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Editor's Note

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Reader:

On behalf of the Suffolk University Law School Moot Court Honor Board, I am proud to present the first Issue in Volume XXIV of the *Suffolk Journal of Trial & Appellate Advocacy*. This Issue contains one lead article and eight student-written pieces, each designed to be of practical use to lawyers and judges at the trial and appellate levels.

The Lead Article, *Reexamining the Admissibility of the Defendant's Non-inculpatory Statements at Trial*, was written by Wes Porter, a practicing attorney, consultant, and former Professor of Law at the Golden Gate University School of Law and former Visiting Professor of Law at the University of Hawaii, William S. Richardson School of Law, where he taught Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Evidence, and trial skills courses. Attorney Porter explores the trial courts' treatment of a defendant's use of pretrial statements, addressing the constitutional considerations relating to the accused's ability to present a theory of defense, and offering discrete limitations on the defendant's use at trial of his non-inculpatory, pretrial statements. We are honored to have published a piece by an experienced litigator, who understands the intricacies of criminal law and can help influence the criminal justice system in a positive way.

The student-written pieces address topics that are of interest to members of the bar in Massachusetts and nationwide. The topics covered involve:

- an analysis of certain constitutional challenges brought by charter school opponents and the viability of future challenges to Massachusetts charter school law (Perry Gans);
- an analysis of contractual disputes between student-athletes and their universities, and the precedent created for future contractual claims of the same nature (Tyler Jordan);
- an empirical look at the terms of service of five of the largest U.S. internet-based companies, and a discussion of the disparity between the E.U.'s explicit prohibition on unfairness in offending terms of service clauses (Christopher LeBlanc);
- a discussion of the history of compulsory education laws and the role of the justice system in relation to truancy (Amanda McNelly);
- a discussion of sentencing statutes, and the deviation from federal sentencing guidelines and variation among states' sentencing laws (Ashley Walsh);
- an analysis of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York's classification and regulation of virtual currencies (Nicholas Fusco);

- an analysis of the United States Supreme Court’s view of excessive force under the Fourth Amendment and the protections of qualified immunity (Kevin Hennessey); and,
- an analysis of the Massachusetts’ Supreme Judicial Court’s interpretation of the Stored Communications Act, and a discussion of the intersection of privacy and family rights (Danielle Kohen).

My thanks and gratitude go out to the staff members of the Moot Court Honor Board who helped put this Issue together with noteworthy professionalism and dedication. Special thanks go out to our Executive Editor, Julianne Jeha, whose support and commitment is second to none, our Managing Editor, Anya Richard, who sought out and polished an exceptional lead article for publication in this Issue, and our Associate Managing Editor, Natalie Brough, who worked diligently to format this Issue into publishable quality. The Moot Court Honor Board is indebted to the entire Editorial Board for the tremendous amount of time and effort they devoted to this process. Finally, I would like to thank the Board’s advisor, Professor Richard G. Pizzano, the Board’s Staff Assistant, Janice Quinlan, and the Deans and Faculty of Suffolk University Law School for their continued support of the Moot Court Honor Board and *Suffolk Journal of Trial & Appellate Advocacy*.

Thank you for reading the first Issue in Volume XXIV of the *Suffolk Journal of Trial & Appellate Advocacy*. I am confident practitioners, professors, students, and judges will benefit from our scholarship. My best wishes in your endeavors and I hope you will find this Issue thought-provoking, relevant, and useful.

Sincerely,

Michelle A. Reid
Editor-in-Chief

