

# Duke University School of Law



**CASE NOTE COMPETITION SITE:  
A LAMP SOLUTION**

# What is a Casenote Competition?



- A casenote is a scholarly report of a recent and significant decision
- Journal competition is for 1Ls who have completed their first year of study
- Each applicant applies to be an editor of one or more journals
- Application is submitted online

# How did we get here?



- Nine Journals @ Duke Law
- Existing editors read the casenotes and grade it
- Recently, process was done by hand
- Had to automate process
- Used NYU and Georgetown as a benchmark

# What's the solution?



- Created online pages to gather and distribute application packages
- Technology used :
  - a Linux sever with an Apache Web Server installed
  - MySQL database on another Linux server
  - PHP and HTML
- Working team consisted of:
  - two outgoing law students
  - Two second year editors
  - Staff members
  - Web Services, including Paul as programmer/DBA



Download  
Documentation

Must log on to URL  
using Net ID

Agree to Honor pledge

Start to begin your  
application

## Casenote Competition Application

### Hello John Smith

By clicking the [Start](#) button below, you will begin your application for the Casenote Competition. You will also receive an email to the address listed below confirming that your application has been initiated. Once in the system you will be able to rank your preferred journals and upload related documents. You will also be able to save and return to the system as you wish, before finalizing and submitting your application.

### Application Form

The Casenote Competition has the following information for Michael Wright:

NetID	jxs3
Student ID	0099911
First Name	John
Last Name	Smith
Email	john.smith@duke.edu

To preserve blind evaluation, you will be identified by your Student ID only during the selection process. If the above information is incorrect, please contact [casenote@law.duke.edu](mailto:casenote@law.duke.edu). If you would like to use another email address for the competition, you will be allowed to enter one after starting your application.

### Honor Pledge

I pledge that my work and participation in this selection process will comply with the Law School rules concerning [Student Professional Misconduct](#) and the [Duke Community Standard](#).

I agree to abide by the honor pledge as shown above (Initial):



Fill in all necessary info

Confirmation email will be sent

Email will verify the application process has started

## Casenote Competition Application

Hello John, Student ID of 0099911

Your application has been started. You have been sent a confirmation email to the address listed in your Contact Information.

[Check the competition rules and information](#)

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### 1. View/Update My Contact Information

Contact Info

### 2. Enter My Journal Preferences (Rankings)

Journal Prefs

### 3. Upload Required Documents

Upload Page

### 4. Finalize and Submit My Completed Application

Finalize <--- Must Finalize to finish the application!

---

### Review My Saved Information

Review



View and update  
contact information

May add additional  
information (optional)

## View/Update Contact Information

### My Contact Information

First Name	John
Last Name	Smith
Email	john.smith@duke.edu

### Optional Information

SecondEmail

phone

phone2

**Notes:** If you choose to save a second email address, **you will be sent a confirmation email** to that address, which contains a confirmation link. **You must click on the confirmation link in order for the system to recognize your second email address.** Once it has been confirmed, you will receive email to both addresses listed in the system, during the selection process.

Submitting a phone number is optional. Some Editors-in-Chief prefer to follow up on an offer with a phone call. However, **offers are made via email, not by phone.** Phone calls will be placed during the second half of July; if you choose to supply a phone number, use one that you will have available at that time.

[Back to the Main Application Page](#)



Indicate which journals  
you would like to apply  
for

Choose one Exclusive

Choose one or more  
Non-Exclusive

Free to change  
preferences BEFORE  
you finalize and submit

## Journal Preferences

### Update My Journal Preferences (Rankings)

#### My Ranked Preference for the Exclusive\* Journals

\*From which I will receive at most only one offer.

Only rank the journals to which you wish to apply.

Rank #1	[Empty]	▼
Rank #2	[Empty]	▼
Rank #3	[Empty]	▼
Rank #4	[Empty]	▼
Rank #5	[Empty]	▼
Rank #6	[Empty]	▼

#### My Preference for the Non-Exclusive\* Journals

\*Of which I may accept any or all offers.

