

Introduction to Volume 47

Thank you for picking up a copy Volume 47, Issue One of the *Loyola University Chicago Law Journal*. The entire *Law Journal* staff has participated in the publication process for articles of the highest legal scholarship. The articles contained within this Issue discuss unique research contributions, highlight underexplored legal topics, and consider timely legal debates. With these articles the *Law Journal* endeavored to fulfill its mission to promote the development of the law through well-reasoned analysis and persuasive argument.

Our first Issue begins with a compelling proposal for the use of the Statement and Account Clause as a vehicle to increase government transparency in the area of national security expenditures. Next is an article analyzing a particular criminal defense strategy: the argument that an investigatory rush to judgment precluded the police from following up on leads implicating the guilt of third parties. The third article engagingly seeks the appropriate theory of mens rea required for complicity in a crime. Fourth is an article that explores the similarities linking patent reform with civil litigation reform efforts, and the valuable reform ideas that derive from the commonalities discovered therein. The fifth article is a persuasive argument for expanding the definition of “public official” to include lower-level government employees for the purpose of the free speech-protective actual malice standard. Our final article for Issue One is a critique of the current financial regulatory regime’s constraints on investment choices for retail investors.

This Issue concludes with a student note on the recent Supreme Court case *POM Wonderful v. Coca-Cola*, with particular emphasis on the allowance of private enforcement alongside FDA regulation.

The *Law Journal* would like to offer our thanks to our contributing authors for their exemplary scholarship. The hard work and dedication evident in all of the articles is thoroughly appreciated by the *Law Journal* and all of its readers. Lastly, the Executive Board thanks the staff of the *Law Journal*, whose commitment and contribution made this Issue, and the entirety of Volume 47, a reality.

Samuel J. Dykstra

Executive Editor, Lead Articles

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