

## Voting: Time to Figure It Out

Voter Information: Propositions  
on the California November Ballot

**Hunter Bjorkman**

2L Staff Writer

Intelligent decisions are made when all necessary information can be ascertained and balanced. Students at TJSL do this all the time, and will continue to do so in future legal careers. As Americans, voting is one of the most sacred and powerful rights that citizens possess. However, simply casting a vote does nothing unless one is aware of what they are actually voting on. Sadly, too many voters simply refuse to become knowledgeable in one of the most important areas of their lives, which affects local, state and National issues. Elections are continually one of the most overlooked and perpetually misinformed parts of the American experience. Information creates knowledge and “we the people” need that power. The following is an informative short list of important Propositions on the November 2, 2010 California Ballot:

Prop. 19 – The Regulate, Control and Tax Cannabis Act of 2010 would legalize marijuana and marijuana related businesses. It would allow local governments to regulate and tax such activities and transactions as they see fit. A California citizen, 21 and over, could possess up to one ounce of marijuana for personal use, may use marijuana in a private residence or public establishment licensed for on-site consumption, and may grow up to 25 square feet of marijuana for personal use. This initiative would not affect current laws against driving under the influence, or interstate transportation of marijuana.

Prop. 20 – The Congressional Redistricting Initiative would remove elected representatives from the process of redrawing congressional district boundaries and transfer the authority to a 14-member redistricting commission comprised

Voting, Continued on pg. 2



TJSL Students at the American Bar Association Circuit Fall Leadership Meeting at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles, CA.  
L to R: Jeremy Evans, Jessica Williams, Jennifer Poplin, Vaughn Greenwalt, Ben Aguilar, Sterling Williams, and Krystal Griffin

## The Thomas Jefferson School of Law American Bar Association Law Student Division

A recap of the 2010 Regional  
Fall Leadership Summit in  
Los Angeles, CA.

**Jennifer Poplin**

SBA-ABA Representative

The American Bar Association Leadership Summit gives law students the opportunity to discuss current legal issues, leadership skills, and marketability fundamentals amongst fellow students and practicing attorneys. This year the American Bar Association Leadership

Summit took place at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles, where Thomas Jefferson School of Law had a great student turnout.

Many prominent attorneys from the Los Angeles region were in attendance, including hiring partners that discussed the current job market and available positions for students. The Honorable Ramona See from Los Angeles Superior Court discussed valuable information regarding clerkship opportunities and gave us an insight on some of the skills and characteristics judges are looking for in an applicant. In addition, three of the leading attorneys in the current Supreme Court Proposition 8 challenge

and the “Don’t Ask Don’t Tell” reform informed us about some of the details of their cases and talked about the latest news on their developments.

The 2010 Leadership Summit was a great success! The American Bar Association Law Student Circuit spring meeting is coming up and I would highly encourage all students to take advantage of such a great opportunity. The spring meeting will be hosted by Thomas Jefferson School of Law in February 25-27, 2011 at our new campus downtown.

### What happened to the October edition?

Here at the Informer, we were tired of being “old news.”

You didn’t miss an edition and yes, the month of October still happened!

Welcome to our November edition— the semester is almost over!

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## So I Worked With a Serial Killer

How the LAPD’s investigation of cold-case files led to the arrest of my former coworker, and the implications their searches have on individual protections.

**Allyson Evans**

2L Staff Writer

John Floyd Thomas Jr. was a nice man. At least the man I worked with for four years was a nice man. We were not what one would call friends, but we were friendly acquaintances. I would talk to him on breaks about his grandchildren. He was a friendly, warm man. Never would I have guessed that he would be linked to 25 murders and even more rapes. The man I worked with I knew, but the real John Floyd Thomas Jr. is still a stranger to me.

Thomas was caught due to the Los Angeles Police Department’s attempt to create a sex offenders’ database. Thomas was convicted of a

1978 rape when a witness took down his license plate, making him eligible for the LAPD’s database. At that time, his DNA was swabbed and the results linked him to two strings of serial rapes and murders: the Westside Strangler murders of the 1970s and another in San Gabriel Valley in the 1980s.

While I have no problem with 74 year-old Thomas going to prison, even though 20 years had passed since his crimes were allegedly committed, I question the method for his capture. Thomas raped a woman, went to jail, served his sentence, and was freed. Nearly 25 years later, because of his requirement to register as a sex offender, he had to submit to having his DNA in a database. The result in this case was

the right one. However, I have trouble with the fact that for certain crimes the state can require convicts to submit to additional responsibilities following the completion of their punishment.

There is a class of crimes for which legislators, law enforcement, and the general public demand added protections for the public after the criminal’s sentence is completed. Specifically, these crimes are (in California) sexual assault, domestic violence, and child molestation. We find these types of crimes so heinous that the rules of evidence allow prior accusations (not convictions) to be introduced into court when a person is charged with a crime within these classes.

California Evidence Code Sections 108-109 are sister statutes addressing sexual assault and

domestic violence written into law because there is the belief that the persons who commit these types of crimes are almost guaranteed to repeat, and that the crimes are generally difficult to prosecute.

I agree that these classes of crimes are horrible, but the difference in which we treat these offenders to someone who commits “regular” murder is incongruous. The argument for this class of crimes is based in problematic logic that can be applied to a list of crimes, and not all that are violent. This opens the door to searches of a larger population based on the same logic without a minimum test of reasonable suspicion. In the eyes of the court and law enforcement, the existence of a prior crime becomes evidence of a future crime. It is not the results that I object to, only the procedure.

Should Thomas be found guilty, the rest of his life will be spent behind bars, regardless of the fond memories I have of him. I just can’t help but wonder how, in the twilight of his years, he must feel to almost get away with murder.



# Is the United States going to break up with Israel?

The United States puts on a balancing act between competing relationships in the Middle East

**Chase Buzzell**  
3L Editor

The United States has a long and storied history with Israel. Mostly the relationship has been healthy and fruitful, but as with most relationships there have been instances of friction. Naturally, particular points of contention between the U.S. and Israel's respective diplomacy paradigm can be traced to the U.S. president and his Administration. However, the view towards Israel is not cut clean between each President because previous agreements with Israel are adopted by the incoming president.

Most recently President Obama adopted an agreement with Israel where President Bush had agreed to the "steadfast commitment of the United States to Israel's security...to preserve and strengthen Israel's capability to deter and defend itself" and vows that the U.S. will "address the problem of the supply of arms and related materiel and weapons transfers and shipments to Hamas and other terrorist organizations in Gaza."

Currently, the Obama Administration is faced with an ever-growing precarious situation where tensions are rising between Israel and Palestine because, in part, Israel is pursuing settlement construction more aggressively and controlling the passage of people and construction materials into the Gaza Strip.

Israel's motives are in direct conflict with Palestine's efforts to stabilize their nation-state; hence, tensions between Israel and Palestinians are ascending to an apex. Almost daily outbursts of physical violence and cutting political statements toward one another pervade the region.

What further compounds difficulties the Obama Administration faces; is the seemingly competing policy of improving U.S.'s relationship with the Middle East. In 2009, President Obama went to Cairo and called for a "new beginning" between the U.S. and the Muslim World. This assertion put Israel and its supporters on edge. The balance that is trying to be reached is to sustain U.S.'s long lasting relationship with Israel while simultaneously improving relationships with the Muslim world, such as appeasing Palestine. If this balance cannot be struck and the U.S. remains Israel's friend, the U.S. risks creating innate enemies. On the other hand if the U.S. furthers its desire to befriend the Muslim it risks alienating a long standing ally.

