

Tulane University Law School

Summer 2023 Journal Write-On Competition

Rules and Procedures

Eligibility

The summer write-on competition is open to students in good standing who will have completed at least two semesters of law school with at least a 2.0 GPA by commencement of the competition. Please see the individual journal instructions to determine eligibility for each journal. Interested students should be advised that membership on all journals for rising 2Ls and transfers is an **absolute two-year commitment**. Membership on all journals involves numerous time-sensitive editing duties. In addition, journal members are *required* to write both a case note and comment, the latter of which may be used to satisfy the Law School's upper-class writing requirement (subject to conditions stated in the Student Handbook).

The Universal Packet for the Write-On Competition

The Universal Packet for the Write-On competition consists of (1) a case note on an assigned case, (2) a technical edit, and (3) a 500-word personal statement. Not every journal will examine these materials in the packet, however some will require all of them. Consult each journal's specific information listed below to see which materials are required.

The case note will be using a *closed* packet, which will be made available through TWEN on Monday, May 15, 2023, at 12:00 p.m. C.D.T. The case note must be written in the manner provided and using only the sources contained in the packet. All submissions are strictly anonymous. In a personal statement, a candidate cannot list their name, the names of previous employers, or any student organizations or positions they are involved in on campus. Please read the following rules carefully because deviation from any procedures is grounds for disqualification.

Submitting to Multiple Journals

Participants may elect to submit the universal packet to as many as four journals. You only need to rank the journals you are interested in writing on to in order of preference from first to fourth. These rankings are final and will determine the placement of each student at the conclusion of the grading process. Consult the information listed below by journal to see what components are required by each journal.

In addition to or instead of the universal packet, you may participate in the *Journal of Law & Sexuality's* individual journal competition, provided you comply with their requirements. The rules for the write-on competition are uniform, apart from journal-specific rules and information articulated below. Some journals will require all components of the Universal Packet, while others may only require the case note. If you are applying for journals that only require the case note, you need only prepare and submit the case note.

Tulane Law Review

The *Tulane Law Review* is recognized as a preeminent student-edited forum for scholarly publication. Founded in 1916, the *Review* is Tulane's oldest journal and currently publishes five times annually plus one Online issue.

This year, the *Review* will select new members to serve on the journal during the school years of 2023-2025 based on (1) a case note, (2) a technical edit, (3) class rank, and (4) a personal statement. The *Review* assigns the following weights from the first three components to provide each candidate with a final Write-On score: 33% based on the technical edit, 33% based on the case note submission, and 33% based on their class rank. There are two pathways to membership on the *Review*. First, the *Review* will extend a number of invitations (totaling

either the top 24 or 10% of the 1L class, whichever is fewer) to the top scorers based solely on their Write-On score.

Second, the *Review*'s seven-person Membership Subcommittee will holistically review the remaining candidates' personal statements and their Write-On scores to select the last 5 seats in the junior member class. The Subcommittee will only review the submissions of candidates who scored in the top half of all submissions and who did not receive an offer of membership in the first group of invitees.

Candidates must submit all components of the universal application if they wish to be considered for membership. Additionally, a student must have a GPA of at least a 2.0 and must not have failed a class in either semester to participate. The competition is open to current Tulane Law School rising 2Ls only. The *Review* also conducts a fall write-on competition; however, the fall competition is open to transfer and LL.M. students only and only if space is available on the journal. **Current students are not eligible for the Fall Write-On and must participate in the 2023 Summer Write-On competition.**

Tulane Maritime Law Journal

The *Tulane Maritime Law Journal* is the most cited maritime legal journal in the world and publishes three issues per year. Candidates earn the distinction of serving on a journal that is subscribed to by the United States Supreme Court. Additionally, our *Journal* has a mentorship program where junior members are paired with practitioners and alumni of the *Journal* to receive help with their case notes and comments. Junior members are paired with alumni based on both their desired location of practice and/or their interested area of law, as is practicable. Finally, our *Journal* offers members the unique experience of presenting their student published work to practitioners in the New Orleans maritime community for CLE credit.

