

## NATIONAL SECURITY LAW JOURNAL

Information Session

Tuesday, April 7, 2015



### TODAY'S AGENDA

- 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
- Remarks by Professor Jamil Jaffer
  - Homeland and National Security Law Program



### **NSLJ MASTHEAD 2015-2016**

#### **Editor-in-Chief**

Rick Myers

**Executive Editor** 

Sean Murphy

**Managing Editor** 

Lynzi Maas

**Senior Articles Editor** 

Kevin Misener

**Senior Notes Editor** 

Molly Picard

**Senior Research Editor** 

Stephen Jackson

**Articles Editors** 

Sarish Khan Dillion Emmanuel **Notes Editor** 

Kirstin Riesbeck

**Research Editor** 

Zachary Deubler

**Articles Selection Editor** 

Molly Picard

**Symposium Editor** 

Kirsten Riesbeck

**Members** 

Sid Das, Kelly Snyder, Abhi Mehta, Jennifer Zielonis



#### WHAT MAKES NSLJ UNIQUE

- Nationally recognized as one of the top three journals on national security law
- A constantly evolving and dynamic area of law
  - Frequently in the headlines
  - Great opportunities to write student comments
- Proximity to Washington, D.C. allows for interaction with big names in the field







### 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



### WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT: PUBLICATIONS

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





### WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT: SYMPOSIA

- We host dynamic events to complement our printed publication
- We typically host two symposia a year
- We also host or co-sponsor other selected events







### WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT: SYMPOSIA / EVENTS

- Nov. 12, 2014: Company Man: Thirty Years of Controversy and Crisis in the CIA, a conversation with John Rizzo on his life as the CIA's top lawyer
- Feb. 19, 2015: National Security Oversight and Accountability After the Senate Torture Report, a conversation with American University Law Professor Stephen Vladeck













## 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 (Scholarly Writing is strongly recommended)
- Spring semester:
  - Interview for Editorial Board positions
  - Attend Law Journal Management classes and prepare for transition (if on incoming Editorial Board)



### WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT: HOW WE'LL PREPARE YOU

- 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
- Spading feedback during monthly meetings to provide you with more guidance







### WRITE-ON COMPETITION

- Packet released Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.
  - Available on the GMU Law Review website
- Submissions due Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup> by 5:00 p.m.
  - Must be submitted to <u>writeon@nslj.org</u>

- Tips for success:
  - Pay attention to the many administrative details (e.g., e-mail submission requirements, the Grade Release form requriments, optional statements, etc.)
  - You will be tired after finals—just do it!



#### **NSLJ WRITE-ON REQUIREMENTS**

- Write-On Packet (Required):
  - Comment/Note (9-12 pages, no outside research) 65%
  - Bluebook Exercise (21 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 (personal information redacted)

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

If you have any NSLJ- specific questions during the Write-On Competition, please e-mail Lynzi Maas, the NSLJ Managing Editor (Lynzi.Maas@nslj.org)



#### **NSLJ PUBLISH-ON OPTION**

- 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
  - Due date is TBD please refer to the NSLJ website for more information (www.nslj.org/publishon/)
- Offers for full membership will be extended concurrently with CM offers in July



#### **COMPARE & DECIDE**

- 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 brochure
  - 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/NatlSecLJ
    - YouTube: www.youtube.com/NatlSecLJ
    - Twitter: www.twitter.com/NatlSecLJ
  - View photos and videos from our events: <u>www.nslj.org/events/</u>



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