Although President Obama has publicly backed Israel, his actions seemingly have not. President Obama has publicly stated that he supports President Bush's previous agreement with Israel, but the current Administration has frozen virtually all combat military platforms and systems to Israel, including those approved by President Bush. This past March when Israel announced the building of 1600 homes in an area claimed by Palestinians, Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met with President Obama at the White House; however, they made no public appearance together, as is

customary when a foreign leader visits. On the other hand President Obama has stood by Israel even at the cost of alienating other allies such as Turkey when Israeli commandos raided an aid flotilla in Gaza.

Furthermore, perhaps it is not the President's policy towards Israel that is causing the stall in the peace process, but rather Israel's staunchness that only appears to be strengthening. Throughout the Israel - Palestine conflict Israel has, on more than one occasion, offered to withdraw from the Gaza Strip to some extent or another with accompanying conditions. Each time Palestine has refused such an agreement, holding out for nothing short of total control. This time around the cyclical conflict, Israel seems intent on furthering their settlement construction. Palestine's prior refusals to accept any form of compromise may have resulted in Israel accepting nothing less than their ultimate desires as well.

At the proverbial end of the day the U.S. needs to find a way to achieve both objectives, sustaining a relationship with Israel while building relationships with the Muslim world. Complicating these objectives is the fact the U.S. must rely on two other international actors, which may ultimately render U.S. efforts superfluous because neither actor is willing to compromise regardless of the concessions brokered by the U.S. Under the Bush Administration unquestionable support would be given to Israel's position. However, under the Obama Administration where other interests are being taken into account, our relationship with Israel is jeopardized.



United Nations

Map of Israel, 2004

It is possible that a close relationship with Israel will facilitate a closer relationship with the Muslim world. The closer the relationship with Israel the more likely the U.S. will participate in negotiations pertaining to the occupation of embattled territory. Moreover, if the U.S. can assist in a peaceful resolution between Israel and Palestine then a friendship is sustained and a healthy link to the Muslim world is established.

Where should our efforts and allegiance lie? Is improving relationships with volatile and proven irrational international actors worth the cost of losing an ally such as Israel?

## Voting, Continued from pg. 1

of Democrats, Republicans and representatives from other parties. This initiative would also define, "[a] community of interest" as "a contiguous population which shares common social and economic interests that should be included in single district for effective and fair representation."

Prop. 21 - The Vehicle License Fee for Parks Act would increase vehicle license fees in the state by \$18 a year in order to raise approximately \$500 million a year to fund California's 278

State parks. This new fee would apply to about 28 million vehicles and most California vehicles would get free admission and parking at state parks and beaches. 85% of the money raised would be spent directly on maintaining and operating State parks. The \$130 million that California currently spends on State parks would go into the State's general fund.

Prop. 22 - The Local Taxpayer, Public Safety, and Transportation Protection Act would protect existing funds that are allocated to local government, public safety and transportation. The initiative would prohibit the state from

using these funds and would make sure that local services are not sacrificed because of state budget shortfalls. Additionally, the State would not be able to take local revenues related to hotel, sales, utility taxes, local public transit and transportation funds.

Prop. 23 - This would Suspend AB 32, the Global Warming Act of 2006. Slated to begin in 2012, AB 32 requires greenhouse gas emission levels in the State be cut to 1990 levels by 2020. This initiative would require the State to abandon the implementation of this greenhouse gas reduction program until California's

unemployment rate drops to 5.5% or below for four consecutive business quarters.

Prop. 24 - The Repeal of Corporate Tax Breaks would stop several corporate tax breaks that are slated to go into effect in 2010 and 2012. This initiative would prevent corporations that are eligible for receiving about \$1.3 billion in tax breaks a year. The corporate tax breaks include: allowing corporations to choose whether to have their income tax based on the proportion of their total sales occurring in California, or on a combination of their sales and their operations including payrolls and property; allowing corporations that are experiencing losses in California's current economy to get refunds for taxes paid within the previous two years; allowing corporations with more tax credits than they can use, to distribute the "leftover" tax credits to affiliates. California's tax regulators estimate that about 120,000 businesses in the state would have higher taxes if this initiative is approved by voters.

Prop. 25 - The Majority Vote for the Legislature to Pass the Budget Act would change the current State legislative vote requirement necessary to pass the State budget and spending bills from two-thirds to a simple majority. This initiative also requires State Legislators to forfeit any reimbursement for salary and expenses for every day until the Legislature passes a budget bill.

Prop D - The City of San Diego Sales Tax and Finance Reform Package will increase the sales tax paid on the purchase of goods and services within the city by half a cent. This tax raise is slated to last for five years and would increase San Diego's tax revenue by \$103 million a year. However, this tax increase is conditional on a package of 10 fiscal reform measures that the City must enact that mainly deal with re-organizing pensions, unions, health care costs, public operations, etc.

<p>Thomas Jefferson School of Law</p> <p><b>The Informer</b></p> <p>November 2010</p> <p><b>Editor In Chief</b></p> <p>Katie Tooma</p> <p><b>Managing Editor</b></p> <p>Jon Cooper</p>	<p><b>Editors</b></p> <p>Chase Buzzell</p> <p>Scott Greenwood</p> <p>Tanya Kivman</p> <p>Jenni Leys</p> <p>Jessica Stocks</p>	<p><b>Design Director</b></p> <p>Samantha Massau</p> <p><b>Page Designer</b></p> <p>Andrew Schlotterlein</p> <p><b>Director of Outreach</b></p> <p>Joshua Tallman</p> <p><b>Objections</b></p> <p>Sterling Williams</p>
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## Voter Information

Early voting is available at the Registrar of Voters' office beginning Oct. 4, 2010, Mon. - Fri., 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**Early Weekend Voting:**

Saturday, Oct. 30, 2010 at the Registrar of Voters, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**Election Day:** Tuesday, Nov. 2, 2010

**Polling Times:** 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.

More information is available at:  
**www.sdvote.com**



## A

## Don't Be "That Guy"

Gain practical experience while in law school - it's essential.

**Samantha Massau**  
2L Layout Designer

The words "internship" and "experience" are enough to make any of us anxious. The thought of networking, writing cover letters, and interviewing makes me tired. Gaining practical legal experience while in law school is time-consuming yet rewarding and most importantly essential.

I had the pleasure of working for a family law attorney this summer. Full-time, 9.a.m – 5 p.m. The real world. I would sweat every time I turned in an assignment and overflow with joy when my folder was returned to me empty. This meant I had completed my assignment correctly and my writing wasn't overly terrible. The other option would be a document with so much red pen on it I had a hard time deciphering all of the changes. It was a lot of hard work and at times an ego deflator. But in the end I learned many important lessons; the biggest of which I write to share.

