

Lex Brevis

WESTERN NEW ENGLAND UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW



Lex | Brevis

September/October 2017 Volume 45 Issue 2

Table of Contents

- 1 A Division of Occupational Therapy*
- 3 Solidarity Statement*
- 5 White Supremacy Has No Place Here*
- 7 Campus Happenings*
- 12 Inclusivity*
- 13 An Interview with the Mayor*

We, at Lex Brevis, are always looking for ways to improve. We would love feedback to better serve our law school community. Enjoy the issue.

Email us at LexBrevis@gmail.com





by **ZAC BROUGHTON**

LEX BREVIS Photographer

Zachary.Broughton@wne.edu

August marked the beginning of a new year. Like every day in the previous year, I walked through the front door, greeted Marci at the café, grabbed my morning coffee in preparation for the inevitable long day ahead, and then made my way upstairs. The main staircase right before the library represents a proverbial divide for me and many other law students—a divide between the more social and casual first floor, and the second floor which contains most of our quiet studying and classroom spaces. The daily walk up the stairs to the second floor is a sobering daily reminder of all that we have ahead of us in the days to come. Normally once we hit the second floor, we are greeted by various flyers for professional development or students crossing back and forth between the quiet section and their classes. This daily ritual has been a major part of my law school experience for over a year. This year, it has changed drastically. This year, at the top of the second-floor staircase, I am greeted by a more permanent sign, a sign I didn't agree to nor care to ever see. This year, as I enter the second floor, I am greeted by a sign that says: "Division of Occupational Therapy."

Every day that I see that sign, I am reminded of the hostile meetings that took place between Dean Gouvin and the student body—a student body that continues to feel a sense of abandonment, frustration, and a lack of confidence in the Dean's ability to represent and defend the law school he is charged with leading. I am reminded of the incredible anxiety felt by dozens of 3Ls and 4Ls who were told that their law school was drastically decreasing the amount of space available to them while preparing for the most important exam of their lives, the Bar

Walking on the second floor, you can see a huge change; the quiet section was cut in half. OT now occupies what was once sacred ground for WNEU law students. How much does that matter now? When walking through OT's renovated territory, I couldn't help but remember the countless hours spent by library staff, throwing out outdated books, treatises, and volumes. I was stunned to learn that many of those sources, removed or relocated, have been outdated for years. It turns out, with the expansive resources that exist via online media, the current generation of law students hardly ever open any of the books found throughout the stacks. Therefore, a vast majority of the OT area was filled with books which were no longer relevant. This reality forces me to ask: did we actually lose anything? Yes, we did: study space. The new OT area once contained a series of tables that lined the walls, tables that many law students, including myself, utilized every single night.

However, after walking through and thinking about the new OT area and the new students that would be roaming the building, and this unique opportunity that now forces us all to co-exist, I can't help but wonder if this is what many of us will experience when we leave law school. Here is what I mean.

Think back to President Trump's original Executive Order banning individuals who identified as Muslim and/or came from predominately Muslim nations. For one week, news outlets provided wall-to-wall coverage of hundreds of lawyers who set up shop in the middle of the nation's busiest airports, lending a hand to those who needed their expertise and work ethic the most. Behind the reporters, in the backdrop of the scene, you would see lawyers sitting on the floor as they caught up on relevant case law, drafted briefs, and communicated with colleagues and staff. Each of these lawyers faced herds of individuals facing immediate panic and fear about what would happen to them and their families. There was screaming, uncertainty, tears, and despair. But at the end of the day, lawyers were successful in aiding dozens of individuals to figure out their next steps. To me, this event not only showcased to the world the incredible work lawyers are capable of doing, it also demonstrated the new landscape we face as a profession.

Gone are the days when we were limited by how many case books or treatises we could carry. Most of, if not all, relevant and vital legal information is available online in one way or another. Gone are the days of lawyers writing out by hand briefs, memoranda, and motions. Many state and federal courts utilize online mechanisms for lawyers to submit documents. The harsh reality is that the legal field is rapidly changing in conjunction with the evolution of technology. The services of lawyers are not only needed in the courtrooms and police stations, but at airports, sporting arenas, natural disasters sites, and more. We can no longer expect our field to limit us to conference rooms, offices, stairs, or chambers. Part of me wonders if we should expect to have the ability to study in the same chair, at the same table, or in the same room, every day, night, and weekend, and whether or not that will hinder our preparation as future advocates?

