely resemble those of soups or gruels, Euro-American culture conventionally excludes it syntactically from "lunch" or "dinner," making the "soup" descriptor inapt. In this essay I will...

What's your walk-out song?

Everyone who answered this with something try-hard first had to suppress the urge to say "Sandstorm." Let's be honest with ourselves—is it cheesy? Yes. Is it overplayed as a walk-out song? Also yes. And yet, when all is said and done—does it not slap to an extreme degree?

What's your fondest memory in law school?

Either *Law Weekly* meetings or making and eating after-study dinners with my brother Gregory (also my roommate 1L and 2L).

Fondest *Law Weekly* memory?

Late-night bull sessions while laying out the InDesign for the weekly editions.

What was the best meal you ate in Charlottesville?

Almost certainly the enchiladas at Continental Divide, with plenty of habanero sauce and a cold beer.

How are you coping with your impending senility and death?

Denial will never stop working!

Words of advice for those left to mourn your absence?

Take a pro bono clinic. Everything I really learned about being a lawyer I learned at LAJC.

It is perfect for every occasion always.

What's your fondest memory in law school?

Every year, NGSL members will play alumni who are in town for their alumni weekend right after spring finals. I had just finished my 1L spring finals and decided to stick around for the game, and it was a really special experience. Professor Hylton '77, a founder of NGSL, had passed just a few weeks prior, so his family was at the field along with at least one other organization founder. I can't remember his name, but he was an older gentleman who was still an absolute baller. He was placing balls in the outfield, making us young folk work to get him out. I pitched in the game, and he and I had a fun back-and-forth throughout. The weather was beautiful and everyone was just so happy to be there; it perfectly captured everything I love about UVA Law and the atmosphere that softball creates for so many. Right after the game, I drove the seven-plus hours in my cleats to get home to Kentucky and was so glad I had waited to leave so I could play.

Fondest *Law Weekly* memory?

Michael Schmid's playlist.

Free Bingo Space: Write what you want:

Thankful for three years with such an amazing group of people. Wouldn't trade this time for the world and would've sacrificed a lot to have these last few months back. I'm so grateful to go to a school that is so hard to leave, and that's thanks to all the amazing people here, so just thank you to everyone who has made this experience unforgettable.

What's the most embarrassing thing you've done?

Made promises I couldn't keep.

Where are you headed after graduation?

New York City is the plan, but at this point I wouldn't be surprised if Godzilla came out of the Hudson and destroyed whatever's left of the place.

What's your walk-out song?

That old dial-up modem sound.

What's your fondest memory in law school?

That time I had to meet with Dean Davies because I put in an alcohol request to Main Grounds to "tastefully enjoy a glass of champagne in celebration of the completion of my first semester of law school," then remembering that I was late to said meeting after drinking half a bottle with my friends in the parking lot.

Fondest *Law Weekly* memory?

All the times that Jansen VanderMeulen '19 came dangerously close to putting a softball through a window or a computer in the office.

What was the best meal you ate in Charlottesville?

I had a granola bar after a hike the other day that was pretty good.

Words of advice for those left to mourn your absence?

Don't walk through the hallway of Withers-Brown banging a soup ladle on a pot and calling out "Fresh Meat" while pointing to all of the 1Ls next year, the administration frowns on such actions.

LAW WEEKLY FEATURE: Court of Petty Appeals

The Court of Petty Appeals is the highest appellate jurisdiction court at UVA Law. The Court has the power to review any and all decisions, conflicts, and disputes that arise involving, either directly, indirectly, or tangentially, the Law School or its students. The Court comprises four associate justices and one Chief Justice. Opinions shall be released periodically and only in the official court reporter: the Virginia Law Weekly. Please email a brief summary of any and all conflicts to cl3eh@virginia.edu

Joseph E.X. Otic v. Mittens 72 U.Va. 24 (2020)

RE, J., delivered the opinion of the Court, in which TONSETH, GLADDEN, PICKETT, QUERNER, and FAYE, join. CALAMARO, J., and LUK, C.J., filed dissenting opinions.

JUSTICE RE delivered the opinion of the Court.

