**NIU LAW DOCKET**

February 2, 2015

Volume 36

Number 19

**THIS WEEK:**

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<td>Monday, February 2</td>
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| Wednesday, February 4 | PILS meeting, 12:00 p.m., Room 188  
                      | Student Portal Meeting, noon, Chessick Courtroom                              |
| Thursday, February 5 | DCBA Pizza Party, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m., Pizza Village, DeKalb  
                     | Criminal Law Movie Night, 6:00 p.m., Riley Courtroom                           |
| Friday, February 6 |                                                                               |

**PILS Meeting:** All are welcome to attend a PILS Meeting on **Wednesday, February 4, at 12:00 p.m. in Room 188**, to discuss Donation Days for the upcoming Annual Auction. If you think there is even a slight possibility you will end up with an unpaid summer internship in the area of public interest (remember that includes the Public Defender’s office as well), then volunteering for the Auction is the best way to earn an Outreach Assistantship. PILS needs your help, so please attend! If you have any questions, please talk to Abbey Buckels or Rikkilee Moser.

**Student Portal Meeting:**  
Attention all Student Leaders: This is a reminder that Ivan Matosevic, NIU Law’s IT Coordinator, will be holding a series of committee meetings for the new Student Portal. **All student leaders are asked to attend to give their input.** The meetings will be held on **Wednesday, February 4, 11, 18, and 25 at 12:00 p.m. in the Chessick Courtroom.**

**Criminal Law Movie Night Returns!** All are invited to attend the next Criminal Law Movie Night this **Thursday, February 5, at 6:00 p.m. in the Riley Courtroom.** This event is part of a film series in which Professor Falkoff will be screening a popular movie concerning criminal law on one Thursday each month. This month, the film is *The Thin Blue Line*, a stylish documentary by Errol Morris about the wrongful conviction of Randall Dale Adams, who was sent to death row for the murder of Dallas police officer Robert Wood. Music by Philip Glass. Pizza and cheap beer will be provided in limited quantities. An RSVP is not necessary, but if you are pretty sure you would like to attend, please drop
Professor Falkoff an e-mail at mfalkoff@niu.edu so he will have a sense of how many people are likely to attend.

**DuPage County Bar Association Pizza Party:** On Thursday, February 5, 2015, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Pizza Villa in DeKalb (824 W. Lincoln Highway), the DuPage County Bar Association will once again be hosting a free pizza party for NIU Law students. Much like in years past, the DCBA will have alumni there to answer questions and connect with students. The event is free for law students, and beer, wine and drinks will be provided.

*Don’t forget to sign up for Law Ball!!* A sign-up sheet is located on the glass panel by the 1L classrooms.

**PLANNING AHEAD**

**Federalist Society 2015 Annual Student Symposium:** The University of Chicago Law School’s Federalist Society Student Chapter will host the 34th National Federalist Society Student Symposium on February 20 to February 21, 2015. A banquet will be held on the eve of February 21, 2015. The theme for the Symposium is "Law and Innovation." The registration fee for members is $10 for the symposia and $40 for the banquet. If you are interested in attending or would like more information, please contact the Federalist Society at NIUFederalists@gmail.com or visit http://www.fed-soc.org/events/detail/2015-annual-student-symposium.

**MAKING TRACKS WITH DEAN ROSATO PEREA**

Yesterday I did a "sprint" in Chicago to represent the College of Law in a number of ways. I started with a meeting to plan an implicit bias program that will be offered in Chicago in February, which will talk about some of the effects of implicit bias on lawyers and legal education. I then met with retired Judge Bill Haddad, a member of the College's Board of Visitors, to plan a program that we will be presenting to high school students this Spring to get them interested in law and social justice -- we want to inspire more students to go to law school and make a difference in the law and in their communities. After tending to a few e-mails, I headed to our new recruiting office at 73 West Monroe to speak with the admissions director about all of our efforts to bring in the incoming class, including scholarships/tuition waivers; interviews and informational programs in Chicago; outreach to university prelaw advisors; and an advertising campaign with successful alumni from Chicago showing that NIU Law is "closer than you think."

Later that day, members of the administrative staff and I met with the Chicago Connections Committee, a group of Board of Visitors and Alumni Council members who are interested in expanding opportunities for students and alumni in Chicago. The formation of this group is one of our initiatives to enhance the success of our students. We talked about how to recruit more students from Chicago and expand job and
internship opportunities for students, as well as raise our general reputation. They had terrific ideas for engaging more students and alumni in Chicago, so look forward to more programs and initiatives, and let me know of any of your ideas to expand our reach and reputation -- throughout the region and the country.

I want to take this opportunity to thank our hard-working administration and support staff. You may not see all they do, but they are always thinking of how to make your experience better in small and big ways. So if you get a chance this week, thank one of them for something positive they have done for you or a classmate or colleague.

