

# *The University of Akron School of Law Administrative Briefs*

October 14, 2009

## *Message From The Dean*

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School of Law Events Calendar link:  
<https://www.uakron.edu/calendar/>

Dear Law Students:

On Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, I joined some faculty and staff and many students at a community service day - **Akron Law Cares**. Under the supervision of Professor Joann Sahl, we met early that morning at Belcher Apartments and were greeted by Zippy [for the uninformed or newcomers, the University of Akron kangaroo mascot, who recently was named national Mascot of the Year] and band members from the School of Music.

Some stayed at Belcher but the majority of us went to Saferstein Towers. At both places, we helped clean up the grounds, and at Saferstein, we went room to room, helping out the seniors living there with their “to do” list. By way of full disclosure, the “we” is not an accurate description. My job was to call out the Bingo numbers in the Saferstein Social Hall.

Talk to the students who went. It was fun. We all felt we were helping and, just as important, felt that we were helping to improve the image not just of law students but of lawyers. The residents enjoyed having the students and faculty there. They asked a lot of questions and really appreciated the service. Not surprisingly, I got a lot of legal questions, often about something the residents saw on television, either in one of the “Judge Soandso” shows or a drama series.

“Akron Law Cares” is a good example of what we as a law school and a profession must do. The ethical rules provide that lawyers should provide voluntary legal services. [Ohio’s new rule is still in its final drafting stages.] And the law school is considering a community service obligation on all students, faculty and staff. These efforts are not because it is good public relations. It is because performing such service it is the right thing to do and also helps the law student and the lawyer understand their professional obligations and also the day to day life of the people the profession is to serve.

A few illustrations: Early in my career, I was asked to handle - pro bono - divorces for indigent or close to indigent clients. These were then called “in forma pauperis” proceedings. During my career, I have had criminal appointments, and have done transactional work for individuals in need and for many non-profits, including those who serve those in need. I learned a great deal from those efforts and also made many friends not just for me personally but, I believe, for the profession. In fact, one such effort, led to a contact which in turn led to a job. And the insights I learned from these people and organizations I worked with helped me later in dealing with other people, other clients and other problems.

## Message From The Dean *(continued from page 1)*

My story is not unique. We are [and you as alums-in-waiting will soon be] members of a profession. What distinguishes us from others is our duty to our society. But the requirement of service is not all altruistic. It also helps us be better lawyers.

October 25<sup>th</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup> is “National Celebration of Pro Bono” Week. The American Bar Association and state and local bar associations throughout the country are joining to highlight the work that lawyers do for their communities and to encourage lawyers [and future lawyers] to do more!

I applaud their efforts and I applaud those who helped with the “Akron Law Cares” day. But this is not just a one day or a one week effort or statement. It is a lifelong obligation.

*Martin H. Belsky*  
*Dean and Randolph Baxter Professor of Law*

# Academic Success Programs

## Feeling Stressed? Need Direction? ASP Can Help! Guest Columnist: Brande Smith, 2L

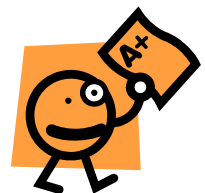
As a second year law student, I am all too familiar with the stress associated with law school. Studying difficult concepts, struggling with outlining and fearing the final exam can be overwhelming. To balance the issues of law school life and to gain the tools needed to be a success, consider visiting the Office of Academic Success.

ASP offers a diverse group of study options. Weekly study sessions are offered for all first year courses. The office also has a large variety of supplemental materials for all law school courses, in addition to bar preparation. Individual mentoring and/or tutoring sessions are held daily and ASP Director Kelly is always there to help in any way she can.

Now that we are half way through the semester, stay tuned for information about ASP workshops on exam preparation, dealing with stress and time management. I encourage you to take advantage of what the Office of Academic Success has to offer.