This case requires us first to decide whether pet cats are legal persons capable of suing and being sued, and second, whether occupying the only suitable location for Zooming constitutes tortious interference with kitty-napping.

Before the most recent full moon,¹ 2L Joseph Edward Xavier Otic reached his limit. Once (and only once) a week, Otic has a fixed obligation: sitting in front of his computer for a class on Zoom. Otic discovered that there is only one location in his apartment (a chair located near a window), where Zoom functions perfectly. Specifically, it is the only location with suitable lighting for those custom virtual backgrounds to work.

But there was one problem: Mittens. Mittens is Otic's cat, and the Zoom chair is Mittens' favorite nap spot. Initially, Otic tried moving Mittens. Mittens then commenced a series of behaviors calculated to drive Otic from the chair. No fewer than four times each class, Mittens jumped on Otic's keyboard and purred. At

¹ The Court has completely lost track of the days of the week during quarantine, but about a week ago there was a full moon, and the occurrences which gave rise to this lawsuit therefore happened less than a full moon ago, which is within this Court's statute of limitations to review.

least twice, this unmuted Otic's Zoom. When a cat jumps on a keyboard while purring, it sounds pretty weird if you're on the other end of a Zoom call. The noises embarrassed Otic and alarmed his classmates. Finally, Otic determined that he could no longer successfully Zoom from the chair. Otic moved to a different chair, but found when he tried amusing his professor

when they have invaded the Law School. See, e.g., *Frightened 1Ls v. That Snake by the Vending Machines*, 324 U.Va. 45 (2019); *Hungry 1Ls v. The Mice by the Free Food Table*, 301 U.Va. 522 (2011). Because classes are now remote, a pet can be understood to interfere with legal education in a similar way to the snake and mice. Some scholars also argue that when people refer to

and cats can get 'rona, then cats are people. That's just science, and we support #Science.

III

We now turn to the second question, whether Mittens' conduct constitutes tortious interference. Counsel for Mittens, Ms. Baskin, argues from precedent, "Hey all you honorable cool cats and kittens, I would draw your attention

the study spot.

But this case is not on point. Mittens claims that Otic lacks a property interest in the chair, and yet Otic is making a tort claim. Our petty common law has long acknowledged that students have the right to see and hear in class. See, e.g., *Student in Back Row v. Lomax*, 1 U.Va. 279 (1827) (ordering that microphones be invented so students in the back could hear) and *Enrollees of Evening Seminar v. Madison*, 2 U.Va. 223 (1830) (ordering that electric lighting be invented so students in the two hour evening seminar, "Supreme Court from Jay to Marshall," could see the professor). And, frustratingly, our cases support a rather unrestricted right to participate in class. See *That One Gunner v. Literally Everyone Else in the Class*, 32 U.Va. 411 (1843) (upholding the right to at least attempt to impress fellow classmates by asking complicated, irrelevant questions). Our more recent cases point to modified expectations during video meetings. In *Lazy Rising-2L v. Career Services*, 320 U.Va. 304 (2017), we ruled that students cannot be forced to wear pants in online interviews as long as the prospective employer doesn't notice.

While these cases were against the school and not against private parties, like a cat, they nevertheless give the sense that students are entitled to observe class without interruption and express

COPA page 7

"As a matter of law, cats are legal persons, and it is impermissible to interfere with another's use of virtual backgrounds."

and classmates with hilarious virtual backgrounds, the images pixelated.

Otic has been trapped in his apartment with Mittens for far too long, and despite being a UVA Law student,² he is rather litigious. Because he has had very limited contact with other humans, he decided to sue his cat. The lower court dismissed the case, finding that a cat is not a legal person and therefore incapable of being sued. *Otic v. Mittens*, 78 Ivy 3d 115 (Ivy Cir. 2020) ("What? No, obviously you can't sue your cat. Come on, we were watching TV before you came in with this."). We granted certiorari.