Let the recent induction of OT students, faculty, and staff within the halls of the Blake Law Center be our test. Can we pass? Are we willing to adapt? If we are not, then what are we saying about the future of our profession?

It's too late to change the renovation to our building or the admission of 29 well-credentialed students. These individuals join us with one mission: to help people live better lives. It's not too late to give them, their program, their work ethic, their investment, and even our Dean—Dean Gouvin, a chance. Similar to us, these doctoral students will spend the next few years dedicating every fiber of their beings to mastering the art of primary care, long-term care, teamwork, research, confidentiality, professional responsibility, and field work. In a world of extreme divisiveness and fear, the things that unite our two programs are far greater, stronger, and more important than anything that divides us.

Yes, the sign will remain there, most likely for years to come. Yes, our quiet study space has been reduced. Yes, we are not alone in the Blake Law Center anymore. But, as the future continues to evolve and our role as transformative advocates continues to unfold, it is our responsibility to meet this change with sacrifice, open minds, professionalism, a willingness to adapt, and inclusiveness. Our job is hard; the world in which we do it is harder. Let's not make it harder on ourselves. Let us rise to the challenge, welcome our new counterparts, and begin the academic year anew.

In Solidarity

To: The Student Body
From: The National Lawyers Guild WNEU Chapter.
Re: Charlottesville.

To All:

The National Lawyers Guild is a progressive bar association known for its radical leftist politics. During our time on campus, we have run many events that have stirred up a suitable amount of controversy on campus, and as a result, we have had many conversations with many folks that we may not necessarily agree with politically. Many of our members are colleagues with non-members who may not (always) agree with what the Guild stands for - and while this may sound unrealistic in today's political climate, we have found it to be a necessary strength in order to continue forging forward with the Guild's mission. This diversity in ideology has led us to reflect on what we have done in the past, and how we can continue to strive to become better in the future.

Last year, after some incidents on campus post-election left

many students of color feeling threatened and uncomfortable, the Guild took the lead and opened a space for students of all backgrounds to come and share their frustrations regarding racial tension on campus. We, at the Guild, felt we had a platform in order to engineer a productive conversation and learn from our colleagues on how to provide safer spaces in the future. While the Guild certainly did not solve the main issue, we did have many conversations concerning what has become a hot button topic on college campuses: free speech vs. hate speech.

Free speech is an important component of the academic environment. However, recent events in Charlottesville have highlighted the very real resurgence of white supremacist groups in the United States. We, at the Guild, believe that it is an atrocity that white supremacist groups not only terrorize communities of color, but feel emboldened and comfortable in doing so. We do not believe this is "political speech," but rather a shield for white supremacists to protect

their very real intentions of violence with the First Amendment.

Regardless of what you politically feel regarding hate speech, white supremacy cannot be tolerated in any way, shape, or form. You may have the technical constitutional right to be a bigot, but we, as future members of the legal profession, do not have to tolerate such behavior.

It is because of the recent events in Charlottesville that the Guild decided to draft a statement of solidarity against white supremacy. It is also because of these recent events that we have reached out to student body organization leadership, across our campus, to come together to denounce white supremacy. We, at the National Lawyers Guild, wish to take this stance in arms with our colleagues from across campus, in order to firmly denounce hateful behavior and make this campus an environment where all people, regardless of who they are, can feel welcome.

In solidarity,

Chelsea M. Donaldson, Co-President, NLG WNEU Chapter.
On behalf of the National Lawyers Guild WNEU Chapter

THE STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS OF WESTERN NEW ENGLAND UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW DENOUNCE WHITE SUPREMACY AND SUPPORT AN INCLUSIVE AND DIVERSE ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL. WE SUBSCRIBE TO THE BELOW FIVE POINTS, IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THIS GOAL.

AS A STUDENT ORGANIZATION, WE PLEDGE THE FOLLOWING:

We will denounce white supremacy in its entirety.

We will not tolerate bigotry on our campus.

We will not support white supremacist groups, in any capacity, nor will they be welcome on our university campus.

We will utilize our privilege as members of this law school to uplift diversity and inclusion, and denounce racist behavior in order to make our law school a safe environment for all people.

We will support our campus affinity groups and give them the support necessary to thrive, especially when they are under attack by white supremacist behavior.

