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Docket Information and
Court Filings

- March 22 *Black Market Gold:
Medical & Transplant Tourism*
Suffolk University Law School
(1st Floor @ 11:30am – 5pm)
- March 22 *Latin American Law Student Assoc.
“Cafecito Time” Roundtable*
Suffolk University Law School
(7th Floor @ 3pm – 5pm)
- March 22 *Surging Opportunities in
Environmental & Energy Law*
Suffolk University Law School
(1st Floor @ 5:45pm – 7pm)
- March 24 *Operation Thank A Veteran*
Brighton Marine Health Center
(9:30am – Close)
- April 4 *Red Cross Blood Drive*
Suffolk University Law School
(1st Floor @ 1pm – 6pm)
- April 4 *Women On The Bench*
Suffolk University Law School
(5th Floor @ 5pm – 7:30pm)
- April 5 *Immigration/Gov’t Career Panel*
JFK Federal Building
(Room 900 @ 5pm – 7pm)
- April 6 *Sports & Entertainment Law Assoc.
Networking Event*
Scholars American Bistro & Cocktail Bar
(2nd Floor @ 6pm – 9pm)

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What in the (Cyber) World is Bitcoin?

Student Contributor, Rachel Seed

As law students, we work long, hard, stressful hours towards careers we hope will one day allow us to find financial stability -- or perhaps more. At the same time, it’s frustrating, for example, to learn about a 22 year old person who is already living a cushy lifestyle. “From what?” you ask. *Bitcoins*. After meeting one of these fortunate souls, I had to wonder: (1) what exactly is a bitcoin, (2) why are they making so much money, and (3) what’s the catch? For anyone unaware or curious about this currency phenomena, here is your cheat sheet.

What exactly is a Bitcoin?

According to a recent CNN Money article, bitcoin is a currency that was created in 2009 by an unknown person using the alias Satoshi Nakamoto. Transactions are made without banks and are largely *unregulated*. Thus, users can buy and sell anonymously. Combined with being relatively easy and cheap to use, bitcoins are attractive for international transactions.

Bitcoin is also used as an investment, like the stock market. The value of it increases and decreases relatively by substantial amounts. For example, in 2017, the price of one bitcoin skyrocketed into thousands of US dollars. According to Bitcoin’s latest charts, one bitcoin is now worth approximately \$10,191.00 U.S. dollars. However, buyer beware: this amount is subject to change day to day.



“Bitcoin” See, CBS News, Money Watch December 7, 2017

How can a bitcoin be acquired?

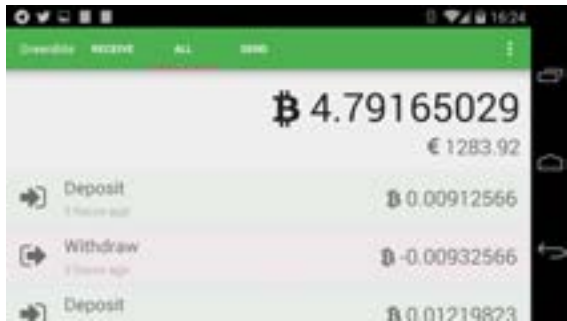
There are two main ways: buying on an exchange platform, or, through “mining.” An exchange platform is essentially an online store where you can buy or sell bitcoins with different currencies. Some commonly used exchange platforms include Coinbase, Bitstamp, and Bitfinex. However, buyer beware: there are security concerns with these websites. According to an August 2016 Fortune article, \$72 million U.S. dollars were stolen from Bitfinex in Hong Kong.

The other way to acquire bitcoins is through “mining.” With this method, people compete to mine bitcoins by using computers to solve extremely complex math puzzles. (*The Economist*, January 2015) As a result of solving these puzzles, bitcoins are created. However, the competition has changed: miners have moved on from independently mining. Now, most miners work together through “pools” which share computer power and rewards. According to CNN Money, a winner is rewarded with 12.5 bitcoins roughly every 10 minutes.



A bitcoin mining computer. See, CNBC, January 12, 2018

Once you acquire a bitcoin, it is stored in a “digital wallet”. A digital wallet exists either in the cloud, or on a personal computer. (You can acquire a free digital wallet through bitcoins website.) With this digital wallet, users can send or receive bitcoins i.e. to pay for goods. However, just like losing your physical wallet, you can accidentally delete your digital wallet -- or viruses could destroy them!



A bitcoins wallet via a phone app. See, Google Play

How is Bitcoin criminally use?

Prospects and users alike may be particularly drawn to Bitcoin because of its anonymity. Although transactions are recorded on a public log, the names of buyers and sellers are never revealed. Essentially, transactions cannot be traced to any specific individual. Thus, bitcoins have inevitably become a currency of choice for drug transactions and other illegal activities. Some of the illegal crimes with which bitcoins have been used include: money laundering, drug trafficking, public corruption, hacking, fraud, identity theft, and tax refund fraud. Forbes writer Jason Bloomberg expressed that “criminal enterprise is largely responsible for the value of Bitcoin.” (December 2017) To make matters more complicated, technological advancers work for both sides. As law enforcement gets better at identifying types of criminal behavior, criminals are also getting better at evading detection. For example, according to James Bloomberg, bitcoins are not entirely anonymous, which can create an opportunity for law enforcement. (*Forbes*, December 2017) However, criminals have responded by creating “altcoins,” which are currencies that use “Zero-proof technology”. Essentially, this technology removes any identifying information from a block chain’s ledger.

Will there be any regulation?

