



## Appalachian School of Law

### Statement on COVID-19 – Novel Coronavirus

March 13, 2020

Dear ASL Students, Faculty, and Staff:

In light of the uncertainty posed by COVID-19, Appalachian School of Law is taking several steps to protect the health of the ASL community while also ensuring that your legal education continues uninterrupted.

The ABA requires that 2/3rds of class time be in-person. Currently, the ABA has not waived this standard for law schools. Many law schools, like ASL, have not converted to online education and continue to operate normally. By adding additional weekend classes and modifying the class schedule early next week, ASL will be able to reach 2/3rds completion in all classes by Wednesday, 3/18. As detailed below, ASL will move to a hybrid online format after Wednesday 3/18.

Currently, no cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed in southwestern Virginia. However, your health and safety are ASL's top priorities and caution is warranted in responding to this developing situation. In addition to the steps detailed below, we will continue to actively monitor the spread of this illness. We will update the ASL community immediately if any further changes to law school operations are necessary.

#### **1L Students:**

- All 1L classes other than Legal Process I are cancelled between 3/16 and 3/20.
- 1L classes will resume on Monday 3/23 in the hybrid online/in-person format described below.

#### **2L and 3L Students:**

- 2L and 3L classes and Legal Process I will continue in person on a modified schedule for 3/16 through 3/18 and will be recorded.
- All classes are cancelled for 3/19 and 3/20 and will resume on Monday, 3/23, in the hybrid online/in-person format described below.
- The modified schedule for 3/16 through 3/18 will be distributed over this weekend.

### 3L Students:

- For 3L students, please note that Themis bar prep and bar coaching is available now and you may begin working on your preparation from home. Please contact Jeremy Hurley at [jwhurley@asl.edu](mailto:jwhurley@asl.edu) for additional information.

### Hybrid Online/In-Person Format:

- Beginning on 3/23, all classes will be conducted using a hybrid online/in-person format.
- All course materials will be available remotely utilizing a mixture of synchronous and asynchronous methods so that students will not be required to visit campus in person if they are experiencing symptoms or prefer to work remotely.
- Additionally, course materials, office hours, and tutoring will be available in person to students that wish to attend on campus based on their own personal risk assessment.
- Faculty and Staff will continue to report to campus as scheduled.
- Faculty will attend mandatory training for online education on Monday 3/16 at noon.
- Additional details will be distributed over the next week. Please monitor your emails closely as schedules and course activities may change.

### All Students:

- ***If you are experiencing symptoms consistent with respiratory illness (fever, cough, sore throat, stuffy nose, shortness of breath, etc.) you should not come to campus.***
- Beginning Saturday, 3/14, students, faculty, staff, and visitors arriving on campus will have their temperature checked upon arrival on campus each day at the main entrance to the Lion's Lounge. Students, faculty, staff, and visitors with temperatures above 100 degrees Fahrenheit or greater will be asked to return home. You must have your temperature checked before accessing any campus buildings.
- All members of the ASL community are reminded to practice enhanced health hygiene and social distancing in all interactions and to follow the recommendations of the Virginia Department of Health available at: <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/surveillance-and-investigation/novel-coronavirus/>

Thank you,

Justice (ret.) Elizabeth A. McClanahan  
Dean and CEO