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UNLV | WILLIAM S. BOYD
SCHOOL OF LAW

Boyd Briefs
March 9, 2018



From Dean Dan

Every spring for nearly a decade, Students United for Diversity in the Law (SUDL) organize and carry out the Street Law program, where our students talk about the law and law school with high school students around Las Vegas. This year, Street Law classes are being held at Chaparral High School every Friday. At the conclusion of the program on April 13, we will host a mock trial for the high school students in the Thomas & Mack Moot Courtroom so they can apply what they have learned over several weeks. My sincere thanks to SUDL leadership, Michael Shamoan (2L) and Lucy Crow (2L), for organizing this important program as well as all of the attorneys, judges, and students who volunteer their time.

I would also like to extend my congratulations to student Sara Schreiber (2L) who has been selected by the American Constitution Society (ACS) as a Next Generation Leader. ACS selects a small group of students from almost 200 chapters who have demonstrated strong leadership capabilities. This is the second year in a row UNLV Law has been honored to have a student named to this group of law student leaders. Thanks also to ACS faculty advisor Ruben Garcia.

Best,

Dan
 Dean & Richard J. Morgan Professor of Law
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Faculty Spotlight: Stacey A. Tovino

Stacey Tovino is the founding director of the UNLV Health Law Program and the Lehman Professor of Law.

What interesting things are you working on right now?

I am working with researchers at Johns Hopkins University, the University of Michigan, Boston University, and the American



Medical Association on an application for a research grant that will assess public and patient attitudes regarding grateful patient fundraising, which is the solicitation of funds from patients who are, or who may be, grateful for the health care they have received. We hope our research will inform institutional fundraising policies as well as federal and state regulation in this area.

Which of your recent articles should I read?

I would suggest my forthcoming *Iowa Law Review* article titled "A Timely Right to Privacy" and my forthcoming *Alabama Law Review* article titled "A Right to Care." The first article catalogues and assesses all of the Department of Health and Human Services' enforcement actions involving violations of federal health privacy and security regulations, finding a lack of timely attention to the privacy and security rights of individuals. The second article examines the impact of President Trump's incremental health care reforms on non-Medicare coverage of skilled nursing care, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech-language therapy, respiratory therapy, and cognitive rehabilitation. As background, a federal court in January 2013 ordered the Medicare Program to cover skilled care and therapy services for beneficiaries with chronic and progressive health conditions, even if their conditions were stable but no longer improving. My article shows that 84% of state-selected benchmark health plans still require non-Medicare insureds to demonstrate improvement before insurance coverage will occur, thus challenging prior scholars' assumptions regarding the influence of Medicare law and policy on non-Medicare insurance. My article also shows that recent regulations proposed by the Trump administration may increase the percentage of health plans that do not follow Medicare law and policy on this issue.

What is your favorite part of your job as a law school professor and as founding director of the UNLV Health Law Program?

Hands down, my favorite part of my job is seeing my students accomplish their career goals. Our students obtain jobs in large and small health law firms, federal and state health and social services agencies, local departments of health, general and special hospitals, public and private academic medical centers, and for-profit and not-for-profit health care institutions. They keep me on my toes!

Student Spotlight: Alex Velto



How, if at all, has your experience as a college policy debater helped you in law school?

College debate is a team-oriented and research-intensive activity. I spent each year focused on a topic that asked whether the federal government should change public policy in a specific area of law. Because we spent so much time researching, I became familiar with a lot of topics discussed in law school. More importantly, it taught me how to prepare and analyze arguments. We would do so in a way similar to how you might litigate: researching our arguments, preparing for our opponent's, and thinking about the strongest counter-arguments to each.

Which Boyd faculty member has left an indelible impression upon you?

This is tough. [Adjunct] Professor Joe Regalia fundamentally changed my writing and taught me how to edit. But more recently, Professor Anne Traum has been an incredible influence. In her appellate clinic, she has taught me how to think about appeals thoroughly, the work ethic you need to succeed, and how to strategize when the record is stacked against you. I will take many of Professor Traum's lessons with me into practice.

Let's say you owned a primitive mobile device that allowed you but one music download. What would it be?

"The General" by Dispatch. You smile, you laugh, you cry; it's a great song all-around.

What's the master plan following graduation in May?

After graduation, I'll be clerking for Justice James Hardesty of the Nevada Supreme Court and then returning to Las Vegas. I want to learn how to be an attorney first and continue connecting with the Las Vegas community. But I eventually want to either run for office or go into the public sector. I love law because I love solving problems. Government is a great place to do that.

Alumni Spotlight : Crystal T. Espanol '10



Crystal is Deputy City Solicitor for the City of Philadelphia in the Finance & Contracts Division of the Commercial Law Unit.

What drew you to the City of Philadelphia Law Department and what do you like most about your work there?

Two things attracted me: one, the people; and two, the work.

First, I work with high level government officials from very diverse backgrounds. I also have the best colleagues. Fun fact: My office is the largest municipal law department in Pennsylvania, with over 200 attorneys representing the City on a variety of civil matters. All of the attorneys work together; and I am able to provide a legal perspective to protect the best interests of the City in any transaction or project being contemplated.

Second, my work is meaningful. I review and negotiate contracts between outside parties and the City on matters of significance. My work ultimately has a large impact on the lives of all Philadelphians from all walks of life. Sometimes the matters we work on receive news coverage; and it is a great feeling to know I have contributed in part to those matters.

What is the best moment of your career so far?

Last summer, I was honored to receive a Certificate of Excellence from the Philadelphia City Solicitor and got to meet the Mayor of Philadelphia, Jim Kenney as part of the award ceremony. I was one of approximately 20 awardees.

What do you like about living and practicing law in Philadelphia?

Philadelphia is an old and historic city; but it also has an amazing food scene and rich culture. Philadelphia is also a city of distinct neighborhoods. Each section of the City has its own identity. For example, I live in a section of South Philadelphia that is considered Philadelphia's restaurant row. I am within walking distance from many of the award-winning restaurants on the row. I am fortunate to have become friends with some of the chefs. As for my practice, although Philadelphia is a large city, the legal community is very tight-knit. Attorneys here are always willing to help a colleague in need.

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