About a month into my internship I had been to court, filed motions, drafted motions, declarations, discovery demands and discovery responses. (I'm not trying to brag here... remember the red pen.) My attorney had a meeting scheduled with a new attorney. This gentleman had recently passed the bar and started his own practice. I sat at my desk sifting through discovery responses and half-listened to their conversation. After a few minutes it became clear this new attorney had retained a client and was representing her later that week. My attorney was giving the new attorney pointers. After listening further I realized this new attorney had never been inside a courtroom! He did not even know courtrooms were public places that any person could enter and observe! I do not know "that guy's" name, where he attended law school or what his past legal experience had been. I only know him as "that guy," a law school graduate, who had never been inside a courtroom. I was shocked this was possible. How does an aspiring lawyer go through three to four years of schooling, where he eats, breathes and sleeps the practice of law and never set foot in a courtroom? Does anyone retain a brand-new attorney who had never been inside a courtroom?

At that point I knew I wanted to write a short article encouraging my fellow Thomas Jefferson School of Law students to not be "that guy!"

Take advantage of the many internship, externship, and volunteer opportunities Thomas Jefferson School of Law offers. Review the extern/judicial clerkship packets provided by the Externship Office; use Symplicity; meet with your career advisor; pay attention to opportunities advertised in The Advisor and in your e-mail; attend networking events and follow up with attorneys you speak with. Then apply! Apply! Apply! It never hurts to try. The more positions you apply for and the more people you meet the greater your chances are of gaining some type of practical legal experience while in law school and possibly a permanent offer thereafter.

I know Career Services drills this into our heads ad nauseam, but there are actually brand-new lawyers who never took advantage of what Thomas Jefferson School of Law students have at our fingertips. I didn't believe it until I saw it.

Students who choose to study abroad or travel in the summers can still extern for credit during the school year. Thomas Jefferson School of Law provides listings of fall and spring semester opportunities so students can gain real world experience while earning school credit.

Even if you do not foresee yourself litigating or ever needing to visit the courthouse, please observe a hearing or two while in school. Trials are very cool, trust me. Please gain legal experience while in law school for your benefit and your resume. Please, don't be "that guy."

## Champions, three years in the making

SBA flag football comes to a close after a full day of playoffs.

**Raj Matani**  
SBA Athletics Chair

Followed by a very biased note by Katie Tooma, Editor In Chief (and championship winner)

As the days get shorter and the nights get longer, it can only mean one thing, football!! While many of us enjoy a cool beverage and watching our favorite college or pro team do battle every weekend, many of your fellow Thomas Jefferson School of Law colleagues took to the gridiron on Sunday afternoon. After three weeks of regular-season games, it all came down to a thrilling playoff day on Sunday October 10, 2010. Hoping to recover from the stress of midterms, our Top-10 teams took to a single elimination tournament to decide a champion.

The rounds went as close to planning as possible, with a majority of the higher-seeded teams winning. However, the highlight of the day heading into the championships was the quarterfinal game between Greyson Goody's third-seeded IRAC Rebels and Brandon Simon's sixth-seeded Hootie & the Throwfish.

For these teams 40 minutes of smash-mouth football was not enough to decide a winner, and forced them to play overtime. This season, overtime was similar to the college format in which teams alternate possession. Here, each team would alternate possession one play at a time to see who would score first. After two overtime rounds, both teams had dug their cleats in defensively, and did not allow a touchdown. Then, in the third overtime, Hootie & the Throwfish completed a touchdown pass, in the back of the end zone to one of their talented female teammates. The only way for the "IRAC Rebels" to respond was for one of their female teammates to match such a feat. Though well conceived, their pass was blocked at the line of scrimmage, giving Hootie & the Throwfish an amazing quarterfinal upset. Unfortunately, Cinderella's carriage turned back into a pumpkin for the Throwfish, as they fell to the second seeded Chuck's All-Star in the semifinals.

The championship game placed two undefeated teams against one another. Donning red, and seeded number one, were the smack-talking and confident TJSL Seminoles led by Marcellous Glasper. Their opponent, the number two seeded surprise, Chuck's All-Star led by Captain Andrew McDaniel and the Student Bar Association's very own Brian Hassing. The game was close throughout, as both teams fought until the end. The TJSL Seminoles prospered under the dynamic passing attack orchestrated by quarterback Jason Argos. Chuck's All-Star stayed in the game with hustle, grit, and solid defense. However, in the end, the TJSL Seminoles proved to be too much. Finally, after three years in the making the TJSL Seminoles are officially the 2010 TJSL INTRAMURAL CHAMPIONS!!!!

Thank you to all the teams who participated, and made this season a great success. The Student Bar Association appreciates everybody's positive attitude and respect towards one another. We hope the sportsmanship and fantastic competition displayed continues throughout the academic year.



The Winning Team! Justin Duncan, Marcellous Glasper, Paul Young, Sterling Williams, Brett Goda, Justin Clayton, Josh Campbell, Jason Argos, Stephanie Sciarani, Katie Tooma, Emma Goda, Rachel Lebron and John Baez (not pictured).



| Photos by Andrew Schlotterlein

Jason Argos, TJSL Seminoles Quarterback, throws a beautiful pass by a defender.

### Disclaimer – Biased Editors Note:

After coming together during our 1L year, the TJSL Seminoles, have finally won the flag football championship! In the past, we've been close and we've faced heartbreak, so this season we were out for blood. While other teams went out the night before a game and came the following morning "exhausted," we were all well rested and prepared. It was obvious; we wanted it more than anybody.

And while we finally have the ability to wear our TJSL IM championship T-shirts weekly, as a reminder of our greatness, I'd like to say that this year featured some of the best talent I've ever seen in my three years. It made winning that much more important and joyous. I'll miss Sterling throwing himself on the ground in an attempt to block; Marcellous jumping six feet off of the ground; myself having to play quarterback for a crucial win; Stephanie ripping her shorts almost into a skirt and using medicine tape to fix them; Brett's wife Emma filling in; Josh's QB sacks; and FINALLY having girls play an important role in the sport. I loved getting double points for my team and watching girls play critical roles in their offense!

For those of you who still have some time left at Thomas Jefferson - stick together and



Marcellous Glasper catches a touchdown pass in the final game of the 2010 season.

cultivate that talent! It may take three seasons, but it'll fall into place. It may just be flag football, but I will miss playing with everyone and the feeling of winning it all. Don't worry; we're all graduating – except for Rachel. Someone good pick her up (but remind her to stretch and tape her ankle beforehand).

## Criminal Law Society Poker Tournament

The Third Annual Criminal Law Society Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament was a success!

**Marty Stratte**

2L President of the Criminal Law Society

There was definitely no shortage of good music, food, and conversation at the Third Annual Criminal Law Society Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament on October 9, 2010. With more than 30 Thomas Jefferson School of

Law students and professors playing in the tournament and 50 guests in attendance, the Criminal Law Society raised over \$350. All of the proceeds were donated to Father Joe's Village of downtown San Diego.

Located just a few blocks from Thomas Jefferson School of Law's new campus, Father Joe's provides TJSL students with great opportunities to volunteer and give back to their community. The donation from the tournament highlights the growing relationship between Thomas Jefferson School of Law and Father Joe's as we prepare for our move into the vibrant

East Village in downtown San Diego.

Professors Steve Semeraro, Frank Mead, Judy-Beth Tropp, Chris Guzelian, and Anders Kaye were the dealers for the evening. Students and friends competed for four prizes, which included Halloween, Barristers Ball, and Monte Carlo Night tickets. The event was a great success and provided both professors and students with an opportunity to socialize and enjoy some poker. Thank you to all of those who attended and helped to support our event!



## B

# How to Get Away Without Going Away

Some quick ideas for weekend getaways.

