



## Welcome to the April 2024 Issue of the ***“Just the Facts”*** Law Student Newsletter



### Learn What's Relevant and Timely to the Bench and Bar at AMC 2024

As a law student, keeping your finger on the pulse of what's relevant and timely in the legal profession is vital. It helps you identify potential practice areas, sound more knowledgeable in interviews, and provide content for networking conversations. There's no better opportunity to see what's relevant in the legal profession than the [2024 State Bar of Wisconsin Annual Meeting & Conference \(AMC\)](#).

Join us in Green Bay to meet and mingle with your future colleagues from around the state and country. Build your schedule with 3 dynamic plenary sessions and 18 different breakout CLE sessions to choose from. Take advantage of this great learning opportunity and expand your professional network while you're at it!

Plus, law students registered in the free State Bar of Wisconsin [Law Student Associate program](#) may attend the AMC with no registration fee required! Please note there is a cost associated with attending Thursday's networking luncheon and Thursday night's social event at Lambeau Field.

For more information about AMC, visit [amc.wisbar.org](http://amc.wisbar.org).

**Questions about the AMC registration process?**  
Contact us at [customerservice@wisbar.org](mailto:customerservice@wisbar.org) or (800) 728-7788

## Lawyers Corner: Tips to Students – How to Survive Law School



**Attorney Carolyn Eboni Carson**  
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As a recent law school grad, I'd like to give you three tips on surviving law school. First, have a life outside of law school. Keep a balance between law school and the hobbies you enjoy. You are not a machine; you are a human that needs to incorporate mental breaks.

Second, expand your network. Attorneys want to help law students! My academic advisor connected me with practicing and non-practicing attorneys, to have an informational interview. Additionally, I went to events sponsored by organizations like the Wisconsin Association of African American Lawyers (WAAL) and the Milwaukee Bar Association (MBA), where I knew attorneys would be. Make connecting with and learning from others a life-long practice.

Third, find and connect to a mentor who's willing to guide you as you begin your law career, even if they aren't in your field of law.

I know it is difficult to see the light at the end of the tunnel because you always feel as though you are reading, studying, or researching. But I promise it gets better after graduation. I am a living testimony!



**Jennifer L. Johnson (she/her)**  
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During the Spring semester of my 1L year at the Robert H. McKinney School of Law, I ended up in the emergency room. As you already know by now, studying for finals can be a special type of hell. For me, it meant prolonged periods of minimal sleep, a horrible diet, and overwhelmingly high stress levels.

I would go to the law library as early as possible, typically as early as 7 a.m. My study group and I would eat whatever was most convenient and cost-effective, and too often that meant HotBox pizza (I shudder at the thought). I was not a coffee or heavy soda drinker, so I would get my caffeine fix from 5-shot energy drinks. I'd stay in the library until midnight, at a minimum, then go home, shower, and take an extended nap before repeating the cycle.

When my finals commenced, I was already feeling the impact of my poor life

decisions. I was exhausted, had heartburn, and started to feel the onset of a Sickle Cell crisis (I was diagnosed with Sickle Cell Disease at 6 months old) resulting from my lack of sleep, poor diet, and extreme stress. After the third final, I had to listen to my body. My only family in the city, my great aunt and uncle, drove me to the emergency room where I was treated and released later that night. I rested in bed for most of the following day but I could feel my anxiety rising in anticipation of my final exam. Spoiler: I received my highest grade on that final exam. Shocking, right?

After my wake-up call, I got my life together. My advice to you all? Take care of yourselves:

1. **Get adequate sleep.** I found it helpful to set a realistic bedtime for myself (10:30 pm). I would turn my ringer off and would not turn it back on until the following morning. In 2013 this backfired as I missed the epic drop of Beyonce's self-titled album, but overall, the method worked to my advantage. Additionally, I didn't put a TV in my bedroom so there was no risk of falling asleep with it on.
2. **Engage in physical activity & Spend time outdoors.** A friend from law school joined me for weekly yoga classes at the local YMCA. This was great for physical activity but more importantly, it was an opportunity for me to have some "Zen Jen" time. When weather permitted, some of my friends and I would walk around the canal (I attended law school at IU-McKinney in Indianapolis) and just talk.
3. **Connect with others.** I got to know both of my upstairs neighbors pretty well during my three years living in Indy. My neighbor directly above me, was born and raised there so he would drive me around to tour the city and take me to his favorite local restaurants. My other upstairs neighbor and I would link up in her apartment every Thursday evening to watch Scandal and paint our nails while drinking wine. These were great ways to escape the hectic pace of law school.
4. **Eat with intention.** I highly recommend you steer as far away from my early law school diet as possible. Too much pizza will cause heartburn and those energy drinks are, arguably, death in a can. To guarantee that I started my day with food, I started making time to eat breakfast at home (could be as simple as a pastry and yogurt or scrambled eggs and toast) before I headed out for campus, and I would pack snacks to curb my hunger between meals.

If you take care of your body, it will take care of you. No exam, brief, or motion is worth your health!

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## Check out *Wisconsin Lawyer's Ethical Dilemma* ["Closing a Solo Practice"](#)

By Timothy Pierce & Sarah E. Peterson

What are a lawyer's ethical duties when closing a law practice? The State Bar of Wisconsin's ethics counsel offers seven areas of concern for lawyers when closing their practices. [Learn more here.](#)

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## Don't Forget About These Available Resources:

[Law Student Benefits](#) | [“Bottom Up” Podcast](#)

[Write for the State Bar](#) | [ABAJournal](#)



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