Bitcoin has skyrocketed into an incredible value. Inevitably, regulating it has become a topic of discussion. Some countries, such as Japan, China, and Australia, have begun considering regulations; governments are concerned about the lack of taxation and control. There is “significant price manipulation, fraud and theft of Bitcoin going today.” (*Forbes*, January 2018)

Many users are gambling with money they can’t afford or do not actually have. Users can purchase bitcoins by taking advances on their credit cards. As a result, Bitcoin’s value spikes and decreases. Many people attribute this to the lack of (and need for) regulation. For example, the U.S. dollar, which is regulated in part by the U.S. Treasury and Federal Reserve, moves in relation to national and foreign markets. In comparison, Bitcoin’s value can, and does, change daily, which is risky and unsustainable. As a consequence, Bitcoin users are likely to become subject to price manipulation and theft; as a result, users are exposed to large-scale hacks, a crash in value, and even a currency crash altogether.



Bitcoin USD Price Chart. See, Daily Express, November 9, 2017

Bitcoin users are experiencing a vastly unpredictable and arguably unprecedented high. Many users are hopeful, and encouraged by how long the currency has already lasted and by how much money can be made if bought at the right time. Others, like chief strategist Jim Rickards of Meraglim (a financial analytics firm) views Bitcoin as certainly fatal. In a recent Fortune article, he states: “I view Bitcoin as a Neanderthal, an evolutionary dead end.” (For more information, contact Rachel at rseed@suffolk.edu)

SAVE THE DATE
MAYOR MARTIN J. WALSH
OPERATION
THANK A VETERAN
CITY OF BOSTON VETERANS' SERVICES
Brighton Marine Health Center
77 Warren St. Brighton, MA 02135
March 24, 2018
9:30AM

Rule 33: Interrogatories To Parties

State Your Name, Bar Prep Tips, And General Advice

Alumni Contributor, Sam Matson



“Over a hundred years, Suffolk University Law School began preparing students for the Massachusetts Bar Exam.”

Hi everyone, I’m one of the latest graduates of Suffolk Law. I graduated last year from the night program. Before I begin, I have to say: I really enjoyed my time here, and wish you all luck. Now, it’s time to address the elephant in the room: the bar.

Tip #6: start with a review course. I started studying Barbri’s review course in February. Pay for it, get your login, get the books, etc. (I used Barbri, but I know people who used Kaplan or Themis and did fine.) I looked at the study calendar on the Barbri website and familiarized myself with what Barbri expected. Do exactly what it says -- then supplement it with practice problems. (I’ll explain that in a moment).

Plan your summer. The real intense study window for the Bar is basically 60 straight days. Do it -- except for July Fourth. Even Barbri gave everyone July Fourth off. Go to the beach. Have fun. Stay out too late. Work hard for that day off.

Tip #5: use flashcards. I started reading the Critical Pass flashcards when I commuted to work in February. Every day I would do one of the eight core subjects on the Multistate Exam (day 1). When the 60 days of hell finally arrived, I would do *at least* one subject, maybe two -- before I would do anything else that Barbri planned for the day.

Tip #4: buckle up. Start studying! My first day was the Monday after the Super Bowl. Barbri has an “Early Start” program. Do it: set a date, and begin.

When I sat down months later for day one of the 60 days, I felt like I already knew a lot. Also, establishing my routine definitely helped, and also eased my anxiety.

Tip #3: do more practice problems than what’s expected. At some point in your review course, you’ll have to review a subject and do practice problems each day. Follow those instructions, *and then* supplement with more practice problems. In July, when I was about thirty days out, I would do practice problems for several hours, in addition to what the review course recommended.

Tip #2: build your endurance. Timing is the entire ballgame; you don’t want to burn out. Create a plan. It does not even have to be a good plan -- just have one. As you get closer, you should get a sense of how long it takes to do each problem. Time yourself while you study! You have approximately 1 minute and 45 seconds per question on the Multistate. You don’t want to experience the time crunch on test day.

To the 1Ls: I know it is a long way off, but take a look at the subjects that are on the Bar. Especially the essays on Day 2 for i.e. Massachusetts. Save a few of those Bar related courses for your last year. I went super extreme with this idea -- I didn’t take Evidence until my last year. My plan was: if I took Massachusetts specific courses my last semester they would be fresh in my mind. However, just to be clear: *do not* study for the Bar. At all. I know it’s

law school, but don’t be that much of a nerd. Have fun, focus on learning first year courses, compete in the 1L cup, and try to enjoy being in college again -- network!*To the 2Ls:* it’s a tough year. Continue to focus on getting good grades and doing well in your internship or clinic. Don’t stress about the Bar! You can start freaking out next year.

To the 3/4Ls: Start spending time during your last semester with focusing on the Bar. I decided to split my time 50/50. Since I went nights, I had to study on Saturdays. Instead of spending the day studying for my current classes, I spent half the time working on the Early Start course and reviewing flashcards. I spent the other half working on my current courses.

