



VIRGINIA LAW WEEKLY

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

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Love in the Time of Corona: Scott and Billy

Ben Stievater '22
Events Editor

Although it's been nearly six months, many aspects of our "new normal" continue to present challenges that can be strange and frustrating to face. From sitting next to someone in class to hitting Bar Review, things that once seemed a given feel far away, or at least vastly different behind a mask and six feet apart. We've been forced to connect more creatively in our professional, personal, and—we'll say it, you smokeshows, you—romantic lives. Indeed, like a professor explaining the holding five minutes past the bell, love continues on, so we 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 Billy Hicks '22 and Scott Simmons.

Hi Billy and Scott! Welcome to Love in the Time of Corona. Let's get some deets about #Scilly. How did you two get together?

Scott: Hi Ben! Very modernly, we met through social media about two years ago when Billy was at UVA for undergrad and I was at Longwood. For a few months, our dates consisted of alternating travel from Charlottesville to Farmville on the weekends as we got to know each other. We moved in with each other last year when Billy started 1L.

Has COVID-19 changed the dynamic of living together or your relationship at all?

Billy: To be honest, not really! We'd already been in a groove and had learned a lot about each other over the course the past year. We joke that we've been quarantining with each other for almost a year-and-a-half already. One dynamic that did change for a bit was that we went and lived with my family for a short period, but luckily coronavirus hasn't affected us too much. We did get a puppy though!

10-minute interview break to play with aforementioned puppy

Fittingly, I'm going to need you guys to hit me with each other's spirit animals.

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SBA President Welcomes Law Students Back!

Outlining SBA's Initiatives for the School Year



Katharine Janes '21
SBA President

Hello, UVA Law!

On behalf of the Student Bar Association (SBA), I would like to welcome our new 1Ls and LL.Ms to UVA. The 2Ls and 3Ls are so excited to get to know you over this coming semester and year. Whether it be through student group activities and events, casual coffee chats in the courtyard, or unexpected run-ins at King Family Polo, we are really looking forward to integrating you as a part of our vibrant community. When upperclassmen offer their emails or phone numbers as a way to reach out, they fully hope that you will be in touch. We—as your Peer Advisors, colleagues, and friends—want to be here for you however we can be during your transition to life at UVA Law.

And to the 2Ls and 3Ls: Welcome back! It's been lovely to see you all on Grounds and over Zoom since classes began two weeks ago.

SBA has been hard at work over the past few months imagining new ways to bring students together this semester. We know that, for now, things cannot be the same as they were before. UVA's community is what makes this place so special, though, so in the meantime, we are committed to maintaining our school's culture by offering creative and exciting alternatives.

If one thing has remained constant since last spring, it's SBA's passion for getting students tasty and subsidized food. Starting soon, in direct response to your comments


in SBA's beginning-of-year survey, our Programming team (led by Chase Harris '22 and Steph Metherall '21) will be rolling out bi-weekly food deals and social opportunities for students. Roots delivery is also back in action, albeit in a slightly different form due to Law School delivery restrictions. Monday through Friday, Roots will be dropping off to Pav and Ivy and waiving any delivery charge (check your email for further details). SBA's Academics & Faculty Relations Committee (co-chaired by Joanna Borman '22 and Alex Retzloff '21) is also expanding the "Take Your Professor To Lunch Program." This semester, if you and at least three other students host a Zoom "lunch" with a professor, SBA will contribute \$10 to each person's meal. Finally, our Health & Wellness team (led by Isabelle Perfetto '22 and Danny Seidita '21) has worked to expand access to healthy food by sponsoring weekly deliveries from Bellair Farm, in partnership with Student Affairs.


SBA has also stayed busy throughout the summer advocating for students and their interests. On one front, our Governance Oversight Committee (chaired by Chance Maginness '22) has drafted its report on student representation, transparency, and academic policies and will be presenting its findings to the administration before the end of this month. The Committee will recommend changes such as eliminating the employment provision from our


academic policies, ensuring students are represented in the work of every faculty committee, and changing clinic grading to credit/no credit. In tandem with these efforts, our Diversity Advisory Council (headed by Ida Abhari '22, Will Hinton '21, and Christina Luk '21) is also drafting a memo on changes its membership would like to see made at UVA Law relating to diversity and inclusion efforts, including student involvement in the hiring process for the new Dean of Diversity, Equity, and Belonging, securing more support for diverse students at the Law School, providing talk-forums to share experiences, and supporting our diverse affinity groups in their own advocacy. Retaining diverse faculty and recruiting diverse students is a chief concern for the Council. Meanwhile, our Health & Wellness team is seeking to establish services to improve mental and physical health, including expanding access to counseling services and offering free virtual workout classes. Finally, SBA is working with the Darden Student Association to support the elimination of the tuition increase through a letter that will be presented to the Board of Visitors during their upcoming meeting on September 10 and 11. All of this has been done with an eye toward our mission of making UVA Law the best and most inclusive place it can possibly be, and our student advocacy will continue to be a central part of our efforts


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around north grounds


 Thumbs up to the faculty for finally giving the Law School what we want—no, not reduced tuition or general transparency and accountability—ANG is talking about the weekly Guess the Faculty Baby Picture game. ANG enjoys being heard at long last after ANG's many notes in the suggestion box.

 Thumbs down to President Jim Ryan '92 for going where no gunner has gone before and attempting to actually find the answer to that hypo from his 1L Torts class of what would happen if 4,000 eighteen-year-olds descended upon a small city and spread a highly contagious virus. ANG does not remember if reasonableness or foreseeability determines liability, but knows neither are in his favor.

 Thumbs up to Virginia Law, Weekly. Please free ANG from the Law Weekly tyrants who have been forcing ANG to write this column for the past decade.

 Thumbs down to professors who opt to not teach in six-foot-tall protective hamster wheels. Can you really say you don't care about student safety if you're not rolling down the hallways blaring "The Hamster Dance Song"?

 Thumbs up to Djokovic getting disqualified from the U.S. Open. ANG used to lob tennis balls at those who judged ANG but it didn't turn out well. But when ANG returns to be a 1L oral arguments judge ANG will once again give feedback with green felt-covered fury. It will be the most constructive feedback those 1Ls will receive all year.

