



VERITAS VINCIT



Discover the Law 2011 Is a Wrap!

By Toni Sarge, SLS Marketing Intern

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A Round of Applause for Discover the Law!

On March 28, 2011, as the final Discover the Law workshop came to a close and the last of the blue Program Guides was initialed, participating students applauded—not just for Student Legal Services' Assistant Director Paula Gluzman and Director Jon Carlos Senour for their work on Discover the Law—but also for themselves for successfully completing the third annual Discover the Law program.

Success and Recognition: Did YOU Discover the Law?

The 2011 Discover the Law program featured 36 workshops on 27 different topics in four distinct categories: "Savvy and Safe" (workshops on staying smart in tricky legal situations), "Rights and Responsibilities" (educating students about their rights and obligations under the law), "What's That?" (workshops on different law practice areas), and "Jumpstart your Career" (workshops about law school, legal careers, and other employment topics.) Students who attended between four and seven workshops from each of the four categories earned a Certificate of Achievement; students who attended eight or more workshops earned a Certificate of Special Recognition.



The 2011 Discover the Law program was a HUGE success, with a record-breaking number of 165 students completing the Program! Here is a breakdown: 79 students attended between four to seven workshops; 86 students attended eight or more workshops; and five students attended over 14 workshops! Congratulations to our top five participants: Jesus Villegas III for attending 15 workshops; Rudolf Scherban for attending 17 workshops; Anafrancesca Comunale and Gaelle Nicolussi for attending 18 workshops; and Max Bonjean for attending 21 workshops! (Now that is dedication!) All students who completed the Program are invited to the April 14, 2011 Discover the Law Recognition Reception, where they will be presented with their well-earned certificate!

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Student Legal Services is Seeking Student Interns!

SLS will be looking to fill four student internship positions for the 2011-2012 academic year—two Legal Research & Writing positions and two Marketing & Outreach positions. An internship at Student Legal Services is a great opportunity for students interested in law or marketing to build work experience! Interns will work closely with attorneys in an on-campus law office setting, while boosting their resume for future job opportunities or law school applications. The positions are unpaid and are not for academic credit, but student interns will gain valuable professional experience without having to leave campus! For more information and an application, check out the SLS website at sls.ucsd.edu!



TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE with our landlord-tenant quiz! (answers on pg 4)

True or False:

1. In California, it is possible to have an oral rental agreement.
2. A holding deposit and a security deposit are the same thing.

Multiple Choice:

3. A security deposit for an unfurnished residence should usually be no more than:
 - a) One month's rent.
 - b) Two months' rent.
 - c) Whatever the tenant can afford to pay.
4. Your landlord gives you a copy of a lease for you to sign. There are several spaces left blank. Your landlord tells you not to worry, that those aren't important the parts, and that he prefers to have a flexible relationship with his tenants. The best way to protect your rights is to:
 - a) Insist that all the blank spaces are filled in and the lease is as detailed as possible.
 - b) Talk to previous tenants of this landlord to see if he truly is as flexible as he claims.
 - c) Assure the landlord that you are willing to be flexible, too.

A Tip from SLS!

Take pictures of your residence and do a walkthrough inspection with your landlord both as you move in and when you're moving out. This will help you document the condition of your residence if a dispute arises with your landlord about your security deposit later!

Discover the Law (Continued from page 1)

The Most Popular Workshops for 2011

Discover the Law 2011 featured a number of very popular workshops. Students raved about Cram Saturday's "What's So Fabulous about Forensics??" workshop—about the fascinating world of forensics and the role it plays in our legal system—which featured former SLS attorney Jessica St. Clair.

Also extremely popular were: "Tort Law" with guest speaker Oleg Cross, Esq.; "Criminal Court: Behind the Scenes" with Deputy District Attorneys from the San Diego County DA's Office; and "The Law School Experience: Years One, Two, and Three" with USD's School of Law's Assistant Dean for J.D. Student Affairs Emily Scivoletto. The "Patent Law" workshop was also thoroughly enjoyed by participants majoring in science and engineering, who may use their science-based education after law school to practice patent law.

Over 20 Different Workshop Presenters

Discover the Law brought a group of 14 off-campus guest speakers to present workshops, including judges, attorneys, patent agents, and law school deans. Workshops were also presented by representatives from the UCSD Library and other on-campus departments such as the Career Services Center and the Sexual Assault & Violence Prevention Resource Center (SARC). Students enjoyed meeting the presenters and learning more about their careers and expertise. Some students were able to further network with the presenters and a few students even secured summer internships through the connections they made at the workshops!

Discover the Law: Not Just for Future Law Students

About 35% of the students who completed the Program reported that they were not considering a career in law and still found that the Program was helpful and informative. One student stated, "My favorite thing about Discover the Law was how they covered topics that are relevant to students in their current and future life." These students found that they benefitted greatly from the non-law school related workshops. One student wrote, the "best workshop I've been to yet was 'Arrested, Now What?'" for outlining citizens' rights when they get arrested."

Jon Carlos teaching the law to students!

Good News!

Discover the Law is offered every Winter Quarter! Students who completed the Program this year are welcome to participate again in 2012! Look for sign-up information in late Fall Quarter 2011.



SLS wishes to thank all who participated in the Discover the Law Program! We look forward to celebrating your completion of the Program at the Discover the Law Recognition Reception on Thursday, April 14!