II

We turn first to whether a cat is a legal person. We have allowed suits against animals

² UVA Law is a very collegial place. See, e.g., every email from Admissions. But actually, it is.

themselves as a dog/cat mom/dad, they deserve to be open to suits from their pets.³

All of this lends support to the theory that pets are legal persons who can sue and be sued under our petty law. Also, cats can get coronavirus.⁴ If people can get 'rona,

³ See *Andrew Vito, Pet Personhood: A Great Idea, or the Greatest Idea?*, 48 *Canine Coll. L. Rev.* 1, 39 (2008) ("If you give your dog wrapped Christmas presents with her name on it, it is reasonable that she should expect to have standing to haul you before a tribunal if, for example, you deny her access to aquiferous sources of water by repeatedly closing the toilet seat.").

⁴ *Cats can catch coronavirus, study finds, prompting WHO probe*, *Al Jazeera* (Apr. 9, 2020), <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/04/cats-catch-coronavirus->

to your holding in *2L Gunner v. Oblivious 3L*." Brief for Respondent at 15, *Otic v. Mittens*, 72 U.Va. 24 (2020) No. 20-104. It is true that we have dealt with competitions for chairs before. In *2L Gunner*, 276 U.Va. 103 (2002), we uncharacteristically ruled in favor of the gunner, holding that despite the 3L's extremely credible claim of having no clue what ordinarily goes on in the library, the gunner had a vested property interest in

[study-finds-prompting-probe-200409041642628.html](https://www.lawweekly.com/study-finds-prompting-probe-200409041642628.html).

Faculty Quotes

K. Ferzan: "Does anyone have any questions, besides 'why did you tell us that story?'"

A. Bamzai: "I'm not convinced that anyone on the Supreme Court knows what they're doing in this area."

M. Collins: "I make notes to myself after each class on things to improve. When I checked the one I made for this day last year, all it said was 'better luck next year.'"


S. Ballenger: "What do

you do if you're walking down the street and an air conditioner falls on your head? You say *res ipsa loquitur*."

K. Kordana: "Church of Kordana. Tax exempt, baby, tax exempt...don't discriminate against me. Don't call me a cult."

D. Oliar: "Everyone wants to sell sex, just in different ways."

Heard a good professor quote? Email editor@law-weekly.org



Virginia Law Weekly

COLOPHON

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| Christina Luk '21 <i>Editor-in-Chief</i> | Kathryn Querner '22 <i>Executive Editor</i> | Jacob Jones '21 <i>Features Editor</i> |
| Michael Schmid '21 <i>Managing Editor</i> | Phil Tonseth '22 <i>Production Editor</i> | Drew Calamaro '21 <i>Satire Editor</i> |
| Samuel Pickett '21 <i>Columns Editor</i> | Will Palmer '21 <i>Special Projects Editor</i> | Grace Tang '21 <i>Foreign Correspondent</i> |
| Kolleen Gladden '21 <i>Photographer</i> | Raphael Cho '21 <i>Cartoonist-in-Chief</i> | Donna-Faye Imadi '22 <i>Current Events Editor</i> |
| Ben Stievater '22 <i>Events Editor</i> | Leah Deskins '21 <i>Professor Liaison Editor</i> | Amy Pan '22 <i>Lifestyle Editor</i> |
| Nate Wunderli '22 <i>Sports Editor</i> | Bill Re '21 <i>Historian</i> | Will McDermott '22 <i>Development Editor</i> |
| Stanley Birch '22 <i>News Editor</i> | Marlyse Vieira '22 <i>New Media Editor</i> | |

Published weekly on Wednesday except during holiday and examination periods and serving the Law School community at the University of Virginia, the *Virginia Law Weekly* (ISSN 0042-661X) is not an official publication of the University and does not necessarily express the views of the University. Any article appearing herein may be reproduced provided that credit is given to both the *Virginia Law Weekly* and the author of the article. Advanced written permission of the *Virginia Law Weekly* is also required for reproduction of any cartoon or illustration.

Virginia Law Weekly
580 Massie Road
University of Virginia School of Law
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903-1789

Phone: 434.812.3229
editor@lawweekly.org
www.lawweekly.org

EDITORIAL POLICY: The *Virginia Law Weekly* publishes letters and columns of interest to the Law School and the legal community at large. Views expressed in such submissions are those of the author(s) and not necessarily those of the *Law Weekly* or the Editorial Board. Letters from organizations must bear the name, signature, and title of the person authorizing the submission. All letters and columns must either be submitted in hardcopy bearing a handwritten signature along with an electronic version, or be mailed from the author's e-mail account. Submissions must be received by 12 p.m. Sunday before publication and must be in accordance with the submission guidelines. Letters and/or columns over 1200 words may not be accepted. The Editorial Board reserves the right to edit all submissions for length, grammar, and clarity. Although every effort is made to publish all materials meeting our guidelines, we regret that not all submissions received can be published.