**Rachel Lebron**  
1L Writer

With the stress of midterms in the past, why not reward yourself before finals with a little weekend getaway? One of the best parts of living in San Diego is that there are plenty of incredible places to visit just an hour or two away. Here is a list of some quick escapes:

**Julian:** Only about an hour away, Julian is a cute little town with a bunch of Mom-and-Pop shops and is perfect for a day trip. It's a nice treat from the hustle and bustle of San Diego. You can find a soda fountain, candy store, and many other hidden gems to visit. It has become an annual event for many San Diegans to make the trip to Julian when it gets chilly outside because it is one of the only places in San Diego County where it snows. Julian's claim to fame is its apples, so be sure to get an apple pie at the



| Rachel Lebron

Snow covers the ski runs at Big Bear Mountain in San Bernardino County California.

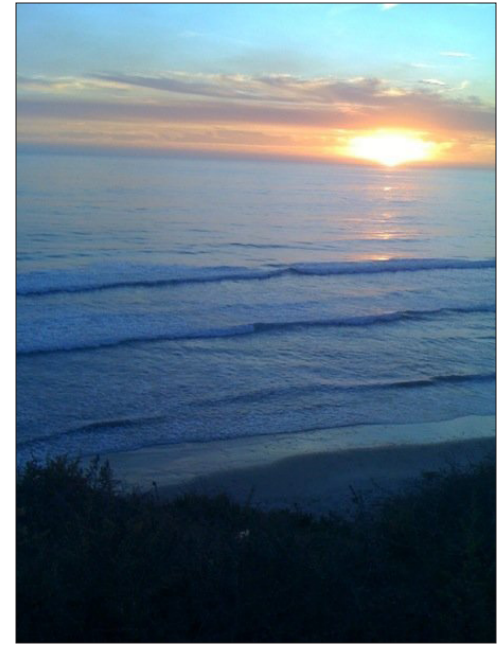
**Julian Pie Company:**

**San Elijo State Beach:** Before it gets too cold out, get a campsite at San Elijo State Beach, located in North County. It's camping San Diego style; the campground even offers Wi-Fi. Many people bring motor homes or camper vans, but there are also plenty of pitched tents along the campground. Your campsite is steps away from the beach, so bring your surfboard! If you don't feel like making the effort with a campfire or BBQ, hop into your car and drive a few minutes away for some good eats.

**Casinos:** Southern California was once the home to many Native American tribes, and now we are the home to many Native American casinos. In San Diego County, we have Viejas in Alpine, Barona in Lakeside, and Sycuan in El Cajon. Just a little way North of San Diego

County is Pechanga, in Temecula. These casinos are mellow forms of Vegas, and since they are on federal ground, even our 20-year-old 1Ls can gamble. Each of the casinos has tremendous buffets and restaurants. Some of the casinos have venues for concerts, beyond the stages in the lounges. Pechanga is the only casino with a Vegas style nightclub, Club Silk. Viejas has a premium outlet center across the street from the casino, so go win some money for shopping!

**Big Bear Resort:** About 2 hours away in San Bernardino County, Big Bear is the San Diego go-to spot for snowboarding. It is close enough that you can day-trip it, but Bear also makes for a great weekend trip if you grab some friends and rent a cabin. Since SoCal snow isn't usually an act of God, Bear makes sure to pump man-



| Rachel Lebron

San Elijo State Beach Campgrounds.

made snow all season long. For those of you lucky enough to have a birthday during the season, Big Bear will give you a free lift ticket on your birthday with your I.D. There are also discounted tickets for large groups.

**Rosarito:** If you decide to make a trip to Mexico, please proceed with caution, and stay away from Tijuana. Keep driving and head to Rosarito. You can rent a house in one of the gated American communities, such as Las Gaviotas, for very affordable prices. A four bedroom house can be rented for 3 nights by eight people for about \$50 a person. Wake up to the sound of the ocean and hang out all day on a secluded beach, while having the comfort of your own food in the rented house. During the day, take a drive to Puerto Nuevo, a place known for its lobster. Stay in the tourist areas and with a group during the day, be back in the gated community at night, and Mexico will not be a scary trip. Just don't forget your passport.

# Gay Brothers and Sisters...You Must Come Out

Time to address the solution to the problem.

**Jenni Leys**  
3L Editor

Last month an article ran stating problems that may arise out of repealing Don't Ask Don't Tell (henceforth DADT) in the military. The end note was that marriage is a fundamental right that everyone should have. I completely agree with

my colleague when she wrote this.

However, I believe it is important to address solutions to these problems, not just the problems themselves. At the forefront of the argument is the difficulty of measuring who can obtain medical and other benefits, especially since domestic partnerships, civil unions, and gay marriages are illegal or not recognized in the majority of states. But, as the movement for gay rights advances, this will become less and

less of a problem. Further, it would be easily solved if legislature could give those benefits based on a certain amount of statutory years that said couple is together. This could be applied to straight and homosexual couples, (especially since, let's face it, many straight and homosexual couples don't even want to get married these days).

DADT is a military enactment that has been in place since 1993, and was put there under former

President Clinton in response to the murder of US Navy officer Allen R. Schindler Jr. He was a victim of a hate crime by fellow shipmates in which he was targeted because of his homosexuality. Jameson, Sam (1994-05-28), "U.S. Sailor Sentenced to Life Imprisonment in Murder", Los Angeles Times, <http://tech.mit.edu/V113/N28/sailor.28w.txt.html>. His death was and still is the topic of why DADT is in place and why it should be repealed.

DADT was put into place so that the military could not target individuals for being homosexual by launching investigations, and so military members can feel a sense of cohesiveness not obstructed by their own homophobia. However, this concept is dated. Gays should receive the same protections that other minorities enjoy, without DADT being in place. Coming out of the proverbial closet is a decision that should be left up to the person. If a person feels uncomfortable sharing that part of their life with their colleagues, the government shouldn't pry into their business. If that person is comfortable with his colleagues knowing, then he should be able to do so.

The problem of homophobia is self-solving, if we have the appropriate laws to back the people we want to protect. We should not force people to stay silent. The more people realize that they have a gay person in their lives, the more people will be open-minded.

Harvey Milk once spoke about employment rights and the way to create equality by encouraging the very same thing:

"Gay brothers and sisters...You must come out. Come out... to your parents... I know that it is hard and will hurt them but think about how they will hurt you in the voting booth! Come out to your relatives...come out to your friends...if indeed they are your friends. Come out to your neighbors...to your fellow workers... to the people who work where you eat and shop... come out only to the people you know, and who know you. Not to anyone else. But once and for all, break down the myths, destroy the lies and distortions. For your sake. For their sake. For the sake of the youngsters who are becoming scared by the votes from Dade to Eugene."

**THOMAS JEFFERSON SCHOOL OF LAW**  
**STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION**  
**FATHER JOE'S VILLAGE**  
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY



**Sign up now to serve Thanksgiving dinner**  
**Days to volunteer:**  
**November 24th 10am-1pm**  
**November 26th 10am-1pm**  
**Email: Sterling Williams - Swilliams001@gmail.com**

**VOLUNTEER FOR THE THANKSGIVING FUNDRAISING EVENT**  
Wednesday, November 24, 2010  
1:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.  
Help register participants in the 5k Run.  
Location: Balboa Park's Spreckles Organ Pavilion.  
Please contact Suzy Mohr at [mohrsj@tjssl.edu](mailto:mohrsj@tjssl.edu) to volunteer.