 Thumbs up to SBA for choosing the poofy hats for graduation instead of those square ones. However, ANG is worried about what happens when all this "3L knowledge and wisdom" makes ANG's head even bigger and ANG's hat falls off because it was measured in September.

LOVE

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Scott: Billy is a bee. He's the most hardworking person I know and is always concerned with the welfare of everyone else in his "hive."

Billy: Scott would be a dog. I know, it's generic, but hear me out. Scott is always comfortable no matter what we do, as long as we're together and having fun. He's equally as excited to go new places as he is to stay home to cook or watch a movie with just us. For him, it's not the activity, but the person.

A match made in animal heaven. Let's jump back to Corona. It sounds like you two were able to adapt pretty quickly due to your prior pseudo-quarantine experience with each other. Do y'all have any practices

in place to keep things running smoothly?

Scott: Well, even before coronavirus, we made it a practice to prioritize Billy's school work. We were both realistic about the demands and importance that 1L would have for Billy, so we always tried to schedule plans around that and to be flexible if work ever became overwhelming.

Billy: More specific to coronavirus was our time with my family. It was strange to go from having just us to many others in the mix—our little routines and daily lives changed. We tried to be good at carving out time for ourselves though to preserve some of the stability.

Let's do a lightning round! How would you each describe the other in a word or phrase?

Scott: Selfless. Billy will do anything for his friends and peo-

ple who need his help. He's also incredibly humble. Like I said, Billy is one of the hardest working and smartest people I know, but you would never hear that from him.

Billy: It'll sound cheesy, but Scott's perfect, at least in my eyes. He is such a joy and loves to have fun. He has this innate understanding of people almost immediately upon meeting them and uses that to make the fun inclusive for all. His emotional intelligence is off the charts. As he's alluded to, I can get lost in my work sometimes. He's the perfect person to remind me of the importance of staying balanced.

(Having had the privilege of being friends with #Scilly since undergrad, I second all of this). Best Charlottesville date spot?

Scott: Commonwealth Sky Bar downtown. It's a cozy but elegant atmosphere that's rare to find in Charlottesville.

Billy: Pippin. (Scott rolls his eyes). What? You don't like going to Pippin with me? We go a lot. But it's got as much wine as you want, beautiful Blue Ridge views, and just a great vibe. What's not to love?

Wine about it, Scott. Sorry, that was bad. What's the first activity you'll do or place you'll go once all the social restrictions are lifted?

Answer: Throw a big party! Just a big hurrah with everyone we love and care about.

Let's get abstract. Is there a feeling, sight, smell, image, color, etc., that you associate with each other? Why?

Billy: Long car trips. The first year of our relationship we always seemed to be in a car. We really settled into our road trip roles. I love driving, and he's the perfect co-pilot. He's always got the best music or podcast for the mood and trip.

Scott: Bowtie pasta. That was the first meal Billy cooked for me on one of our dates. He's an amazing cook.

Last question: What is one thing you would want to say, in public, possibly in front of the whole Law School (or at least our readership), to each other?

Scott: Billy draws incredible people with great values to him because he is one of those people. I'm so thankful to be a part of that circle and to have met Billy and them.

Billy: I love you.

Scott (looking at Billy blankly): That's it?? Kidding. I love you, too.

Thank you to Billy and Scott for keeping it #Scilly and joining us on Love in the Time of Corona! Are you a couple that's been separated or getting creative during this social isolation period? A single who's desire to mingle has been curtailed by COVID-19? A platonic friend or member of a family who wants to share how you've been making it through this together? Love comes in all shapes and sizes, and we want to hear about it! Email bes4cf@virginia.edu if you or someone you know might like to be featured on Love in the Time of Corona.

bes4cf@virginia.edu

SBA

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moving forward this semester.

While we are proud of the work we've done—and are excited for the work to come—we could always use more voices at our table. If you would like to become involved with any of SBA's efforts mentioned above, please consider applying to one of our sixteen committees and subcommittees; we would love to hear your thoughts on what UVA Law needs, as well as get your assistance in making that happen. The application can be found in Savanna Williams' latest email to students and is due this upcoming Friday. Finally, if there is anything you would like to see offered or hosted by SBA—or if you just want to chat!—swing by one of our SBA meetings, drop in my office hours on Tuesdays from 2:30-3:30 p.m., or get in touch with me or any of the individuals listed above. While there remains considerable uncertainty around how the school year will unfold, SBA is here to help our community navigate these times together.

All the best,
Katharine Janes

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Picture: Billy and Scott dress up and dazzle in their suits and bowties. Photo Courtesy of Billy Hicks '22.

Swing for the Fences: Unexpected Silver Linings

One of the phrases I hear most often in 2020 is "getting back to normal."¹ Among the

primary motivators for bringing back Major League Baseball (MLB), along with other professional sports, was to slake the nation's desire to "get back to normal." Yet, just like pretty much everything this year, the expectation did not exactly match reality. The game of baseball has been changed in unforeseen ways by the seismic events that have unfolded this year, and the sport will likely look different going forward. That's not, however, necessarily a bad thing for baseball.

When I first heard that Major League Baseball was planning to return in late July, I was pretty doubtful that it was a wise decision. It seemed almost destined to fail, particularly when I learned that the league eschewed the "bubble city" plans established by the NHL and NBA for their playoffs. This meant that baseball teams would be traveling around the country during a pandemic, playing a sport where players spend a good portion of the game spitting on the ground. Before the season even started, things did

¹ Probably behind, "In these unprecedented times..." and ahead of, "Sorry, I didn't realize I was on mute."

not look good. Atlanta Braves star first baseman Freddy Freeman got quite ill with the coronavirus; Boston Red Sox pitcher Eduardo Rodriguez is out indefinitely due to heart problems caused by the virus. Then, less than a week into the season, the Miami Marlins had an outbreak in which at least twenty people in the organization tested positive, making the cancellation of the season look nearly inevitable.

But the season went on, and the rate of positive tests around the League decreased. Once again, baseball re-asserted itself as a daily fixture in the lives of my girlfriend and I this summer. Our favorite team, the Toronto Blue Jays, unexpectedly found themselves in a position to make the playoffs after MLB announced that the playoffs would consist of eight teams, instead of five, from each league. Before the team was able to worry about the postseason, they had to find a place to play. Because of coronavirus concerns, the Canadian government refused to allow them to play in Toronto. Eventually, the Blue Jays found a temporary home just across the border in Buffalo, which made my Upstate New York heart happy.