SO SIGNED, BELOW, BY THE LEADERSHIP OF THE FOLLOWING STUDENT GROUPS:

The National Lawyers Guild WNEU Chapter
The WNEU Environmental Law Association
The WNEU Law School Democrats
Latinx Law Students Association
WNEU Federalist Society
Public Interest Law Association
Health Law Association
The Intellectual Property Law Association
Black Law Students Association
Western New England Law Review
WNEU Student Bar Association Executive Board

IN ADDITION, THIS PLEDGE IS SUPPORTED BY THE FOLLOWING BODIES OF THE SCHOOL:

The Western New England University School of Law Faculty
The Western New England University School of Law Staff

White Supremacy Has No Place Here—Including The Police Department



by **CHELSEA DONALDSON**

LEX BREVIS Staff Writer

Author's Note: *This piece was written directly after I participated in the anti-Nazi and anti-white supremacy march in Boston on August 19th, 2017. I was one of tens of thousands who took to the streets, marching from Roxbury to Boston Commons, to shut down an “alt-right” rally. All photographs in this piece were taken by me.*

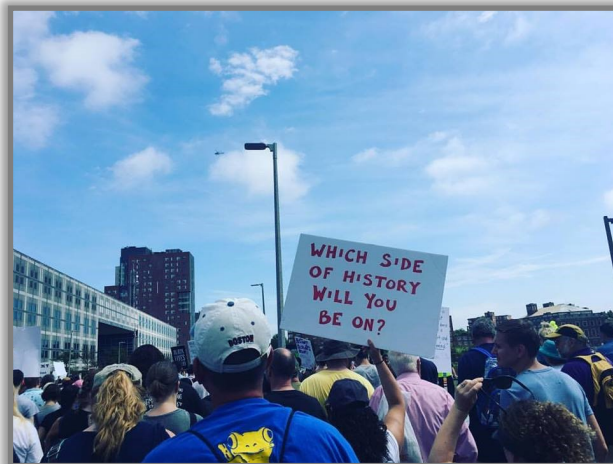
On Saturday, August 19th, I was one of tens of thousands of people who took to the streets of Boston to counter-protest against a planned “free speech” rally in Boston Commons. The original description of the rally sounded innocuous enough, but as recent demonstrations in Charlottesville have proven, the words “free speech” often attract the worst of us. In Charlottesville, it was white supremacists. And in Boston, it was much the same — the Ku Klux Klan and other white nationalist/white supremacist groups were planning on crashing the proverbial party.

This time, however, the Black Lives Matter chapters in eastern Massachusetts (and other movement-based groups in the area) quickly organized a counter-demonstration in order to denounce the extremist white supremacist groups that were planning on attending. While the organizers of the “free speech” rally claimed they had no connection to any white nationalist groups, many of the attendees of the 20–50 people who actually came to the “free speech” rally were white nationalists. No matter how long and loud you protest that you aren’t racist, if you vol-

untarily wear white supremacist regalia and wear t-shirts stating “STOP WHITE GENOCIDE” while screaming at people of color about how the United States of America must “stay white,” well, as the saying goes, “if the shoe fits.”

I attended the counter-protest for a multitude of reasons. For one, I feel it is the white person’s burden to confront and attack white supremacy in all forms. We should not put that burden on people of color when we, as white people, are the ones who built the master’s house upon which we all live. The crowd in attendance in Boston on Saturday was rather white, which I believe sent a message. For one of the most racist cities in the country to have such a massive turnout of white folks to say, “Nazism and white supremacy is not acceptable here” is something of an accomplishment. I confess that I wasn’t expecting the crowd to be as large as it was, given the setting. I was pretty pleasantly surprised.

However, showing up to a rally to protest white supremacy is not the end of the fight. Sending a clear message to Nazis and other far-right white nationalist factions that their mentality and ideology is not tolerable is an essential part of moving forward — dismantling white supremacy, however, is a multi-faceted fight that involves far more than far-right radicalism that has now become mainstream American politics. White supremacy is not as obvious as someone wearing a swastika on their arm or a particularly offensive t-shirt — it is far more insidious, and in the United States, white supremacy is absolutely a structural problem.



See Jim O’Sullivan, *Is Boston Racist? Poll shows the city is split—along racial lines*, Boston Globe, June 23, 2017, <https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2017/06/22/boston-racist-poll-shows-city-split-along-racial-lines/WRM3reSgkfpYtheDoCyxTM/story.html>.