**FATHER JOE'S THANKSGIVING DAY 5K 2010 RUN/WALK**

**Volunteer for the 5k Run**  
**Begins at Beautiful Balboa Park**  
Thursday November 25 from 6:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  
Volunteer for various duties including registration, water stations, court marshals, etc. Please contact Suzy Mohr at [mohrsj@tjssl.edu](mailto:mohrsj@tjssl.edu) to volunteer.  
[www.thanksgivingrun.org](http://www.thanksgivingrun.org)

**SBA THANKSGIVING DINNER FOR OUR T JSSL FAMILY**  
Thursday, November 25, 2010 from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.  
Please contact Allyson Evans at [evansaj@tjssl.edu](mailto:evansaj@tjssl.edu) to volunteer.  
Community Center in Market Street Village (2nd Floor)  
699 - 14th Street, San Diego, CA 92101.



# Women, Equality, and the Military

A woman should be allowed to serve in any military specialty if she is physically, mentally and tactically capable of meeting the current standard.

**Sarah Stewart-Bussey**  
2L Staff Writer

Women have made significant progress toward being accepted in various specialties throughout the military. Just this past year, female officers earned the opportunity to serve on submarines in the Navy. Females can fly combat aircraft in all branches and attend Survival Evasion Resistance Escape School (see 2LT Muchmore in picture). However, we are still excluded from most combat arms specialties and are denied the opportunity to attend many of military's elite schools. In the Marine Corps, women cannot serve on tanks, in the infantry, or in either type of artillery. The Army excludes women from armor and the infantry as well, but does allow women to serve in a select few positions within artillery. All four branches exclude women from the Special Forces community.

Opponents to females serving in combat arms often cite that women are not as strong as men and women would disrupt unit cohesion in traditionally all-male units. Many of these opponents are not looking at women whom are currently serving, but only at stereotypes of women as a whole. Women that join the military often possess a higher level of physical fitness than the average woman. But, you cannot compare a 150lb female's strength to a 200lb man's strength and say women are weak. If you compare a woman to a man of similar build, the likelihood they can physically compete is significantly higher. Furthermore, women in the military currently serve alongside men in most units throughout the services, and all of these branches are able to efficiently complete their missions. Taking a look back in history, every job in every branch of the military was an all-male unit before women were allowed to serve.

A woman should be allowed to serve in any military specialty that she is capable of. Standards should absolutely not be compromised to include women. This would be a concession that we cannot serve equally alongside men. Further, the military's role is protecting our nation against all enemies.



From left to right: 2LT Samantha Muchmore who is training to be an aviator; 2LT Christie Plackis, who was recently selected for Army dive school and Thomas Jefferson School of Law's 2LT Sarah Stewart-Bussey

“ [I]f a woman is physically, mentally, and tactically able to meet the standard for acceptance into training, there is no reason to exclude her from the chance to prove herself. ”

We shouldn't compromise our war fighting capabilities and include those that cannot meet the standard. Standards are created for a reason. That is why these elite military schools exist—to weed out those who can't hack it. But men fail out of these schools every day, and being a man does not automatically mean you will pass the course. So if a woman is physically, mentally, and tactically able to meet the standard for acceptance into training, there is no reason to exclude her from the chance to prove herself.

In training, we are lectured on the importance that we all carry the same pack and weapon, and that no woman should ask a man to help her carry her weight. We are all required to memorize battle drills and tactics out of the

infantry rifle platoon and squad manual. All officer candidates, regardless of gender, are taught the same troop leading procedures. We are treated as equal during training. But once we get out into the big Army we are told we are not equal and we cannot lead a platoon of soldiers into combat, despite the countless hours we dedicated to learning this skill.

As for professional consequences, women are guaranteed a late start to the promotion race because we are not allowed to serve in combat commands. When I listed my job preferences prior to commissioning, I chose to list field artillery as one of my top three. Field artillery is a combat arms branch in the U.S. Army that allows women to serve, but in a very

limited capacity. In order to even list it on my preference sheet, I had to receive a brief from my ROTC Professor of Military Science, and sign that I acknowledged all of the information in the packet. The brief essentially said that my job options within this branch are incredibly limited due to my gender. Further, I would likely promote slower than men in the same branch. As the 'Standardized Briefing for Women Considering Field Artillery' states: The lack of a weapon system opportunity in the early years of an officer's career may be a discriminator.

We shouldn't deny exceptional female soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines the opportunity to serve in combat arms if they can meet the current qualifications. Although many of the elite military schools and jobs require a physical fitness standard that is difficult to achieve and require incredible mental toughness, there are women who are capable. If a woman can meet the physical requirements to enter Ranger School, let her in. If she has the mental fortitude and tactical expertise, give her the opportunity to prove she is worthy. We are not asking for a helping hand to escort us through the door to equality. We are asking simply for the door to be open. Those that are capable will walk through it themselves.

## Jury Duty: A Civic Obligation For All Americans

Why we need to honor our civil duty to serve as jurors.

**Jonathan Cooper**  
3L Managing Editor

Paying taxes, registration for the Selective Service, and jury duty are the main obligations that the government imposes on its citizens. Relatively speaking, these are the things that we must do or we may be subject to fines and sanctions. In return for these obligations, we have a country with a strong military, freedoms to practice religion and speech in virtually any manner that does not endanger others, and, probably most importantly, the right to participate in governance either directly, by running for office, or indirectly, by voting for those to represent us.

All too often, individuals do not fulfill their civic obligations. This is why we have jury duty wherein 100 people may be called just to seat a panel of selected individuals with or without alternates. Now granted, some of these

individuals are rightfully excused either with a "for cause" challenge or a through utilizing a peremptory challenge, however the reaction of society called to serve as a juror has become appalling. The concept of a trial by jury has come a long way from the trial by ordeal of the Middle Ages. During the Middle Ages, in Europe, the poor or other "commoners" could find themselves subjected to the "Test of the Cold Water" in ascertaining truth. The wealthy did not fear this treatment for they typically weren't subjected to trial. During this time, the method of testing guilt or innocence therein involved binding the accused in some manner: with rope for example, and tossing them into a deep river or lake. If the body floated, the person was considered guilty. If the person sank, they were considered innocent, however, the now vindicated often drowned.

Another type of ordeal employed during this time was to subject each individual to hold a glowing hot iron or reaching into boiling water to retrieve a stone. The hands of the accused would be bandaged and then examined three days later. If the wounds became infected, not

an uncommon occurrence in the Middle Ages, the accused were deemed guilty.

A system of determining guilt based on whether the water rejected or accepted a body or whether a person got proper medical attention following a trauma seems outrageous when compared to the trial by jury that we enjoy today. The Sixth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution guarantees our right to a trial by jury. For this system to work, we must be active participants in the system. But it is all too often that we find that the pool of possible jurors has been tainted.

Being a juror is stressful – on the other hand, that's part of life and this is one of the obligations of citizenship in this great nation. All too often a juror receives their summons to appear on behalf of the state and their initial thought is "How do I get out of this?" Is it work related? Is it financial hardship? Is it travel? The excuses range on. Thus our juries are composed of a self-selecting group of individuals whom cannot possibly reflect an accurate cross section or the morals of our society. As such, how is it that we can parade an accused around and say

they've received a fair trial in the face of blatant disrespect for the system?