**ASP Exam Excellence Workshop**  
*When:* Thursday, Oct. 29  
12:15-1:00 and 5:15-6:00  
*Where:* W-210



## Career Planning and Placement News

*The following is a list of upcoming events and opportunities. Should you have any questions regarding this information, please contact the Career Planning & Placement Office at 330/972-5321.*

### Upcoming Alumni City Visits – Students Invited to Attend

Below is a list of the upcoming city visits planned by the Akron Law Alumni Office and the Career Planning Office. All students are invited and encouraged to attend these events as they are great networking opportunities and a great chance to meet Akron Law alums in cities where you may be interested in working.

City Visit Date	Location	Event
October 17, 2009	Buffalo, NY	Alumni Breakfast
October 20, 2009	Pittsburgh, PA	Alumni/Friends Dinner
October 27, 2009	New York City	Alumni/Friends Dinner
October 29, 2009	Cleveland, OH	Alumni/Friends Dinner
November 2, 2009	Trumbull County, OH	Alumni Breakfast
November 9, 2009	Columbus, OH	Alumni Breakfast
November 10, 2009	Phoenix, AZ	Alumni/Friends Dinner

**Please note: Attendance at these events is not an excused absence from class.** Interested students should contact their professors before attending to determine how any such absence will be treated. If you are interested in attending one of these events, please RSVP to Sue Staats at [staats@uakron.edu](mailto:staats@uakron.edu) at least one week before the date of each event that you plan to attend.

### Save the Date --Mark your calendars NOW

#### **Wednesday, October 21 from 5 p.m. - 6:15 p.m**

Curtis Mack, Akron Law grad and nationally recognized expert on labor law will be at Akron Law to meet with students for an informative and lively discussion on current trends in the field of labor law.

#### **Public Interest Law Day at Akron Law School – Wednesday, November 4**

#### **Wednesday, November 4 from 3 p.m. – 6:30 p.m., the Career Planning Office will host our 2nd Annual Public Interest Law Day.**

This is a wonderful opportunity for you to speak to a variety of public interest employers and learn more about practicing law with a public interest organization and how to break in to those kinds of jobs. Further information and details coming in the next few weeks!

School of Law Events Calendar link:  
<https://www.uakron.edu/calendar>

# General News

## EARN YOUR CERTIFICATE

### IP, Litigation Programs

Interested in earning an IP or Litigation certificate? Haven't applied yet?

Please take a look at the following certificate application and deadlines **BEFORE** you register for spring 2010 classes.

[Application for Certificate Program in Intellectual Property](#)

[Application for Certificate Program in Litigation](#)



The announcement is framed by a black border decorated with white ghost silhouettes and orange jack-o'-lanterns. A spiderweb is visible in the top-left corner. The text is centered on a white background with a green border.

### Annual Law School Halloween Party

Who: Law Students, Faculty and Staff & Kids  
When: Wednesday, October 21, 2009  
5:00 to 6:30 pm  
Where: Law School Atrium Lobby  
RSVP: RSVP's appreciated (for child headcount) but not required  
Email: Liz Saunders (liz@uakron.edu)

**Costumes Optional**

Free Food! Moonwalk Jumper Face Painting Games & Prizes!

# Legal Clinic News

## Community Service/Pro Bono Update

Congratulations to all of our law students who have given back to their community! Our law students reported volunteering over **2500** hours this summer to various community service and pro bono projects.

On Saturday, October 3, 2009, 42 volunteers (law students, faculty, staff and alumni) participated in the Akron Law Cares project. The volunteers provided needed services to low-income senior and disabled residents living in Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority apartments. During their morning of service, the volunteers built three garden boxes, weeded flower beds, cleaned 20 apartments, and participated in bingo and Wii games with residents. Akron Law Cares will be an annual community service event at the law school. We hope you can join us next year!



## Office of External Programs

### Interested in making \$16/hour? Want to help support your law school?

The Office of External Programs is seeking students to make phone calls to alumni for our Fall 2009 Dean’s Club phone-a-thon. The first 24 students to sign up will be paid \$20 for each 1 hour and 15 minute shift, 4:00-5:15 or 5:15-6:30 pm October 26-29. Phoning will take place in the Dean’s Suite and participants will be provided a script focused on keeping alumni connected and supportive of Akron Law.