Adam Vaccaro, *MBTA Settles with Roxbury Woman in Police Brutality Case*, Boston Globe, June 6, 2017, <https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2017/06/06/mbta-settles-with-roxbury-woman-police-brutality-case/kejU61EnCPCywwQON7zHOKK/story.html>.

One of the main things I noticed when I was marching from Roxbury to Boston Commons was how uncomfortable many white folks were with chanting so-called “anti-police” slogans. Many white folks thanked Boston Police as they passed by officers for their service in making sure they were all kept safe while marching. However, Boston Police has been subject to multiple lawsuits over the years, including one such case that culminated in a Supreme Judicial Court opinion dictating that Black men running from the police is not an unreasonable option when confronted with the State. Further, as the Black Lives Matter movement has demonstrated, the police are frequent abusers of people of color. The police state is one of the largest perpetrators of white supremacist behavior in the country — so why, then, were fellow white folks so uncomfortable with chanting “Indict! Convict! Send that killer cop to jail! The whole damn system is guilty as hell!” when passing in front of Boston Police HQ?

Showing up to an anti-racist march is a good thing to do. However, it is not the only thing to do — and showing



up to a march without fighting all white supremacist behavior is not enough. Denouncing all forms of white supremacy is essential, especially in a time where the President of the United States is advocating for police brutality. Being selective about which forms of white supremacy you are going to battle is precisely the definition of white supremacy and white privilege.

Radical white nationalists killed Heather Heyer, after all — but the police were the ones who murdered Sandra Bland, Rekia Boyd, and Aiyana Stanley-Jones. It is easy for white folks to be angry and upset at the concept of Nazis in their backyard, but it is also easy for white folks to ignore that the police, in many cases, are just as culpable in terrorizing communities of color as the white

nationalists. Until white folks come out in droves against police brutality as they did against Nazism, white supremacy will continue to reign within the United States.

This isn't to condemn anyone who came out on Saturday to shut down Boston. On the contrary, it was important for white folks to come out and denounce white supremacy. However, we must not be selective. If we are going to properly combat and fight white supremacy, then we must examine the structures we have built in the United States. That includes, but is not limited to: our capitalistic economy, our healthcare system, our government, and our police departments. Until we truly accept that the very ground we live on was claimed by white supremacy, is guarded by white supremacy, and is upheld by white supremacy, then white folks will only continue to contribute to the very system that we protested against in Boston on Saturday.



Veronica Graves, Mass. Supreme Judicial Court: Black Men May Have Good Reason To Run From Police, The Root, Sept. 6, 2016, <http://www.theroot.com/mass-supreme-judicial-court-black-men-may-have-good-r-1790856882>.

Ryan J. Reilly, Donald Trump Endorses Police Brutality In Speech To Cops, Huff. Post, July 28, 2017, http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/trump-police-brutality_us_597b840fe4b02a8434b6575a

I'm sorry little brother...

... For the way that she looked at you
She asked me if you'd kidnap her son;
it should've been as simple as two boys having fun
I'm sorry she didn't see your mere 10 years of youth

... For the way they treat you in school
I know you have dyslexia and ADHD,
but they put you in detention instead of an IEP
I'm sorry that instead of seeing your potential, they label you a fool

... That Dad won't let you wear a hoodie anymore
You've just grown so much, so tall and strong;
he's afraid someone might look at you wrong
I'm sorry we fear you getting shot on your way to the store

... That you will never know which box to check
Your skin is brown, but not brown enough,
and you never know where on the spectrum you fall for any of that stuff
I'm sorry they try so hard to classify us as Latinx

... That so many of your heroes have been arrested
About 70 percent of the men in our family;
they try so hard for us, but their birth order makes it almost guaranteed
I'm sorry we are a statistic in a system so congested

... For the fear you face of losing your mother
Her language and birthplace, here, are called "alien,"
because she doesn't match the other immigrants who come from places Aryan
I'm sorry that we are the wrong color

I'm so sorry, little brother, for the America you grow up in
I'm sorry it's so different for you, just because of the color of your skin.