Lately, we are seeing jurors posting messages or status updates to Facebook or asking to be excused during the proceedings of trial. As an intern I have the advantage of coming and going from trial during the star witness testimony and cross examinations and excusing myself to complete tasks during expert testimony and the such, whereas a juror does not have this advantage. However, we all serve our functions in the wheel and without all integral parts our system can not accurately or correctly turn.

Jury duty is just that, a duty and an obligation, not an excuse to miss work, or a theatre to express ourselves in an attempt to be excused from. Anyone in the place of a defendant can attest to the importance of an accurate reflection of society, and these values and obligations must be upheld and enforced. If they are not, then criminal contempt as designed for punishment and civil contempt as designed to motivate someone to abide by a court order, will serve little function.

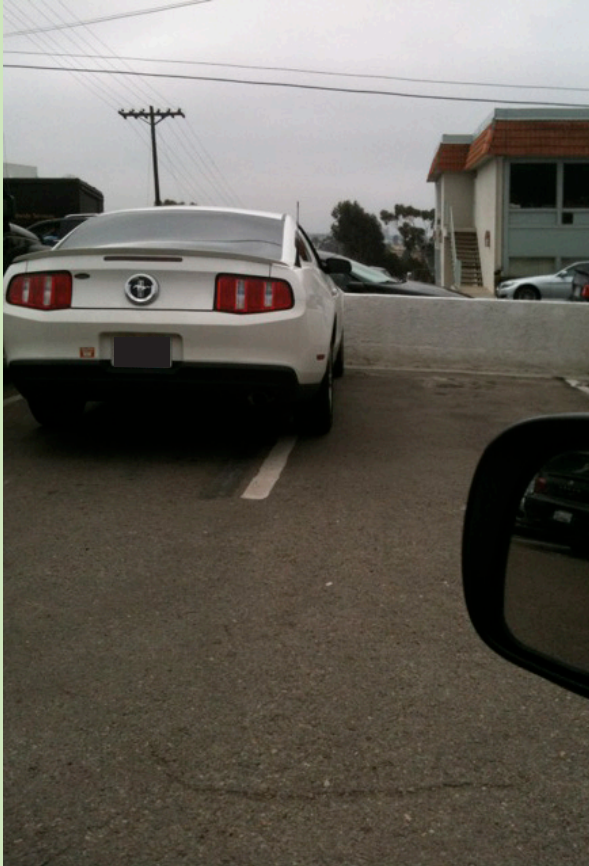


C

## PARKING HALL OF SHAME!

Got your best Hall of Shame Picture?  
Send it to

TJSLOBJECTIONS@gmail.com



## WE ARE RENAMING THE INFORMER!!

We want YOU to help rename the  
Thomas Jefferson School of Law's only student run newspaper.  
Last edition, students submitted their name ideas to  
newspaper staff and here are the top five names:

1) The Jeffersonian

2) The Monticello

3) The S

4) The Thomas Jefferson Papers

4) The Missive

Log onto the **SBA TWEN** page to **vote** by **November 6, 2010!**

## You're Welcome

Practical advice for law school and beyond  
Scott Greenwood | 2L Editor

Dear Scott,

I'd like to go to some of the SBA bar reviews with all my friends but I'm afraid I'll get too drunk and embarrass myself. Is there anything I should know?

Dear Potentially Embarrassed,

While it is popularly believed that getting too drunk is a pursuit that needs to be abandoned once undergrad is over, this is simply not the case. Getting too drunk still has the same bragging rights it used to. In fact, I respect people more if they can drink large amounts of alcohol at a bar review. Don't think of yourself as embarrassing if you, as a law student, get too drunk at a bar. Consider yourself the life of the party.

Come Monday, people won't be talking about how much of a mess you were last Friday, they will be talking about how awesome you were.

Please consider not wearing your Thomas Jefferson T-shirt to the bar though. While your school-wide street-cred undoubtedly increases with each consumed beverage, there is a real chance of damaging the school's reputation in the general community. In fact, if you can get a hold of clothing from the other SD law schools, don't hesitate to throw them on before you head out to the bars. This advice pertains not just to bar reviews but is generally useful for any drinking venture.

The upcoming SBA Halloween Party is a wonderful opportunity to flex your consumptive muscle. If you anticipate a heavy drinking night consider wearing a costume that completely hides your identity; just because you're wearing those cat ears and painted on whiskers doesn't mean we don't know who you are. And if you happen to see me out at the Halloween Party or a Bar review, feel free to send a drink my way for all of this incredibly useful advice.

Cheers and You're Welcome,  
Scott

Dear Scott,

I have some questions about student loans. I'm not sure how much to take out, and what to do with the money once I have it. Any advice would be appreciated.

Dear Financially Confused,

This is a very good question and literally hundreds of students have asked me to address this topic. Most students struggle with this as each semester rolls around. Some people are concerned they aren't taking enough (what if some unexpected expense arises?). Some are concerned they may be borrowing too much. If you are in the latter camp, you've made the right decision. There's nothing worse than being stuck midway through the semester without any money just because your computer crashed or you've developed a taste for single malts.

The financial aid office is going to tell you to "take only the minimum amount of money you will need for the semester." The problem is that even with a budget, it is impossible to predict the future and determine how much you will actually need. Their estimated budget includes such outdated concepts as "transportation," and "housing," but doesn't provide for modern necessities like shoes, cover charges, and bottle service.

Invest...in Pot. Consider this: 1) Marijuana prices have long been higher than the price of gold—and are not likely to fluctuate with the market. 2) No one has ever called me up on a Friday night and asked if I knew where they could get any gold. Double or triple your loan money and pay off that unsubsidized interest.

One word: gambling. Online gambling is simple and easy. You can set up an account and start playing blackjack in under 5 minutes. Don't like blackjack? Any game you can play in real life you can play online. The upside here is that you never have to leave the library or your bedroom. Or try real gambling. Go to a casino or find a bookie to help you start making money. Many people think that gambling is equivalent to throwing money away but that's not true if you play roulette. No one ever loses at that game—which makes it the perfect way for you to increase that max loan you borrowed.

You're welcome,  
Scott





| Photos by Jon Cooper

OAR onstage at SDSU's open air theater, October 1, 2010.

## Music Side Note: OAR

A Recap of the October 1, 2010 concert with an all American Rock Band.

**Jonathan Cooper**  
3L Managing Editor

Of A Revolution better known as OAR was my first concert of the fall series. Friday night October 1, 2010 was the best way for me to kick off fall, San Diego style.

The week prior to this event was ridden with 100 degree temperatures and San Diego felt nowhere near like fall should. Upon arriving at SDSU's open-air theatre, the winds had turned and the past was coming back. The past being the weather that always comes this time of year – but more than that, it was the songs of my youth. OAR brought back memories from circa 2003. This combined with my affinity for concerts made OAR a nostalgic experience.

OAR for those of you who aren't familiar with them is an American Rock Band. They consist of several members all playing at various times. They entertain with percussion, sax, guitar, bass, and other instruments to compose a unique sound distinctly their own.

OAR played before a lively yet intimate crowd consisting of no more than 400 people. Now the venue at SDSU would appear to hold twice that number; but given San Diego's track record for poor advertisement of venues the crowd totals left something to be desired. However what we lacked in numbers we more than made up for in passion for these artists.

