Loyola of Los Angeles Entertainment Law Review

The Loyola of Los Angeles Entertainment Law Review (ELR) is entering its thirtieth year of production. ELR has established a reputation as an authoritative source of professional and scholarly articles on entertainment, sports, and intellectual property law. ELR is distinctive among law reviews and legal journals because it is one among few scholarly publications dedicated exclusively to legal development in these fields. ELR’s readership includes leaders in the entertainment world, judges, educators, lawyers, agents, managers, and artists. ELR is able to retain its preeminence in the industry through its close contact and continuing relationships with those at the forefront of legal developments.

What is Entertainment Law?
Entertainment law is a vast subject area encompassing complex legal issues in constitutional law; anti-trust litigation; bankruptcy; contracts; corporate law; communication regulation; labor; sports arbitration; and intellectual property rights such as copyright, trademark, and patent. With the ever-increasing technological advances that interconnect the world, entertainment issues are prevalent on an international level, encompassing areas such as international trade and taxation, finance, and immigration. ELR is committed to examining these areas, as well as their impact on communications and the arts. ELR staff writers find that they can explore virtually any area of law in an entertainment context.

Our Membership Policy
The 2009-2010 editorial board seeks qualified, dedicated, and hard-working staff writers to contribute to ELR’s continued success. Each year, ELR selects 30-35 staff writers (subject to change) to join in the publication of three issues. Each staff writer, with the guidance of an editor, must write a case Note or Comment on a relevant issue in the entertainment field. The process of writing the article requires topic research, consultation with law professors and other subject matter experts, producing at least three drafts within established deadlines, and demonstrating an understanding of the Bluebook and The Chicago Manual of Style.

Additionally, each staff writer must contribute a minimum of three hours per week to office work. Assignments include researching and editing outside articles and student-written Notes or Comments to prepare them for publication. Staff writers are also required to complete cite-checking assignments to verify the substantive and technical accuracy of the article. These assignments will begin in early fall and continue throughout the school year under strict deadlines. Staff writers participate in at least three production days during the school year. Production days, which typically are held on Saturdays or Sundays, are devoted to final proofreading of articles for grammatical and footnote corrections prior to publication.

ELR membership is a commitment that lasts throughout the academic year. Staff writers who wish to remain on ELR after their first year must apply for an editorial position for the following year. Each spring, members of the current Executive Board will select new editors based on the applicant’s individual qualifications, performance as a staff writer (including adherence to deadlines), and demonstrated interest in the field of entertainment law.

Advantages of Membership on ELR

Publication Opportunities
ELR traditionally publishes three student articles in each issue. Therefore, there are nine opportunities to publish student articles per year. Students submit their articles to be considered for publication to the Executive Board according to specific deadlines. The Executive Board then selects articles based on a majority vote. Typically, students are eligible to submit their articles for Issues 2 and 3 while staff writers on ELR, as well as Issue 1 of the following year.
Upper Division Writing Requirement
Each staff writer who satisfactorily completes a Note or Comment fulfills Loyola Law School’s mandatory upper division writing requirement (UDWR) (see Student Handbook for details). In order to receive UDWR credit, staff writers must complete a well-researched article consisting of at least 33 typed pages, double spaced, in 12-point Times New Roman font. The staff writer’s final draft must also receive a passing grade and approval from their individual Note and Comment Editor. The articles are then given to the Executive Board and Faculty Advisor for final approval.

Class Credit
Each staff writer receives two units per semester, contingent upon satisfactory completion of his or her ELR duties. Each editor who fulfills her or his obligation receives three units per semester.

Prestige
Law review membership is a mark of academic distinction that employers look to when evaluating the strength of an applicant’s research and writing skills. ELR offers a unique opportunity to its staff writers since ELR consistently publishes a high volume of student articles in each issue. Article publication is a significant accomplishment that the legal community will recognize for the rest of your career. Moreover, ELR is a well-respected entertainment publication. The California Supreme Court recently cited an ELR article in its decision regarding the seminal entertainment case, Marathon Entertainment Inc. v. Blasi.

A Rewarding Experience
In addition to resumé value and development of important lawyering skills, ELR membership provides camaraderie through regular interaction with intelligent, like-minded students. ELR alums work at some of the nation’s top law firms, government agencies, and corporations. ELR also sponsors periodic social events and offers a fun and vibrant environment in which staff writers and editors explore cutting-edge legal issues.

What to Expect
Members begin working on ELR approximately 2-3 weeks prior to the fall semester, when the editorial board holds a staff orientation consisting of an informational meeting and training workshop. Source collection and cite-checking assignments will be assigned and submitted on a regular basis throughout the year. ELR staff writers complete their Note or Comment during the first semester, which allows the editorial board to incorporate selected staff writer articles into later issues.

ELR encourages all students interested in an entertainment or media-related field to select the Loyola of Los Angeles Entertainment Law Review as their first choice. We welcome the opportunity to work with you on exciting legal issues. Please feel free to visit our offices, located on the second floor of Founders Hall, or talk to any current staff writer or editor.