



Uniting Plaintiff, Defense, Insurance, and Corporate Counsel to Advance the Civil Justice System

Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section
American Bar Association



Student TIPster

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TIME TO SPRING

Greetings all! I invite you to enjoy this issue of **TIPster**, whether you are in the middle of a study break or drinking your favorite latte at a coffee shop. This is quite an exciting time for us as we have initiated new programs and networking ideas to encourage more law student participation. Have you heard that TIPS is currently celebrating 75 years? Yes, it's true! It is through your continued involvement and consideration that our Section will continue to flourish within the American Bar Association.

It is time to spring. As the semester has ended, I ask that you pledge us a goal. Whether you submit an article for the next **TIPster**, apply for leadership within TIPS, or encourage a fellow law student to **join for free**...meet your goal. Keep us updated and keep up the good work, **TIPsters!** ●

Best regards,
Martie Garcia, Editor-In-Chief

Martie Y. Garcia serves as Assistant District Attorney for the 229th Judicial District in Starr County, Texas. She practices limited civil work for the Law Office of Daniel J. Garcia. Martie Garcia has been an active participant with TIPS since her first year in law school and serves as the current TIPster Editor. Ms. Garcia is also the 2009-2010 International Law Vice-Chair for the Young Lawyers Division.

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Interviewing TIPS: Getting Your Dream Job

By Ann Lyter Thomas – Kolesar & Leatham, CHTD

You've done it. You wrote an intriguing cover letter, you impressed with your resume and grades, or you may have submitted a knockout writing sample. However you did it, you have someone's attention because you have a job interview with a firm you think you want to work for. Now the trick is to hit the homerun and get a job you will love.

First things first, what should you wear? Generally, a dark, conservative suit. It does not have to be custom-made Italian silk, but it should fit well, look professional and announce to the world, "This is a lawyer to be taken seriously." Make sure you are comfortable in it—wear the suit before the interview. I once spent an entire day in interviews distracted because I was concerned the skirt to a new suit, which seemed fine in the store, was too short, especially when I sat down. And when I was the interviewer, I once rejected an applicant, in part, because he spent the entire interview picking at his suit (the story about road kill didn't help him either, but more about that later). Be aware that, silly as they may seem, many interviewers were given hard and fast rules about what to wear for an interview and they may expect you to abide by them, i.e., no green, red or purple suits, no large jewelry, etc.

Additionally, you should shine your shoes and make sure your hair and nails are neat. I recommend women wear makeup and keep it neutral. I know it is unfair, but women without makeup are often perceived as not being "pulled together." Bottom line is you do not want anyone to remember what you looked like, beyond noting that you looked professional.

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TIPS MEETINGS & EVENTS

2009 ABA Annual Meeting - July 30 – August 3, 2009
Hotel: Chicago Marriott Hotel, Chicago, IL

2009 TIPS Section Fall Meeting - October 6-11, 2009
Hotel: Hotel Del Coronado, San Diego, CA

2010 ABA Midyear Meeting - February 3-9, 2010
Hotel: TBD, Orlando, FL

2010 TIPS Section Spring Meeting – May 12-16, 2010
Hotel: Ritz Carlton Hotel, San Juan, PR

2010 ABA Annual Meeting August 5-10, 2010
Hotel: TBD, San Francisco, CA

For information and registration,
contact Felisha Stewart: (312) 988-5672

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A MESSAGE TO YOU

By: David S. Cohen, Esq.

THE TIPS TASKFORCE ON OUTREACH TO LAW STUDENTS, CHAIR

Congratulations on taking the first steps towards a long legal career. You entered law school and joined the ABA. Are you doing everything you can to make your legal career successful and productive?

If you are looking for a way to start your career on the right path while you are still in law school, then join TIPS (membership to law students is free) and let me know that you want to get involved. We have a place for you in TIPS!

Involvement in TIPS gives law students a major advantage over the “rest of the pack”. Students who get involved in TIPS have an almost exclusive opportunity to interact with the most experienced and successful lawyers in the profession. Many a law student has started off by getting involved in TIPS and ended up with the job of their dreams.

It does not matter if you want to work for Plaintiffs, Defendants, Insurers, or Corporations. TIPS members can be found in almost every area of practice all over the country. Students who get involved, work closely with these attorneys, showing their aptitude to work in a professional environment, can prove their value. Attorneys hiring associates take notice and often look no farther than the TIPS directory when an opening arises.