Sophia Castillo, 3L

HAMPDEN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION NEWS:

COLONEL ARCHER B. BATTISTA VETERANS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Hampden County Bar Association created a veteran's memorial scholarship fund in memory of our past President, dear friend, and colleague, the late Colonel Archer B. Battista. For more information, please contact Noreen Nardi at Noreen@hcbar.org, or call the HCBA office at 413-732-4660.

JOHN F. MORIARTY SCHOLARSHIP

The John F. Moriarty Law School Scholarship was established by the Hampden County Bar Association through contributions of its members and from donations made in memory of the late Superior Court Judge Hon. John F. Moriarty of Holyoke. Applicants must have been residents of

Hampden County for at least five years. The scholarship is based on merit and financial need. If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation to the John F. Moriarty Law School Scholarship, please send your check payable to: The John F. Moriarty Law School Scholarship, and mail to: Hampden County Bar Association, P.O. Box 559, Springfield, MA 01102-0559. For more information, please contact Noreen Nardi, at Noreen@hcbar.org, or call the HCBA office at 413-732-4660.

Remember that, as a law student, you receive free membership in various bar associations. Remember to join.

Campus Events

Career Services: First Year Student and Young Alumni Networking Etiquette Luncheon, Law Common
Thursday, October 26, 2017
11:20am-1:00pm

SBA Charities Committee and LLSA: 13th Annual Ambulance Chase,
Sunday, October 29, 2017
1:00pm, Blake Law Center
Email llsawneulaw@gmail.com for more information.

BLSA: Committee for Public Counsel Services: Youth Advocacy Division
Thursday, November 2, 2017
12:00pm, Room D

Public Interest Law Week: October 30-November 3

Monday, October 30 12:00pm-1:00pm, Room D: How to Secure a Public Interest Summer Internship

Tuesday, October 31 12:00pm-1:00pm, Law Common: Public Interest Clason Lecture: From the Muslim Ban to DACA Termination: Protecting Immigrant Rights in the Trump Era

Wednesday, November 1 12:00pm-1:00pm, Room D: The Right to Serve: Transgender Rights and the U.S. Armed Forces

Campus Events

Spring 2018 Externship Application Deadline:

October 29, 2017

For more information:

Contact Marie Fletcher

mfletcher@law.wne.edu

413-782-1469

Office of Clinical Programs

Or visit the Experiential Learning Webpage

<http://www1.wne.edu/law/experiential/clinics.cfm>

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What does INCLUSIVITY mean to you?

Inclusivity: /ɪnˈkluːsɪvɪti/ (noun) the fact or policy of not excluding members or participants on the grounds of gender, race, class, sexuality, disability, etc.

One of the most used apps on my phone is the Dictionary. As law students, I'm sure you can all relate - what is a de novo, again? When we decided on the topic for this edition of Lex Brevis, I immediately searched "inclusivity" to see what the dictionary says it means, but what does it mean in real life? As we wait for a free version of Black's Law Dictionary to be available on the app store, take a look at what other law students said inclusivity meant to them.

“Inclusivity means not just tolerating, but embracing different races, national origins, genders, sexes, religious beliefs, sexual orientations, etc.

Additionally, it means accepting opposing political viewpoints. As a moderate Democrat who leans far to the left on social issues, recent political news horrifies me. But, we are all grown-ups and I enjoy going to a law school where both liberal and conservative students discuss their views meaningfully.”
- **Christina M.**

“Inclusion is an organic way of building diversity. Inclusion means welcome. Inclusion does not mean we all have to be the same but rather accept and support each other.” - **Kemar H.**

“Inclusivity means that I don't place barriers in front of people. I allow for people to truly show themselves and welcome each person with conversation, with both challenging and purposeful discussions.”
- **Claribel M.**

“The goal of inclusivity should not be to produce a "melting pot." Rather, inclusivity should be viewed like an intricate puzzle where all the different pieces fit together to produce the most lovely image.”
- **Nicole B.**



What
inclusivity
means to
students

Veronice Santana, Marketing & Outreach Editor

Interview: Mayor William Reichelt



by: **SAMANTHA MASTRAMATTEO**

WNEU Alumni— Guest Writer

“Enjoy law school while you’re there because the real world kind of sucks”

Some real life advice from recently elected Mayor of West Springfield and WNEU School of Law Alumni Class of 2013 William Reichelt. Mayor Reichelt is a West Springfield native who graduated from West Springfield High School in 2005. After high school he attended Holyoke Community College where he graduated in 2007 with an Associates of Science in Business Administration. From HCC, Mayor Reichelt attended Westfield State University where he received his Bachelors of Science in Business Administration in 2009.

