To: All 1L students

Re: First-year mini-seminar series, Winter 2019

Each year, the Law School offers mini-seminars aimed at giving students and faculty the opportunity to enjoy discussions about the law in a relaxed and informal setting. As detailed below, each mini-seminar focuses on a different area of substantive interest. There will be refreshments provided at all mini-seminars. No academic credit is awarded in 1L mini-seminars. For mini-seminars which meet at professors’ homes, addresses will be provided to students admitted to the mini-seminars. The Law School will offer three mini-seminars this winter term exclusively for first-year JD students:

**WINTER 2019 (FIRST-YEAR) MINI-SEMINARS**

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| LAW 885 / 006 | A Crash Course in Michigan Appellate Advocacy:  
  *Johnson v. VanderKooi*, Municipal Liability, and the 4th Amendment | Ted Becker and Margaret Hannon | Wednesdays: 2/6 and 2/27 | 7:00-9:00 PM | Professor Hannon’s home (about one mile from the Law School) |
|             |                                          |                          |                |                 | Dog and cats in home              |
|             | Description | This 1L mini-seminar will focus on a case that we are working on as cooperating attorneys for the ACLU of Michigan, *Johnson v. VanderKooi*. The case involves the Grand Rapids Police Department’s practice of photographing and fingerprinting individuals stopped without identification to “verify their identity.” The overall issue in the case is whether Grand Rapids is municipally liable under section 1983 for violating the Plaintiffs’ Fourth Amendment right against unreasonable search and seizure when it photographed and fingerprinted them without a warrant or probable cause. We’ll also discuss professionalism and other lawyering issues, such as working with “in-house” counsel for the ACLU and our clients’ original attorney. We anticipate that an attorney from the ACLU will join us for one of our sessions. |

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<td>LAW 885 / 007</td>
<td>Regulatory Change and Regulatory Challenge: Marijuana Law and Policy in the 21st Century</td>
<td>Mark K. Osbeck</td>
<td>Winter 2019</td>
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State and local laws regulating marijuana use have been changing rapidly in recent years, with Michigan becoming the most recent state to legalize recreational use during this past election cycle. This course will examine how this rapid change in the legal landscape happened and where it is likely to end up, focusing in particular on the seemingly intractable conflict between state laws legalizing limited marijuana use and federal laws that strictly prohibit such use. The course will also look at issues that arise for lawyers in the course of representing marijuana-related businesses as clients, including the types of substantive legal issues these businesses face, as well as the particular issues of professional responsibility marijuana law raises for lawyers.

LAW 885 / 008 – The Trolley Problem

Instructor: Scott Hershovitz
Offered: Winter 2019
Credit: No
Enrollment Cap: 10

Description

A runaway trolley is heading straight toward five people working on its track. You could throw a switch and divert it to another track, but there’s a workman making repairs to that one too. Would you throw the switch and kill that workman? Or leave the trolley on its path to kill the five? Philippa Foot first posed this puzzle in an article about abortion, and philosophers have debated endless variations of it for decades. But it has acquired new urgency as many worry that autonomous cars will face this choice for real. In this mini-seminar, we’ll talk about the puzzle and its many variants, and we’ll try to figure out how we would program the cars if it was our job to do so.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

1. Interested students will use the Law School’s Class Bidding system to bid for mini-seminars. Class Bidding will open on the first day of classes to accept mini-seminar bids. To access Class Bidding, go to https://www.law.umich.edu/classbidding.

2. Students may list up to three (3) mini-seminars in order of preference. There are almost always fewer seats in mini-seminars than there are students who seek to fill
them. Therefore, if you get into a mini-seminar, you are expected to attend each session. Please do not sign up if you cannot make this commitment. If you drop a mini-seminar after you have been awarded a seat, you may be precluded from enrolling in mini-seminars in future terms.

3. Seats for 1L mini-seminars are assigned randomly.

4. Unlike in the usual Class Bidding registration process for regular fall and winter term classes, during mini-seminar registration we place a higher priority on making sure that each mini-seminar gets filled than on making sure students get the mini-seminars they want most. Therefore, although your preferences will be taken into account, it is quite possible that you will be assigned a mini-seminar that is low on your list of choices. So, please list only those mini-seminars that you are absolutely certain you are willing to take.

Timing and Deadlines

Mini-seminar registration begins Wednesday, January 16. You must submit your requests in Class Bidding by Monday, January 21 at 5:00 PM. Assignment results will be available in Class Bidding on Wednesday, January 23. An announcement will be made on MLaw Live when results are ready to view in Class Bidding.