COVID-19 was an unexpected vehicle for some significant rule changes that have improved the game. First, the easy one: The league instituted a universal designated hit-

ter. Finally!² Without Bartolo Colón, nobody really wanted to watch pitchers hit anymore. Frankly, this was long overdue. Baseball, however, is a sport that can get stuck in its ways, so I guess all it took to make this change was a pandemic. The other major rule change has also been a pleasant surprise. This year, if the game goes to extra innings, the teams start each inning with a runner already on second base. The reasoning behind this rule is that, since the season is so condensed and teams have very few days off, this rule will help teams score more quickly, which would end extra-inning games sooner. Another rule change instituted for a similar reason was that both games in a doubleheader have been shortened from nine innings to seven. I was skeptical of the new extra-innings rule at first, but it has been amazing. Extra-innings games are way more exciting, and we all get to avoid those marathon, eighteen-inning games that seem to last for forever. An unexpected bonus of the rule change is that it has led to teams bunting more often, which has led to more retired-players-turned-announcers complaining that players "don't bunt as well as they used to." In fact, after watching so many baseball games this summer, I've learned from multiple announcers that nobody seems

² *Insert gif of Michael Scott hitting the table and saying, "Thank you!" here*

to do anything as well as they used to. So let's work on that, everyone.

Despite the rule changes being a success—at least in my infallible opinion—there were some misses. Topping the list: Fox's CGI fans that the network put in the stands during games in a sad attempt to mimic live fan attendance. If the idea was bad, the execution was worse. The fans look horribly unrealistic and react to the game about five seconds too late. Seriously, the virtual fans are about as bad of an idea as glow pucks and the football robot,³ both of which were also created by Fox Sports.

Likely the most consequential way the sport has changed this year has been in addressing the racial justice protests that have been sweeping the nation. Unlike other leagues such as the WNBA, NBA, and NFL, racial justice activism has not been as widespread in a sport in which only 7.8 percent of players on Opening Day rosters and two of the thirty managers are Black. This year, however, players across the league have felt comfortable becoming more vocal. On Opening Day, teams chose to kneel prior to the start of the game. Some high-profile Black players, including Mookie Betts, Jackie Bradley, Jr., and Dominic Smith have spoken to

³ If you are unfamiliar with either of those, you should look them up. Spoiler: They're dumb.

the media about their experiences with racism and the need for athletes to continue to be actively involved in social justice issues. In late August, following the lead of the Milwaukee Bucks in the NBA, multiple teams postponed their games to protest the shooting of Jacob Blake by law enforcement in Kenosha, Wisconsin. When games resumed, players were seen wearing "Black Lives Matter" shirts before games and underneath their jerseys during the games. Fittingly, this occurred on the week the league celebrates Jackie Robinson Day, which honors the first Black man to play in Major League Baseball.

The desire to return to the normalcy of a pre-COVID world is an entirely understandable aspiration, yet it is likely futile. The COVID-19 pandemic, its resulting economic downturn, and the racial justice protests have and will continue to alter life as we knew it before. In many ways, this upheaval presents challenges, sacrifices, and losses that none of us wish to see continue. In other ways, our adaptations to our changed circumstances has led to unexpected silver linings. For baseball, some of the changes brought on by COVID—both trivial and consequential, overdue and unexpected—have shifted the game in a positive direction.

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Antitrust and Big Tech Part 2 - Private Power and Democratic Government: Where Will 'We the People' Be Swayed?

In the early 20th century, the responsibility of the government to prevent

Donna Faye Imadi '22
Current Events Editor



“private power from destroying democratic government” prevailed over the power of industrial titans. Today, whose hands influence the trajectory of democratic governance? On July 29, 2020, this was answered when the House Antitrust Subcommittee held an investigatory hearing examining the “Dominance of Amazon, Apple, Facebook, and Google.” The nearly five-and-a-half-hour testimony of the respective CEOs demarcated the progress of a nearly year-long investigation spearheaded by Chairman Cicilline (D-RI). He began by reflecting on how being “too big” might be a problem weighed against the benefits created by Big Tech, emphasizing consequences of the abuse of these platforms’ market-power (exacerbated by COVID-19), especially in eCommerce, social media, and other essential platforms. Over a million investigative documents were gathered through this Congressional action, which may provide the FTC and DOJ Antitrust Division signifi-

cant amounts of data to spur potential proceedings.

The hearing was refreshingly bipartisan in nature. Though many concerns were shared across the aisle, conservatives largely focused on political censorship of social media platforms, freedom of speech issues, and international security concerns about China’s increasing technological influence (e.g., TikTok, Huawei, and the use of Chinese Uighur concentration camps in tech manufacturing). Alternatively, Democrats focused on the stifling of competition. They emphasized how eCommerce platforms were so powerful that they risked becoming “bottlenecks,” extracting rents from competitors, harming small businesses, stifling innovation, and abusing their market power to self-preference their own products.

“We would not submit to an emperor; we should not submit to an autocrat of trade . . . with the power to prevent competition,” Senator Sherman declared in the early 20th century, substantiating the free competition principles of our nation’s market economy. Beyond stifling competition, these platforms have the power to regulate speech, mold our understanding of reality, and provide information on elections. Are our 21st-century

laws sufficient for this era characterized by heightened economic and social power held by Big Tech?

The diffusion or mere regulation of such power speaks to the heart of what role the legislature versus the administrative agencies harbor in antitrust law. Traditionally, the government’s natural role in a system of “free private enterprise” was that of a patrolman policing the highway of commerce. Yet, although legislation exists against monopolies and restraints of trade, the enforceability of such legislation is highly debated.

This issue was at the root of contention between Chairman Cicilline and Ranking Member Sensenbrenner (R-WI). Chairman Cicilline emphasized the need for not only the increased enforcement of antitrust laws but also for new legislation to police technology platforms, which Representative Jerry Nadler (D-NY) likened to “modern-day railroads,” harkening back to the breakup of railroads, big steel, and big oil.