- Yes, I would like to apply to Duke Environmental Law & Policy Forum
- Yes, I would like to apply to Duke Forum for Law & Social Change
- Yes, I would like to apply to Duke Law & Technology Review

**You may change your preferences at any time before finalizing your application.**

[Save Changes](#)

[Back to the Main Application Page](#)

[Continue](#)





## Example of updated Journal

### Journal Preferences

jxs3 Journal Preferences Updated

Update My Journal Preferences (Rankings)

#### My Ranked Preference for the Exclusive\* Journals

\*From which I will receive at most only one offer.

Only rank the journals to which you wish to apply.

Rank #1	Alaska Law Review	▼
Rank #2	Duke Journal of Comparative & International Law	▼
Rank #3	Duke Journal of Constitutional Law & Public Policy	▼
Rank #4	[Empty]	▼
Rank #5	[Empty]	▼
Rank #6	[Empty]	▼

#### My Preference for the Non-Exclusive\* Journals

\*Of which I may accept any or all offers.

- Yes, I would like to apply to Duke Environmental Law & Policy Forum
- Yes, I would like to apply to Duke Forum for Law & Social Change
- Yes, I would like to apply to Duke Law & Technology Review

**You may change your preferences at any time before finalizing your application.**

Save Changes

Back to the Main Application Page

Continue



Upload the required documents

Journals are listed in order of preference

Casenote is required

Personal statements are recommended

## Upload Documents

### Instructions for John, Student ID of 0099911

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**Identification:** Please make sure that your **Student ID** is shown in the header of your documents, and **not your name**.

**Uploading:** Please upload documents in **PDF format** only. See [instructions on creating a PDF](#).

**Casenote:** The Casenote will be reviewed by **all** of the journals shown in your preferences with the possible exception of Duke Environmental Law & Policy Forum (see DELPF section, if applying)

### Casenote

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Upload the document in PDF format here

### Other Documents

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#### Exclusive Journals

##### Rank # 1: Alaska Law Review

**Personal Statement not uploaded**

Personal Statement

##### Rank # 2: Duke Journal of Comparative & International Law

**Personal Statement not uploaded**

Personal Statement

##### Rank # 3: Duke Journal of Constitutional Law & Public Policy

Only the Casenote is required for DJCLPP.

No other documents are required.



Upload documents for  
Non-Exclusive journals

All documents must be a  
PDF

---

### Non-Exclusive Journals

#### Duke Environmental Law & Policy Forum

**Personal Statement not uploaded**

Personal Statement

For **DELPF**, you may upload a **writing sample** for review **instead of** a Casenote. If you would like to submit a writing sample, please do this here:

Writing Sample

#### Duke Law & Technology Review

**Personal Statement not uploaded**

Personal Statement

Back to the Main Application Page



Casenote upload

Personal Statement  
upload

### Casenote

File **John's Casenote.pdf** is a **valid PDF**, and was successfully uploaded and renamed to **0099911\_casenote.pdf**

Casenote file has been uploaded

Existing file	<a href="#">Casenote</a>
Replace	<input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Browse..."/> <input type="button" value="Upload"/>
Delete	<input type="button" value="Delete Existing File"/>



Finalize and submit  
completed application

## Finalize and Submit Application

Checking Required Information for the Application Process

Contact Information section is complete.

Journal Preferences section is complete.

### Casenote

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- Casenote file uploaded.

### Other Documents

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#### Exclusive Journals

##### Rank # 1: Alaska Law Review

- **Personal Statement not uploaded.**
- You may still finalize without a Personal Statement.

##### Rank # 2: Duke Journal of Comparative & International Law

- **Personal Statement not uploaded.**
- You may still finalize without a Personal Statement.

##### Rank # 3: Duke Journal of Constitutional Law & Public Policy

- Only the Casenote is required to apply for DJCLPP.



Finalize and submit  
completed application

Must click on Finalize  
Now

After the user Finalizes,  
no other changes can be  
made or documents can  
be uploaded

---

## Non-Exclusive Journals

### Duke Environmental Law & Policy Forum

- **Personal Statement not uploaded.**
- You may still finalize without a Personal Statement.
- For **DELPF**, you may upload a writing sample for review instead of a Casenote.

### Duke Law & Technology Review

- **Personal Statement not uploaded.**
- You may still finalize without a Personal Statement.

## The required items to Finalize this application seem complete

Please note that once you press the "Finalize Now" button, you will no longer be able to change your journal preferences or submit any updated documents.