TIPS meetings are a great opportunity to have fun and network. Every quarter, the Section meetings feature continuing education, social events, and a chance to get to know other lawyers personally.

I hope you strongly consider taking the next step in your professional career by getting involved in TIPS and attending our Section meetings. The investment you make today will last a lifetime! ●

David S. Cohen is the Chair of the Taskforce on Outreach to Law Students and is in-house council for Angels Baseball LP, in California. He can be reached at (714) 940-2000.

2009 CHICAGO ANNUAL MEETING

Join all of your TIPS friends and colleagues at the ABA Annual Meeting in incredible Chicago, IL from July 30 through August 3. TIPS has planned a fun and interesting meeting complete with an outstanding lineup of CLE programs to help you improve your knowledge, impress your clients and hone your skills. The meeting will kick off on Thursday, July 30th with our Past Chair's Dinner at the elegant Union League Club. On Friday night we will gather high atop the Willis Tower (AKA the Sears Tower) on its 99th floor for the TIPS Welcome and Diversity Reception during which we'll present our Pursuit of Justice and our Liberty Awards. Our Leadership Dinner on Sunday night will be held at the wonderful Shedd Aquarium right on the lakefront, where we'll enjoy good food, good friends, good times, lots of dancing and a spectacular view of the city. Please visit <http://new.abanet.org/annual/default.aspx> to register for the Annual Meeting and TIPS CLE programs and events. We look forward to seeing you in Chicago, as it promises to be a fantastic end to a wonderful Bar year! ●



About TIPS – Plans Now and the Future

From Christopher Shelton

One of the best aspects of the Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section (TIPS) is its community of legal professionals. Our members range from prominent plaintiffs' attorneys to pioneering defense counsel. Each attorney joins TIPS as a means to make a difference in the area they practice. One example of this has been an ongoing effort to mentor both law students and young attorneys who are new to the field. Currently, there are a variety of programs set-up for this purpose, including liaison positions for both the section and specific committees.

However, students are often unsure as to how to get involved and are unable to attend meetings. As a result, TIPS is expanding its reach on the World Wide Web. While you can always find information on the student's page (abanet.org/tips/lawstudent), TIPS has developed both a Facebook and LinkedIn page. Both of these pages will have meeting information, writing competition information and a solid base of TIPS members to interact with.

In the future, TIPS will be expanding its reach by holding informational programs in major cities. In August, there will be programs at Loyola University in Chicago and Southern Methodist University in Dallas. At these events, local TIPS members will answer student's questions regarding practicing tort, trial and insurance law. Also, TIPS will soon be starting a Wikipedia page with information regarding the Section and the various areas of law in this field.

We hope that you can join us at one of these events or on the World Wide Web. If you would like further information regarding these events or how to get further involved, please contact Christopher Shelton at CShelton@luc.edu. ●

Christopher Shelton is a third year part-time law student at Loyola University Chicago. He is the current American Bar Association Law School Division liaison to TIPS and is a member of the Business Litigation Committee and the Task Force on Outreach to Law Students.

<http://www.abanet.org/>

<http://www.abanet.org/tips/about/home.html>

Become a fan of ABA's TIPS on Facebook

Interviewing TIPS...

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It may seem obvious, but arrive a few minutes early. If you are late, you will not get the job. Greet the receptionist courteously. If you are rude to the receptionist, you will not get the job. Note: never underestimate the power of the support staff—they are the backbone of any firm. If they meet you, they will be asked what they thought of you.

The point of the interview, from the firm's perspective, is finding out if you will fit in. You already have the paper credentials or you would not have the interview. Now you need to show them who you are. Be animated and interested in the person you are meeting with. Show a bit of yourself. At the same time, be judicious.

I once interviewed a law student who never looked me in the eye, was generally not animated and, as mentioned before, picked at his suit distractedly while we talked. The only time he became animated was when talking about his hobby, taxidermy, and how on the way to the interview he saw a dead fox on the side of the road and stopped to pick it up so he could stuff it later. Hint, road kill is not a good interview topic.

Being a lawyer is about attitude, not just knowledge. Give yourself a pep talk before the interview. You can show a bit of positive aggression even. For example, a student was once asked, "Why should we hire you?" She answered, "Because if you don't, you will face me across a table some day and wish I was on your side." They made her an offer.