Conversely, Representative Sensenbrenner argued that although greater antitrust scrutiny of tech platforms is a necessity, current antitrust laws are sufficient to meet the challenge. His approach reflected strong consideration for the role of

antitrust law in promoting innovation, and that current law was sufficient in balancing the need to promote competition and incentivize innovation. Rather than the law itself, his view indicates that the underenforcement of the law is the challenge. The current law has led to great innovations and advancements which need not be stifled by new regulations in the future.

Illustrating this point, Representative Sensenbrenner alluded to the Obama Administration’s approach to antitrust, wherein Facebook gained approval for the acquisition of Instagram. This approval is being looked at with suspicion in today’s shifting view. Representative Sensenbrenner advanced that the law itself was not the issue at the time of the approval, as the outcome of acquisition could have just as likely gone the other way. This concern reflects a broader debate which casts front-and-center the effect of the “Bork revolution” on antitrust enforcement standards, where the “consumer welfare standard” shifted antitrust enforcement standards to not regard “big” as inherently “bad” if dominance is to the benefit of consumers. This alternative, more rigorous enforcement standard under the “Brandeis” move-

ment, which is more focused on protecting the ability for competitors to enter the market, could change the trajectory. Depending on the dominant “standard” viewed, the outcome for enforcement action could differ without additional Congressional legislation.

Philosophizing aside, there is critical agreement that antitrust enforcement of digital platform operations is necessary. Whether the buck-stops-there will be a key feature of our time. Some legislators advocate that digital eCommerce platforms (such as Amazon’s Marketplace) should be regulated by a likened version to the § 230 of the Communications Decency Act, where eCommerce platforms would need to treat third-party sellers on their site with greater fairness. This would create the responsibility (or burden) for sites like Amazon to police its platform to comply with new regulations. Yet it may speak to “fairness” principles, benefiting smaller businesses’ ability to compete in rankings on these online-sites.

Where power must be exercised, “It should be located in the government, not in private hands,” it has been said. Yet, with the growing polarization in and decreased ef-

ANTITRUST page 5

Regional Networking Clubs: Coast to Coast

Southeastern Wahoos

Southeastern Wahoos seeks to provide a space for students interested in the Southeast, both professionally and personally, to interact with employers, alumni, and fellow students. The Southeast has a vibrant legal market filled with UVA alumni and a family-friendly atmosphere with a low cost of living. Major markets include Atlanta, Miami, Charlotte, and Nashville.

We plan to offer events with firms, student panels, in-house counsel, and public service. In fact, we are hosting our first student panel on September 9 to discuss their work as summer associates in the Southeast. Furthermore, we will provide resources and guidance to first-year students who want to spend their first summer in the Southeast. These resources include resume review and learning to craft a cover letter geared toward the Southeast.

Beyond career-oriented programming, we plan to offer plenty of social opportunities, like SEC football game watch-parties and happy hours, once the pandemic is brought under control. We encourage everyone, even if you’re just curious about the Southeast, to attend events and get to know your fellow ‘hoos. Simply email Peyton Pair ’21 to join the email list and receive updates about future events.

Lone Star Lawyers

Lone Star Lawyers (LSL) works to create a network for

students interested in the Texas legal market by connecting them

Garrett Engel ’21
Guest Writer

with employers, alumni, and fellow students working in the state. LSL helps students find employment opportunities in Texas and provides a social atmosphere for students interested in Texas and alumni working in Texas to interact. LSL focuses heavily on its mentorship program which strengthens the competitiveness of UVA students who want to work in Texas by allowing 2Ls and 3Ls to guide 1Ls through the application and interview process. We help students “put their best foot forward” when they interview with Texas firms and teach them why Texas might just be the best place for them to start their legal career. In the past, LSL has held firm sponsored events such as our annual back-to-school happy hour, a “Taste of Texas” BBQ, professional and practice area focused panels, grab-and-go breakfasts (and lunches), and dozens of regular happy hours.

LSL is gearing up for many events this semester both social and professional in nature. On the professional side, we plan to host great firms such as Kirkland & Ellis, White & Case, Norton Rose Fulbright, and Vinson & Elkins. Socially, not only do we plan to hold opportunities to safely social distance in person, but LSL is hosting “office hours” every few weeks and continuing its Fantasy Football tradition under the leadership of Dillon Tan ’22, our VP of Social Outreach.

We are excited to serve the Law School community again this year. If anyone has any questions or would like to join LSL, feel free to reach out to me directly at sge7uk@virginia.edu.

Heartland ‘Hoos Round-up

Heartland ‘Hoos is an organization for students who are from the Midwest, are interested in practicing in the Midwest, or both. The purpose of the group is part social: connecting students from the Midwest; and part career-oriented: connecting and networking with employers across the Midwest. “Heartland” is loosely defined, and if you believe you belong to the Heartland, we are happy to have you in the group. The largest market we serve is Chicago, but we have members interested in markets all across the Midwest, including Minneapolis, Columbus, Kansas City, and more. Wherever our members are interested in, we are happy to act as the intermediary for networking in those markets.

Connor Day ’22 and Luke Versweyveld ’22 came up with the idea for Heartland ‘Hoos in the library last fall. Both are interested in practicing in Chicago, and they were surprised there was no student group serving the third-largest legal market in the country.

The Executive Board includes: President – Luke Versweyveld ’22, Vice President – Connor Day ’22, Treasurer – Paul Koltz

’22, Marketing Coordinator – Katie Graves ’22, and Event Coordinator – Bilal Askari ’22.

We will be hosting elections to replace our executive board at the end of this semester. Any interested 1Ls should reach out to Versweyveld at the email below.

Heartland ‘Hoos will be putting on a “Chicago Day” panel on Friday, October 16 from 3-4 p.m. Five top Chicago firms have already committed to attending this event. We will have a panel format where students can ask questions about the attorneys’ respective firms and the Chicago market during the first half-hour. The second half-hour will involve breakout rooms for more individualized communication between attorneys and students. If you have any interest in practicing in Chicago, you won’t want to miss this networking opportunity.

Any questions about membership or participating in Chicago Day can be directed to Luke Versweyveld at ljev3hq@virginia.edu.