PIECE of the PIE

REWARDS

JOIN TODAY

AND START

EARNING POINTS TOWARD

FREE PIZZA



SIGN UP

at [Dominos.com/rewards](https://www.dominos.com/rewards)
to start earning points.

1 = 10

ORDER POINTS

Earn 10 points for every online order of \$10 OR MORE*

60 =

POINTS FREE PIZZA

Get a FREE medium 2-topping pizza when you can earn 60 points

FREE KINDNESS WITH EVERY ORDER

COPA

continued from page 6

themselves in that class. Now that all classes are held remotely, we are forced to apply the petty common law to novel circumstances. Using virtual backgrounds is an essential part of expressing oneself and bringing joy to others, which are implicit in the concept of ordered liberty and are deeply rooted in this School's history and tradition.

IV

As a matter of law, cats are legal persons, and it is impermissible to interfere with another's use of virtual backgrounds. If there were a dispute of material fact, it would be necessary to remand the case. But there is no such dispute. In a deposition with a pet psychic, Mittens stated, "Yea of course I know that's the only place Zoom backgrounds work. I don't give a sh*t. It's my f***ing chair." R. at 589. It is, therefore, unnecessary to remand this case for further proceedings.

We order an injunction against Mittens, barring him from attempting to occupy the Zoom chair during class and award damages for Otic in the form of three dead birds, to be procured and delivered by Mittens at Mittens' earliest convenience. The judgment of the Court of Petty Appeals for the Ivy Circuit is vacated.

It is so ordered.

CALAMARO, J., dissenting.

This ploy to acquire three dead birds has resulted in a major and inappropriately large windfall for the plaintiff. Unfortunately, the windfall is a direct result of this court's obvious error in finding cats to be legal persons, a finding which will have reverberations throughout human, cat, and animal populations. Perhaps the court has been swayed by popular opinion, which is as settled as the changing tides and was most recently swayed by a spate of online documentaries that lend a sympathetic light towards the "struggle" of the members of the felidae family.⁵ Either way, cats are not people. They are murderous, godless, apex predators that will never love you and hopes to eat your face one day when you die due to cat allergies.

LUK, C.J., dissenting.

My fellow Justices have each ended up half a mouse short of a complete answer. It is obviously the case that cats have standing to sue under our petty law and equally obvious that cats have superior claims to chairs than any human being, much less a law student. I am saddened by the precedent set today.

wdr3mq@virginia.edu
dac6jk@virginia.edu
cl3eh@virginia.edu

⁵ See generally *Tiger King*, (the ill-advised movie) *Cats*, and *Don't F**k With Cats*.

Moonshine "Mooney" the Cat Experiences Quarantine

Day 0

It is what the humans keep referring to as "Spring Break." Only human 1 is home, and I

Moonshine the Cat
Guest Writer



am very lonely all day when he's gone. I'm very happy when human 1 comes home. I hope human 2 comes back soon.

Day 3

Human 2 has come back. It is a joyous day. I hope that they never leave!

Day 4

Remember when I said I hope they never leave? They haven't left... all I can do is pray that soon we will be back to our normal routine where I rule over the apartment all day for five days a week and get all the naps I want.

Day 5

Something has gone terribly wrong. The humans have not left the apartment. They are squatting on my domain. How can this be? Even worse, they seem to be in need of love and affection, and they turn to me for it. I am not to be loved. I am to be feared—and worshipped. I hope they start leaving me alone so that I can rule my domain soon.

Day 8

It has been several nights

since I've had a good day's sleep. Have these people not heard of the term "catnap?" The problem is that I have to be in the same room as the humans when they are home, yet I also want to nap in that room. You can see my predicament. This lack of day sleep is really starting to affect my nightly zoomies.

