



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER • Office Memorandum

DATE: April 26, 2007
TO: First-Year Students and Late-Admit Transfer Students
FROM: Julie Furgerson, Academic Coordinator, 2007 Write-On Competition
RE: Documents Included in the 2006 Competition

I have just printed the documents which were included in the **2006** Write-On Competition. While I expect that the document types will be similar for this year's competition, I make no promises.

In any case, the documents included as part of last year's competition were:

1. Georgetown University Law Center 2006 Write-On Competition Instructions – Case Comment (including an Academic Honesty Statement, which you will verify as part of your online submission)
2. Checklist (of documents to be submitted)
3. Write-On Score Sheet
4. List of Sources (Principal Case; Circuit-Split Cases; Statutory Provisions; Administrative Regulations; Other Cases; Secondary Legal Sources; and Secondary Popular Sources.
5. Copies of the actual sources listed in #4 above.

Three complete packets of all information above and ten copies of information listed in items 1-4 will be put on reserve at Williams Law Library under the title "2006 Write-On Competition" and potentially my name (Furgerson). Online, we will post copies of items 1-4 on the Journal website.

Please note that a separate document, the "How-To" Packet, providing more details about writing a case comment, as well as an actual case comment submitted for last year's competition will be uploaded to the OJA website and placed on reserve as soon as possible.

In addition, as part of the 2007 Write-On Competition, you must complete a twenty-question, multiple-choice Bluebook test. Furthermore, you may need to write personal statements, should the journals in which you are interested require them. Samples of these documents are not included here.

**GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER
2006 WRITE-ON COMPETITION INSTRUCTIONS -
CASE COMMENT**

With the help of materials provided in this packet, and no others, write a case comment on *D'Angelo v. ConAgra Foods, Inc.*, 422 F.3d 1220 (11th Cir. 2005).

I. Rules of the Competition

- A. Materials:** You may use the materials included in the packet, the “How To Write a Case Comment” packet, the sample comments on reserve in the library, a dictionary (standard and/or legal), a thesaurus, computerized spell-checking, and the Eighteenth Edition of the Bluebook. We fully recognize that some competitors will have more familiarity with the issue than others from prior interests and readings. **However, for the purposes of this Competition, you may NOT use or reference any other materials, including law journals, notes, or other materials you may have encountered in class or as part of any extracurricular activities or outside interests. In addition, do not click on any links in the sources contained in the packet to access any sources on Westlaw (or Lexis or any other database). Furthermore, you may only rely on the sources provided in the packet. Thus, if you wish, for example, to mention a case not contained in the packet but discussed by a source contained in the packet, you must cite to the source contained in the packet and then use a parenthetical to refer to that other case.** Use of materials other than those explicitly authorized in these Instructions (and contained in the packet) is considered a violation of the Student Honor Code. Simply put, **outside research is not worth the time or the risk.** The Code also prohibits you from discussing your comment, the contents of the packet, or the subject matter of the “case in issue” with anyone, including non-students.
- B. Format:** The format of the competition is a case comment, not to exceed seven (7) pages of text and three (3) pages of endnotes (totaling ten pages). A case comment should include the following elements although you are not restricted to this formula:
1. **The facts of the case** (approx. 2 pages). Include the relevant facts and the procedural history of the case.
 2. **Holding** (approx. 1 page) and your analysis of the holding in the principal case.
 3. **Roadmap** (approx. 1/2 page) explaining the structure of the comment.
 4. **Analysis** (the balance).
 5. **Conclusion** (approx. 1/2 page).

Ordinarily, a case comment would run 25-30 pages and discuss many aspects of the case. The seven-page limit on text in this competition will not permit you to mention many possible criticisms of the case. Concentrate on your most

compelling criticisms and observations and, most importantly, offer your solution to the legal problem(s) presented and the reasoning behind the solution you have chosen.