Tip #1: keep your routine. Find a rhythm and keep that rhythm going all the way into the exam. The day before the Bar, I studied the exact same way I studied for those 60 days. I remember Barbri recommended to completely take the day off. I didn’t do that because I had a rhythm. I went to the library (like I usually did), sat where I usually sat, and studied. I didn’t study super hard and didn’t get stressed -- but, I studied. Keeping your routine includes sleep! That day, I didn’t study super hard. Instead, I left early, got my favorite dinner, and went to bed. When I walked into the exam, I felt like it was just any other day. *(For more information, contact Sam at smatson@suffolk.edu)*

Paralegal By Day, Law Student By Night

Student Contributor, Jessica Bailot

Now that our first semester of law school is complete, the feelings and emotions are too great to put into concrete words. That first semester has tested our faith in our abilities, and, most definitely, our patience. We are still being asked questions like: “Why would you do this to yourself?” and, “How do you manage to fit everything in in one day?” While I don’t think that there’ll be answers to those questions that satisfy everyone, the fact of the matter is: we chose to enter law school because we wanted to learn the law.

Now, I know that answer seems fairly obvious. But learning the law is a unique process that everyone goes through differently. For example, I know some people that review flash cards every day, others by reading hornbooks, starting outlines early, reviewing lecture tapes -- the list goes on. Personally, working at a law firm during the day and attending class at night has helped me out a lot. With Civil Procedure, for example, I find that I have a lot less questions to ask about why we are filing a case a certain way or giving notice to only certain people. As we process all this information, our perspectives of the world are being altered -- whether we know it or not!

One of the first differences I noticed is that I approach a situation by thinking of the pros and cons. When I was young, I wanted to believe that the world was black and white. It was so easy to be optimistic and positive! While I like to think that I’m still that same younger person, the reality is: the world is starting to look a lot greyer. The various shades of grey are becoming more pronounced: what I learn in the classroom also applies to what goes on at the firm. I’ve noticed that discussing a client’s options with both attorneys and paralegals is like a game of chess: we’re predicting each move ahead of time so that the client’s best interest is put forward.

At school, each case we read is like an entire game already played out. Our job is to understand, “What happened?” Sometimes we’re left unsettled because, by the end of each analysis, our once steadfast positions slowly deteriorate with

each opposing view. Law school *and* the firm combined have drilled in me to look for the “bigger picture”, which is something every professor and attorney always mentions.

Another major challenge has been effective time management. After reading cases about parties making careless mistakes, I try to approach each task at work with the mentality that it should be done right the first time. Sometimes, this means taking extra time and effort to proofread a draft for the fifth time, instead of completing everything I have on my desk for the day. I also tend to make sure that I don’t bring homework to work with me. Separating school from my career forces me to focus on each task at hand with my undivided attention. With the time I have left, I spend it on other activities, like Netflix and yoga. This allocation of time helps me focus on the details of a big project, draw comparisons between topics in class and situations at work, and not become overwhelmed with multi-tasking.

I’ve also started to take into consideration that not every detail is equally important. In class, our professors assist us by distinguishing which facts in a case need attention and which facts need to be ignored. This fundamental skill has carried over into both my work and personal life. For example, when I’m given an emergency task at work, I re-organize my list of projects for the day -- instead of worrying about how I’ll get everything done by 5 pm. I also try to anticipate each and every issue in a case so that I’ll only have to speak with the attorney once -- instead of a handful of times. In addition, I don’t allow comments and criticisms to bother me anymore. Instead, I stop to consider the source *and* the reason behind what that person said. There are simply not enough hours in my day to waste time and energy. The bottom line? Keep moving. Studying the law, in my opinion, is more than just earning a degree. With the time and effort we all contribute into this transformative process, it really is a lifestyle choice. *(For more information, contact Jess at jbailot@suffolk.edu)*

Professor Gerald J. Clarke



Professor Gerald J. Clarke began teaching at Suffolk in 1973. He was known for his lectures in Professional Responsibilities, Constitutional Law, and Federal Courts. In December, 2017, Professor Clarke retired from his tenure. On behalf of Suffolk: thank you for joining the Suffolk community! We wish you and your family the best. Once a Ram, always a Ram!



Dicta

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A Two-For-One-Special: The JD-MBA Program

Student Contributor, Richard Tannenbaum, MS

This opportunity has given me a unique perspective of the law’s influence on business. I’m learning how business people respond to challenges and examine issues, *and* how a lawyer examines those same issues. There is more overlap than contrast; the law adds significant understanding to the business person’s pure profit motive. In essence, one person looks for profit, while the other person looks for liability. However, both of these viewpoints share one thing in common: the uncertainty of new business opportunities.

I’ll take this overlap a step further. Law is the blueprint and framework for the operating environment in which a company exists. Investors, as a rule, do not invest in illegal enterprises: there is too much risk. Likewise, lawyers, like investors, are concerned about managing liability (the legal word for the risk of responsibility). This liability is connected to what corporate types try to manage, what investors often fear might reduce their return on investments, and what can potentially consume the investment entirely. Risk and reward are inexorably linked. Lawyers play a role in informing businesspeople about the risks associated with operating a business. That’s the simplest way to understand the connection between law and business.

The MBD-JD Program has been a challenge. In addition to studying, I also run my own business called MedBlob. Since I started studying, I decided to simplify my life by focusing on building MedBlob and completing my schoolwork. Everything else I do is just a bonus. I am used to working long days and nights. The gym keeps me sane.

When I first started MedBlob, I was working for a mid-market life science investment bank as an Analyst. I decided to quit to pursue my own business venture. I knew I was ready to jump-in and commit full-time, so-to-speak. Basically, I co-founded MedBlob in 2015, had it on the back burner while I started school in 2016, and quit my Analyst position in January of this year because the pot was starting to boil over.