West Coast Wahoos

West Coast Wahoos is a regionally-focused student organization at the Law School that seeks to create a network for students interested in legal markets on the West Coast, and to provide these students with networking and employment opportunities as well as alumni resources.

According to our Co-President Nachi Baru ’22, West Coast Wa-

hoos’ goal is to get West Coast firms connected with members, to teach members what West Coast firms are looking for, and to teach members how to market themselves specifically to West Coast firms. Although the West Coast Wahoos’ primary market focuses are in California—specifically San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego—the organization provides for career connections and networking opportunities with all markets west of and including Colorado. So, students interested in markets including Denver, Seattle, Portland, Phoenix, and even Honolulu would benefit from joining West Coast Wahoos.

Although the Office of Private Practice has established that 1Ls cannot begin attending networking events until October 1, West Coast Wahoos will be sending out information regarding general meetings and mid-semester 1L networking events through its listserv. And for the 2Ls, West Coast Wahoos will be hosting a networking event with attorneys from Jones Day in mid-September. This is a panel event followed by breakout rooms to give students the chance to more personally connect with the attorneys, and further information regarding this event will be spread via email in the coming weeks.

Baru emphasizes that, despite the pandemic’s negative effects on the economy, he has been in contact with many firms that are still expressing interest in speak-

CLUBS page 6

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

Entitled Millennials v. Student Affairs 73 U.Va 3 (2020)

TONSETH, J., delivered the opinion of the Court, in which WUNDERLI, QUERNER, CALAMARO, DESKINS, SCHMID, BERDAN, J., and LUK, C.J. join. STIEVATER, J. filed a dissenting opinion.

JUSTICE TONSETH delivered the opinion of the Court.

I.

“If a hungry little traveler shows up at your house, you might want to give him a cookie. If you give him a cookie, he’s going to ask for a glass of milk.” While no one foresaw Laura Numeroff as the Nostradamus of UVA Law for her illustrious work, *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*, her words could not be more poignant or applicable. Driven by hunger, greed, and poverty, the class of Entitled Millennials of UVA Law, hereinafter referred to as “plaintiffs,” leveraged this quote to secure a judgment in the District Court of Petty Appeals in their favor. Awarding of damages against the Office of Student Affairs, in the form of an expanded fruit selection, increased slots for registration, and punishment for repeat participants, goes beyond the scope of the Court’s jurisdiction. Due to the faulty interpretation and application of *1L Cookie Monsters v. UVA*, 370 U. Va. 100 (2020), in conjunction with my personal disdain for *stare decisis*, the decision against Student Affairs and award of damages is vacated. We humbly ask Student Affairs to accept our deepest condolences for this miscarriage of justice.

II.

Hybrid classes, social distancing, mask-wearing, and

the close of the Snack Office¹ all greeted students harshly upon their return to Charlottesville in mid-August. In a single ray of sunshine, Kate Duvall and the Office of Student Affairs established a partnership with Bellair Farms to deliver a mix of fresh vegetables, at no cost,

look out for each other. Further, plaintiffs complain the free produce they received was odd, whether it was a bag of beets,⁴ a kohlrabi,⁵ a single ear of corn, or assorted small squashes. In stating their claims, plaintiffs rely solely on the *1L Cookie Monsters v. UVA* precedent

their situation stating “the cost of tuition, which is still over \$60,000 for ridiculous Zoom classes, is consideration enough for a ‘Whole Foods’ style fruit selection. Registering for a slot clearly metered acceptance of the offer, and thus Student Affairs has breached our im-

portant value. It is thus the words of (a Supreme Court) Justice, Clarence Thomas, that drive my decision to follow and apply the first Petty Rule of Civil Procedure to this case today, “when faced with a demonstrably erroneous precedent, my rule is simple: We should not follow it.”⁶

The class of Entitled Millennials did not detrimentally rely on Student Affairs to provide free vegetables to their elevated standards, as neither did the 1Ls and their Friday cookies.⁷ Student Affairs gratuitously provided these options, whether healthy or good for the soul, at their own discretion to generate a rare smile from a student while at school. The plaintiffs attempted to accept, yet demand better gifts⁸ from Student Affairs

“Just because plaintiffs are already stressed in the first week of September, does not mean they can blame Student Affairs for not meeting their astronomical expectations.”

to students every Friday.² While it is beyond me why anyone would willingly eat vegetables,³ Student Affairs sponsored forty slots each week until October 6, on a first-come, first-serve basis, with SBA apportioning an additional twenty-five slots.

Plaintiffs complained to the District Court of Petty Appeals on two grounds. First, they claim that Student Affairs ignored their statutory duty to limit people from signing up for multiple slots, rather hoping to rely on the “collegiality” of UVA Law for law students to

of a breach of contract to get more free food, at their own quality standards.

In *1L Cookie Monsters*, Justice Stievater ordered Student Affairs to return “Weekly Wind Downs” and the associated free trays of cookies for 1Ls to enjoy on Friday afternoons. Relying on the UCC and the 1Ls’ detrimental reliance, Justice Stievater in dicta explained that sufficient consideration existed between Student Affairs and 1Ls to create a breach of contract for the failure to provide free cookies. Brief for the Plaintiffs applied this precedent to

plied quality standard. Replace cookies with Kohlrabi and the cases mirror each other,” at 24. Oh, how the turn tables.

III.

Respondents willingly ignored the first Petty Rule of Civil Procedure: We do what we want. *Law Weekly v. CoPA Copiers*, 369 U. Va. 96 (2019). Through our landmark decisions, this Court has consistently shaped events and outcomes in favor of law students to the detriment of the administration. However, these decisions are often left to the whimsy of each Justice, weakening the support for their prec-

⁶ See Clarence Thomas *Is Actually Right About Supreme Court Precedent*, Slate (last visited September 3, 2020).

⁷ But seriously, who would eat kohlrabi? Why can’t you just use lettuce or a regular turnip instead?

⁸ Yes, I looked up the rules for gifts from my property outline. It didn’t help my argument, as I must’ve zoned out when Professor Nicoletti talked about them, so let’s appeal to ethos attacks instead. I really should pay attention more.

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Faculty Quotes

M. Collins: “It’s an academic construct that academics have deconstructed.”

you say something like that, I will come back and haunt you.”

