

Law and Courts Newsletter: Call for Submissions

Law and Courts Newsletter publishes articles, research notes, features, commentaries, and announcements of interest to members of APSA's Law and Courts Section. The various substantive topics falling under the umbrella of "law & courts" are welcome, as are methodological approaches from across the discipline of political science. I am particularly interested in receiving the following types of submissions:

Descriptions of Datasets. Creators of publicly-available datasets potentially useful for Section members' research or teaching may submit descriptions of their datasets. Although the datasets should be relatively new, it is acceptable for the data to have been used and described in previously published research. Submissions should describe (and link to) the dataset, give practical advice about viewing and analyzing the data, and explain how the data might be used in Section members' research or teaching (including for undergraduate student research). Submissions describing relevant software or other tools are also encouraged.

Research Notes. These submissions should be approximately 2,000 words in length (a target, not a limit), and may be theory-focused or empirics-focused. The former should present theoretical arguments relevant to law & courts literature, but need not involve concurrent empirical testing. The latter should present empirical results—including adequately powered "null results"—with only the most necessary literature review and theoretical discussion included directly. Replications and extensions are also welcome. I hope that these notes will inspire research ideas for readers, spur collaboration among Section members on projects greater in scope, and prevent duplication of effort caused by the file drawer problem (i.e., the systematic non-publication of null results).

Reviews of Recent Developments in the Literature. These submissions should be literature reviews of approximately 4,000 words focused on recent developments in active areas of law & courts research. A review should summarize and analyze recent developments in a line of research, and suggest open questions and opportunities for further research. Authors should aim their reviews at readers who research and teach in law & courts, but are not necessarily specialists in the area of research discussed. I seek such submissions particularly from graduate students, whose prospectuses, dissertation chapters, etc., may form the basis for such reviews. I hope that these reviews will provide Section members with a convenient means of keeping up with the literature across the law & courts field.

In addition, the *Newsletter* solicits research articles (including research about the Section), commentaries about the profession, proposals for symposia, and announcements (including of newly-published books) that are of interest to Section members.

Instructions for Authors

Submissions are accepted on a rolling basis. Scholarly submissions will typically be reviewed by the editor and one editorial board member. Submissions and questions about possible submissions should be emailed to lcnapsa@gmail.com. Initial submissions should be sent in PDF format and may be written in Word (LibreOffice, etc.) or TeX. Authors should follow *APSR* formatting, as described in the *APSA Style Manual*. Submissions need not be blinded. Please avoid footnotes and endnotes unless absolutely necessary, and aim for concision. Appendices are encouraged for information that is relevant but not of primary importance. Upon publication, I ask that authors consider posting replication data and code for articles involving statistical analysis.

I will be consulting with the incoming LPBR editor about potentially modifying the format of the Books To Watch For section. For now, section members who have written books they would like to see featured should email basic information about the book, including a 1-2 paragraph description, to lcnapsa@gmail.com.

—Daniel Lempert, Editor

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