It took time to lay the foundational research to start MedBlob. I started my career in clinical research and found that researchers had a problem. They often spent 95% of their time trying to gather data into an excel sheet. Whatever little time left was spent writing their manuscript for a journal publication. I saw something wrong about this. During the same time, I recognized that I had trouble managing my medical records, especially my immunizations. I realized these two problems were related and used the idea of solving these two problems to create my company. The idea was to create a cloud-based military-grade-

encrypted unified patient health record. Providers and patients can use the best information in their health management, *and* researchers can also have access to the best information to solve the complex health challenges.

Currently, we have got a couple things on the horizon. We’re working on developing our minimum viable product, getting our new vendors contract negotiated, and securing intellectual property. We’re also building our team by recruiting from the local area and universities. Just recently, we went to the Harvard Start-up Career Fair and had a lot of interest from students, ranging from potential internships to clinical advisory board members. I’m always looking to network with new people. I think our cause resonates with just about everyone, because disease affects us all.

Looking back, I’m not surprised to see where I am now. My first love was the law. I come from an entrepreneurial background; it’s in my blood. I’m passionate about improving the healthcare system, and in turn, the services my business offers. I’m also excited to start advocating for my business once I graduate law school. Companies like mine are sued frequently because there are a number of entrenched interests in healthcare. Essentially, these interests want to maintain their market positions and dominance. I’m excited to advocate for my business’s mission: to fight for patient’s rights and to improve population health. The tide is turning on the ‘old guard’ in healthcare, and I think that’s clear with big players like CVS, JP Morgan, and Amazon, entering the marketplace.

One of our challenges is patient engagement. This means getting people interested in managing their health information. The issue isn’t an IT (information technology) challenge because the tech is already there. The real issue is: how do we get patients on-board? I’ve been thinking about that question for a while, and I think may have an answer, which is why I’m pursuing a patent. Stay tuned!

My advice to the entrepreneurial readers: don’t walk--run. Most likely, you are young, full of energy, and just working on your law or business degree. The time is now to take risks, work longer and harder than everyone else. Do not take the safe path; you will never have less responsibility than you do now. It only gets harder to start a new venture. Taking a job may mean that you limit your risk now, but you also limit your gains. The learning that you get from finding your own way is immeasurable, and the experience is rewarding. It’s what this country was founded on: the American dream. Get a goal, get a plan, and go for it! *(For more information, contact Richard at RT@medblob.com)*



Gherardo Astaldi, a second year law student, will be running in the 2018 Boston Marathon. This year, he is running in memory of Officer Sean A. Collier. Officer Collier was killed while on duty during the aftermath of the Boston Marathon Bombing in 2013. *(To learn how to donate, contact Gherardo at gmastaldi@suffolk.edu)*

Letter From The Editor

Editor-In-Chief, Alexander Sneirson

This edition has been an adventure. Patience has been the real theme. Developing an edition takes time, whether it’s recruiting advertisers or writers. One of the toughest lessons I’ve learned is that people will run at the speed they want to run. My job is to lead.

I’m extremely thankful for the people that committed to this edition. To the writers, readers, and financial supporters, I have a lot of faith that this paper will get back on its feet.

I’ve proposed to Alumni Engagement that our paper be delivered to Alumni law firms in exchange for a small donations, which can help cover our bottom-line costs. In addition, I’m experimenting with new legal-titled columns like “Shepardize This” -- that gives organization and club presidents an opportunity to advertise their club --, “Off The Record”, and “A Civil Action”. It is my hope that these ideas, among others, will attract the support that *Dicta* needs to truly be *The Suffolk Law Paper*.

Acid, Acid All Fall Down

Andrew Leveton



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Behind San Francisco’s Height-Ashbury myths and commercialized hippie images, utopian experimentation, free love, peace and harmony lay another society where life wasn’t so pleasant. Runaways, looking for a grand time, punctuated with marijuana and LSD trips, free concerts in the parks by the Golden Gate, were especially targeted. And while the lucky danced and threw Frisbees and lost their inhibitions, others suffered enslavement, humiliations, or sold drugs for a master who cared less for humanity. *Acid, Acid All Fall Down* is the story of those whose Height-Ashbury experience ended in a gutter or grave.

This anecdotal story came to me from a friend who was in San Francisco at the time. He is famous as a storyteller and this one had to be re-told. I suspect he used my ear as a means to relieve himself of a burden which he carried for decades. His descriptions horrified me, at first, and since my memories of the 60s were everything but like this, I felt that for those who made it out scathed deserved to have their predicament chronicled. When pressed for details “Rick” referred to those times as anything but “the good old days” and merriments were rarely expressed. When he was able to be referenced he did so with a dead-serious demeanor. The character, Rick, is as close to real as I could get. His story examines a side of life no one wanted to acknowledge: in many cases those who lived it never survived to tell anyone.

State Of The Union

Ballots, Budgets, and Firearms

SBA President, Michael McKeown
Editor-In-Chief, Alexander Sneirson

Did you do anything special over winter break? *“I got the opportunity to relax and spend time with friends and family that I don’t normally get to see! I also definitely spent plenty of time catching up on some neglected video games.”*

You were disappointed with voter turnout in our last election. Any thoughts about returning to a paper-ballot election? *“Yes, we have considered that! Considering how important an issue like cost of attendance is, we hoped to see more voter turnout. We have discussed internally whether it may be more effective (or possible) to conduct written ballots at the beginning or end of your class similar to class evaluations. We plan to reach out to Dean Cove to discuss it further.”*

