

Dear Member of the Class of 2012,

On behalf of the Student Bar Association (SBA) and the student body, welcome to the University of South Carolina School of Law. We are so excited to have each of you as new additions to the Carolina Law family. We want each of you to get involved and contribute your talents, intelligence, and unique personalities to this great community.

As a first year law student, there will be many ways to get involved with the law school community. The Student Bar Association (SBA) presents first year students with an immediate avenue of involvement. SBA is an organization dedicated to improving the educational, social, and professional experience of all law students. The SBA has several concurrent goals including: (1) providing an effective outlet for the expression of student views; (2) serving as a liaison between the student, faculty, staff, and alumni; (3) fostering close personal relationships among the law school community; (4) creating networking opportunities with the local legal community; and (5) maintaining meaningful relationships with national, state, and local bar associations through the SC Bar Young Lawyers' Division and the American Bar Association (ABA) Law Student Division.

I encourage each of you to join SBA as a paid member and get involved in all that the SBA has to offer. On the attached page, you will find a brief description of our SBA committees as well as information about how you can join as a dues paying member or run for class representative.

Once again, we are so glad to have each of you as the newest members of the USC Law Community. I look forward to meeting each of you over the next few days and weeks ahead. If you have any more questions about the SBA, USC Law, or Columbia, please do not hesitate to email me at ryan.whicker@gmail.com. Best wishes in the 2009-2010 school year!

Kind Regards,

Elizabeth Ryan Whicker
SBA President

What does the SBA do?

Service

- SBA organizes the following:
 1. Two Red Cross Blood Drives per year.
 2. Weekly volunteer opportunities for students (with the assistance of the Pro Bono office).
 3. Law Students Community Service Project Day
 4. Student-Faculty Committees, which address a wide range of student concerns (e.g., curriculum, admissions, and the hiring of new faculty).
 5. The Orientation Program for the incoming 1L class.
 6. The selection of two Law School Student Senators to participate in the university wide student Senate.
 7. Career Week

Social Events

- SBA hosts the following events:
 1. The 1L Orientation mixer and the school-wide Welcome Back Party for all students.
 2. A Halloween Party (with the Medical and Business Schools).
 3. The Barrister's Ball (Spring formal).
 4. Carolina Cup Excursion
 5. End of Semester parties
 6. Spring Semester Thursday Night Bowling
 7. Spring Semester Faculty Appreciation Functions

Communication

- SBA oversees the following methods of communication:
 1. SBA E-brief (weekly news letter e-mailed to students which highlights school and community activities and important announcements)
 2. SBA TWEN website (available through Westlaw)
 3. Facebook (law school yearbook and directory)
 4. Survival Guide (a publication chocked full of useful info which helps incoming students adjust to life in Columbia).
 5. SBA Facebook page (SBA will feature announcements and upcoming events on its own Facebook website page).

Athletics

- SBA hosts the following events:
 1. Intramural sports (such as the UVA Softball Tournament)
 2. Fall and Spring Golf Tournaments

How do I get involved?

- **Join as a paid member.**
 1. Dues are as follows: 1 yr. \$40 2 yrs. \$65 3 yrs. \$85
 2. Paying your dues will allow you to receive a free Facebook as well as a \$5 discount on up to 2 tickets at each event per year saving you a total of \$75 a year. Paying your dues also allows you to serve on committees and run for office.
- **Run for office.** Elections for 1L Class Representatives are held a few weeks after classes begin. Each 1L section will elect 3 representatives. To run for office or join a committee you must be a dues paying member of SBA.