Apart from putting on an amazing concert OAR is a band of the highest class. They continually work with various not-for-profits and divert proceeds to notable projects such as Paralyzed Veterans of America, which focuses on assisting veterans with spinal cord injuries.

My next journey into my past happened October 16, 2010 where I attended a concert by an artist of a similar era. Bruno Mars and OneRepublic opened for Maroon 5. This concert was filled with nostalgia. I was enthralled with seeing one of my new favorite artists, Bruno Mars and anticipated a grand performance.

Looking back, Maroon 5 and OAR take me to a time when I lived in San Francisco. They help me escape, and offer a glimpse back to a time when life was slower, simpler. Where I could sit at the beach for hours and contemplate nothing. As it would turn out, my desires and pursuits would bring me back to the beach, only now I can sit and watch as others enjoy their simpler time as I endeavor to succeed in law, and ultimately as a lawyer.

# America's Secret Standard for Death

Terrorism and the American Citizen: what happens when they are one and the same.

**Vako Artinian**  
2L Staff Writer

Anwar Al-Awlaki is an Islamic lecturer, spiritual leader, former imam currently hiding in Yemen, and is possibly the first ever U.S. citizen targeted for death by his own government in matters relating to international terrorism. He is suspected of various terrorist activities against the West such as recruiting individuals into Al-Qaeda's terrorist network, holding sermons that some 9/11 hijackers attended, and even corresponding via e-mail with the Fort Hood shooter Nidal Malik Hasan. Hasan received spiritual guidance and assurances of peace in the afterlife from Al-Awlaki. For years he was on the CIA's target list, but last month the U.S. Department of Treasury put Al-Awlaki onto its "global terrorist" list even though he is an American-born citizen, educated right here in San Diego at San Diego State University.

His father, a university professor in the U.S. and former foreign minister of Yemen, has filed a lawsuit against the federal government on behalf of his son who is hiding in Yemen, since being put on this global terrorist list. The lawsuit, which challenges the Obama Administration's methods of acting as prosecutor, judge, jury and executioner when placing individuals on its "hit list," asks the Court to allow a U.S. citizen facing criminal charges a proper trial with all constitutional rights intact. The lawsuit does not challenge Al-Awlaki's innocence, but instead seeks an injunction requiring the Obama Administration to disclose its methods of determining how and why a U.S. citizen becomes marked for death. The suit has become deadlocked after the Obama Administration has made real efforts to dismiss the case based on a "State Secret Privilege."

This is where the U.S. Treasury Department's actions fit in. Upon being placed on the Treasury Department "global terrorist" list, any assets belonging to the individual can be frozen and it



| Muhammad ud-Deen at en.wikipedia  
Imam Anwar al-Awlaki in Yemen, 2008.

[Y]ou have a citizen's constitutional rights being openly suppressed by the government, and... you have the government basing its actions on the U.S. Constitution...

becomes illegal for any attorney to be retained by the individual without first applying for a special license from the government.

Al-Awlaki's father retained the ACLU and Center for Constitutional Rights to spearhead the lawsuit against the government, but all efforts have come to a stop since Al-Awlaki was put on the Treasury's list. This arbitrary use of power only compounds with the

Obama Administration's policy of seeking and assassinating individuals without explaining itself in any way. The ACLU and CCR argue that they are working pro bono on this matter, thus not receiving any payment from "frozen" assets, which means that the Treasury Department's move is blatantly unconstitutional and meant to stop this specific action from seeing the light of litigation.

The government's position on the matter is that it does not want to disseminate sensitive information into the public, which would likely reach the eyes and ears of the very terrorist organizations it is seeking to neutralize. There are strong arguments for both sides, and the situation is not an easy one for the U.S. public to take a particular side for. On one hand you have a citizen's constitutional rights being openly suppressed by the government, and on the other hand you have a government basing its actions on the U.S. Constitution and claiming the American people need protection from individuals who are bent on terrorizing and harming innocent lives.

To gain some perspective, it may be wise to think back to the position the United States took at the end of the Second World War. Europe was in total ruin, and the Allied forces had barely overcome Nazi Germany and its allies. Great Britain and the Soviet Union suggested executing captive high-ranking German and Japanese officers for their war crimes and crimes against humanity. However the U.S. stood firmly against such blind retaliation, and insisted on preserving the rights of these individuals. The U.S. government demanded fair trials before administering any type of punishment and made a point that the captive officers should be allowed legal representation. This ultimately gave birth to the famous Nuremberg trials, which created an internationally acceptable standard employed, even to this day by Courts around the world.

This standard is that the government must adhere to the same laws and requirements that any individual must adhere to when seeking a resolution or remedy against another. Where is this standard for Anwar Al-Awlaki?

## The Failure of the Single-Use Bag Reduction Act

What happened and why you should be outraged.

**Lindsey-Shannon Lee**  
1L Writer

On August 31, 2010, the California Senate failed to approve the Single-Use Bag Reduction Act (AB 1998), a bill that would have prohibited the distribution of single-use plastic shopping bags at convenience stores, grocery stores and pharmacies state wide. The Senate voted against the bill despite the fact that the state Assembly had already approved it and Governor Schwarzenegger had publicly indicated his support of it, most likely because of an expensive last minute campaign funded by the American Chemistry Council, a group that represents leading plastic resin manufacturers. The ACC battled a similar effort to reduce plastic bag waste in Seattle last year. You can view their dangerously misleading commercial at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4HDGh4DS4uk>. Their argument suggested that California was putting an undue financial burden on their already struggling businesses and consumers. They stated that in deflecting the bill, 1,000 manufacturing jobs were saved. But at what cost to our environment and tax payers?

AB 1998 was in no way revolutionary. Cities and countries across the world have successfully implemented similar bans. From Mexico City to Marikina, South Africa to Ireland, and China to Bangladesh, global citizens have voiced their concerns at the growing number of plastic bags that end up in our oceans and landfills. In January of this year, Washington, D.C. implemented a 5¢ surcharge on plastic and paper bags in order to encourage residents

to carry their own reusable shopping bags. San Francisco was the first city to ban plastic bags here in California. They were quickly followed by Palo Alto, Malibu and Fairfax. Residents of the oceanfront city of Manhattan Beach already voted to employ a plastic bag ban but are currently awaiting a decision as the ban is tied up in litigation. Because of the failure of AB 1998, Los Angeles city and county is currently considering implementing its own ban. More California cities are expected to follow.

Each year, Californians use and ultimately discard 19 billion plastic bags. Some organizations have gone so far as to determine that Californians discard roughly 600 plastic bags a second. This environmental apathy results in a horrifying 147,000 tons of preventable waste that litters our streets, suffocates our famed ocean life and destroys our unique scenery. It is estimated that about 80% of ocean litter is plastic. These plastic bags will take over 1,000 years to ultimately photodegrade, ensuring that if no action is taken, the litter problem will grow exponentially by the time our grandchildren inherit the earth. If environmental activism does not speak to your heart, let it speak to your wallet: It costs the state \$25 million annually to collect and transport disposable plastic bags to landfills. Are Californians really only capable of recycling 5% of their plastic bags? For a terrifying ticker indicating the number of plastic bags used world-wide so far this year, go to [www.reuseit.com](http://www.reuseit.com).

Regardless of how you feel about the politics of AB 1998, or the right of the government to make personal choice decisions for you, the need for a cleaner ocean and state is obvious. There are numerous ways you can make a difference:



| Tim Simms

Single-Use plastic bags.