The Appropriations Committee has a limited budget right now. So, for example, when Appropriations gives money to a club, and the club doesn’t spend it, does the SBA have a right to get the money back? *“Short answer: yes. Our fiscal year runs from October 1st to September 30th. So if there are any unspent club funds by September 30th, the SBA does take them back. We take those surplus funds and re-appropriate them using our regular process with the Appropriations Committee. However, any funds that are in club accounts as a result of donations or fundraising will stay in the account after the September 30th turnover. To clarify: the SBA does not have a right to unilaterally take funds from a club unless a club deeply abuses its funds. In that case, we may freeze the account.”*

Has the SBA ever considered an initiative to shorten this window? *“As far as I understand, we have not tried such an initiative and I wouldn’t support one. I believe one academic year is a reasonable amount of time to give Clubs the opportunity to spend their funding. Our Club Presidents serve a one year term. Sometimes things happen, events get canceled or postponed, and organizations need some flexibility to accomplish their goals over the course of a year.”*

That sounds like a lot of flexibility. Would the Board of Governors (BOG) consider prohibiting clubs from spending money on, for example, General Body meetings? *“Well, as President, I don’t necessary speak for the BOG (our legislative body) directly but instead speak for the SBA and student body as a whole. I am unsure whether the BOG would be interested in prohibiting those types of expenditures. Those policy decisions can be made by the Executive Board alone or by the BOG. Speaking for the Executive Board, we would not be in favor of prohibiting spending money on general body meetings or other small get togethers. For some clubs, this is the sole opportunity to get their members together and attract new members. I think the ability to meet and interact is integral for an organization’s success. Pizza and drinks help make that happen!”*

How has your relationship as President been with the BOG? *“Our relationship has been wonderful this year. Our Section Representatives, Bar Association Liaisons, and Executive Committees have all been working together extremely well. In my experience in previous years, the BOG has been somewhat adversarial amongst itself and the Executive but I’m happy to say that is not the case this year. As a matter of fact, in January we completed the first SBA Retreat to bring the members of the SBA even closer together and isolate the issues that the SBA will address this semester.”*

At the last BOG meeting, the BOG voted in favor of arming the campus Police Department. Did Suffolk ask the BOG to vote on this issue? *“I’m glad you asked about that. To clarify, the BOG did take the official position that the SBA, as representative of the student body, believes SUPD (not to be confused with our security guards) should be armed, provided there is routine adequate firearm training and retraining. Please remember: this is an opinion, not a decision. I will submit a letter to President Kelly and the chairmen of the Board of Trustees recommending they should arm SUPD. Now, to answer your question: Suffolk did not directly ask us. According to the Chief of Police, Chip Coletta, this has been a campus-wide issue and discussion, on and off, since he had arrived on campus well over 5 years ago. Throughout his tenure, the Chief has advocated in favor of carrying a firearm. Currently, the undergraduate student government is deciding their recommendation. To remain timely, I felt it was best for Suffolk Law students to also discuss the issue as well.*

How much weight does this vote have? *“I think it should have significant weight. Suffolk University may be very cautious of arming SUPD without the support of all the stakeholders on campus. This is an issue that speaks to safety; it transcends the classroom. That includes students, faculty, and staff. As students, we make up the vast majority of those stakeholders – we are well over 6,500 students. As the largest stakeholder-group on campus, and the University’s customers, I believe our opinion will absolutely hold significant weight with the Board of Trustees and the Administration.”*

Generation Z: A Much-Needed Kick in America’s Pants?

To be honest, I didn’t even know what they were calling the generation that follows Millennials until the mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, that left 17 dead. This was the 34th mass shooting in the United States since the beginning of the new year — a number that’s hard to digest. Most of Generation Z have used the internet for the majority of their lives and are more than comfortable when it comes to navigating technology and social media. This is something that’s typically been viewed in a negative light when discussing today’s teens, but it has been absolutely crucial in this group’s ability to successfully and quickly organize themselves in the days after the shooting. The Generation Z’ers from Parkland have made their disdain with the current state of gun laws heard loud and clear, and most recently they have managed to discredit the alt-right agitators that have accused the survivors of being “crisis actors.” Unfortunately, the same thing happened with Sandy Hook – victims’ parents were accused of being actors and the whole tragedy was deemed by some extremists as some leftist hoax.

Admittedly, it’s quite early to jump to conclusions, and we as a nation have an extremely short attention span with practically everything. Even so, I can’t help but feel a twinge of hope that this could be the turning of the tides. If Millennials and Generation Z are able to join forces and work together, change could be around the corner. However, this is only possible if we remember to VOTE this November. As our 44th President Barack Obama tweeted out on February 22nd, “Young people have helped lead all our great movements. How inspiring to see it again in so many smart, fearless students standing up for their right to be safe; marching and organizing to remake the world as it should be. We’ve been waiting for you. And we’ve got your backs.”

Off The Record ...

A Suffolk Law Movie Review

Student Contributor, Jamie Nathan

On February 18, I saw “Black Panther” at Regal Cinemas. Black Panther is different from most Marvel films. It’s more serious, has more drama, and (in many ways) is its own movie. The technology, the action scenes, and the dialogue are all great. However, in some parts the CG (computer graphics) stood out for the wrong reasons. The CG occasionally looked fake with some scenes near the end, but it didn’t really detract from the film as a whole.

I don’t think this film will be the most loved. But, I do think it’ll be one of the most important. It helps set the stage for “Avengers: Infinity War”. Lots of characters (aside from T’Challa) are now coming forward to join the overarching storyline. Overall, it’s a great movie.