To sign-up e-mail Cory Maddox at [maddox.cory@gmail.com](mailto:maddox.cory@gmail.com) the following information by 6:00pm October 20th:

- Your Name
- e-mail address
- phone number
- All shifts you desire to work (listed in order of preference)

(Note, in order to allow maximum participation, shifts will be filled by a lottery system. You will receive an e-mail confirming your shifts.)

**Monday, October 26:**  
Shift 1: 4:00 -5:15 pm  
Shift 2: 5:15- 6:30 pm

**Wednesday, October 28:**  
Shift 5: 4:00 -5:15 pm  
Shift 6: 5:15- 6:30 pm

**Tuesday, October 27:**  
Shift 3: 4:00 -5:15 pm  
Shift 4: 5:15- 6:30 pm

**Thursday, October 29:**  
Shift 7: 4:00 -5:15 pm  
Shift 8: 5:15- 6:30 pm

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# Student Organization News



## LAW/ACLU

LAW and the Akron Law chapter of the ACLU will be selling coffee, tea and various breakfast food items every Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 7am – 9am during the fall semester.

## DELTA THETA PHI

Delta Theta Phi will be conducting the program entitled “Support A Soldier” throughout the remaining school year. Through the not-for-profit group “Adopt A Soldier,” DTP has adopted a platoon stationed overseas in Iraq. DTP will be sending monthly care packages to the platoon. Look for the collection bin in front of the DTP office every Monday to drop off donations. A package will be sent following the last Monday of every month.

## ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

The Environmental Law Society will be selling Fair Trade Coffee and various foods every Thursday at 7am.

## INTERNATIONAL LAW SOCIETY

The International Law Society will be selling candy in the law student lounge from 12 pm – 1pm during the fall semester.

## LAW

The Law Association of Women is collecting items for the Battered Women’s Shelter now through December 12. For a list of items, please see the Akron Law Student Organizations Calendar of Events on the School of Law website.

The Law Association of Women will host “Show us Your SKiLs! – Sitting, Knitting and Literature with LAW” every Friday through November 15 from 5:15 – 6:15 pm in the Law Student Lounge.

## MOOT COURT HONOR SOCIETY

Professor J. Dean Carro and Judge Beth Whitmore of the 9<sup>th</sup> District Court of Appeals will be presenting on brief writing and oral arguments on October 17 from 10 am to noon in L-165. All interested law students are invited.

**Student Organizations...Having an event?**

If you are planning an event, be sure to fill out and submit an event approval form. This will help to avoid calendar conflicts as well as assure you a room reservation and entry on the School of Law Calendars.  
 The event approval form can be found at <http://www.uakron.edu/law/studentorgs/forms.php>

Each event is allowed one announcement posted to the blog. For instructions on having your event posted to the blog please visit <http://www.uakron.edu/law/studentorgs/eventannounce.php>

## School of Law Building Access

The School of Law building hours are posted on the General Bulletin Boards. When building hour adjustments are needed, they are not necessarily shown on the postings. In the event the doors have not been opened as requested by the Dean’s Office, **the building may be accessed at the Wolf Ledges entrance. This entrance has a computerized locking system that is programmed to open when indicated.**

### How will you know when the University is closed?

There are several ways to find out when the University is closed:

- Call 330-972-SNOW (7669)
- Check The University of Akron homepage at <http://www.uakron.edu>. An alert message will be placed directly on the homepage anytime the University is closed.
- Enroll in the “Z-Alert” emergency text messaging service available through Zipline.



## Administrative Brief Calendar

### Deadline Date:

### Issue Dates

October 21  
 November 4  
 November 18

October 27 (Quarterly)  
 November 10  
 November 24

### Veteran’s Day:

#### LAW CLASSES HELD

Tuesday & Wednesday, November 10 - 11, 2009

### Thanksgiving Break:

Thursday, November 26 – Saturday, November 28, 2009

Thanksgiving Holiday begins

Wednesday, November 25, 2009 at 5:00 pm

### Last Instructional Day

Wednesday, November 25, 2009

### Reading Period

Saturday, November 28 – Tuesday, December 1, 2009

### Exam Period

Wednesday, December 2 – Saturday, December 12, 2009

