JOURNAL OF LAW & EDUCATION (JLE)

To: Potential *JLE* Candidates
From: Trent Taylor, Editor-in-Chief
Re: Application for 2019-2020

Overview

After a third of a century, the *Journal of Law and Education* (*JLE*) continues to thrive as a leading journal in the field of education, ranking well above the median in law review circulation. The *JLE* provides an important resource for judges, lawyers, teachers, school administrators, and education practitioners to stay abreast of developments in education law (i.e., constitutional issues, torts, disability law, employment law). Professionals across the country and around the world depend on the *JLE* for information. In fact, the international subscriptions comprise a dozen countries.

The editorial staff is excited that you have expressed an interest in becoming a part of this publication's bright future. As you consider the application process, it is important to appreciate that professionals across the country and around the world refer to the *JLE* for information and that the publication they receive must be of the highest caliber. If accepted as a candidate, your contributions to the *JLE* will determine the quality of the product and whether this publication continues to thrive as a leading journal in the field of education.

Please note that there is a mandatory orientation for all selected candidates. Orientation will be held on June 1 at 10:00 a.m. Attendance at this orientation is a requirement for membership on the journal.

Earning Membership Status

Journal membership is not automatic. If you are accepted as a candidate for *JLE* membership, you will attain membership status only after you have satisfactorily fulfilled all *JLE* requirements. You must complete four abstract assignments (one assignment per quarterly issue) and write a note (Chalk Talk), no more than fourteen pages long, on a self-selected, contemporary education topic. This note will be considered for publication in the *Journal*. You must also participate in the mandatory orientation prior to beginning your candidacy.

Benefits

There are multiple benefits to journal membership. Along with becoming more knowledgeable in education law, a key benefit is enjoying a unique opportunity to practice, develop, and demonstrate your legal research, writing, and communication skills and to have your work published. Other benefits include the opportunities to earn academic credit and to meet the law school's writing requirement. Academic credit (1 hour) is earned by spending a minimum of 60 hours completing both the abstract assignments and the Chalk Talk. The writing requirement is met by following the law school's published guidelines (e.g., minimum of twenty-five (25) pages exclusive of footnotes).

Who Should Apply

The *JLE* operates under the belief that excellent writing skills, dependability and strong interest are the most desirable characteristics of candidates, but candidates must have at least a 2.0 cumulative grade point average. Candidates must maintain full-time or part-time student status through the Spring 2020 semester. Those who complete membership requirements and maintain the requisite student status may apply for editorial board positions the following year.

<p align="center">**Journal of Law & Education Application 2019-2020**</p>

A completed application includes the following items:
___ Your personal information sheet (see p.4)
___ A case abstract (see attached instructions)
___ An additional writing sample (see Application Instructions below)
___ Your résumé (please include your GPA and Class Rank)

<p align="center">**Application Instructions**</p>

1. Write a **case abstract** of the attached case in accordance with the abstracting guidelines and suggestions contained within this packet. Following the guidelines is very important. As a student candidate, these abstracts are the type of writing that you will be expected to produce.
2. Include an **additional writing sample**, preferably the argument section from your 1L brief.
3. Fill out the **personal information sheet**.
4. Enclose your updated **résumé.** Please include your GPA and class rank.
5. Please **email** your completed application materials to **tatayl07@louisville.edu** as a single PDF.
6. **Deadline** for submission of the completed application is **Friday, May 10th at 11:59 p.m**.
7. After submission of your materials, your personal information will be redacted. This will allow the board to select candidates based upon writing ability only.

At *JLE,* we function under the honor system. As long as you verify, by signing at the bottom of the personal information sheet, that the work contained in your application packet is your own and that your cumulative grade point average is at least a 2.0, your application will be considered. Applications will be judged based upon 1) writing ability as reflected in the submitted abstract and writing sample and 2) dependability as reflected in one's résumé. If there are more qualified applicants than available positions, applicants will be invited to participate in a brief interview in order to aid the selection process.

Please be aware that should you be offered membership, there is a mandatory Orientation on June 1 at 10:00 a.m.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at tatayl07@louisville.edu.

Thank you for participating!