A nearly all African-American cast was risky. In the past there has been the mantra that movies led by minority actors and actresses will not be as financially viable as those with caucasian leads. Yet, it paid off incredibly well here. Chadwick Boseman as King T’Challa/Black Panther was fantastic; he really knew how to carry a scene. He perfectly embodied a young king who is stuck between the old ways and the new. This struggle with deciding what the right thing to do made him relatable. In his last few films, Boseman has really shown his acting capabilities: Jackie Robinson in 42, and Justice Thurgood Marshall in Marshall. Boseman is quickly becoming a great actor in his own right.

Let’s not forget the female actresses. To name a few: Danai Gurira was tough, occasionally funny, but a fiercely loyal warrior. Lupita Nyong’o as Nakia was different here than she was in the comics. In the comics, she was a villain obsessed with King T’Challa who went

out of her way to try to kill any potential lovers of the King out of jealousy. However, in the film, she is a spy for Wakanda. Essentially, she believes that Wakanda should be doing more to help others outside of their kingdom.

*In my mind,
a well-written antagonist
is a character who
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they’re doing is right.*

Letitia Wright as Shuri arguably ‘stole the show’ a few times as T’Challa’s sister. In many ways she plays the genius who provides T’Challa with the latest gadgets for his missions. Finally, Angela Bassett as T’Challa’s mother handled her role well as his guardian and supporter throughout the film. Even Martin Freeman as Everett Ross gets his time in the limelight as well. He played his role as the CIA agent who gets caught between his partnership with T’Challa and his duty to the United States.

As for the antagonists, Andy Serkis is quite funny and crazy. He played the first of two villains in this movie, which is perfect for an actor like him. Consider his last few roles: Caesar from the reboot series of “Planet of the Apes”, Supreme Leader Snoke in “Star Wars Episodes VII” and “VIII”, and especially Gollum/Smeagol in “Lord of the Rings”. Serkis has a wild and exciting personality that can easily carry a scene. Plus, the fact that he has already had a role in “Avengers: Age of Ultron” adds another dimension to his role in the story.

Michael B. Jordan was not a one-dimensional villain like I expected. He had a story that built throughout the movie; I think it’s a wonderful backstory to see. In my mind, a well-written antagonist is a character who believes that what they’re doing is right -- like the protagonist -- except the manner in how they put that plan into action puts them on the wrong side.

Finally, the story itself is quite simple yet complex. Easy to understand, but difficult to answer. To not spoil too much from the movie, it does contain political commentary. But, in this case, the debate is between: should a country with many resources step forward and become more involved in helping the less fortunate? Or should they instead be focused on protecting their people and preserving their way of life? “Black Panther” does not ask for a simple answer. Indeed, this movie would be foolish to try to attempt one. However it does make you think, which is why it’s definitely worth watching. To top it all off: The soundtrack is very solid! There are two post credits scenes at the end, so don’t leave right away! (For more information contact Jamie at jnathan2@suffolk.edu)





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Diversity Jurisdiction

What are Black People like?

Student Contributor, Prince Sefa-Boakye

“Why you White Men have so much cargo, and we New Guineans have so little?” (Jared Diamond, quoting a New Guinean named Yali)

This question explains everything. It explains why I created my start-up company. It explains why “Race *does* matter.” At first, I didn’t believe Race mattered. But once I traveled the world and opened my eyes to the harsh realities of it, I immediately changed the way I think.

The Western world gives little credence to Race. I learned about someone in the Eastern World, however, that gave Race all the credence it deserves: a dark-skinned male named Yali. On the shores of New Guinea, Yali met a fair-skinned male named Jared Diamond. Yali asked him: “Why you White Men have so much cargo, and we New Guineans have so little?” With this question, Yali achieved something that no dark-skinned male could ever do: force a fair-skinned Western-educated male to listen.

In late 2008 at San Diego State University, I saw a movie called “Guns, Germs, and Steel.” It tells the story of sociologist Jared Diamond and his quest to answer Yali’s blunt question. In his quest, Diamond discovered that the reason why “White Men Have So Much Cargo” is because of “Guns, Germs, and Steel”, which later became the title of his book.

In the end, what did this do for Yali? Did it change Yali’s reality that “White Men” have everything and New Guineans (or dark-skinned people) have nothing? Or did he utilize that information to work his way up ‘the ladder’ in New Guinea? Unfortunately, we do not know. However, what we do know is this: Diamond found the answer to Yali’s question.

After several years of Western education, I’m still left with Yali’s question: “Why do White Men [still] have so much cargo?” On the one hand, I think that in the Western world, Race doesn’t matter. Instead, what matters is determination and skills coupled with the will to succeed. This philosophy has been my lullaby since I grew up as a child in a small White American neighborhood. On the other hand, Race does matter because when I was a child, I never saw Race -- but my friends found ways to remind me.

Although the Western philosophy has helped me succeed, it didn’t prepare me for the pain. I’ve felt traumatized from being told I was “White” -- for thinking and speaking intelligently! And I would only be “black”, in the eyes of my white peers, if I “dumbed myself down”.

Today, we still have this tension between dark and fair skinned people. But this time, it’s not about cargo. It’s about money! How can we say,

“Race Doesn’t Matter”, when the average bank accounts of dark and fair-skinned people are not equal or competitive? Are “white dollars” more valuable or competitive than “black dollars”? This depressing competition hurts the efforts of dark skinned people to attain the American dream. To the fair-skinned people that disagree: I challenge you to stay and compete in the Middle East and experience how *your* fair skin may negatively affect your income.