But, know where the line is between acceptable and unacceptable. A candidate once announced at lunch, "I'm going to be an asshole litigator. Is there room in the firm for an asshole litigator?" The reviews for this candidate ranged from, "no," to, "if you hire him I quit." His comment was particularly inappropriate given that the senior partner of the firm is on the ALI/ABA panel, "Dealing with the SOB Litigator."

And that brings up another point, know your audience. Research the firm. Review their website and their Martindale listings, if they have them. Run a Westlaw or Lexis search for reported cases or Google them. If you know with whom you will be meeting, be sure to research those individuals. If you know a bit about the firm and its attorneys you can avoid faux pas. And just as importantly, you can get a sense of whether you want to work there.

Remember, and this is as important as anything I have written so far, you are also interviewing the firm. You want to find out if you would be happy working there. Some firms are hierarchical, some more informal. Some are "lifestyle" firms; others are more intense with an emphasis on billable hours and a correspondingly high compensation structure (hopefully). Some are boutique firms focusing on a narrow area of practice; some have departments in all areas of practice. Some are defense-oriented and others plaintiff-oriented. You should have a sense of what you are looking for in a firm and then ask the right questions. Ask about partnership and how frequently do associates make partner. Ask about turnover of associates and staff. High turnover is a red flag. If associates are turning over, they are not making partner and if staff is turning over, it is likely an unpleasant place to work with substandard staff. Don't just focus on required billable hours but how many are typically worked. If only 150/month is required but the associates average 200, 210 may be required for advancement. Are the associates happy there? Do the associates go to lunch together or socialize outside of work? Are the partners happy? Ask the same questions of different people to see if you get different answers. Try to get to know the people you are interviewing just as they are trying to get to know you. If the conversations are stiff and you cannot find any areas of common interest to discuss, you may not want to work there, even if you do get an offer. ●

Ann Lyter Thomas is an attorney with the firm of Kolesar & Leatham, CHTD in Las Vegas, Nevada. She has written extensively and taught legal writing at UNLV School of Law.



The Task Force on Outreach to Law Students 2009 Mid-Year Meeting

DEPOSITION WORKSHOP

February 13, 2009 - Boston, Massachusetts

The Boston Marriott Copley Place hosted our group of experts covering the basics and must-knows of depositions in addition to bringing their own unique perspectives from their areas of practice and the clients they represent.

The faculty consisted of Janice Mulligan of Mulligan & Banham of San Diego, California a plaintiffs' attorney; Daniel G. Acosta, of Farmers Insurance in Houston, Texas, an insurance attorney; and Raymund C. King of the Law Offices of Raymund C. King from Plano, Texas, a defense attorney. Professor Richard Peltz from the Bowen School of Law, University of Arkansas from Little Rock, Arkansas was the Moderator.

The successful event was a comprehensive session where attendees learned the purposes of taking depositions; how to prepare for depositions; how to define goals and strategies when defending a deposition; the civil procedures and practical considerations for scheduling a deposition; witness preparation and what to advise a client on to expect at a deposition; questions and objections for a deposition and how to deal with ethically obstreperous counsel. Video deposition strategies were also discussed.



Break-out Session: Daniel Acosta is deposed as an expert witness

The workshop, as promised, was a worthwhile and substantive program that offered proper tools and strategies for successfully understanding the deposition process. Law professors, attorneys, court reporters, law students, and legal staff attended the program. All participated in the deposition process throughout the lecture (question and answer component), and breakout sessions that simulated actual depositions. Attendees walked away with new techniques, built confidence, and updated law. One of your first duties as an associate will be to depose a client: *learn before you earn!* Attend our next deposition workshop. ●

Summer Study Abroad Tips: Geared Towards Success

By Jane Cynthia Graham

Munching on tapas and watching a flamenco show, exploring the streets of London and enjoying a pint of ale in a pub, and rowing a boat in the manicured gardens of Versailles castle in France: this is all possible and more if you attend a law school summer study abroad program. While many people spend their first year summer working unpaid or clerking for a judge, there is another great alternative- attending a summer study abroad program. In the summer of my first year, I studied abroad with the University of Miami Summer Study Abroad program in London and Barcelona. It was one of the most fun and interesting experiences of my life. However, a summer study abroad program can also be a trap if you are not care-

ful. It is NOT a vacation. Here are some “Do’s” and “Don’ts” for summer study abroad programs:

Before you go:

DO: Shop for a program

Lots of law schools offer study abroad programs, so you don’t have to limit yourself to the programs based from your own law school. If you are interested in a particular country, research the different programs schools offer. Most importantly, look at the course selection for the program. The courses you take should interest you and be something you are good at. Some schools have a pass/fail option for

study abroad courses. This may be something to consider if you want less stress.

