

# SEVENTH CIRCUIT REVIEW

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Volume 4, Issue 2

Spring 2009

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**Chicago-Kent College of Law**  
**Illinois Institute of Technology**  
565 West Adams Street, Chicago, Illinois 60661

**Hal R. Morris**  
Professor

**Sandra R. Stipp**  
Executive Editor – Teaching Assistant

## **Editorial Staff**

Marina G. Aronchik  
Gabrielle L. Goodwin  
Joshua I. Grant

Katelyn Rose Letizia  
Brian W. Reidy  
Laura B. Rowe

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# SEVENTH CIRCUIT REVIEW

## ABOUT THE SEVENTH CIRCUIT REVIEW

### **Purpose**

The SEVENTH CIRCUIT REVIEW is a semiannual, online journal dedicated to the analysis of recent opinions published by the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. The SEVENTH CIRCUIT REVIEW seeks to keep the legal community abreast of developments and trends within the Seventh Circuit and their impact on contemporary jurisprudence. The articles appearing within the SEVENTH CIRCUIT REVIEW are written and edited by Chicago-Kent College of Law students enrolled in the SEVENTH CIRCUIT REVIEW Honors Seminar.

### **The SEVENTH CIRCUIT REVIEW Honors Seminar**

In this seminar, students author, edit, and publish the SEVENTH CIRCUIT REVIEW. The REVIEW is entirely student written and edited. During each semester, students identify cases recently decided by the Seventh Circuit to be included in the REVIEW, prepare initial drafts of case comments or case notes based on in-depth analysis of the identified cases and background research, edit these drafts, prepare final, publishable articles, integrate the individual articles into the online journal, and "defend" their case analysis at a semester-end roundtable. Each seminar student is an editor of the REVIEW and responsible for extensive editing of other articles. Substantial assistance is provided by the seminar teaching assistant, who acts as the executive editor.

The areas of case law that will be covered in each journal issue will vary, depending on those areas of law represented in the court's recently published opinions, and may include:

- Americans with Disabilities Act
- antitrust
- bankruptcy
- civil procedure
- civil rights
- constitutional law
- copyright
- corporations
- criminal law and procedure
- environmental
- ERISA
- employment law
- evidence
- immigration
- insurance
- products liability
- public welfare
- securities

This is an honors seminar. To enroll, students must meet *one* of the following criteria: (1) cumulative GPA in previous legal writing courses of 3.5 and class rank at the time of registration within top 50% of class, (2) recommendation of Legal Writing 1 and 2 professor and/or Legal Writing 4 professor, (3) Law Review membership, (4) Moot Court Honor Society membership, or (5) approval of the course instructor.

## PREFACE

This academic year, I had the distinct honor of serving as the Executive Editor for the SEVENTH CIRCUIT REVIEW. When I began, I had no idea how much I would learn or how valuable the experience would be to me. I have joked several times with Professor Morris that the previous editor had sent me an e-mail titled “How to TA the SEVENTH CIRCUIT REVIEW.” Once I received it, I had the administrative materials necessary to edit the REVIEW. But nothing could have prepared me for the wonderful experience that Professor Morris had created for the students in the SEVENTH CIRCUIT REVIEW Honors Seminar as well as for me as an editor. The environment that Professor Morris has created gives students the opportunity to hone their writing skills and collaborate to produce a high-quality publication.

While the main end goal for each semester is to produce a snapshot of the goings-on at the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals, the process of getting there is very arduous. That process, though, is also incredibly rewarding for all participants. From developing overarching themes and honing in on thesis objectives to breaking down arguments to their most basic compositions and recrafting them, each class brought an opportunity for development of ideas and growth in writing through group discussions and peer critiques.

While the growth happening each week in the classroom is important and valuable, the REVIEW is also doing exciting things outside of the classroom. Each year the REVIEW continues to establish itself as a leading source of Seventh Circuit Jurisprudence. According to our Web statistics, readership around the world continues to grow. And the REVIEW continues to do important and relevant work. For instance, the Supreme Court recently granted certiorari in the case *American Needle v. National Football League*. In our fall issue, John O. Gunderson published an article on that very case, analyzing and supporting the decision of the Seventh Circuit.

Of course, the work that we do is a result of the hard work and dedication of many people. First, I would like to thank the students in

both semesters of the SEVENTH CIRCUIT REVIEW Honors Seminar. They were dedicated and a pleasure to work with, and they provided the high-quality content that makes the REVIEW such a remarkable journal. I would also like to extend thanks to Dean Harold Krent, for his support of the REVIEW and for making its publication possible, and to the Office of Public Affairs for their dedication in finalizing and publishing each issue of the REVIEW.

Finally, I would like to thank Professor Hal Morris. Without his dedication, this project would not be possible. The care the Professor Morris puts into his teaching allows students to develop their writing styles and techniques. His passion for teaching and ensuring that his students learn to analyze critically and grow as writers is like nothing I have ever seen. This year I was able to see student writing improve markedly over the course of a semester as a direct result of Professor Morris's teaching. He allowed me to teach some of the classes, he supported my work, and he has inspired me to consider teaching as a part of my career so that I may help students learn and grow as he has. Thank you, Professor Morris, for all of your help and guidance this semester. It was an incredible experience to learn from you, and I truly appreciate that I had the opportunity to work with you.

Paul Forster will be taking over for me as Executive Editor for the 2009-2010 academic year. I worked with Paul on the CHICAGO-KENT LAW REVIEW, and his work is nothing short of outstanding. I am fully confident that Paul will continue to help the SEVENTH CIRCUIT REVIEW prosper and will be an invaluable resource for his students.

I am sad to be leaving my post as Executive Editor of the REVIEW, but I am excited to see it grow in years to come. Professor Morris has great plans for the REVIEW, and I look forward to seeing the REVIEW evolve and solidify its place in the legal world.

Sincerely,  
Sandra R. Stipp  
Executive Editor, SEVENTH CIRCUIT REVIEW