C. Scoring: Your paper will be scored by three judges from a panel comprised of all ten law journals. (Note: You may assume that your audience consists of educated, non-expert readers.) The average of these three scores will be your final score, which will be given to those journals that you have preferred. A sample score sheet used by the judges is included in this packet for you to use as a reference. Keep in mind that this list of criteria on the score sheet is not exhaustive. Your paper will **not** be returned to you after the competition, and generally you will not find out about the score that you received on your paper.

D. Mechanics: The paper must meet the standards described below.

Font: Times New Roman 12 (for both the text and the endnotes).

Page Length: As noted, the text must not exceed **seven** pages and the endnotes must not exceed **three** pages. Text should be double-spaced (unless the Bluebook requires single spacing – as for long quotations) so that you have no more than 26 lines of double-spaced text.

Endnotes: The notes themselves must be single-spaced with a blank line between each note. Each page of endnotes may have no more than 52 lines total of print and spacing.

You must leave a one-inch margin on all four sides of the page (not including page numbers) for the text pages and endnote pages.

Do not exceed the page limits, and do not try to sneak in extra endnotes. Extra pages and/or extra notes may be counted against your score.

Additional pages will not be read.

E. Use of personal statements:

Personal Statements: Some journals invite you to write a personal statement or include a resume along with your paper. **You must redact your name, address, email address, phone number, and social security number from your personal statements and/or resume.** The only identifying information you may include on your personal statements and resume is your exam number and your packet number. You must also mark clearly the name of the journal to which you wish the statement/resume to be sent by submitting a separate copy for each journal in which you are interested. **Do not submit extra resumes or resumes for journals which do not accept them.** Resumes and personal statements that have not been redacted and labeled with a journal name will be discarded by the Office of Journal Administration and, therefore, will not be considered by the journals.

Suggestion: We recommend that you complete your personal statements BEFORE your time becomes consumed by writing your paper. Past experience has shown that many people write personal statements at the last minute, and these last-minute submissions can create a very poor impression.

F. Academic Honesty Statement: You must abide by the terms of the Academic Honesty Statement to which you agreed when you purchased the rights to the Write-On Competition. Page vii of these instructions provides a copy of the Academic Honesty Statement. This statement affirms that you have completed the Write-On Competition honestly and without outside assistance, and it is to be taken most seriously. Failure to abide by the Academic Honesty Statement will exclude your paper score from consideration by the journals and is considered to be a violation of the Student Honor Code.

G. Submitting Case Comments and Personal Statements:
You may submit your papers online, in person, or by mail.

On-Line: Given the upgrades to the computer system for the 2006 Write-On Competition, you should be able to submit your case comment online by using a the Write-On System upload feature. If you wish to be considered by one or more of the journals requiring a personal statement, you must also upload the personal statement for each particular journal. **Please include a title page with the title of your case comment as well as your exam number and your packet number.**

In Person: Should you decide to submit copies of your documents in person, you must turn in FOUR copies of your paper. **Each copy must have a title page with the title of your case comment as well as your exam number and your packet number.** All information on the title page must be typed. Do not write your name or any identifying mark other than your exam and packet numbers anywhere on your paper.

Early submissions will be accepted in the Office of Journal Administration, Room 168 of the Williams Law Library, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. through Friday, May 26, 2006.

All papers are due by 8:00 p.m. EDT (Eastern Daylight Time) on Tuesday, May 30, 2006. The Office of Journal Administration will remain open on May 30 until 8:00 p.m. EDT for packet collection.

Allow extra time for copying your papers. Do not count on library copiers as they may break down. **Late papers may not be accepted at the Office of Journal Administration.**

By Mail: Should you decide to submit copies of your documents by mail or mailing service, you must send FOUR copies of your paper. **Each copy must have a title page with the title of your case comment as well as your exam number and your packet number.** All information on the title page must be typed. Do not write your name or any identifying mark other than your exam and packet numbers anywhere on your paper.