For the summer write-on competition, the *Journal* will select qualified members to serve during the 2023-25 school years (unless the member is scheduled to graduate in 2024, in which case membership is for only one year). Although our *Journal* focuses on maritime law, this is a broad area of the law and encompasses a diverse range of subfields, including international law, federal tort claims, contracts, Constitutional law, employment law, regulatory matters, administrative law, offshore oil and gas, environmental law, and commercial dispute issues. To maintain our distinctive reputation, the *Journal* will evaluate candidates based on (1) case note (60%), (2) grades (25%), and (3) technical edit (15%). **The *Tulane Maritime Law Journal* will accept only the universal write-on packet, and candidates must complete both the case note and the technical edit to be considered by the *Journal*. An optional personal statement with a specified topic can also be submitted. See TWEN page for more information.**

Tulane Journal of International and Comparative Law

The *Tulane Journal of International and Comparative Law (TJICL)* is one of the most prestigious and frequently cited journals of international & comparative law. *TJICL* is published twice a year and is dedicated to discussing and debating all facets of international and comparative law from human rights to transnational business, environmental concerns, art, immigration, tax, elections, and the International Criminal Court. This broad focus gives members the freedom to work on topics that most interest them, while simultaneously providing an excellent opportunity to be published; over a dozen student pieces were selected for publication in the 2022-2023 school year. In conjunction with Tulane Law's unique curriculum and international acclaim, members of *TJICL* have numerous opportunities to work with leading scholars on the most relevant and pressing changes unfolding in the international legal system.

During the summer write-on competition, *TJICL* will accept the universal write-on packet. *TJICL* will evaluate candidates based upon (1) the case note (70%), (2) the personal statement (15%), (3) grades (10%), and (4) the technical edit (5%). All competitors must be rising 2Ls or 3Ls (current or transfer students) or LL.M. students.

Tulane Journal of Technology and Intellectual Property

The *Tulane Journal of Technology and Intellectual Property (JTIP)* provides a forum for in-depth analysis of legal and policy developments related to Technology and Intellectual Property (IP) Law. Ranked eighth in the country for IP law journals, *JTIP* offers its members the opportunity to examine traditional IP Law topics, including patents, copyrights, and trademarks. Members also have the unique opportunity to analyze all facets of legal developments in technology, such as privacy law, cyber law, artificial intelligence, and biotechnology. Due to this expansive nature of technology and IP, *JTIP* members can explore topics related to almost any legal field, including entertainment law, international and comparative law, constitutional law, sports law, administrative law, and business law.

During the summer write-on competition, *JTIP* accepts the universal write-on packet from rising 2Ls, 3Ls, transfers, and LL.Ms. *JTIP* will evaluate students based upon (1) the case note (60%), (2) the technical edit (30%), and (3) the personal statement (10%). *JTIP* will also accept a **limited** number of submissions from the fall write-on competition. The fall competition is open to 2Ls, transfers, and LL.Ms. All accepted 2L and transfer student positions are two-year commitments; LL.Ms and 3L positions are one-year commitments.

Tulane Environmental Law Journal

As a nationally recognized publication, the Tulane Environmental Law Journal (TELJ) covers emerging issues in environmental law and stands as a cornerstone of Tulane's renowned environmental law program. The TELJ covers traditional environmental topics such as pollution control, environmental justice, and sustainable development, while also providing a forum to discuss the intersection of environmental issues with other branches of the law, including international, energy, constitutional, criminal, property, maritime, and tort law. The TELJ strives to publish articles analyzing a wide variety of timely legal developments from an environmental perspective. In addition, the TELJ publishes at least one original work written by each member during their two-year participation with the journal. The journal's breadth gives students the opportunity to conduct in-depth studies of diverse environmental and legal issues. The TELJ members can also submit their comments for participation in a Center for Environmental Law competition, which awards \$1,000 to the winning 2L comment.