Day 12

I still can't catnap. And they won't let me eat my plants either. I've always had an array of exciting, crunchy, tasty houseplants to munch on whenever I'm bored, but the humans have decided that they love the houseplants more than they love me. How could they do this? I AM THEIR GOD. Don't they know about the ancient Egyptians?

Day 13

The humans are trying to exercise me. I need to figure out how to tell them I am above physical exercise; I am not some fifth grader doing a fitness test for Michelle Obama.

Day 15

I'll never get over this... I'm just so upset. Guess what they called me today? A CHONKER. I should be a heckin' fine girl on the chonk chart! These gigantic humans who snack all day have the nerve to call me fat. I am a majestic, noble creature who deserves her meowijuana catnip treats, but they're putting me on a diet. And even worse, they're

trying to make me exercise. (Meanwhile, they haven't left the apartment in days!) They just ate an entire apple pie each, and yet I am the one put on a diet. This is outrageous!

Day 20

The humans must have reached peak boredom. Today they put me inside a knapsack, let me poke my head out, and took me for a walk outside. It was nice because I could really get a good look at those squirrels I always stare at, but I've never had my dignity insulted like this before. They continue to think I am some kind of human baby. I am worried they will force me to wear silly cat outfits to satisfy their boredom.

Day 21

The outfit happened. I will not discuss this further.



Pictured: These indignities will not stand.

HOT BENCH



David Ranzini '20

Hot Bench with David Ranzini '20

Outgoing Managing Editor of the *Law Weekly*

Hiya Dave and welcome to Hot Bench! We're so glad to catch you before graduation! So, what did you have for quarantine breakfast?

I made frozen oven fries because that's all that's left in my freezer, and I drank black coffee because I'm out of cream.

Where are you from?

Waynesboro, Virginia, which is close enough that I can go home, see my folks, and do my laundry, which I frequently do.

What can you tell us about Waynesboro?

It's a pretty little town, less sleepy nowadays, with two craft breweries, a lot of meth (said the cops in my old karate class, anyway), and a very decent taco truck! It's a nice community. Pretty

much everyone knows my dad—he's a surgeon and he might have taken everyone's gallbladders out at some point.

When did you start thinking about law school?

After college, I'm a year or two into the JET Program, I'm teaching English in a village in rural Japan, and I realize that while I'm a good teacher, it's not really what I love—but I need to find something else that lets me stay in Japan long term. So, I put everything together that I'm good at (research, writing, definitely NOT math) and looked for something that could let me be useful even if I'm a second language speaker. That narrowed the field to international corporate law, which also involves the best things about being a teacher (translating knowledge into a form your audience can use) with the added bonus of being well paid. At that point, I decided I was doing law school. But first, I went and did a LL.M. bilingual program at Kyushu University.

What's something you know now that you would tell yourself coming into law school?

It's not as hard as it looks, honestly. 1L me was very nervous about failing and not getting a job and everything coming apart. I would try really hard to reassure him it was going to work out, and 1L me would not believe

it for a second.

Sounds like 1L was a rough time!

Studying for 1L fall exams while my 2L brother Gregory was totally relaxed was just about my lowest psychological point. Only the greatest respect for my brother—the real lawyer in this family.

Let's do a lightning round!

Favorite food?

Cheese enchiladas.

Favorite place in Charlottesville?

Peter Chang's.

Anti-Stress Hobby?

Cooking and bicycling. Really, exercise is the thin tissue that separates sanity and insanity for me during exam season.

Are you a good cook? What's your favorite thing to make?

When I'm stressed, I like to go temporarily insane and make something expensive and complex like tempura. One of my favorite things to make is pasta puttanesca. It's a quick olive-based sauce—you need four cans, two of tomatoes and two of olives, to make a very simple version. It's just brilliant for when you're cramming for finals.

What is your least favorite sound?

The noise that dentists' drills make, it actually scares the crap out of me.

Favorite word?

Genuinely, I have no idea.

This one should be easier. If you could live anywhere, where would it be?