DON'T: Choose a program solely based on the country or city in which it is based

If you are not careful, you may be stuck taking a course on international tax when your main interest is human rights. If you hate the class, you will be bored and miserable when you could be enjoying it, even if you are in an amazing foreign city. Remember, you will be interviewing for jobs next semester, and will have to explain why you did a summer study abroad program.

DO: Work or clerk for a judge before or after your program

Lots of study abroad programs do not begin until early June, so you will have several weeks before to work. Take advantage of this time. You will be competing for positions in the fall with students who worked all summer. It is really helpful if you can show some legal experience over the summer.

DO: Research the place you are going

Travel guides are a great way to read up on landmarks, restaurants, and museums you would like to visit before you go. Ask any friends or family members who have visited the location where to go and also places to avoid. The United States State Department website is also a useful resource to look for travel warnings and dangerous areas in the country you are studying. Their website is http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis_pa_tw_1168.html. For example, it warned me to be careful at specific metro stations or touristy areas like “Las Ramblas” in Barcelona for muggings. I am happy I checked this because it made me be careful and more aware of my surroundings in shady places. Also, check out the Center for Disease Control Travel Advisory website at <http://www.cdc.gov/travel> for warnings on health risks, from mad cow to malaria.

DO: Pack your computer

If you usually use a computer for taking notes, making outlines, and writing papers, pack it! I wish I had taken mine. It would have made my studies easier and more comfortable. Also, if you download Skype, you will be able to enjoy free video conversations with your family and friends in the United States or anywhere else in the world for free. This is much better than buying an expensive phone card or cell phone.

DON'T: Over pack

Nothing is worse than lugging around a gigantic suitcase of clothes you don't need or won't wear. It will be hard to keep track of what you have, what you bought over the summer, and what you lost.

DO: Brush up on your language skills

Even if your study abroad courses are taught in English, learn some general phrases in the foreign country's language. Bring a small English/Foreign language dictionary to carry with you at all times.

WHILE YOU ARE THERE

DO : Take your classes seriously!

Study Abroad programs can be a dangerous trap if you are not careful. Your professors may even tell you “Relax, this class will be easy so that you can enjoy your time in this country”. Do not listen. Repeat. Do not listen. If anyone tells you this, they are either deluded or don't care about you. Study abroad courses are regular law school courses and should be treated as such. I know of students who did not go to classes or study, and when grades came back, they were shocked and disappointed. A study abroad course will be on your permanent transcript, so you need to make sure you put the work in to get the results you need. If you decide on a program where there is a pass/fail option, this may make your time a bit easier.

DON'T: Use it as an excuse to party too hard

It is in the summer after a harrowing year in law school. You are in a foreign country with your friends and a crowd of students. This equation can be dangerous if you are not careful. I heard of a student who drank so much that he passed out on a stranger's yard miles away from the group's hotel at 3:00 AM in Mykonos. The owner of the house called the police in the morning and the student was escorted by the local police to the police station. The Study Abroad program was contacted. Escapades like this will wind up on your record, and you will have to report it to the Bar when you apply for the Bar exam. This is not to mention that it is embarrassing and hurts your reputation.

DO: Be careful with spending

The exchange rate in foreign countries may be horrendous. By the time you are finished taking care of your necessities, you could be close to broke. When I was in London, the exchange rate was one British Pound equaled two American Dollars, and you spend

pounds like dollars. This meant that you would run out of money in half the time. It's important to budget.

DON'T: Limit yourself to friends you already know.

This is a great way to meet people and make new friends. Students from around the United States will be in your study abroad program. Traveling abroad and experiencing new things is a great way to bond with people. I still keep in touch with a couple students I met from New York and Denver. Talking to local students is also a great way to find out about fun places, good restaurants, and interesting things to do. This is especially helpful if you speak some of the native language or if you meet someone who is learning English. However, be careful who you talk to and what their motivation may be for being friendly. I will spare you the details, but your humble author will say this: they may try to marry you for your United States citizenship.