A. Bamzai: “If you’re not the type of person, who during high school or college, walked around in a French beret and a turtleneck and took pictures on one of these old machines, you may have never seen a camera.”


J. Harrison: “It would be disastrous for the country, but what the hell—it would be fascinating for me.”

J. Johnston: “Google doesn’t actually give legal advice.”

M. Gilbert: “Socialists need a crib too!”

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

A. Coughlin: “When you are all attorney generals and



Virginia Law Weekly

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PIECE OF THE PIE REWARDS

JOIN TODAY AND START EARNING POINTS TOWARD **FREE PIZZA**

1 = 10 POINTS 60 = FREE PIZZA

SIGN UP ORDER POINTS POINTS FREE PIZZA

FREE KINDNESS WITH EVERY ORDER

COPA

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is shameful. If anything, the plaintiffs ought to thank Student Affairs for thinking of them in their time of need. Further, this Court points the plaintiffs to *Honor Code Committee v. Fried Chicken Thieves*, 72 U. Va. 655 (2020), where blatant violations of the Honor Code not to steal free food is applicable here to slots for vegetables. The ire of the plaintiffs should thus be directed inwards, Lord of the Flies style.

“Emotional distress is a harm within the risk of attending school.” *1L Gunners v. Everyone Else*, 324 U. Va. 22, 24 (2019). Just because plaintiffs are already stressed in the first week of September⁹ does not mean they can blame Student Affairs for not meeting their astronomical expectations (i.e. beggars can’t be choosers). It is therefore decreed that this Court is no longer bound by *stare decisis*,¹⁰ that *1L Cookie Monsters v. UVA* is overturned as an erroneous abuse of discretion, and every plaintiff owes Lisa or Kate Duvall a handwritten apology.

⁹ Same, I keep getting my seat stolen in class because my professors won’t do a seating chart. :(

¹⁰ It is with my own whimsy I have declared this power. My rule of tyranny begins now.

STIEVATER, J. dissenting.

I confess myself to be bitterly disappointed with the majority’s outcome in this case. For one, this is the Court of Petty Appeals and the Justices who preside over it are similarly petty. Since handing down what I believed to be a landmark holding in *1L Cookie Monsters v. UVA*, 370 U. Va. 100 (2020), I have come to revel in my unofficial titles of reverence, which include, but are not limited to: King of Cookies, Sultan of Snickerdoodles, and the Chocolate Chip Khan. To be stripped of these so early into my 2L year burns deeply, like a tray of cookies pulled out of the oven with no mitts. Justice Tonseth includes a reference to the fictional Dothraki language from *Game of Thrones* in footnote five. Perhaps he will recognize this one: The North remembers. So too will the countless cookie monsters that Justice Tonseth has wronged today.

Secondly, Justice Tonseth builds his abominable decision on faulty ground. Indeed, it is ground no sturdier than a crumbly cookie. The decision today concerns the alleged quality of vegetables, which the majority writes the plaintiffs have no legal right to argue over. I need not wade into the waters of this argument. The class in *1L Cookie Monsters* did not argue over the quality of cookies, only that they continue to be provided once the contract was formed.

My holding recognized this right to continual cookies at Weekly Wind Downs because there was sufficient consideration, in the form of tuition, to form a contract. It did not purport to demand a quality of cookie. The Entitled Millennials before the Court today erroneously imagined *1L Cookie Monsters* to provide them a legal argument. That might have been the case if the Bellair Farm Fridays were suddenly discontinued by Student Affairs and no vegetables were available at all, but it is not the case when the vegetables are to their displeasure.

I condemn Justice Tonseth’s disregard for *stare decisis* and the majority’s crumbly legal reasoning. They were not too mighty to partake in cookie eating themselves last year, I might add. I rebuke the Entitled Millennials for attempting to fly too high as a collective, greedy Icarus in their search for “Instagram-able” vegetables, thereby sacrificing the 1L right to cookies. I lament the loss of my legacy as the Protector of (Baked) Goods. If I can’t use my legal education to secure my friends and myself cookies, what’s this all been for? I dissent.

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Food Recommendation Corner

A Potentially Controversial Opinion on Local Pizza

After months of being conditioned to eat pizza every week in the *Law Weekly* office, Mon-

Stan Birch '22
News Editor



day nights during quarantine served as a sharp reminder that I wasn’t getting the greasy fix that initially lured me to join the paper. After realizing I should take matters into my own hands, I started working my way through local pizza places (excluding chains, so my condolences to Mellow Mushroom). My method involved ordering whatever sounded good for the best deal and then eating too much of it. After six different restaurants and eleven different pizzas (split or sampled), I found a clear winner that I kept returning to and will continue to return to regardless of the state of the pandemic: Dr. Ho’s Humble Pie. A quiet spot unheard of by many of my colleagues, Dr. Ho’s takes take-out seriously and is worth the short drive.

I recommend the Triple Threat Pizza Combo, where you can pick your choice of salad and specialty pizza. Along with their specialty pie and salad that could fill two meals on their own comes the best bulk version of garlic bread I have had in a long time. That “garlic bread” comes

with fantastic house-made ranch dressing and marinara dipping sauces and is named perfectly to describe how you feel after too many slices: Fat and Sassy. As soon as sweater weather is on the horizon, I’m guessing I’ll be placing regular orders again. It’s refreshing that Dr. Ho’s is humble, because they have a lot to brag about.

The People’s Burger – Citizen Burger Bar

When something you’ve spent \$15 on falls to pieces in your hands, that’s usually cause to be upset. But not when it comes to burgers. I rarely use the term “hot mess” endearingly, but in this situation, I can think of

Jonathan Peterson '23
Guest Writer



no better way to describe Citizen Burger’s titular meal: the Citizen Burger. It’s a hot, beautiful, delicious, and greasy mess. The restaurant itself, however, is anything but a mess. Clean and located directly across from the Paramount Theater on the Downtown Mall, this burger bar boasts hole-in-the-wall-quality burgers with the sleek venue and pleasant outdoor seating of a not-hole-in-the-wall restaurant. The atmosphere is comfortable, friendly, and, if you’re lucky

FOOD page 6

HOT BENCH



Ali Muhammad

Premier Security Guard

Interviewed by Devon Chenelle '23

Hi Ali! Welcome to Hot Bench! So, I’m sure almost all of our readers have seen you around Grounds, but they might not all know that you are our steadfast security guard. So, when did you first move to Charlottesville?

