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ST. THOMAS LAW REVIEW

VOLUME 21

SPRING 2009

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

LEE PATTEN

It is with the greatest pleasure and pride that I present the 25th Anniversary Edition of the *St. Thomas Law Review*. Since its inception in 1984, St. Thomas University School of Law has been committed to producing ethical, dedicated, and hardworking attorneys. It is no coincidence that this issue has been edited by some of the best students St. Thomas University School of Law has to offer, and that each of the following articles has been written by a graduate of this same category. In order to commemorate this important milestone in the law school's tenure, this issue is comprised of articles written exclusively by *St. Thomas Law Review* Alumni.

Representing the past, present, and future of *St. Thomas Law Review*, each author provides a unique perspective based on their experiences. From Leslie Bauknight-Nixon, Esq., class of 2005, Kansas Gooden, Esq., and Mark Sobocienski, Esq., class of 2008, to current *St. Thomas Law Review* Member Baldy Martinez, class of 2010, *St. Thomas Law Review* continues its commitment to providing a forum that stimulates intellectual debate.

The true mission of any law review is its attempt to answer the unanswerable questions, go straight to the heart of important legal problems, and find that bright light that will navigate our jurisprudence through the darkness. In true St. Thomas form, each author has completed this task with astute intellect. They have tackled important unanswered questions facing current jurisprudence. Questions like, does the President actually have the power to declare war; will college football ever have playoffs; should a parent be responsible for their child's reckless driving; are credit cards our friends; where do we draw the line with copyright laws; where will we turn during a water crisis; and how do we fix the subprime mortgage problem? Each author delves to the bottom of these serious legal issues that have caused extensive scholarly debate and each provides an innovative and novel solution.

However, without the outstanding staff and executive board of the *St. Thomas Law Review* this issue would not be possible. This group of students has gone above and beyond the call of duty in order to continue the tradition of excellence that our predecessors instituted. I would like to personally thank my executive board for their tireless efforts and commitment to perfection. There is nothing better than an editorial staff

that refuses to send an article to print unless every “T” is crossed, every “I” is dotted, and every “*Id*” is italicized.

I would also like to thank our faculty advisor, Professor Gary Kravitz. Professor Kravitz found the perfect harmony between being an accessible, available advisor, who I could always count on for good advice, and an advisor who gave me the freedom to implement changes and take chances. I have no doubt the law review will continue its success with Professor Kravitz on board.

Although this issue represents my final work as Editor-in-Chief of the *St. Thomas Law Review*, I am confident that the future of our school and the law review is very bright. St. Thomas continues to attract students from diverse backgrounds and the academic prowess of the incoming classes is increasing every year. The new *St. Thomas Law Review* executive board is extremely talented, and I am confident they will continue to raise the reputation of the law school and the law review. I have no doubt the next 25 years will bring only more amazing scholarly work.

Enjoy!

Lee Patten

Editor-in-Chief, *St. Thomas Law Review*