If you enroll in a study abroad program that fits your needs and expectations, take your classes seriously, and have a fun time without going overboard.

You will have a great time in a summer study abroad program. Bon Voyage!

Jane Graham is a recent graduate of the University of Miami School of Law, and is planning to practice law in South Florida.

Special Note: Over the last several years the International Committee has become a dynamic organization within TIPS. Among other activities, the International Committee sponsored a teleconference on global securities class actions and co-sponsored, with Temple University, a conference in Japan, which attracted over 130 Japanese lawyers seeking to educate themselves as to the legal issues affecting non-US companies looking to do business in the US. In 2009, we plan to co-sponsor similar programs, in Beijing, China and in Seoul Korea. We are also planning a program in Philadelphia, targeting US lawyers, looking to do business outside of the US. We have several other planned events in the works, focusing on international corporate law, political risks and insolvency proceedings. Currently, the International Committee is focusing on 6 areas. ●

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

<http://www.abanet.org/tips/international/home.html>

Perry S. Granof Chair 2008-2009

WANTED: LAW STUDENTS FOR TIPS

By Terry C. Bruner

The Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section—commonly known as TIPS—is unique within the ABA and the legal community because of its balance and diversity of perspectives. It accomplishes this by bringing together plaintiffs', defense, corporate, and in-house counsel to address important legal issues. For students interested in virtually any substantive area, TIPS is a valuable resource.

TIPS student members enjoy a defined set of tangibles to bolster their skills and résumés. Two of the most recognizable benefits to students are the section's liaison and student vice chair program and the annual law student writing competition.

Every year, TIPS integrates law students with lawyers into the functions of the section's committees by appointing a law student vice chair of each substantive committee. In this capacity, approximately 30 law students can work closely with practicing lawyers, many of whom are leaders in their respective areas. In addition, TIPS has four funded liaisons from the Law Student Division to TIPS standing committees. As liaisons and vice chairs, law students are encouraged to get involved in the section and attend

its various meetings. The section encourages all law students to apply for these positions by February of each year, but applications are accepted on a rolling basis until positions are filled.

TIPS also sponsors an annual writing competition, with the first-place student winning \$1,500 cash and paid air and hotel accommodations to the ABA Annual Meeting. The second-place winner receives \$500. The competition's goal is to encourage and reward law student writings on legal subjects within the scope of the section and general and current interest. The deadline for submitting entries is March 5.

Given the intensity of today's legal market, employers consistently look for job candidates whose accomplishments are prodigious and skills are practical. If a student's writing is published, employers have a window on their accomplishments and skills. Students not only can get published for winning the writing competition, but they may also write for other longstanding publications within TIPS. Among them are the Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Law Journal, TortSource, The Brief, eDicta, Student TIPster Newsletter, and various committee newsletters.

Indeed, student entries are welcomed and frequently published.

As one of the ABA's largest Sections, TIPS also serves as a powerful networking forum for law students. It is not uncommon for students to obtain significant job prospects that may lead to employment. TIPS lawyer members are approachable and extremely interested in connecting with law students. The wide array of interests reflected in the Section is

fertile ground for almost any aspiration within the legal community.

For more information on the student vice-chair program, visit www.abanet.org/tips or contact me at terrycbruner@gmail.com. Apply today to become one of tomorrow's leaders! ●

Terry C. Bruner, Esq., the immediate past Law Student Liaison to the TIPS Council, is the Co-Chair-Elect of the Taskforce on Outreach to Law Students.

The Making of a Law Professor

Richard J. Peltz

Professor of Law, Bowen Law School, University of Arkansas

Ever wonder how a law professor comes to be? Maybe it's the career path for you. Some law professors seem to have sprung fully formed from the primordial ooze of the common law, old yet ageless. But every professor started at some time as a law student, anxious about exams and jobs. There is no single career path to law school teaching, but there is a traditional road.

Qualifications. Law professors are culled from bench and bar, from government and corporate offices, and from grad schools. Too little of anything is bad; recruiters are wary of those seeking "escape" to the academy. Too much of anything is bad; recruiters are wary of those seeking "retirement." (One lawyer-interviewee told my search committee enviously that he wanted to teach to have more leisure time. He did not get a call-back.) Best is a diversity of experience, whether a range of practical skills, or a range of experiences, such as practice, public service, and an advanced degree.