Interested rising 2Ls, 3Ls, LL.Ms, and transfer students are invited to apply through the universal packet application. TELJ requires that every candidate complete and submit the case note, technical edit, and personal statement. The TELJ will assess these components with the following weights: 70% based on case note submission, 20% based on the personal statement, and 10% based on technical edit. In the personal statement, we encourage (*but do not require*) candidates to discuss any relevant environmental experience, including a commitment to environmental justice. In doing so, please be sure to omit any identifying details.

Sports Lawyers Journal

The *Sports Lawyers Journal (SLJ)* is edited by Tulane Law students and is published annually by The Sports Lawyers Association. The *SLJ* is distributed to each member of the Sports Lawyers Association, making it the most widely read journal among sports agents, executives, academics, and other professionals. The journal covers any legal topic related to the sports industry, including labor law, intellectual property, business law, international law, constitutional law, and everything in between. The *SLJ* conducts a summer write-on competition to select up to twenty qualified members. The competition is open to rising 2Ls and transfers for service during the 2023-2025 school years and rising 3Ls and LL.M.s for service during the 2023-2024 school year. Additionally, the *SLJ* will conduct a fall write-on competition in which up to ten qualified members will be selected. Junior members are responsible for a variety of editing tasks, in addition to their writing requirements of one case note and one comment. **Interested rising 2Ls, 3Ls, LL.M.s, and transfer students are invited to apply by submitting an original case note written according to the universal packet.**

Tulane Journal of Law & Sexuality

The *Tulane Journal of Law and Sexuality: A Review of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in the Law (L&S)* will conduct summer and fall write-on competitions to select qualified members for the 2023-2025 school years. *L&S* is the first student-edited legal periodical exclusively covering LGBTQ+ issues and the official law journal for the National LGBT Bar Association. In the past, *L&S* has published articles on employment discrimination, marriage equality, transgender rights, prisoners' rights, anti-bullying laws, parenthood, adoption, health care law, immigration, and international law. *L&S* is open to rising 2Ls and incoming transfers for a two-year membership position while rising 3Ls and LL.Ms join for a one-year membership. Junior Members will have opportunities to be published, as we will choose the best student notes, recent developments, and comments for publication. All interested students are encouraged to apply—regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. ***L&S* will accept submissions from either the universal write-on packet OR the supplemental packet on the *L&S* TWEN page. For those submitting the supplemental packet to *L&S*, please carefully read and follow the instructions listed on the *L&S* 2023 Supplemental Application Instructions Form located on the *L&S* TWEN page.** *L&S* will use either the technical edits from the universal packet or the citations from the supplemental packet as a tie-breaker when selecting members, if needed.

Rules

Failure to comply with any of the following rules will result in disqualification from or inability to participate in the write-on competition.

- 1) Write-on participants must join the TWEN class, “Summer 2023 Journal Write-On,” which will become available for registration beginning on April 17, 2023 at 12:01 a.m. Packets will be released on **Monday, May 15, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. C.D.T.**, so while you can add the course at 11:59 a.m. on May 15, you cannot access the packets until Noon.
- 2) In addition, participants must submit an electronic “2023 Summer Write-On Competition Information Form” through the Tulane Law School Intranet site. This form is available for submission using the “Write-On Competitions” link under “Student Activities” on the Intranet. This is where you will choose and rank the journals to which you are applying in order of preference. **Please note that the rankings are final and will determine the placement of each student at the conclusion of the grading process.**
- 3) Upon filling out the information form, students will receive an auto-reply to the email used at registration containing the password for TWEN, which is needed to add the “Summer 2023 Journal Write-On-FINAL SUBMISSIONS” class. This will be where you submit your final case note and other materials. If you do not receive an email with the password via auto-reply, please check your spam folders first, then please email the Write-On Coordinator, Nicole Manganaro at nmanganaro@tulane.edu.
- 4) Participants must write a case note, which should be structured and formatted according to the Case Note Guide. The noted case, the Case Note Guide, and all other packet materials will be made available through TWEN on **Monday, May 15, 2023, at 12:00 p.m. C.D.T.**
- 5) The Technical Edit materials will be released on **Friday, June 2, 2023, at 12:00 p.m. C.D.T.** and are due the same time as the other materials.
- 6) Participants may use only the sources contained in the write-on packet and the supplemental sources listed below. This prohibits consultation with all other students, faculty, practitioners, and others.

