

## Rollins to lead Admissions Office



**T**he Georgia Law Admissions Office has a new director.

Paul B. Rollins, who earned his J.D. from Yale University, joined

the law school in April and has hit the ground running.

In his new role, Rollins supervises all phases of the admissions process for the Juris Doctor program including: recruitment, application review, decision-making, notification and the awarding of academic scholarships.

“Georgia Law has a tradition of outstanding students and alumni,” Rollins said. “I hope to continue building on that legacy by recruiting students who will contribute not only to the law school but also to the state of Georgia and beyond.”

Previously, Rollins was the assistant dean for student services at the University of South Carolina School of Law where he was responsible for admissions, career services and student affairs. He also served as a litigation associate for Wyche, Burgess, Freeman & Parham in Greenville, S.C., and as a judicial clerk for Judge James C. Turk of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Virginia.

Rollins replaced longtime Director of Admissions Giles W. Kennedy, who retired in December after working at the law school for more than 25 years.

**Georgia**  
*Law*

## Placement Statistics: 2007 Graduates at 99.1%

Final placement figures for the Class of 2007 were reported to the National Association for Law Placement in February, nine months after graduation (the standard reporting date).

**Total Graduates** 229

**Total Reporting Employment Status** 228

**Employed** 96.5% of total graduates

Private Practice	61.5% of employed
Judicial Clerkships	13.1% of employed
Public Interest	12.7% of employed
Government	6.8% of employed
Business/Industry	5.4% of employed
Academe	0.5% of employed

**Advanced Degree Programs** 2.6% of total graduates

Class of 2007 graduates obtained employment in 17 different states in the nation, in addition to Washington, D.C., with an average salary of \$94,024. Also, one recent graduate is working in England and another in Belgium.



## Georgia Law launches e-newsletter

The University of Georgia School of Law has launched its first electronic newsletter.

*News @ Georgia Law* is a quarterly newsletter aimed at keeping the law school community up-to-date on news items, announcements, upcoming events and faculty/student accomplishments.

It is a great new tool to help keep alumni and friends informed and to increase communication between mailings of the *Advocate*.

If you did not receive the inaugural issue sent out in April



and would like to receive future electronic newsletters, please visit [www.law.uga.edu/cgi-bin/alumni/record/update.pl](http://www.law.uga.edu/cgi-bin/alumni/record/update.pl) to update your contact information.

Also, please be sure to add [lawcomm@uga.edu](mailto:lawcomm@uga.edu) to your address book so the e-newsletter will not accidentally be filtered into your junk mailbox.

## Georgia Law in the news

### Professor answers Breyer's wish for study

Eight years ago, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen G. Breyer noted the lack of data on the subject of pro se defendants and suggested the need for empirical research. Assistant Professor Erica J. Hashimoto answered this call, conducting the first comprehensive study of felony defendants who chose to represent themselves. Published in the *North Carolina Law Review* (and excerpted in the Spring 2006 edition of the *Advocate*), the article notes that pro se defendants do not do significantly worse than defendants who are represented by lawyers – and in some respects they fare better. While Hashimoto acknowledges that there are some limitations to her study, in an article in the *Fulton County Daily Report* she says, "I think at the very least it calls into question our assumption that it is necessarily a bad idea for a defendant to represent himself or herself." A related article also ran in *USA TODAY*.



### Top court may see border dispute

The Georgia House and Senate have passed separate resolutions to create a commission to resurvey and redraw the Georgia/Tennessee border in an effort to seek access to the Tennessee River. Georgia officials contend that an erroneous 1818 survey placed the state line in an inaccurate location. Commenting on the case to the *Chattanooga Times Free Press*, Associate Professor Peter A. Appel said, "The first course of action would be (for Georgia) to try and negotiate with Tennessee, but Tennessee has made it clear they're not interested. If they wanted to pursue this legally, the most obvious course of action would be to petition the Supreme Court."

*Chattanooga Times Free Press*

### Bill carves liability niche for farmers

In February 2008, Georgia State Sen. Bill Heath introduced the Landowners Protection Act, which grants liability protection to property owners who lease their land for hunting or engage in agritourism. According to tort law authority Thomas A. Eaton, the bill could cause a problem as other businesses may be interested in a special handout of their own. To the *Fulton County Daily Report* he said, "Executives at Macy's and Kroger, where premises liability is an ongoing concern, are thinking, 'If a farm-

er in Perry is going to get specific protections when he invites people onto his property for money, why shouldn't I?'"



### Deciding where to prosecute online predators in Georgia may get easier

Georgia law establishes that native predators of underage Georgia Internet users can be tried in some location within the state. However, the law has yet to specify the county that can bring the charges. As a result, Prosecutorial Clinic Director Alan A. Cook (J.D.'84) believes prosecutors in Georgia are left wringing their hands over which one of them can try the intercounty cases. "It poses problems for prosecutors," Cook said to the *Walker County Messenger*. However, he believes House Bill 1214 would clarify where prosecutors can try online predators.

### Justice on hold in quadruple murder trial

More than three years after Brian Nichols allegedly went on a killing rampage that started in the Fulton County Courthouse, he still has not been tried. The trial has been delayed numerous times and spending for Nichols' defense has reached over \$1.5 million. These delays baffle those who have heard witnesses describe the killings, who have seen videotape of the suspect fleeing or who saw him captured. "Clearly, the most difficult part of this case for the Georgia public right now is the slowness, what they see as the inefficiency in getting Nichols tried," trial law guru Ronald L. Carlson told *USA TODAY*.



### Court to look at banishment as punishment

Gregory Mac Terry has challenged his banishment restrictions in a case reviewed by the Georgia Supreme Court earlier this year. Terry was unable to meet his conditions of release from prison, as he had been banished from all Georgia counties but one. Commenting on the case to *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, criminal law sage Donald E. Wilkes, Jr., said, "Georgia is one of the very few jurisdictions in America that has sentences of banishment. The county to which people are banished do not want it at all. They do not want criminals dumped on their county. In almost every respect, it is a self-defeating, bygone punishment."

- Compiled by Leigh Tenewitz