All my best,
Dean Rosato Perea

OPENING FOR A VOLUNTEER INTERN - WINNEBAGO COUNTY COURT IN ROCKFORD

Attention all 2Ls and 3Ls: The 17th Judicial Circuit Court is accepting applications for a volunteer legal intern for the Winnebago County Domestic Violence Coordinated Courts Division (400 W. State St., Suite 215, Rockford, IL 61101). The intern will work directly with the Domestic Violence Coordinated Courts Division staff and Judiciary under the supervision of Presiding Judge Rosemary Collins and Project Manager Jessica Maveus, J.D. The intern will assist with research projects related to domestic violence and family law and will also work on the development and implementation of two Department of Justice/Office on Violence Against Women grant-funded projects (the Domestic Violence Coordinated Courts and the Justice for Families Domestic Violence Mentor Court Initiative); the Domestic Violence Coordinated Courts in pro-se Order of Protection proceedings; and a special project on “after-hours orders of protection.” In addition, the intern will help plan and facilitate local training events on domestic violence, intimate partner sexual assault, and custody and visitation. Additional projects, such as participating in OVW sponsored webinars and teleconferences, and compiling and evaluating statistical data may also be assigned. Interested applicants should submit a résumé and cover letter to Jessica S. Maveus, J.D. at jmaveus@wincoil.us. Please note that applicants will be expected to submit to a background check and agree to comply with the 17th Judicial Circuit Court’s Code of Professional Conduct.

EXTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Attention 2Ls and 3Ls! A Federal Public Defender Office Externship is available for the Spring 2015 semester in Rockford, Illinois. This externship does not require a 711 license, but does require a commitment of twelve hours a week in return for three pass/fail course credits. As an extern, you will research and write memoranda, motions and briefs for pre-trial and post-conviction issues and sentencing hearings. You will be supervised on-site by Federal Public Defenders Paul Gaziano and Kristin Carpenter. In addition, you will attend and observe various court proceedings. Clinical Professor Paul Cain will be the faculty supervisor with whom you will meet on a regular basis to discuss your experience.

In order to apply for this externship, please submit the following documents to Paul Gaziano at Paul_Gaziano@fd.org:
(1) a cover letter explaining your interest in this position;
(2) your resume; and
(3) a writing sample (maximum length -- 10 pages).

The above materials should be submitted in Word or PDF format as attachments to your e-mail. After a review of the submitted documents, Mr. Gaziano’s office will contact selected candidates to arrange for an interview. If you have any questions about the application and selection process or the externship itself, please contact Professor Cain at pcain@niu.edu.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT NEEDED

Wendy Vaughn, Clinical Associate Professor, seeks a full-time Research Assistant for Spring 2015. The Research Assistant will receive a full-tuition waiver for Spring 2015 and will not be required to come to the clinic in Rockford. Meetings regarding research assignments will be arranged with Professor Vaughn on Monday afternoons on campus, or at other agreed upon times. To apply, please send a cover letter, resume, and an unofficial transcript to Professor Vaughn at wvaughn@niu.edu or fax them to 815-962-9984. In order to expedite the application process and the tuition waiver, please apply as soon as possible.

PRO BONO OPPORTUNITY

Express yourself on the issue of resolving the tension between minority communities and the police. Be part of the solution! The University of Missouri is sponsoring a writing competition for students that looks at the events in Ferguson (and elsewhere) from a dispute resolution/conflicts resolution perspective. Submissions must bear some relationship to the upcoming Missouri Law School symposium entitled “Policing, Protesting, and Perceptions: A Critical Examination of the Events in Ferguson” from the perspective of civil rights, police-community relationships, police perceptions of individuals, protests and/or civil disobedience. Although the deadline is relatively soon, the submissions themselves can be quite short, as indicated below and on the competition website. The prize money is also substantial, which you may appreciate!

Submissions must be in English and should be between 2,500 and 3,500 words in length. The style of the paper will be that of a long “op-ed” (opinion editorial) piece. However, the strongest submissions will include references to legal authorities as necessary. Any citations should appear in the body of the submission and will be included in the total word count. If you are interested, and would like more extensive details on (1) the nature of the topics requested for the competition, (2) further details of style and content, and (3) the submission addressee, please contact Professor Schlam at lschlam@niu.edu.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITY: Do you need something to make your resume “stand out” at an interview? Impress NIU alums you meet at law firms? Not sure yet that you will enjoy the practice of law and would like a “back-up” plan? Need something to relieve stress for an hour or two each week
while on campus? Then audition for the SCHLAM-TONES, the premiere a cappella vocal group at NIUCOL. If playing an instrument or singing in any context has left you with a good sense of pitch, rhythm, harmony – and the ability to “carry a tune” – contact Professor Schlam at lschlam@niu.edu for an informal audition. Due to present openings, preference will be given to basses, baritones and second tenors, but all potential singers, male or female, with these skills should audition.

FROM THE LAW LIBRARY DIRECTOR

We are excited to share a new expansion of security as a safety measure in the law library during the evenings on Sunday through Thursday. During those evenings, we will have a security guard stationed at the entrance of the law library for two hours prior to closing (9:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.). His name is Michael Hagerman, and he will be doing constant monitoring of the law library and law school building, as well as closing the classrooms and the law library near closing time. You should report any suspicious activities or security issues to him during the evening hours. Please welcome Michael to our community this semester.