Participants may not consult hornbooks, casebooks, treatises, subsequent appellate decisions, Google, or other sources not enumerated in these instructions. Graders have the ability to check if Chat GPT was used.

- 7) **Citations must be only to the PDF sources provided on TWEN** and should conform to *The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation* (see exception below). Connecting to any further links (prior history, subsequent history, key cite, etc.) or conducting any further research is strictly prohibited. **Any use of Westlaw or Lexis is strictly prohibited, and violation of this policy will result in automatic disqualification and may result in an Honor Board violation.**

The TWEN portal will contain an official PDF copy of the sources to be used. In addition to the packet available on TWEN, participants may only use the following external sources:

- İ *The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation* (21st ed.)
- İ *The Redbook: Manual on Legal Style*, 2d ed.
- İ Strunk & White, *The Elements of Style*

Accessing other sources will violate the rules of this competition.

The prohibition of external sources includes non-packet sources addressing legal writing (e.g., Google search: “how to write a good case note”). Participants may not access different versions of the cases contained in the packet. ***All Tulane journals reserve the right to request a copy of your Westlaw or Lexis search history in the event of an allegation of improper research.***

Exception for *Bluebook* Internet Source citation. For purposes of this case note, the author may abbreviate the Internet URL. All text after .com may be eliminated; however, the remaining elements of the Internet source citation must conform to *The Bluebook*.

Example:

Original: Eric Posner, More on Section 7 of the Torture Convention, VOLKH CONSPIRACY (Jan. 29, 2009, 10:04 AM), <http://www.volokh.com/posts/1233241458.shtml>.

Accepted: Eric Posner, More on Section 7 of the Torture Convention, VOLKH CONSPIRACY (Jan. 29, 2009, 10:04 AM), <http://www.volokh.com>.

- 8) Participants need not use every source contained in the write-on packet.
- 9) Some cases have relevant subsequent history. For author convenience, those sources can be found at the end of the PDF of their respective cases. Subsequent history citations should conform to *The Bluebook*.
- 10) All submissions must be anonymous. **You may not notify or consult members of any journal regarding your participation in the competition.** Identifying information (other than your 9-digit Tulane Student Splash I.D. number) may not appear anywhere on your submissions. Similarly, to maintain anonymity, all questions must conform to the Q&A procedures described below. Please contact the competition coordinator Nicole Manganaro nmanganaro@tulane.edu for any questions about the competition and do not reach out to journal members.
- 11) Participants must check the write-on competition TWEN site and the Law School Intranet daily for updates, particularly in the days leading up to the submission deadline. Students who do not conform to any updates posted will be disqualified. Important announcements regarding the competition will also

be sent via email to the registered participants. It is recommended that you register as early as possible to be sure you receive important updates.

- 12) Any information that is inconsistent with these rules, except as posted on the Law School Intranet “Write-On Competitions” Home Page, is explicitly disclaimed. Information on the Write-On Competition Home Page overrides any conflicting information in individual journal instructions.
- 13) All students are assumed to have received notice of these rules by virtue of the Write-On Information Meeting and postings on the Intranet and TWEN sites.