Entering the academy from a non-traditional path is possible, but the decidedly harder row to hoe. The traditional path, while well trodden, typically requires a J.D. from a "top-tier" law school, law review service, and a judicial clerkship. Many students based on their needs and career plans at the time choose a local law school regardless of ranking, or choose to start practice rather than clerk, and only later desire to teach. Tier-two to -four law graduates have been known to return to school in top-tier LL.M. programs to "cleanse" their credentials. Another advanced degree, such as an M.B.A. or Ph.D., can help too, to distinguish a candidate with some résumé "deficiency."

Once getting a foot in the door, the applicant is well advised to demonstrate an understanding that the professor's job is threefold—teaching, research, and service—and to demonstrate an aptitude for each. Teaching experience may be modest, even CLE lectures or Sunday school. For a mix of reasons, recruiters tend to be antipathetic to adjunct law school teaching, so be cautious before over-committing in that vein. Research is well demonstrated by scholarly publication. The applicant should have at minimum an abstract and a clear research plan; law review articles under the belt are all the better. Finally, service opportunities abound, whether pro bono legal work, non-profit volunteering, or child mentoring.

Process. The primary entry point to the teaching market is the Association of American Law Schools (AALS). First, applicants pay a hefty fee, \$350 in 2008, to list with the Faculty Appointments Register (FAR), a secure database for AALS member schools. Second, based on the FAR, schools invite applicants (you pay) to interview at the Faculty Recruitment Conference (FRC)—informally, "the meat market," a marathon event of tag-team inquisition—held annually in the fall in Washington, D.C. Third, schools invite selected candidates to campus (they pay) for a more extensive interview round involving a presentation, or "job talk," to the faculty. Offers and rejections follow.

For many applicants with great potential, the AALS process amounts to expensive disappointment. Hundreds apply, making individual assessment difficult and unlikely. Electronic search tools allow recruiters to sort and filter by criteria such as race, gender, law school, GPA, law review position, desired

teaching areas, etc. This culling makes it difficult for an applicant with a perceived deficiency to get noticed. The system favors graduates of higher-ranked schools and applicants who indicate—sometimes strategically—a willingness to teach in areas of high demand and short supply, such as health law rather than constitutional law.

One can bypass the AALS process and apply for a job directly to a school with the old-fashioned cover-letter-and-CV approach. Schools advertise on their own web sites, in the periodic AALS *Placement Bulletin* (officially available only to FRC registrants), and in the *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, where the prospective professor can create an electronic job agent. Notwithstanding ads, though, many schools

will consider applicants in any field annually, at least to test the market.

Luck. Luck is the most important tool for an applicant to the academy. A colleague of mine says that getting a job in law teaching is like getting lightning to strike you; it's so unlikely as to seem random.

But it does help to have a kite and a big metal key. ●

Richard J. Peltz is a Professor of Law at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. He teaches Torts, Constitutional Law, First Amendment and Freedom of Information. He is the law faculty member of the American Bar Association's TIPS Task Force on Outreach to Law Students.

ABA Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section (TIPS) 2009-2010 Law Student Programs

Vice Chair and Liaison Program—Leadership Opportunities

Each year, TIPS serves as the most active ABA section in terms of recruiting law students to become part of the Section leadership by choosing 4 students to serve as liaisons to the ABA Law Student Division (LSD) and 34 students to serve as vice-chairs to TIPS general committees. These valuable leadership opportunities will allow you to meet and work with our nation's best trial attorneys, enhance your resumé, write for nationally-circulated publications and, most importantly, develop friends you will have for the rest of your legal career.

TIPS Law Student Liaison or Vice-Chair Application Deadline: March 1, 2010

Law Student Writing Competition—Great Prizes

Submit an article that addresses an essay on a current topic in a legal area covered by one of the Section's substantive law committees, and become eligible to win a number of great prizes! First prize includes \$1,500 cash, airfare and hotel accommodations to the Section's 2010 Annual Meeting in beautiful San Francisco, CA, and possible publication in the prestigious ABA Tort Trial & Insurance Law Journal. Other prizes are available.

Writing Competition Submission Deadline: March 1, 2010

Please watch for more information on these wonderful opportunities on the TIPS website at:
<http://www.abanet.org/tips/lawstudent/home.html>