New California State Laws for 2011

By Sarah Spacht, SLS Legal Research & Writing Intern

With the new year came a number of new California state laws about which UCSD students should be aware. With regard to underage drinking, the law remains that a person under age 21 who purchases alcohol or possesses it is guilty of a misdemeanor. But safety concerns regarding underage drinking have inspired a new law stating that a person under age 21 may be granted limited immunity from certain citations if in the case of a medical emergency they call 911 to report that they themselves or someone they are with is in need of medical care. Another law reduced possession of less than one ounce of marijuana from a misdemeanor to an infraction, generally making possession akin to a traffic violation, with an

accompanying fine of up to \$100. (Persons under age 21 found with less than an ounce of marijuana still face a one-year mandatory drivers license suspension.) The law regarding petty theft has also changed. Theft of property worth \$400 or more previously constituted grand theft, but the threshold has now been raised to \$950 (to the dismay of bicycle owners!) In addition, any person under age 21 wishing to drive a motorcycle must now complete a motorcycle safety course before receiving their instruction permit and must hold the permit for six months before receiving the M license allowing them to operate a motorcycle.

There are other new laws that may be less relevant to most UCSD students. For example, severely ill prison inmates are eligible for release on medical parole by

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Spring Quarter's Legal Topic: Identity Theft

by Sara Nickpay, SLS Marketing Intern

One topic covered in the SLS Handbook of increasing relevance to students is the issue of identity theft. Students rarely consider that they could potentially be victims of identity theft, yet it is common among those unaware of how to prevent it. So what exactly is identity theft? It is when a person's private, personal information (including name, address, Social Security number, and financial information like credit card and bank account numbers) is used without their permission to engage in unlawful acts such as fraud and other crimes. Perpetrators of identity theft most commonly steal others' personal information in order to commit financial fraud and theft.

How Identity Theft Occurs

Common ways in which personal information is stolen include basic purse snatching or pick-pocketing, dumpster diving for personal documents, retrieving passwords or PIN numbers from public computers, and of course by falling for email scams from purported princes and fake sweepstakes companies asking for transfers of money.

Tips to Prevent Identity Theft

The best way to avoid being a victim of identity theft is educate yourself about how personal information is typically stolen so that you can be proactive and prevent it from happening to you! Here are some tips that SLS recommends for you to keep your identity safe:

1. Always shred personal information, especially anything with your Social Security number and financial numbers.
2. Don't just throw away credit card applications, make sure they are destroyed.
3. Never give out your passwords or PIN numbers to bank and credit card accounts.
4. Be careful what personal information you share on social media.
5. Obtain and carefully review your credit report once per year via <http://www.annualcreditreport.com>.
6. Don't fall for "too good to be true" email scams and never wire or send money to a person you don't know.
7. Be proactive about monitoring activity on your bank and credit card accounts.
8. Use only secured internet connections and private computers to check your email and online financial accounts.


If you experience identity theft, be sure to notify your bank and credit card companies immediately, and contact SLS for further advice on how to resolve any identity theft issues that may arise from your identity being stolen.

For more information about identity theft and other legal matters, check out the SLS Handbook on our website or make an appointment to speak to an SLS attorney by calling (858) 534-4374.

Check out the legal handbook on the SLS webpage for information about various other legal topics!

New Laws (continued from pg 3)

the Board of Parole Hearings if they require 24-hour care and do not pose a threat to public safety. Another new law states that anyone who “knowingly and without consent” impersonates someone else on the Internet or by means of other electronics with the intent of “harming, intimidating, threatening, or defrauding another person” is guilty of a misdemeanor. Parents will also be interested to know that the California Department of Education has influenced a new change in state truancy laws. As a result, parents whose children miss more than ten percent of the school year can now be fined up to \$2,000 and/or imprisoned for up to one year.

Additionally, new protections have been put in place for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. A new law aims to afford greater protection for these victims so that they cannot be evicted as a result of the domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking they have experienced. Though these laws went into effect on January 1, it is still too early to see how—and to what extent—the majority of them will be enforced. The State, however, has already begun planning new laws for 2012, including a law stating that beginning Jan. 1, 2012, four DUIs in a ten year period may result in a ten-year revocation of the person’s driver’s license. 

Don’t forget to stay connected with us on **Facebook** for up-to-date information on programs and events!

SPRIT WEEK 2011

Student Legal Services showed its school spirit by decorating its office with attorney King Triton!



More Opportunities from SLS!

❖ Pre-Law Mentoring

SLS offers mentoring for students interested in learning more about law school and the legal profession! SLS attorneys are happy to meet with students to provide insight into how to prepare for law school and a career in the field. Call SLS to schedule an appointment!

❖ The *A* Program will return next Fall!

Student Legal Services will once again be offering the *A* Program in Fall Quarter 2011, comprised of a series of workshops on topics related to alcohol use and abuse. This is an exciting opportunity to critically consider how alcohol use impacts individuals, relationships, and communities. Check out our website for more information as we approach the 2011-2012 school year!

Answers to landlord-tenant quiz on page 2

1. True 2. False 3. B 4. A

If you got all the answers right, congratulations! If not, check out the SLS website or call us to make an appointment with an SLS attorney!