A country that systemically does not value skin color will always be affected by Race. There will always be Racial divides. And as such, competition between people of different skin colors will never be genuine.

So, what do we do? What should we do for people like Yali? How can we fix the problem, whether here in America or around the world? The answer is simple: create a new reality.

My mission is simple: educate the world on the African Diaspora and promote Black entrepreneurship, intelligence, and education, I promote the reality that “Blacks and Africans *are* rich!” *The Western world has promoted its beliefs that Blacks are: criminals, poor, drugged, uneducated, vulgar, hypersexual, pants sagging below the waist -- you name it!* But, if we all work towards changing these beliefs, by educating the world about Blacks, then Blacks will have the “cargo” they need to trade. The world would be genuinely interested in investing its currencies in Black culture, Black “minds”, and Black resources.

I strongly believe that education is the key to success and happiness for all. But many foreigners don’t invest their money in people like Yali because foreigners are *not_educated*. Foreigners are educated in African oil, gold, and rare metals, which are used to make, for example, phones. However, they are not educated towards the culture of dark-skinned people who live with these resources!

People like Yali have the tradable resources they need to compete. The problem is that we take away resources from people like Yali. Instead, we should invest in their ability to own them. If financial markets can invest in people in Hong Kong (i.e. for their human resources in technology), then I’m sure financial markets can do the same for the people of New Guinea. It’s time for countries like New Guinea to educate the world about their Africa Diaspora heritage; it’s time for other countries to realize their self-determination and prosperity!

A man of fair skin once told me that I was limiting myself by

Civil Action# 2018-01-21

Suffolk Law v. Sunday River

Student Contributor, Amber Meyer



During winter break, the Suffolk Law Ski & Snowboard Club took a weekend trip to Sunday River. The sun was shining, and the weather was warm!

The Suffolk Law Ski and Snowboard Club went to Sunday River for a weekend trip this January. We stayed at the ski-on/ski-off Grand Summit Lodge, which is a crown jewel of the great state of Maine. The mountain had great conditions for the entire weekend. We tore up the slopes! On Saturday, we skied over to the Foggy Goggle to slug some “refreshments” in between runs. Let me tell you: there is nothing quite like sitting at a picnic table and looking out over the snowcapped mountains while throwing back “refreshments”. We worked for our goggle tans! The hotel had an indoor/outdoor heated pool and hot tub, which made for great “networking” opportunities after a long day on the slopes.

On Saturday night, the club went to the Matterhorn Ski Bar. We saw a country band

make popular songs unrecognizable. I have never seen “Wagon Wheel” so butchered, yet so loved by the crowd. The bar had wonderful souvenir t-shirts to dry off with after a long night of sweating to a third god-awful rendition of “Chicken Fried”. Throughout the night, our Club threw dice down for some good ‘ol gambling fun per Venmo (a digital wallet that allows users to exchange money with friends). We drew a crowd to our nefarious antics, but would allow no new players. #NoNewFriends

The trip was full of gnar-worthy moments that you need to see to believe on our next trip. The van leaves for Loon Mountain on the Second of March. All shredders are welcome! (For more information, contact Amber Meyer at ameyer3@suffolk.edu)

talking about Black people. But, I think the world is limiting itself by not talking about Race. If we don’t, then we’re stuck in that Western bubble which says, “Race Does Not Matter”.

Imagine this possibility: what if people today had the enthusiasm to understand Yali, to invest his currency, to learn his language and culture? (We already do this with Hong Kong, Tokyo, Spain, New York, Paris, and even Dubai.) Do you think Yali would be better off? Would Yali continue to be the stereotype? Or would Yali have a bigger incentive to invest in himself and his culture – in turn creating an incentive for Westerners to visit and explore? Imagine the possibilities!

So, what’s lacking? Do you see it yet? Education!

Maybe it’s time for dark-skinned people in Africa, New Guinea, and abroad to stop chasing a Western education.

Instead, maybe it’s time to build an education around their culture, so that they can understand themselves in a way that the world can understand them. The world could finally discover *financial incentives* to invest in their culture. With the power of social media, I truly believe that Black entrepreneurs everywhere can create a new reality and bring “cargo” back to their countries and communities. So, let me close with this:

I can attend all the fashion shows, networking events, art galleries in Boston -- dress up, drink wine, and network with all Races in one room -- and not care about my dark skin color. I can go to all the masterminds in the world and ignore Race issues completely. But, I can’t shake the reality that we live in a world where a little dark-skinned girl is crying in Charlotte, North Carolina about her traumatic

experience with the police; I can’t shake the reality that we live in a world where a little dark-skinned boy in New Guinea feels poor and inferior because of his skin color; and I can’t shake the reality that we live in a world where there are Yalis everywhere who ask the question: Why you White Men have so much cargo, and we [Black Men] have so little?”

The greatest fear is not war or hate, but not knowing. Like Jared Diamond, I discovered the passion to answer my own question: “What are Black People like?” With the help of my team, my mission is to help Black people be comfortable in their own skin while learning to “Live Like An Entrepreneur!” (For more information, type in **whatareblackpeoplelike.com**, follow the twitter page [@blackppplarelike](https://twitter.com/blackppplarelike), or contact Prince at psefa-boakye@suffolk.edu)

Attention Law School Students! The Moakley Law Library is excited to announce its Trainings for the Spring Semester! Stay tuned for dates and locations!

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- Next Step: Information Resources for Law School Grads
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- Write on the Right Way: Quick Overview of Bluebook Rules!