I would live in Akita Prefecture, Japan, and I would own and run a wildly unprofitable coffee shop in a refurbished thatched farmhouse. I would do pour-over coffee and roast my own beans, chat with my regulars and never make a dime. I would watch the big puffy clouds drift over the rice paddies in the distance and cast shadows on the sea beyond. I would have a windchime on the porch. That is the dream.

If you could pick one song to play in the background of your life, what would it be?

What's the song I've listened most to on iTunes, let's see, probably something incredibly embarrassing... "Decks Dark" from Radiohead's *A Moon Shaped Pool*.

What's your spirit animal?

Crows. I like that they're scrappy, intelligent, and, sometimes, they get a look in their eye, that says they know you're there and think of you as fellow animals in the struggle. I sympathize with their existence on the edge of society—everyone on a fundamental level has been a crow trying to use a stick to get a cheese doodle out of the trashcan. The trashcan is life. I also like their mortal

enemies, the cats.

Where's a place you've never been, but would like to go?

I've never been to Sichuan, China, but I've always wanted to go—and Taiwan. Those two are probably highest on the destination bucket list. And for years I've harbored the desire to get a sailboat and just get out of sight of land. I would love to be surrounded by horizon in all directions and just watch the sun set behind me while I'm on the deck of the boat.

Do you have any sailing experience?

Zero—no wait, some! I went out once and was immediately shipwrecked. Through no fault of my own, the rudder was broken and came off, cartoon-like, in my friend Robert's hand. It turns out a boat in the wind without a rudder is quickly capsized. I would love to do it again and not flip.

If you could make one rule that everyone had to follow, what would it be?

"Be nice, think of the other guy" would be a good one. I think everyone secretly wants to make the rule "be nice to me." I would change that to just "be nice."

dwr7ed@virginia.edu

ADVICE

continued from page 3

things to say other than you do it better. Like the whole thing. Go, do it. Figure out how to do it and make it ALL run better in a couple months.

Asking about mentorship is a fun and original way to “break the ice” or, should I say, “break the zoom panes!” with lawyers at your firm events.

The more firm dinners that you attend, the more you realize how important and original of a question asking about mentorship is. Other questions that you should ask are, “How should I bring in business to the firm as a junior associate?”⁸ and, “With your firm struggling in this recession, how are you managing to keep clients?” This is no time to second guess that inner voice telling you to stop being boring, uninformed, or gauche. Forge ahead with those incredible questions, and you will find success wherever the winds take you.⁹

dac6jk@virginia.edu

⁸ You are able and expected to bring in business to the firm as soon as you are hired, since you will almost certainly know about the law.

⁹ So long as inward eye-rolls among practicing lawyers count as successes.

Cartoon By Raphael



3L Law Weekly's Greatest Hits

The Law Weekly fondly looks back to celebrate and remember the experiences and bonds our 3Ls formed.



Pictured: Taylor Elicequi '20, Lena Welch '20, and Eleanor Schmalz '20 enjoy Barristers Ball. Photo Courtesy of Lena Welch '20.



Pictured: Jansen VanderMeulen '19 and Eleanor Schmalz '20 pose proudly as former Editor-in-Chiefs of the Law Weekly. Photo Courtesy of Lena Welch '20.



Pictured: Lena, Taylor, and Eleanor living their best 3L life. Photo Courtesy of Lena Welch '20.

SUDOKU

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | | 5 | | 8 | | | | |
| | | | 6 | | | | 3 | |
| 2 | | | 5 | | | | 1 | |
| 4 | 5 | | | | 7 | 1 | | 8 |
| | | 9 | 2 | | 1 | 3 | | |
| 6 | | 2 | 8 | | | | 9 | 7 |
| | 9 | | | | 8 | | | 3 |
| | 2 | | | | 6 | | | |
| | | | | 9 | | 5 | | 4 |

Solution

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 7 | 9 | 3 | 1 |
| 1 | 7 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 2 |
| 3 | 6 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 9 | 5 |
| 7 | 9 | 7 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 3 |
| 6 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 7 |
| 5 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 4 |
| 8 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 7 | 5 | 3 |
| 2 | 8 | 7 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| 9 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 4 |
| 7 | 3 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 9 |
| 1 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 9 | 7 | 3 | 8 | 6 |
| 2 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 9 |