Instructions for Writing the Abstract

A. Writing the Case Summary
The case for you to abstract is *Pollack v. Reg'l Sch. Unit 75*, 886 F.3d 75 (1st Cir. 2018). The guidelines below and the sample abstract at the bottom of this sheet should guide you in your work. Keep your summary to one-half page.

Remember, your purpose in the abstract is to give the reader a thorough understanding of the key issues in the case, not necessarily all the details. If the reader decides, based upon your abstract, that the case is one they need to read, they will read it in its entirety themselves.

B. Guidelines
1. Each abstract (no more than one-half page) should include:
a) **Opening Sentence**: The reader should learn who sued whom for what. Italicize this sentence. Do not include the articles "a," "an," and "the."
b) **Facts**: Succinctly state all relevant facts and relevant procedural elements.
c) **Holding Sentence**: State who won. Italicize this sentence.
d) **Analysis**: Explain the legal theories the court used and how it applied those theories to the facts of the case.
e) **Citation**: Cite according to the latest edition of the Bluebook. Italicize the case name.

C. Writing Conventions and Suggestions
1. Use past tense to describe the action.
2. Capitalize only proper names.
3. Do not number the issues or points that the court made. For example, do not write "The court decided three issues: 1) the teacher had standing; 2) the principal was not negligent… etc.
4. Make the opening sentence fully informative of the action, parties, and issue. Do not use articles or adjectives in this first sentence. *Do* use articles them in the rest of the abstract.
5. Avoid legal terms (e.g., mandamus, certiorari). Use terms the intended audience will understand.
6. Do not include the lower court's opinion unless it is significant to the outcome of the case.
7. Do not refer to statutes by name (e.g., KRS 421.065); instead, say "state statute."
8. Identify parties by their role (e.g., teacher, principal) rather than by legal terminology (e.g., plaintiff, defendant).

Sample Abstract

College student injured during rugby practice sued state for negligence. The student sued the state, as owner and operator of the college, for its failure to provide supervision of the rugby practice, to instruct and train the rugby players, to properly fund the rugby club, and to furnish a safe field.

Held: For the state. The student voluntarily assumed the risk of injury during practice. The student had experience with rugby, regularly practiced on the same field where he was injured, always practiced with student coaches, and had witnessed prior injuries. He was, therefore, aware of the possible risks and consequences. *Regan v. State*, 654 N.Y.S.2d 488 (N.Y. App. Div. 3d Dept. 1997).

<h1 style="text-align:center">Personal Information Sheet</h1>

Please fill out the following information.

Name: _____
Year 2019-2020 (circle one):   2L   3L   4L   Other ___
Division 2019-2020 (circle one):   Full-time   Part-time
LS Professor: _____
E-mail address you check regularly: _____
Mailing address during school year: _____
_____
Mailing address during summer: _____
_____
Phone Number (Residence): _____
Phone Number (Cell): _____

Assignment Preferences

Assignments involve reading and writing abstracts for scholarly articles (no subdivision by area of law) and cases (subdivision by area of law). Currently, candidates are assigned to one of six subject areas: articles, constitutional law, disability and harassment law, employment law, student loans and litigation, and torts. Rank these subject areas according to your interest (see below). If selected for candidacy, this ranking will be considered in making assignments; candidates are not guaranteed assignments based upon this ranking.

Rank your preference from 1 to 6, with 1 being "most interested" and 6 being "least interested." ___ Articles ___ Constitutional Law ___ Disability and Harassment Law ___ Employment Law ___ Student Loans and Litigation ___ Torts

Academic Credit and Writing Options

Given the membership requirements of the journal and law school policies for earning academic credit and meeting the writing requirement, a variety of options exist for candidates. Please indicate your preference for earning academic credit and meeting the writing requirement while fulfilling journal responsibilities.

Academic Credit
___ I do not desire to earn academic credit while completing the membership requirements.
___ I desire to earn academic credit while completing the membership requirements.

Writing Requirement Credit
___ I prefer not to use my Chalk Talk for the writing requirement.
___ I prefer to write a paper that meets the writing requirement.

Note that if you are selected for candidacy, your first assignment will occur over the summer, usually in July.

I verify that the work contained in this application is my own and that my cumulative grade point average is at least 2.0.   Signature: _____