



NATIONAL SECURITY
LAW JOURNAL

INFORMATION FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

JULY 2014



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WELCOME TO MASON LAW!

Congratulations on your admission to George Mason University School of Law!

We hope you consider applying to join the *National Security Law Journal* (“NSLJ”), one of the premier student-edited law journals at Mason. We print timely, insightful scholarship on pressing matters that further the dynamic field of national security law, including topics relating to foreign affairs, intelligence, civil liberties, and national defense.

We have prepared this packet to provide you with some information about our journal and the write-on process. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at alexander.yesnik@nslj.org.

We hope you apply to join our team!

Warmly,

Alexander Yesnik
Editor-in-Chief



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WHAT MAKES NSLJ UNIQUE

- Nationally recognized as one of the top three journals on national security law
- Small and selective group
 - Multiple student Members who are professionals/practitioners in the national security field
- A constantly evolving and dynamic area of law
 - Frequently in the headlines
 - Great opportunities to write student Comments or Notes
- Proximity to Washington, D.C. allows for interaction with big names in the field



Top: National security law in the headlines

Bottom: NSLJ members attend the annual ABA conference on national security law



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WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT: OUR PUBLICATIONS

- Digital and print issue published twice annually
 - Digital version on our website, www.nslj.org
 - Print edition available from Amazon and Barnes & Noble (only law journal at Mason distributed through retail bookstores)
- Each issue typically features three Articles by law professors or practitioners, and two student Comments or Notes





WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT: CANDIDATE MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

- General responsibilities throughout the year:
 - Complete research/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 on national security law, and other events
 - Attend meetings (~once a month), read our weekly e-mail updates, and complete other tasks
- Fall semester:
 - Write a Note or Comment on a topic related to national security law, either in the Scholarly Writing class or as an Independent Study
- Spring semester:
 - Interview for Editorial Board positions
 - Attend Law Journal Management classes and prepare for transition (if on the incoming Editorial Board)



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WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT: HOW WE'LL PREPARE YOU

- Introduction to spading, research, and preemption checks after we extend offers to new Candidate Members
- Customized webinars and topic ideas for your Comment or Note shared before the fall semester begins
- Orientation and welcome reception in late August to welcome you to NSLJ and provide you with more guidance
- Assigned Notes Editor to assist you in writing your Comment or Note throughout the fall semester





THE TRANSFER WRITE-ON PROCESS

- Write-on packet for transfer students released **Wednesday, July 23, 2014**, at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time
- Submissions due back to writeon@nslj.org by **Wednesday, August 6, 2014**, at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time
- George Mason Write-On Packet (Required):
 - Comment/Note (~8-10 pages, no outside research) – 75%
 - Bluebook Exercise (~15-20 citations to be formatted) – 25%
 - Contact Information Sheet
- George Mason 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 offers are extended.
- Transfer students also have the option to submit a write-on application that you completed at your previous school; contact writeon@nslj.org for details
- Tips for success:
 - Pay attention to the many administrative details in the write-on packet
 - Visit www.nslj.org/writeon/ to learn more



COMPARE & DECIDE

- When deciding which journal to join, think about the type of experience you want to have in law school
- 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/
 - If you have any questions, please contact us at writeon@nslj.org