- The law library has slightly revised hours and is now open at 7 a.m. for any early morning studying (Monday-Friday) and at 8:30 a.m. on Saturdays. Please take advantage of these new hours and consult the schedule for the complete spring hours.
- E-mail us! The law library also has a new virtual reference service. Please e-mail your questions to lawreference@niu.edu, and a reference librarian will promptly reply to your research requests during our regular reference hours.
- Please enjoy the new books and periodicals display as you enter the law library. We offer comfortable seating near the books and journals, so you may peruse recent issues at your leisure. Finally, we have a slightly renovated arrangement of seating and public terminals at the entrance of the law library for more open space. Happy reading!

As always, let me or any law librarian know if you have any questions throughout the spring term or concerns about law library services. We look forward to assisting all of you with your research endeavors.

~ Professor Kuehl

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND RECORDS

May 2015 Graduates:

- Applying for graduation is a two-step process, which must be completed between February 2, 2015 and February 20, 2015. First, you must see Julie (SP285) to complete a “Statement of Candidacy.” It is preferred that you call ahead (753-1620) or email (jmahoney@niu.edu) to make an appointment. At your appointment, you will be given instructions on the second
step that must be completed for graduation. **Remember: the deadline for both required steps is February 20, 2015!**

- Under NIU Law’s standard procedures, a Dean's Certificate is prepared for all graduates by the Office of Budget & Records (Christina and Julie). After review, the certificate is then signed by Dean Rosato Perea and is sent directly to the Illinois Board of Admissions to the Bar (IBAB). For students applying to the Illinois bar, this process will be completed in June, after the law school has verified that graduates have fulfilled all requirements for graduation and do not have a hold on their university accounts. You do not need to, and in fact cannot, include the dean’s certificate in your original application to the bar. If you are applying to take the bar exam in a state other than Illinois and that state requires a form similar to the Illinois Dean's Certificate, then you will need to provide a copy of that form to the Office of Budget & Records in ample time so that it can be completed and sent in accordance with whatever deadlines are set by the state in question.

**Reimbursement Process:**

- **Purchases:** For purchases on behalf of NIU College of Law events: **Expenses must be approved by the Office of Budget & Records before purchase is made.** NIU Accounting reimbursement procedures change occasionally, so to ensure your reimbursement will be able to be processed, please contact us even if you have prior permission of faculty or staff member.

- **Travel:** For reimbursement for travel on behalf of NIU College of Law, you will **need the approval of the Dean before the travel occurs.** You must also see Julie (SP285) or Christina (SP280A2) **before** travel occurs to ensure that your reimbursement will be processed with appropriate required documentation.

**OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS AND FINANCIAL AID**

**Information Regarding Scholarships and Writing Competitions.** Each year, there are a number of opportunities for students to obtain additional financial assistance to help pay for the costs of attending law school. In particular, many scholarships and writing competition prizes are available, and the number of students applying for many of them is often low (increasing the chances of success for individual applicants). For a list of these scholarship and writing competitions, see the file that is being e-mailed alongside this week’s edition of the *Docket* and is made available in separate copies on tables on the first and second floor of the law school. **Do not miss the many opportunities available this Fall, as indicated in those listings.** If you have any questions, please contact the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid at 815-753-8595 or lawadm@niu.edu or stop by Room 151.
OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS

**College of Law and University Communications:** All students are reminded that official communications from the College of Law and the university are sent to students’ Z e-mail numbers. Be sure to check daily for those communications and arrange to have them automatically transfer to your personal e-mail account, if appropriate to ensure prompt attention to official notices and requests. **Please note that you are responsible for the contents of these official communications whether or not you have read them, and failure to read and respond promptly may lead to adverse consequences.**

**Winter Weather Alerts:** Winter closing information is available on the university web site and is updated as weather conditions change. The university urges all students, faculty and staff to use caution and personal judgment in their travels to and from campus during winter months and to dress appropriately for protection from cold temperatures and wind chills.

The university also provides detailed (and often entertaining) weather forecasts from university meteorologist, Gilbert Sebenste, on a regular basis during the semester. To see what information is available and subscribe for regular weather updates by e-mail, you should go to http://weather.admin.niu.edu/contact/subscribe.shtml.

**Academic Policies and Procedures:** The Student Handbook continues to undergo extensive revisions and in the future will be limited to academic policies and procedures. Until those revisions are completed and (where relevant) approved by the faculty, all academic policies in the 2012 Student Handbook continue to remain in effect, except as modified or expanded in addenda posted after July 2012 or in notices and other communications distributed to the students. It is anticipated that the new edition of the Student Handbook will be issued in spring or summer 2015. Information about other policies, procedures and personnel is available from the departments involved and on the NIU Law web site.

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The Docket is published every Monday by Associate Dean Kathleen Coles

SUPER BOWL!!!