I moved to Charlottesville in 2007 from Germany.

When did you start working for the University of Virginia?

In 2013.

How did you get started here?

Well, when I first moved here I could not speak English. So, when I got here I took English classes twice a day. I took the beginner’s English course for six months, and then I took an advanced course. I then studied IT and received an Associate’s Degree in IT. Then, I got a job working at UVA as a security guard.

Where are you from?

I was born in Iraq. I was actually born in Baghdad. I left because of the war. I don’t want to be negative, but because of the dictatorship of Saddam Hussein and because of the First Gulf War I simply could not live in Iraq anymore. That was when life began to get hard, in 1991. I left Iraq for good in 1998. From 1991 to 2003 there was an embargo on Iraq, and so Iraq was unable to get any medication or food whatsoever. Those were very very hard years.

Have you been back to Iraq since?

I went back to Iraq in 2014. I could not stay because it was a nightmare—everything was destroyed. It was worse than it was in 1991 or in 1998. It was very sad. I couldn’t stay for more than two weeks. It was incredibly sad.

Is there anything you miss the most about Iraq? Anything you wish you could bring over?

That’s a good question—I don’t know. It was a good learning experience to live there, but I learned a lot about my culture once I left.

How so?

Well, once I lived in a Western country, I came to wish we had colleges in Iraq, that we had an education system. We could have done very well, but most of the time we just have war. I realized that I felt sorry about the Middle East, and about Iraq, because they never had the opportunity. They never had a choice, and they never had the opportunity

to live differently.

What brought you to Charlottesville specifically?

I could not renew my visa in Germany because of the 2003 war in Iraq, so my only choices were to return to Iraq or come to America. I was able to come to America because I was granted refugee status when George W. Bush signed his second order to allow Iraqis to come to America. I was placed in Charlottesville by the American government.

Have you seen many other parts of America?

I’ve been to New York. It was the most amazing thing I’d ever seen—just so huge. I love museums in America, especially the National Museum in D.C. I also love American teachers and professors. They are the best in the world. They teach you to see things from many different perspectives. At Piedmont Community College, my professors were just amazing. My teacher at the Adult Learning Center was absolutely incredible. You know, when you move somewhere, you have culture shock, and the teachers helped me a lot with that.

If you could live anywhere, where would it be?

Germany. I would love to go back to Germany.

You like Germany better?

It was a different experience. They were a lot more laid-back in Germany. Here in the US we work long hours and study a lot. For most of my time in America, I’ve worked two jobs. Life is very expensive in America

If you won the lottery,

what would you do with it?

Ohhh! (laughing). I would go and help the people I know need money in Iraq, and everywhere around the world. I actually play the lottery once a week so I can dream about that.

Weirdest thing you’ve seen on Grounds?

Oh my god, I don’t want to get myself in trouble! The weirdest thing is when people don’t take the opportunity to study here seriously, because when I was the students’ age I would dream about such an opportunity to study as this, which I never had.

What’s something most people don’t know about you?

I can always be there if they need help.

What from your own life experience would you want students to apply?

I would advise young people to move around a lot, live in different places, and have different experiences. As you get older your life starts to get faster and faster, and if you stay in the same place you’ll look back on your life and wonder what happened.

Any last remarks for students?

Don’t be afraid of the future. It’s normal to feel that way, but when you get old you don’t feel scared anymore because you’re used to the feeling, and life is like waves. Sometimes you’re up and sometimes you’re down.

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ANTITRUST

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efficacy of public institutions, do Americans trust the government to be honest stewards of such power? With tech platforms playing a key role in the manipulation of information and the facilitation of our civil and political discourse, are their private incentives any better? Can a well-educated “We The People” determine such things when efficacy in the news and media itself reflects that 78 percent of Americans recognize the spread of misinformation online is “a major problem.”¹

In next week’s article, we’ll assess how the rise of illiberal democracies may affect our view of regulation of these Big Tech platforms. Is American-owned Big Tech the only alternative or might a cure worse than the disease emerge if Big Tech in the U.S is replaced by Big Tech in an illiberal nation with a less-transparent governing regime?

As for TikTok . . . we’ll explore that in a week’s time!

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¹ <https://knightfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/American-Views-2020-Trust-Media-and-Democracy.pdf>

FOOD

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enough, you might even catch some drama and spot someone getting mugged Downtown (based on a true story).

Citizen Burger's ideology is just as noble as their burgers. Based on the belief that burgers and beer are simple pleasures, tantamount to a basic human right, Citizen Burger strives to bring that experience to all of Charlottesville. Owned by Wahoo Andy McClure '01, the restaurant sources as many of its ingredients from local farms as possible. Thanks to their philosophy of making simple burgers that stand on their own merits, not the pomp and frills of many a strawman burger, Citizen Burger's menu is surprisingly low maintenance. It's easily navigated, and you can trust the signature burgers to get the job done. Their drink list, however, with more than 110 beers and no shortage of cocktails, is a different (although still wonderful) beast altogether.

At the end of the day, Citizen Burger meets the level of quality it promises; although, thanks to my commitment issues, I hesitate to confirm its self-proclaimed status of "BEST BURGER IN CHARLOTTESVILLE." That being said, if you doubt the claim yourself, Tripadvisor is more than willing to provide its objective and factually correct rankings, on which you will find Citizen Burger sitting pretty at #1.

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CLUBS

continued from page 3

ing with and hiring UVA Law students. In fact, given the need for virtual networking, Baru explained that even more firms are now expressing interest in networking, as those organizations that were previously constrained by the travel time and expenses from the West Coast to Charlottesville now have the opportunity to network virtually with students.

West Coast Wahoos' Chair of Career Development Ian Hurst '22 also expressed that he loves the culture of West Coast legal organizations, and that West Coast Wahoos is a great way for students to learn more about West Coast markets. Further, Hurst adds that it is never too early for students to start developing their networking skills, and West Coast Wahoos provides a host of events that give students the opportunity to network and work on building connections and networking abilities.

To be added to the West Coast Wahoos listserv, students can email West Coast Wahoos' Student Outreach Chair Sami Ghanem '22, at sg3wu@virginia.edu.

