

To: Art Gaudio, Dean and Professor of Law, Western New England School of Law and Chair of the ABA Questionnaire Committee

From: Kathy Urbach, Assistant Dean for Career Services and Public Service, University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law

Re: ABA Questionnaire and Employment Data

Date: December 8, 2010

Dean Jim Chen and Associate Dean Tony Arnold asked me to respond to your request for comments regarding the ABA questionnaire and employment data. I am happy to do so, but this is not an easy task! I appreciate your work and that of your committee.

I believe that we are all interested in transparency. My team and I work from that platform each year as we engage in the arduous task of compiling employment statistics for NALP, and by extension, the ABA and US News & World Report. We do not want any of our students to feel misled by our statistics or have unrealistic expectations about employment.

As the committee addresses the concerns of all involved, I hope that you will heed the cries of career services professionals whose primary task is to assist students and alumni. **I firmly believe that we can and should communicate more effectively with the information already being collected and that there is no need to collect additional information.** If the task of collecting employment statistics were to become more time consuming, small law schools like the University of Louisville would be forced to hire additional staff, thereby **increasing the cost** for our students!

My suggestions are that the ABA consider mandating that law schools:

- 1) publish salary information along with an explanation of the percentage of salaries that comprise that information; and
- 2) publish the NALP Type of Employment information when publishing basic employment statistics.

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this process. Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.