Shepardize This



On Tuesday, January 30, President Trump gave the 2018 State of the Union Address. (Pictured from left to right) Chapter President Michael Fox, Vice President Terence Durkin, and Treasurer Jenna Connors met with Suffolk Law students off-campus to watch this traditional event.

The Federalist Society

President, Michael Fox

Founded in 1982, the Federalist Society is a nationwide group of conservatives and libertarians dedicated to reforming the current legal order. We are committed to the principles that: (1) the state exists to preserve freedom, (2) the separation of governmental powers is central to our Constitution, and (3) the province and duty of the judiciary is to say what the law is, not what it should be. The Society seeks to promote awareness of these principles and to further their application through its activities.

The Federalist Society provides a forum for legal experts of opposing views to interact with members of the legal profession, the judiciary, law students, academics, and lawmakers alike. We believe our expansion in membership, chapters, and program activities are the result of the quality of the Society's events. We have fostered a greater appreciation for the role of separation of powers, federalism, limited constitutional government, protecting individual freedom, and advocating for traditional values. The Society consists of: a Faculty Division, a Lawyer's Division (consisting of over 60,000 legal professionals), and a Student Division (consisting of some 10,000 law students throughout the nation). Collectively, we host over 1,000

events every year, and, as a result, we reach out to about 50,000 law students.

Our local Suffolk Law Chapter was re-chartered in 2015 under the leadership of alumnus Chris Gavrielidis. Since that time, we have hosted numerous notable speakers who discussed topics that ranged from: the US Supreme Court, to the Separation of Powers. On March 21 at 6pm, in the Faculty Dining Room, we will be hosting Clark Neily, Vice President of Criminal Justice at the Cato Institute. Mr. Neily will discuss civil forfeiture (otherwise known as policing for profit), police misconduct, occupational licensing laws, and the proper role of the judiciary. Food will be served!

Sadly, in today's day and age we see lawmakers across the political spectrum denigrate our constitutional rights to advance their partisan agenda. As lawyers, we have a unique opportunity to protect and defend the Constitution. To do this, we must employ a judiciary that understands its role: to uphold the Constitution without regard for the potential political ramifications. For example, if the legislature passes an unconstitutional law and the executive enforces and defends it, then the judiciary has an affirmative obligation to strike it down. For the sanctity of our republic, we must do better!

The Hellenic Law Society

President, Zachary Paskalis

The word "Hellenic" is the literal Greek translation for Greece itself, "Hellas". It derives from the period of Alexander the Great when Greece went from being several small city-states to one unified country and identity. The Hellenic Law Society embraces the longstanding Greek culture that has withstood millennia, and is considered the genesis of what we know as western civilization today.

I became the President of the Hellenic Society because I am passionate about my ancestry. I love to learn more from my Greek peers about what makes Greek culture so important to our society.

The goal of the Hellenic Society is to remind not only those of Greek ancestry, but anyone who is intrigued by Greek culture, the uniqueness of Greek

societal values and customs. Throughout the semester, we have many events planned, which includes a Greek Night that will be hosted at the Law School. Here, we will display customary Greek cuisine and hospitality that one would encounter as if they were in Greece itself. In addition, students will also get to Meet and Greet with local lawyers of Greek decent. These lawyers will go through their journey in the law profession and explain how their backgrounds gave them the tools necessary to succeed in a demanding field. Our Greek Night and Meet and Greet events will be determined in the near future. We hope to have you join us and get a real taste of what it means to enjoy one's self as the Greeks do! (For more information, contact Zach at zpaskalis@suffolk.edu)

Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity International

Justice, Rachel Hansen

Phi Alpha Delta ("PAD") is the largest co-ed legal fraternity in the nation. Some of our esteemed members include a majority of the current United States Supreme Court (AKA "SCOTUS"). PAD strives to put forward the ideals of service to the student, the school, the community, and the profession. At Suffolk, our local Frankfurter Chapter does this by enacting a myriad of events and connections. For one example, our annual headshots and mock trial team focuses on developing student performance in the work place and the courtroom. Another example is our biennial conventions, which is one of the largest networking opportunities in the legal community.

PAD is an extended legal family. The Fraternity is dedicated to helping members succeed -- no matter where they practice or what field they practice in. Whether its law, politics, or finance, we have members in a wide range of fields that are always willing to help.

(For more info, contact PAD at: padfrankfurter@gmail.com)

Suffolk Law Intramural Basketball Association

President, Darius Brown



"SLIBA Opening Game Day. 1L Section A (white) versus 1L Section C (blue)."

Suffolk Law Intramural Basketball Association (SLIBA) is an on-campus club. It consists of teams that represent each section of the law school. Each season, the club begins with open court sessions and pick-up games, which players use to get familiar with basketball, train, and network. Don't forget -- we have Alumni players too!

Players don't need experience to participate. If a player doesn't have any, they can rely on teammates to help them increase their skills.

During this semester, recorded games are played on Tuesdays from 8pm-10pm. Open court sessions are on Saturdays from 8am-12pm. (For more information, please contact dbrown28@suffolk.edu)

Five Steps to Live Like An Entrepreneur, is a step-by-step approach on how to be an entrepreneur. This book provides real-life examples and simple language that can help anyone in the world find their product, business, and niche in the world marketplace.

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Sharine Jones-Weaver
Entrepreneur and Founder of Restoring a Woman's Reverence
www.MyRAWR.org

You can also follow Prince Sefa-Boakye on Instagram (@your_lawschool_expert)

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