Citations

Citations must conform to *The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation* (21st ed.). If the appropriate citation form is not provided, you may create one that is clear, consistent, and helpful to the reader. Your ability to apply the rules of citation will be considered when evaluating your case note. Furthermore, if two case notes are stylistically equal, proper citation will break the tie.

Format

Only electronic submissions to the TWEN drop-box will be accepted. Case notes must conform to the following format restrictions:

- İ Your I.D. number (your 9-digit Tulane Student Splash I.D. number) should be included in the top header, right justified.
- İ 12-point, Times New Roman (text *and* footnotes).
- İ One-inch margins (top, bottom, left, and right).
- İ Double spaced (text *and* footnotes).
- İ Page numbers should be included at the bottom of each page and should be centered.
- İ Length may not exceed 15 pages, including footnotes. It may be considerably shorter.
- İ Use footnotes, not endnotes.
- İ Citations must appear in footnotes, not in the text.
- İ Although the sample case notes include tables of contents, they are not necessary, and there is no penalty for failure to include a table of contents.

The Technical Edit submissions must conform to the following restrictions:

- İ The only identifying information on the edit will be your I.D. number. Since the changes will all be done in track changes on word, you **must** clear the metadata in the document to de-anonymize the edit fully.

In addition, please observe the typeface standards for law review articles (explained in Rule 2 of *The Bluebook*). Note the following caveats we use to make typeface clear for evaluation:

- İ Where *The Bluebook* calls for *italics*, use underlining. Note that the sample case notes found in the write-on packet and on the TWEN portal use *italics* because they are in final published form.
- İ Where *The Bluebook* calls for LARGE AND SMALL CAPS, use double underlining. To do this in Word, click the arrow to the right of the “Underline” button above and select the double underline from the dropdown menu.
- İ Please note that the blue pages of *The Bluebook* are not relevant for the purposes of the write-on competition and should not be referenced for any reason.

Question/Answer Procedure

All questions regarding the competition must be submitted in the following fashion:

- İ Email all competition questions to Nicole Manganaro at nmanganaro@tulane.edu.
- İ The subject line of your e-mail should be “Write-On Competition.”
- İ Your e-mail must contain the name of the journal packet you are using.

- ï Your question will be anonymously forwarded to the appropriate member of that journal.
- ï Answers will be posted publicly on the Tulane Law School Intranet under the link marked “Write-On Competitions.”
- ï Participants should check the Tulane Law School Intranet periodically to review answers and any other supplementary guidelines.

Individual members of any journal will not answer any questions under any circumstances. Do not contact them directly! *Failure to follow these instructions will lead to immediate disqualification.*

Submission Instructions

All submissions are due electronically in the TWEN drop-box **Monday, June 5, 2023 before 10:00 a.m. C.D.T.** All submissions must be composed using Microsoft Word and **named using your 9-digit Tulane Student Splash I.D. number and the name of the component, separated by a hyphen**. It is suggested that you use the file names in the example below.

- Case Note submission: “123456789-CaseNote.doc”
- Technical Edit submission: “123456789-TechEdit.doc”
- Personal Statement submission: “123456789-Statement.doc”

All submissions must be saved in “.doc” format (as opposed to Word 2007 “.docx” format) for compatibility purposes. For supplemental submissions to the *Journal of Law & Sexuality*, please see the journal’s specific guidelines on their TWEN page. To upload your submission, refer to the instructions on the Law School Intranet “Write-On Competitions” Home Page.

Notification

All notifications will go out the week of June 26, 2023 (please check Intranet for updates for notifications as the date approaches). Each contestant will receive only one offer to one journal based on the journal rankings they provided and their performance in the competition. Students who do not choose to accept this offer will be forfeiting their opportunity to join a journal at the start of the 2023-24 school year, though they may still enter the fall write-on competition.

In the unlikely event announcement by these dates becomes impracticable, the amended dates will be noted on the Law School Intranet under “Write-On Competitions.”