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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

I had the honor of serving as the Executive Editor for the SEVENTH CIRCUIT REVIEW this academic year, and I am blessed to have had a truly rewarding experience.

The REVIEW benefits not only its student authors/editors, but the greater legal community as well. The Honors Seminar challenges students to spare no effort in producing works that go beyond satisfying their seminar requirements to being of publishable caliber. They are thrust into a very demanding schedule from the very first meeting of the semester and are constantly challenged to develop and improve their own articles, critique their peers’ articles, and think critically about how their theses and corresponding arguments are relevant in legal practice. This process allows the students to rapidly but effectively enhance their own writing skills while holding their peers to the same high standards, so that they ultimately are able to incorporate their individual articles into a high-quality whole. In turn, this final product is not limited to the professor and the teaching assistant, but is instead disseminated to the public as a material contribution to contemporary legal discourse.

Apart from the publication that everyone is able to access, I would like to highlight the unique experience that the students are fortunate to have in the classroom throughout the course of the semester. Because article topics are limited only by recent opinions published by the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals, there is always diversity in the areas of law open to discussion, and such diversity keeps students engaged. The format of the seminar also allows for a blend of academic and practical discussion that is not necessarily available in many other law school courses. That we were all challenged to think week after week about specific areas of law and about effective lawyering made me look forward to each class.

Several individuals deserve credit for Volume 6 of the REVIEW. First, I would like to thank the Fall 2010 and Spring 2011 student authors/editors for their hard work not only during the semester, but
also during the revision period before final publication. They were a pleasure to work with, and their efforts allowed for the continuing high quality of the REVIEW. I would also like to thank Audio-Visual Services for helping us continue the practice of recording audio synopses of the articles presented at the Seventh Circuit Roundtable. Moreover, I would like to thank Jackie Seaberg and the Office of Public Affairs for very extensively and patiently working with me in order to finalize and publish every issue.

Finally, I would like to extend my gratitude to Professor Morris for the help and support he provided me this year and for his unparalleled commitment to the REVIEW. It was a real privilege to work with him and learn from him. His teaching style makes for a thought-provoking and valuable experience, and his steadfast leadership allows the REVIEW to remain an indispensable part of the Chicago-Kent curriculum and to become an even more relevant contribution to the legal community.

Andrew Medeiros will be succeeding me as Executive Editor. I am familiar with Andrew’s work as a staff member of the CHICAGO-KENT LAW REVIEW, and I was part of the Executive Board that selected him to be one of the LAW REVIEW’s Executive Articles Editors for 2011–2012. I am confident that Andrew’s work as the REVIEW’s new Executive Editor will be marked with the same excellence and enthusiasm that he has already demonstrated.

Sincerely,
Tanya K. Solis
Executive Editor, SEVENTH CIRCUIT REVIEW