### Finalize My Application Now

Finalize Now

### Back to the Main Application Page

Continue





# Incomplete Application

## Finalize and Submit Application

Checking Required Information for the Application Process

Contact Information section is complete.

Journal Preferences section is complete.

### Casenote

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- **Casenote Missing.**
- You will **not** be able to finalize your application until a Casenote is submitted, **unless** you are only applying to DELPF.

### Other Documents

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#### Exclusive Journals

##### Rank # 1: Alaska Law Review

- **Personal Statement not uploaded.**
- You may still finalize without a Personal Statement.

##### Rank # 2: Duke Journal of Comparative & International Law

- **Personal Statement not uploaded.**
- You may still finalize without a Personal Statement.

##### Rank # 3: Duke Journal of Constitutional Law & Public Policy

- Only the Casenote is required to apply for DJCLPP.

### Non-Exclusive Journals

#### Duke Environmental Law & Policy Forum

- **Personal Statement not uploaded.**
- You may still finalize without a Personal Statement.
- For **DELPF**, you may **upload** a writing sample for review instead of a Casenote.

#### Duke Law & Technology Review

- **Personal Statement not uploaded.**
- You may still finalize without a Personal Statement.

Finalize not possible at this time due to missing items

Please go back to the [Application](#) page to add the required items.

[Back to the Main Application Page](#)



Finalize completed

## Finalize and Submit Application

### Finalize completed

You have finalized and submitted your application to your preferred journals. You may still alter your contact information.

You will receive a email confirming your application submission.

### Back to the Main Application Page

Continue





## Review saved information

### Review Saved Information

Hello John, Student ID of 0099911

#### My Contact Information

<b>First Name</b>	John
<b>Last Name</b>	Smith
<b>Email</b>	john.smith@duke.edu

#### Optional Information

<b>Second Email</b>	jxs3@duke.edu
<b>Phone Number</b>	9196138557
<b>Second Phone Number</b>	

#### My Ranked Preference for the Exclusive Journals

- Rank # 1** Alaska Law Review
- Rank # 2** Duke Journal of Comparative & International Law
- Rank # 3** Duke Journal of Constitutional Law & Public Policy

#### My Preference for the Non-Exclusive Journals

- DELPF** Duke Environmental Law & Policy Forum
- DLTR** Duke Law & Technology Review

#### Uploaded Documents

##### Casenote

- Casenote file uploaded: [View Casenote](#)

##### Alaska Law Review

- **Personal Statement not found.**



## Review saved information (part two)

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### Duke Journal of Constitutional Law & Public Policy

- Only the Casenote is required to apply for DJCLPP

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### Duke Environmental Law & Policy Forum

- **Personal Statement not found.**
- For **DELPF**, you may upload a Writing Sample instead of the Casenote.

---

### Duke Law & Technology Review

- **Personal Statement not found.**

---

Applicant has not finalized the application

[Back to the Main Application Page](#)

[Continue](#)



## Editor Interface

### Casernote Competition - For Editors

Hello Michael Wright

---

You have an Editor Role on [DELPF](#)

List Applicants Assigned To Me For Grading

[List Applicants Assigned To Me](#)

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Switch to one of the other journals that I am assigned as an editor

[DELPF](#) ▾ [Switch Journals](#)

---

### Journal Administrator Area

Check which editors have submitted scores

[Check Completed Status](#)

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List Applicants Assigned To Another Editor on DELPF

Editor: [waynevm, Miller, Wayne](#) ▾

[List Applicants Assigned For An Editor](#)

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Make a csv chart summary of the grades

[Make csv file](#)

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### Chart of results for DELPF in csv format

The following file is a summary of the grades for the applicants' files.

Casernote and Personal Statement are shown

[The Results Spreadsheet](#)



## Editor Interface switch to multiple journals

### Casenote Competition - For Editors

Hello Michael Wright

---

You have an Editor Role on [ALR](#)

List Applicants Assigned To Me For Grading

List Applicants Assigned To Me

---

#### Switch to My Other Journals

ALR ▾ Switch Journals

- ALR
- DELPF



# Editor view of all journals assigned casenotes

## Casenote Competition - For Editors

Hello Michael Wright

ALR Applicants assigned to Michael Wright (mcw32)