Papers mailed at least one day prior to the due date may be sent via regular U.S. mail. **Note, however, that Monday, May 29, 2006, is Memorial Day, and post offices will be closed.** Papers sent on the due date must be time- and date-stamped. This requirement means you must use Federal Express or UPS or a similar carrier that time-stamps its packages. Although we do not care how long it takes for the package to reach our office (economy delivery is fine), we do check each FedEx and UPS package via the Internet to make sure it left your hands by the date and time it was due. Packages must be time-stamped prior to 8:00 p.m. EDT on May 30, 2006. **Please note: FedEx and UPS do not actually stamp a time on your package; however, when they scan your package into their computer the time and date are recorded. Therefore, you must take your package to a UPS or FedEx office. Do not utilize a drop box unless you are certain the box will be collected and its contents scanned prior to the deadline.** If you are mailing your paper from another time zone be sure you meet the **Eastern Time** deadlines as we will be checking.

Send your package, including four copies of your paper, with telephone number and GULC e-mail address, and any personal statements, to the following address:

Office of Journal Administration
ATTN: 2006 Write-On Competition
Georgetown University Law Center
600 New Jersey Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20001

- H. Receipt:** An automatic email will be generated by the Write On database once your packet has been received by OJA and logged into the system. The email will be sent to your Georgetown email address. Print out and retain this email as your receipt.
- I. Extensions:** Extensions will not be granted except in extraordinary circumstances. Extension requests must be made to Brett Marston by email at bem29@law.georgetown.edu. Extensions for illness will not be granted without a physician's statement.
- J. Notification:** Results (using exam numbers only) will be posted on the wall outside Room 169 of the library during the first week of August. Additionally, results will be available on the website where you entered your personal information. You can ask a friend to check the results posted on the wall for you,

but **DO NOT CALL JOURNAL ADMINISTRATION** to ask if you have been invited to join a journal. That information **CANNOT** be given out over the telephone. Please do not call to ask about when you will be receiving your invitation unless it is later than August 15, 2006. **DO NOT CONTACT THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR AS IT WILL NOT HAVE THIS INFORMATION.** Keep your packet number and your exam number; **WE WILL BE UNABLE TO PROVIDE THIS INFORMATION IF YOU LOSE IT.**

- K. Orientation:** Most journals require you to accept your invitation via telephone within one week of receiving it. All journals require you to attend an orientation. Information regarding the dates of orientations will be forthcoming; however, you should note that almost all journal orientations are mandatory. Please plan accordingly.

GOOD LUCK!

REMINDER:

ACADEMIC HONESTY STATEMENT

I understand that by participating in the law journal writing competition I am bound by the Georgetown University Student Honor Code. I have complied with the time limits as described in the instructions for this packet. The work that I have submitted to the journals is completely my own, and I have neither accepted outside help nor engaged in any outside research.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Keep a copy of your exam number and your packet number. You will need both to access the website, to submit your preferences, and to check your results. Journal Administration CANNOT provide you a copy of your packet number.

CHECKLIST

Follow the checklist below based on the submission option that you have selected:

I. Online Submission:

- A. **Case comment and personal statements (if applicable).** Once your case comment and personal statements (if applicable) are complete, you may upload the documents onto the Write-On Competition database. The documents must be uploaded in full by Tuesday, May 30, 2006, at 8:00 p.m. EDT. Note that the database will close at that time, and you will be unable to submit documents online after this time.
- B. **Bluebook test.** You should submit your Bluebook answers online by following the directions that accompany the test.

II. Submission in Person, by Mail, or Through a Friend:

Should you decide to submit your documents in person, by mail, or through a friend, once your case comment is complete, make four copies and place them together in a sealed envelope. Turn in your envelope in person, via mail (see above instructions), or through a friend in accordance with these instructions:

- A. **Four copies of your case comment.**
 - 1. Each case comment must have a title page with the title of your case comment as well as your exam number and packet number.
 - 2. Each case comment must be **stapled**. Place the four copies in a single envelope to keep them together. Do not bind the paper.
- B. **Personal statements and resumes.**
 - 1. Staple EACH statement or resume to a cover sheet stating the journal to which it belongs, your packet number, and your exam number. Do not include loose resumes unless they are clearly marked with the proper journal name.
 - 2. Redact ALL personal information such as name, email address, and street address from your resumes.
 - 3. You **MUST** put your exam number and packet number on your personal statements and resumes.
 - 4. Place these on top of the four copies of your paper.
- C. **A sealed envelope.**

1. Write your exam and packet numbers on the outside of the envelope.

D. Your exam receipt.

1. Print out the email you receive from the Write On system once your paper is logged by OJA. Retain this receipt for your records.
2. The email will be sent to your GULC email address ONLY.