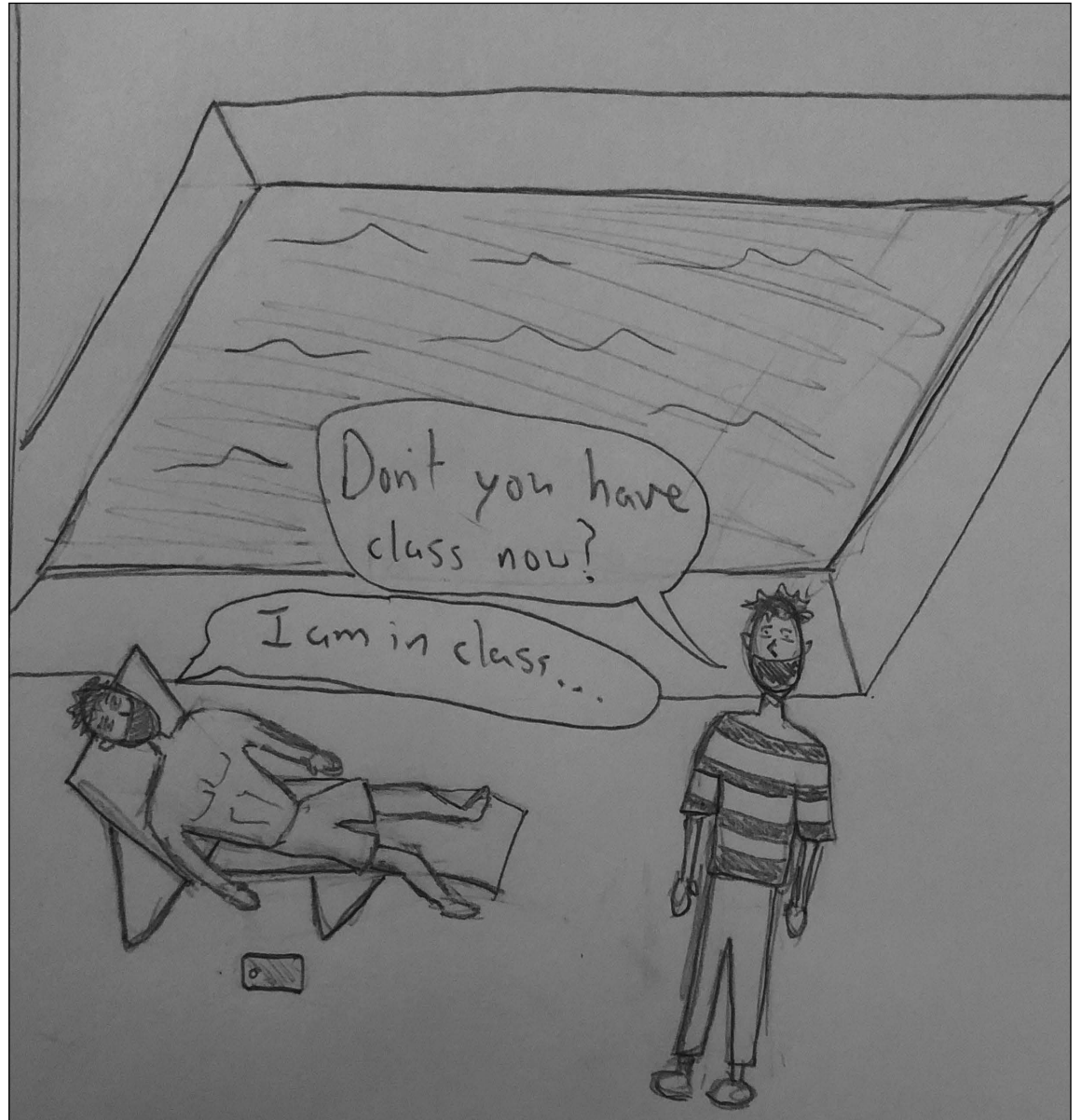
pair@virginia.edu

sge7uk@virginia.edu

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kmq8vf@virginia.edu

Cartoon By Raphael



TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	COST	FOOD?
WEDNESDAY – September 9				
12:30 – 13:30	Exercising the Franchise: The Past, Present, and Future of the Fight for Voting Rights - ACS	Zoom	Free	⊗
17:30 – 18:30	The Real Deal #1: Public Defense	Zoom	Free	⊗
17:30 – 18:30	Student Affairs Spouse and Partner Presentation and Panel	Zoom	Free	⊗
19:00 – 20:00	National Security and Cyber Practices in the Private Sector	Zoom	Free	⊗
19:00 – 20:00	Middle Eastern and North African General Body Meeting	Zoom	Free	⊗
20:30 – 21:30	Student Panel Event: Private Practice in the Southeast	Zoom	Free	⊗
THURSDAY – September 10				
11:00	'The Living Presidency,' With Professor Saikrishna Prakash	Zoom	Free	⊗
12:15	How the Law Treats Hate: Antisemitism and Anti-Discrimination Reconsidered	Zoom	Free	⊗
17:15 – 18:45	BLSA The Role of Non-Black Allies	Zoom	Free	⊗
18:00 – 19:00	Health Law Association Gen. Body Meeting	Zoom	Free	⊗
19:00 – 20:00	Law Republicans Kickoff Event	Zoom	Free	⊗
20:00 – 21:00	Extramural Moot Court Info Session	Zoom	Free	⊗
FRIDAY – September 11				
17:15 – 18:15	Lambda General Body Meeting and 1L Rep Elections	Zoom	Free	⊗
SATURDAY – September 12				
05:00 – 09:00	Walk-Up Farmers Market	IX Art Park	Free	Available for Purchase
MONDAY – September 14				
19:00 – 20:00	Law Weekly – Editor's Meeting	Zoom	Free	BYOP
Tuesday – September 15				
13:00 – 13:30	Virginia Environmental Law Forum's Super-Short General Body Meeting	Zoom	Free	⊗
17:00 – 18:00	Law Dems Event on 2020 Polling	Zoom	Free	⊗
18:00 – 19:15	Elections in the Age of a Pandemic	Zoom	Free	BYOCFA

THE DOCKET

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