



NATIONAL SECURITY LAW JOURNAL

Information Session
Tuesday, April 8, 2014



- Welcome
- Presentation by the Editor-in-Chief
 - What Makes NSLJ Unique
 - Expectations for Candidate Members
 - Write-On Competition
 - Publish-On Option
- Panel Discussion: Our Experience on NSLJ
- Questions
- Special Presentation by Prof. Jaffer on the Homeland and National Security Law Program



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NSLJ MASTHEAD 2014-2015

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- THE WALL STREET JOURNAL**
- WSJ**
- WEEKEND EDITION
- SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 2013
- Judge Backs the NSA's Surveillance**
- Ruling on U.S. Phone Data Controls Rival Decision, Boosting Likelihood of Supreme Court Review*
- Burning Down the Steakhouse**
- What's News**
- The Words That In 2013**
- NO. 1212M
- WEL, 1212M NO. 1212
- *** \$1.00 ***
- WEL, 1212M





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WHAT MAKES NSLJ UNIQUE

- Small and selective group
- Multiple Members who are professionals/practitioners in the national security field
- 2Ls, 2Es, and 3Es can become Candidate Members through the write-on process
- Only journal that allows 2Ls, 2Es, and 3Es the option to “publish on” and become full Members eligible for Editorial Board positions



- Digital and print issue published twice annually
 - Digital version on our website, www.nslj.org
 - Print edition available from Amazon and Barnes & Noble
- Publications usually feature three professional pieces and two student comments





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WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT: SYMPOSIA

- We host dynamic events to complement our printed publication
- We typically host two symposia a year; this year we were able to host three





- Nov. 6, 2013: *Drone Wars: Challenges and Solutions*
- Nov. 12, 2013: *Blinking Red: Crisis and Compromise in American Intelligence After 9/11*
- March 26, 2014: *Safe and Surveilled: Former U.S. Attorney General Michael Mukasey on the NSA, Wiretapping, and PRISM*





WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT: CANDIDATE MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

- General responsibilities throughout the year:
 - Complete spading assignments for the pieces we will publish (check footnotes and sources for accuracy and correct *Bluebook* format)
 - Assist with our symposia, the annual ABA conference, and other events
 - Attend meetings (~once a month), read our weekly e-mail updates, and complete other tasks
- Fall semester:
 - Write a Note/Comment either in Scholarly Writing or as an Independent Study
- Spring semester:
 - Interview for Editorial Board positions
 - Attend Law Journal Management classes and prepare for transition (if on incoming Editorial Board)



- Introduction to spading/research in mid-July after we extend offers
- Potential topic ideas for your student comment shared mid/late July
- An orientation and welcome reception in mid/late August to welcome you to NSLJ and provide you with more guidance
- Possibility of a professionally-taught spading seminar in mid-September





- Packet released Friday, May 16th at 5:00 p.m.
- Submissions due Friday, May 30th at 5:00 p.m.

- Tips for success:
 - Pay attention to the many administrative details (e.g., number of printed packets, e-mail submissions, optional statements, etc.)
 - You will be tired after finals—just do it!



- Write-On Packet (Required):
 - Comment/Note (9-12 pages, no outside research) – 65%
 - Bluebook Exercise (15-20 citations to be formatted) – 10%
 - Grade Release Form (minimum 2.5 GPA) – 25%
- Write-On Packet (Optional):
 - Statement of Interest (less than 250 words)
 - Resume

Either of these can help distinguish you as a potential Candidate Member and are taken into consideration when extending offers



- Another path to journal membership—**only available to 2Ls, 2Es, and 3Es**
 - May select Write-On, Publish-On, or both
- Requires submission of a piece of “publishable quality” related to national security law
 - Allows an individual to join NSLJ as a full Member and compete for Editorial Board positions (if available)
 - Process is intended for upper class students to demonstrate they have mastered what our Candidate Members learn through their first year in Scholarly Writing
 - Members who “publish on” will have the same responsibilities and opportunities as other full members
- Publish-On submissions are due in June
- Offers for full membership will be extended concurrently with CM offers in July



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- When deciding which journal to join, think about the type of experience you want to have.
- Compare NSLJ to other journals at Mason and decide for yourself:
 - Flip through our Year in Review
 - Read our print edition—available at the Law Library, Arlington Campus Bookstore, Amazon.com, and Barnes & Noble (search “National Security Law Journal”)
 - Visit our website and social media sites:
 - Website: www.nslj.org
 - Facebook: www.facebook.com/NatISecLJ
 - YouTube: www.youtube.com/NatISecLJ
 - Twitter: www.twitter.com/NatISecLJ
 - View photos and videos from our events: www.nslj.org/events/



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