The fall of his last year at Westfield State Mayor Reichelt “took the LSAT’s just for kicks”. He spent the year after graduation, “Working retail which I hated”. It was then that he realized he wanted more for his future but, “Everything required an M.B.A. or 3-5 years of experience on the job, which I didn’t have. So I went to UCONN where I took night classes one class a semester towards my M.B.A. I had only taken two courses and I was like this is going to take forever, so then I decided to go to law school.”

Mayor William Reichelt graduated from the joint degree J.D./M.B.A. program offered through Western New England University School of Law (taking his last semester off from M.B.A. courses and continuing the program after completion of the Bar with his M.B.A. awarded 2014).

“I went into law school wanting to be a prosecutor. All of my course selections were consistent with my initial goal of becoming a prosecutor. I took Criminal Procedure Investigation, the Criminal Clinic with Tina Cafaro, which I loved, and a criminal law writing class with [Professor] Leavens. Throughout law school I had every intention of becoming a Prosecutor,” yet in practice he has never held a position as a criminal attorney.

Q: What was your favorite class or professor during law school?

“Definitely Leavens, he was so thorough in his explanation of the material, he is so knowledgeable in general. All of the professors and faculty are good but the way that he would just breakdown the material, making complex things understandable, but in an upbeat fast paced manner. I really enjoyed taking the criminal QWC course with him, I know that I learned a lot, even though I’m not actually practicing criminal law.”



Q: What types of clinics and externships did you participate in?

“The Criminal Clinic, and then spring of my 2L year I was in the housing court as an extern, fall of 3L year I was in the Prosecutors’ office in Springfield District Court, and my last semester Spring 2013 I was in an externship at the Public Defender’s Office in Springfield District Court.”

Mayor Reichelt worked as an extern with the Agawam municipal attorney starting late spring 2012 where he eventually transitioned into a part time paid position. He was hired fall 2013 after passing the bar as a full time municipal attorney for the town of Agawam working in zoning and land use.

For the eight years prior to his election as Mayor of West Springfield, William Reichelt served on the West Springfield’s city planning board. In 2014 this WNEU School of Law alumni made the difficult decision to turn down the security of a non-legal union position to take a risk and follow previous West Springfield mayor Edward Sullivan into office as the Town Attorney for West Springfield.

“It was a job with security, which nowadays was a big deal. The Town Attorney works at the leisure of the Mayor, so if Edward Sullivan didn’t get re-elected or if he decided to leave office that meant I could be without a job.” After two years in office former Mayor Sullivan decided to pursue other career goals. “And that is when the people in the town hall got behind me supporting me in my decided to run for Mayor myself.”

Q: Backtracking a bit, can you explain some of your job duties when you worked as Town Attorney for the City of West Springfield?

“I oversaw everything having to do with the Municipality, pothole claims, other claims

against the town, advising departments, providing opinions on land use, kind of like a general counsel for the city.”

Q: How was your experience taking the Bar Exam?

“Just like the work set forth to become elected, it’s about the time and effort you put into becoming successful. I used Kaplan Bar Review; my friend and I would do 500-1000 questions a week. We attended all of the review classes, where some of my other friends from law school, I don’t know where they were apparently golfing all summer, but they started showing up to the bar courses with only a couple weeks left like “hey can I have some of your awesome flow charts and outlines?” so I gave them copies because I knew it wasn’t going to make a difference.”



“No matter how detailed the outline or flow chart you have, it is about the time and effort spent practicing the material with MBE and Essay questions. There is no secret recipe for passing the bar, just like there is no hidden formula to becoming mayor, if you have a goal you need to put the effort forth to achieve it. Paying for the bar course and never showing up is a way of only kidding yourself.”

“I passed the bar because I put in the time, doing the practice and studying all summer long.”

Q: Do you have plans to take the bar in any other states [besides Massachusetts]?

“Well I wish I had taken Connecticut, because all of my friends that did found out like a month sooner their scores, and the suspense of finding out I passed waiting a month after my other friends found out felt like torture. Being so close to Connecticut [in West Springfield] I can see the benefit to being bar certified in both states but for me I am happy just practicing in Mass.”

