Editor's Note

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To the Reader:

Welcome to Volume VII of *The Suffolk Journal of Trial & Appellate Advocacy*. The Journal reflects the Suffolk University Law School Moot Court Honor Board’s commitment to publishing articles that address current issues in the areas of trial and appellate advocacy. As in years past, this edition contains work designed to assist the legal practitioner and scholar. Additionally, Volume VII contains works that address public policy and political issues at the fore of the current legal landscape, including student speech post-Columbine, marriage rights of transsexual and transgender persons, and housing discrimination based on sexual orientation. The Editorial Board hopes that *The Journal* will serve as both a source of practical information for practitioners and a discourse regarding the law’s impact on society and public policy.

I would like to acknowledge the tireless efforts of the Moot Court staff throughout the production process. Volume VII is the culmination of two years of hard work by the Board of Editors, each of whom made vital contributions in making its publication a reality. I would also like to thank Kathryn McIntyre and Sabrina DeFabritiis for their respective efforts as Moot Court President and Vice-President.

The Journal staff is particularly appreciative of the continued support of Dean Robert Smith, Dean William Corbett, the Associate Deans, and the faculty and Staff of Suffolk University Law School. The support of the Administration has helped to preserve and enhance the unique opportunities provided by the Moot Court Honor Board and *The Suffolk Journal of Trial & Appellate Advocacy*. Finally, I would like to thank Sara Goldberg, Professor Rosanna Cavallaro, and Professor Richard Pizzano for their guidance and encouragement throughout the production process.

The production of a student journal is a difficult and often overwhelming process, but the hard work is rewarded with the publication of a volume that is both a contribution to legal scholarship and an enjoyable read. On behalf of the entire Journal staff, I hope you enjoy Volume VII of *The Suffolk Journal of Trial & Appellate Advocacy*.

Ronald Barriere
*Editor-in-Chief*