### Download all files

The following download is a zipped file of your assigned applicants' files. It will contain a Casenote for each applicant, a Personal Statement if one was submitted, and/or a Writing Sample in lieu of a Casenote for DELPF. All applicant files are in PDF format and use the filename structure *alias\_casenote.pdf* for the Casenote and *alias\_statement\_journal acronym.pdf* for the Personal Statement: [Download all files](#)

### Please enter a score for each item below

Note that you may download individual files via the links below

Counter	Alias	Casenote	Casenote Score	Personal Statement	Statement Score	Update
1	0079112	<a href="#">Casenote</a>	3.1 <input type="text" value="3.1"/>	<a href="#">Personal Statement</a>	3.5 <input type="text" value="3.5"/>	<input type="button" value="Update 0079112"/>
2	0079935	<a href="#">Casenote</a>	3.8 <input type="text" value="3.8"/>	<a href="#">Personal Statement</a>	3.1 <input type="text" value="3.1"/>	<input type="button" value="Update 0079935"/>
3	0079482	<a href="#">Casenote</a>	2.8 <input type="text" value="2.8"/>	<a href="#">Personal Statement</a>	3.4 <input type="text" value="3.4"/>	<input type="button" value="Update 0079482"/>
4	0079503	<a href="#">Casenote</a>	3.3 <input type="text" value="3.3"/>	<a href="#">Personal Statement</a>	4.0 <input type="text" value="4.0"/>	<input type="button" value="Update 0079503"/>
5	0079276	<a href="#">Casenote</a>	2.7 <input type="text" value="2.7"/>	<a href="#">Personal Statement</a>	3.1 <input type="text" value="3.1"/>	<input type="button" value="Update 0079276"/>
6	0079184	<a href="#">Casenote</a>	3.6 <input type="text" value="3.6"/>	<a href="#">Personal Statement</a>	<input type="text" value=""/>	<input type="button" value="Update 0079184"/>
7	0079490	<a href="#">Casenote</a>	4.0 <input type="text" value="4.0"/>	<a href="#">Personal Statement</a>	3.1 <input type="text" value="3.1"/>	<input type="button" value="Update 0079490"/>
8	0079335	<a href="#">Casenote</a>	4.1 <input type="text" value="4.1"/>	<a href="#">Personal Statement</a>	2.1 <input type="text" value="2.1"/>	<input type="button" value="Update 0079335"/>
9	0079320	<a href="#">Casenote</a>	3.1 <input type="text" value="3.1"/>	<a href="#">Personal Statement</a>	3.6 <input type="text" value="3.6"/>	<input type="button" value="Update 0079320"/>
10	0079635	<a href="#">Casenote</a>	3.8 <input type="text" value="3.8"/>	<a href="#">Personal Statement</a>	3.1 <input type="text" value="3.1"/>	<input type="button" value="Update 0079635"/>
11	0079442	<a href="#">Casenote</a>	2.7 <input type="text" value="2.7"/>	<a href="#">Personal Statement</a>	3.3 <input type="text" value="3.3"/>	<input type="button" value="Update 0079442"/>



## Stats for grading the Casenote

### Stats for grading the Casenote

Median (non-zero) value for a Casenote is **3.0**

Number of applicants not shown here (not scored yet) = **0**

Grade Range	Count in Range	Percentage Standard	My Grade %
4.1 - 4.3	0	0 - 5 %	0 %
3.7 - 4.0	2	20 - 30 %	22 %
3.4 - 3.6	2	15 - 25 %	22 %
3.0 - 3.3	1	30 - 45 %	11 %
2.5 - 2.9	0	15 - 30 %	0 %
1.6 - 2.4	4	0 - 15 %	44 %
1.5	0	0 - 5 %	0 %

### Stats for grading the Personal Statement

Median (non-zero) value for a Personal Statement is **3.1**

Number of applicants not shown here (not scored yet) = **0**

Grade Range	Count in Range	Percentage Standard	My Grade %
4.1 - 4.3	0	0 - 5 %	0 %
3.7 - 4.0	2	20 - 30 %	28 %
3.4 - 3.6	1	15 - 25 %	14 %
3.0 - 3.3	2	30 - 45 %	28 %
2.5 - 2.9	1	15 - 30 %	14 %
1.6 - 2.4	1	0 - 15 %	14 %
1.5	0	0 - 5 %	0 %