Q: What else can you share about your experience in law school?

Mayor Reichelt was not very involved in politics prior to his decision to run for Mayor of West Springfield. “I ran for SBA representative my 1L year, I got the signatures necessary to run but I didn’t really put any effort forth, and no, I didn’t get elected.” During his law school experience Mayor Reichelt spent his time focusing on externships and his courses rather than any specific extracurricular activities or clubs.

“Not getting elected into the SBA, follows the same logic as my successful campaign for Mayor; the amount of time and effort put into achieving a goal directly relates to the outcome

you are going to achieve. I didn't expel any real effort on getting elected to the SBA, and I wasn't successful, but when I spent the time, focused and zeroed in on my goal of getting elected to Mayor I was able to win, and not by a little, I won by a lot."

Q: So were you surprised to get elected Mayor?

"I wouldn't say I was surprised, I mean a lot of people have asked me: "What is the secret trick, what is the recipe, what do I know that they don't know?" but there is no secret recipe, I worked hard and set out to get elected. I am grateful to have been elected, but I spent the time knocking on people's doors, standing curbside, introducing myself and doing the work to get here. As a political newcomer to win by over 1000 votes was something amazing, so for that part I can say I was pleasantly surprised."

Mayor Reichelt gives thanks to his younger brother Chris in supporting him for his efforts to get elected. "As town council I couldn't do any campaigning during the work day so my brother was out there leading the networking and and message out there for time I was busy working as is 27 years old and he sacrificed real paying job to help me Mayor." Mayor Reichelt was West Springfield at the years old.



ing the pack, do-
getting my name
me during the
Town Attorney. He
ficed working a
get elected as
elected mayor of
young age of 28

"With a J.D. and a M.B.A. it's hard for people to say you don't know what you're talking about."

Q: How do you feel that law school has prepared you for your current role as Mayor of city with a population of nearly 30,000?

"Well I speak a lot in front of crowds, standing outside, [during the race for mayor] knocking on peoples doors, introducing myself and convincing them to vote for me as their city mayor. I do a lot of public speaking and law school definitely prepared me for that. I am grateful to have had participated in Mock Trial as well as the Criminal Clinic. Overall the analysis, knowledge and research skills from law school come into use almost every day as Mayor. Not to mention it really comes in handy when someone threatens to sue me and I know they are full of [shit]."

Mayor Reichelt is making Western New England University School of Law very proud

as a distinguished alumni taking office less than three years after his graduation. He is able to utilize his legal education every day although his career is in a non-traditional legal position.

“I hope to remain in office for some time, I am enjoying the job and will continue to put in the work to make the citizens who elected me proud. It kind of stinks that I will have to go for re-election every two years, but this is definitely a position I hope to hold for some time.”

In my short time spent with Mayor Reichelt, I got to personally witness the hustle and bustle of the Mayor’s office, from the citizens popping in to speak with him, to the local reporters seeking his opinion; his attention is something definitely very much in demand.

Q: What is some lasting advice you can give to other law students as we prepare to finish our legal studies and enter the real world?

“Work hard if you want to become successful, nothing is going to be handed to you, it’s not about the people that you know but the way that people get to know you. Your reputation is everything, so if you know what field you are interested start volunteering, join a board, and get involved so that people will know what type of a person and most importantly what type of a worker you are.”

“There is no secret to becoming successful, you just have to get out there and start working on your goals to make them a reality.”



Lex Brevis is an independent newspaper published by the students of Western New England University School of Law. Lex Brevis is a recognized student organization chartered by the School of Law Student Bar Association and funded by the activities fees collected from currently enrolled students at the School of Law. The opinions expressed in the paper are not necessarily those of the university, the law school, or the Student Bar Association. Views presented represent those of the author(s). Lex Brevis enthusiastically welcomes contributions from law students, faculty and staff, alumni, and other members of the legal community.

The mission of Lex Brevis is to serve the Western New England University School of Law student body and law school community as a student-run media outlet and an informative periodical. Containing articles of a more academic nature as well as those for entertainment, Lex Brevis aims to publish a variety of pieces in each issue and provide a place for members of the Western New England University School of Law community to have their voices heard. Lex Brevis strongly encourage participation from guest writers.

Lex Brevis strongly encourages collaboration and feedback from law school alumni and others in the legal profession in an effort to further educate and prepare soon to be attorneys.

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