Gather some friends and spend a few sunny hours at the beach with Surfrider. Sign up to help clean a local beach at [www.surfridersd.org/beachcleanups.php](http://www.surfridersd.org/beachcleanups.php)

If you don't already own one, purchase an inexpensive reusable bag for a dollar or two. You can buy the large Ikea shopping bags at Ikea for under \$1 and most supermarkets give you rewards points back on your membership card for free groceries later.

Before you accept a plastic bag at the pharmacy or grocery store, consider if you even require one. Maybe you can carry your pack of gum, or stuff it in your pocket.

Purchase reusable cutlery instead of always using and disposing of the plastic kind [www.togoware.com](http://www.togoware.com)

Just be mindful of the cause and effect of everything you do! We are on the right track, keep it up and spread the word.



## D

Objection to the 47 e-mails I received this morning before 7am.

Objection to the school wanting to take credit for EVERYTHING we do, but not sponsor anything. Show me the money!!!

Objection to not having the student organization budgets released as of September 27 after hearing the administration tell all of the student organization presidents about how important they are to TJSJ. I submitted my budget proposal in July!

Objection to finding an open silica gel packet in my salad from the Indigo Cafe.

Objection to Simplicity. Has anyone actually gotten a job from this thing, really?

Objection to the three study rooms in LLB that became people's offices. Who should be more upset!?

Objection to students NOT showing up to the Dean's forum!

Objection to having a tuition increase and still having crappy computers in the lab that don't work half the time.

Objection to getting Fantasy Football updates that says your player won't start the day of the game. Real helpful!!!

Objection to people (1Ls) stealing printouts; check your stacks please!

Objection to the belief that it is supposed to always be sunny in Southern California. Boy was I wrong...

Objection to someone who's probably never sat in a cockpit labeling Apache Pilots as war criminals

Objection to ExamSoft screwing up during my first midterm! As if I'm not stressed enough!!!

# OBJECTION!

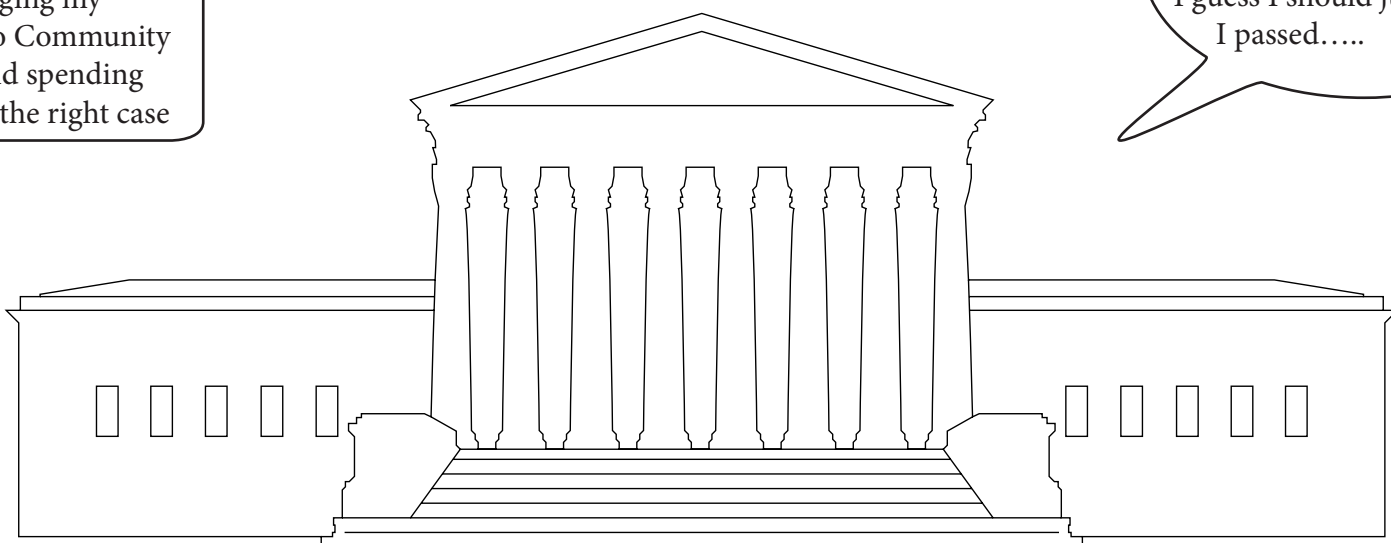
Compiled by Sterling Williams, 3L

Got an Objection?

E-mail: TJSLOBJECTIONS@gmail.com

Objection to bringing my Remedies book to Community Property Class and spending time looking for the right case

Objection to still not having my exams from the summer to look over. I guess I should just be happy I passed.....



## Weird Legal News

An update on some of the crazy legal related issues around the world.

Compiled by Brandi Haefs

3L Senior Staff Writer

A British man was arrested for buying a goldfish in a pet store and then swallowing it in front of the staff while his friend videotaped it. After they posted the video on Facebook the police took notice and arrested the man who ate the fish. He was released an hour after his arrest on suspicion of cruelty to animals but if convicted of animal cruelty he will face six months in jail or a fine

of \$33,000.

A Paris man who registered 55 children by 55 different mothers faces up to 10 years in jail and fines for suspected paternity fraud and for helping to obtain residency for the mothers and children under false pretenses. Police suspect the man was involved in a social benefits scam which could have been costing the state over 1 million Euros (about \$1.27 million) annually, but at the moment 42 of the women have been identified and each claim that the man is actually the biological father of their child.

Many callers are angry after a recent typo on a cereal box (the cereal was Bengals wide receiver Chad Ochocinco's limited edition toasted oats) sent them to a seductive-sounding woman on a sex line instead of the charity (Feed The Children) that was supposed to receive the calls and also benefits from the cereal sales.

In Oregon the alleged bank robber, dubbed the "Where's Waldo Bandit" because he wore a striped shirt and glasses resembling the character, has been arrested after he apparently claimed responsibility for the crime

on Facebook news and even posted the bank's surveillance shot as his profile picture.

A 19 year old man, who police in British Columbia described as "sobriety deprived", is being charged with a variety of offenses after he climbed over a ten foot high chain link fence with barbed wire and found himself on the tarmac of an airport.

A 24 year old man in Boston was arrested for stealing earrings from a jewelry store by sticking them down the back of his pants between his butt cheeks and fleeing from the store after a female employee who was showing the man earrings turned away briefly.

A Florida cop's plan to fake a crime scene to get his ex-girlfriend, and fellow officer, to talk to him again after they broke up ended up getting



himself and other two dispatchers fired instead.

A 29 year old Ontario woman has been charged with being in a dwelling unlawfully, sexual assault and attempted murder after police were called to an apartment building where two women were fighting naked on a third-floor balcony.

A man was arrested and charged with battery and exposure of sexual organs at a Walmart in Sarasota, Florida after he allegedly stole a copy of Sports Illustrated from the shelf and pleased himself in the store's toy section. The supervisor told police that the man ejaculated onto the floor and then proceeded to wipe his hand clean on a nearby toy. When police asked him what he was doing in the toy aisle he said he was looking for a present for his daughter.

In Montana a teen accidentally texted the local sheriff asking for some pot because he saved the wrong number for his dealer. Though the teen was never charged – facing his parents when the sheriff brought it to their attention was probably worse.