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Principal Case:

D'Angelo v. ConAgra Foods, Inc., 422 F.3d 1220 (11th Cir. 2005) (17 pages).

Circuit-Split Cases:

Kaplan v. City of N. Las Vegas, 323 F.3d 1226 (9th Cir. 2003) (7 pages).

Katz v. City Metal Co., 87 F.3d 26 (1st Cir. 1996) (9 pages).

Kelly v. Metallics West, Inc., 410 F.3d 670 (10th Cir. 2005) (6 pages).

Newberry v. E. Tex. State Univ., 161 F.3d 276 (5th Cir. 1998) (6 pages).

Weber v. Strippit, Inc., 186 F.3d 907 (8th Cir. 1999) (12 pages).

Williams v. Phila. Hous. Auth. Police Dep't, 380 F.3d 751 (3d Cir. 2004) (24 pages).

Workman v. Frito-Lay, Inc., 165 F.3d 460 (6th Cir. 1999) (10 pages).

Statutory Provisions:

Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C.A. §§ 12101, 12102, 12111, 12112, 12113, 12116 (2006) (13 pages total).

Administrative Regulations:

29 C.F.R. §§ 1630.1, .2, .3, .4, .9, .10 (2005) (12 pages total).

Other Cases:

Supreme Court Cases:

Chevron U.S.A. Inc. v. Echazabal, 536 U.S. 73 (2002) (8 pages).

School Bd. of Nassau County, Fla. v. Arline, 480 U.S. 273 (1987) (13 pages).

US Airways, Inc. v. Barnett, 535 U.S. 391 (2002) (17 pages).

Circuit Court Cases:

Hamm v. Runyon, 51 F.3d 721 (7th Cir. 1995) (5 pages).

Terrell v. USAir, 132 F.3d 621 (11th Cir. 1998) (8 pages).

Secondary Legal Sources:

Cheryl L. Anderson, “*Deserving Disabilities*”: *Why the Definition of Disability Under the Americans with Disabilities Act Should Be Revised to Eliminate the Substantial Limitation Requirement*, 65 MO. L. REV. 83 (2000) (51 pages).

Mary Crossley, *Reasonable Accommodation as Part and Parcel of the Antidiscrimination Project*, 35 RUTGERS L.J. 861 (2004) (63 pages).

Arlene B. Mayerson, *Restoring Regard for the “Regarded As” Prong: Giving Effect to Congressional Intent*, 42 VILL. L. REV. 587 (1997) (19 pages).

William C. Smith, *Drawing Boundaries: The Supreme Court Is Siding with Employers and Narrowing the Reach of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Is That What Its Drafters Had in Mind?*, 88 A.B.A. J. 49 (Aug. 2002) (6 pages).

Secondary Popular Sources:

Paula Burkes Erickson, *Ruling Bolsters Employee Rights*, DAILY OKLAHOMAN, Feb. 12, 2006, at 48 (2 pages).

Mary Johnson, Editorial, *A Long Way Yet to Go - Judges and Others Still Don’t Grasp that the 15-Year-Old American with Disabilities Act Is About Rights, Not Benefits*, PHILA. INQUIRER, July 25, 2005, at A11 (2 pages).

Pat Shellenbarger & Sarah Kellogg, *Protection for Disabled ‘Could Go Further’ - Advocates Say Gains in Awareness, Accessibility Slowed by Court Rulings*, GRAND RAPIDS PRESS, July 26, 2005, at A1 (3 pages).

Total: 313 pages

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