10 Questions to Ask Yourself as a 1L Student
INTRODUCTION

• Who are we

• It’s never too early to think about your career

• General Framework
QUESTIONS

1. What topics are you attracted to?
2. How do you envision your role as an attorney?
3. Do you mind facing moral conundrums in your practice?
4. Do you want to be an expert or a generalist?
5. Would you be attracted to a “code-based practice”?
6. Are you comfortable with an adversarial practice?
7. How important is a predictable schedule?
8. Where can your law degree take you?
9. Where do you want to live?
10. How might the current market conditions impact your practice group selection?
1. What topics are you attracted to?
1. WHAT TOPICS ARE YOU ATTRACTED TO?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>People</th>
<th>Ideas</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employment</td>
<td>Antitrust</td>
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<tr>
<td>Entertainment</td>
<td>Appellate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Executive Compensation</td>
<td>ERISA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family law</td>
<td>IP Litigation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Immigration</td>
<td>Litigation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plaintiffs in class actions</td>
<td>Tax</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trusts &amp; Estates</td>
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<tr>
<td>White Collar Criminal</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Things</th>
<th>Money/Business</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asset Finance</td>
<td>Bankruptcy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Finance</td>
<td>Corporate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Real Estate (Finance, Transactions)</td>
<td>Finance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renewable energy</td>
<td>Securities</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
2. How do you envision your role as the attorney?
**2. HOW DO YOU ENVISION YOUR ROLE AS THE ATTORNEY?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Leader</th>
<th>Team member</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Appellate</td>
<td>• 40 Act</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Bankruptcy litigation</td>
<td>• Corporate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Litigation</td>
<td>• ERISA Counseling</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Trusts &amp; Estates</td>
<td>• Executive Compensation</td>
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<tr>
<td>• White Collar Criminal</td>
<td>• Real Estate Transactional</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>• Tax</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. Do you mind facing moral conundrums in your practice?
3. DO YOU MIND FACING MORAL CONUNDRUMS?

Yes
- Administrative
- Corporate
- Entertainment
- Executive Compensation
- IP
- Real Estate Transactional
- Tax

No
- Class Action Litigation
- Environmental
- Family Law
- Insurance Coverage/Defense
- Labor & Employment
- Product Liability
- Project Finance
- Trusts & Estates
- White Collar Criminal
4. Do you want to be an expert or a generalist?
4. Do you want to be an expert or a generalist?

Expert
- Bankruptcy
- Corporate (New York)
- Corporate Governance
- ERISA
- Executive Compensation
- Family Law
- Immigration
- IP Litigation (hard sciences)
- Labor & Employment
- Tax
- Trusts & Estates

Generalist
- Corporate – (DC/California)
- General Litigation
5. Would you be attracted to a “code-based practice”?
5. Would you be attracted to a “code-based practice”?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>40 Act</td>
<td>Corporate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td>Litigation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Securities</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Tax</td>
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</table>
6. Are you comfortable with an adversarial practice?
6. ARE YOU COMFORTABLE WITH AN ADVERSARIAL PRACTICE?

Yes

‣ Corporate \textit{(at times)}
‣ Employment
‣ Family Law
‣ Real Estate
‣ Trusts & Estates \textit{(litigation)}

No

‣ Administrative
‣ Compliance
‣ Public company reporting
‣ Derivatives/structured finance
‣ Dodd Frank
‣ Bankruptcy
‣ Finance
‣ Fund formation
‣ Litigation \textit{(at times)}
‣ Regulatory
‣ Tax
7. How important is a predictable schedule?
7. HOW IMPORTANT IS A PREDICTABLE SCHEDULE?

**Important**
- Gov’t Agency:
  - NLRB
  - DOJ
  - SEC
  - CFTC
- IP Prosecution
- Land Use
- Trusts & Estates

**Not Important**
- Bankruptcy
- Corporate
  - Cross Border Transactional
- Litigation
- Real Estate
8. Where can your law degree take you outside of a law firm?
8. WHERE CAN YOUR LAW DEGREE TAKE YOU?

- **M&A**: Corporations; start ups; business opportunities; private equity shops
- **Capital Markets**: SEC; public companies; growing companies
- **Banking Finance**: Wall Street; financial institutions; private equity shops; alternative lenders
- **Litigation**: Government – AUSA/SEC; boutique firms; corporations; starting your own firm; compliance
- **IP**: Corporations; tech companies
- **Real Estate**: Developers; financing work; private equity shops
- **Tax**: Corporations; business opportunities
- **L&E**: Any business
9. Where do you want to live?
9. WHERE DO YOU WANT TO LIVE?

- Silicon Valley/Palo Alto
- Los Angeles
- Houston
- Chicago
- Wash D.C.
- Northern VA
- New York City
- Boston
- Miami
- Seattle
- Houston
- Texas

[Map showing the above cities highlighted in yellow across the United States.]
10. How might current market conditions impact your practice group selection?
10. HOW MIGHT CURRENT MARKET CONDITIONS IMPACT YOUR PRACTICE GROUP SELECTION?

**What’s Hot**

**PRACTICE AREAS**
- Corporate
  - Finance
  - Funds
  - M & A
  - Private Equity
  - Securities
- Cyber Security & Data Privacy
- Healthcare
- IP Transactional
- Tax – Personal & Corporate

**INDUSTRIES**
- Energy
- Emerging Companies
- Financial Services
- Healthcare
- Life Sciences
- Technology
- Venture Capital
Questions?
Public Sector Practice Areas

- Administrative Law
- Children’s Rights Law
- Civil Rights and Civil Liberties
- Criminal Law
- Education Law
- Environmental Law
- Food Law
- Health Law
- Immigration and Refugee Law
- Indian/Tribal Law

- Intellectual Property and Cyber Law
- International Development
- Juvenile Defense
- Labor and Employment Law
- LGBTQ Rights Law
- Women’s Rights Law
- National Security Law
- Political Campaigns
Public Sector Practice Areas

Types of Organizations

- Prosecution/Public Defender
- Direct legal services (family law, immigration, housing, employment, public benefits, education law, consumer protection)
- Government
- Impact Litigation
- Public Policy/Legislative work
- Plaintiff-side law firms (affirmative litigation—employment discrimination, civil rights, whistleblower)
Practice Area Fair Tips

• Think about a question or two to ask the employer
  o What led you to this practice area?
  o Can you describe your day to day work?
  o What has been your most rewarding experience at your job?
  o Can you tell me about a project you are working on now and what the role of an intern would be in that project?

• Always keep it positive and professional.
• Be mindful of the length of the conversation if there are students behind you waiting to speak to the employer.
• Ask for the employer’s card: “May I have a copy of your business card please?”
• Consider sending a thank-you e-mail to any employer with whom you connected.