



THE DIGEST

WIDENER UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW ~ HARRISBURG
CAMPUS

The Widener Law & Government Institute

Inaugural Patrick J. Murphy Lecture

Congressman Patrick J. Murphy

Monday, November 22, 2010

10:00 a.m.—Room A180



Widener Law is honored to welcome back to campus, Rep. Patrick J. Murphy. Congressman Murphy is a 1999 graduate of the Harrisburg campus and currently represents Pennsylvania's 8th Congressional District in Washington, D.C.

Congressman Murphy is an Iraq war veteran, former West Point professor, criminal prosecutor and proud husband and father. Murphy started his higher education at Bucks County Community College and then went on to King's College in Wilkes-Barre. While attending King's, Murphy entered the U.S. Army and was commissioned as a second lieutenant.

During his military career, Patrick trained as an airborne and air assault paratrooper, and later served as a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney in New York, a prosecutor in North Carolina and an assistant professor of Constitutional Law at West Point. When September 11th happened, Murphy went into his commander's office and volunteered to deploy. His first deployment was to Bosnia in 2002 and the second was to Bagdad, Iraq from 2003-2004. While in Bagdad, Patrick served as a Captain in the Army's elite 82nd Airborne Division and was later awarded the Bronze Star for Service.

After returning home, Patrick practiced law at Cozen O'Connor before running for Congress. In November 2006, Patrick won his first election and he was sworn in on January 4, 2007.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November

- 22 **Inaugural Patrick J. Murphy Lecture**
- 24-26 **Thanksgiving Holiday**
- 30 **ABA Blood Drive**

December

- 1 **Hanukkah Begins at Sunset**
- 6 **Last day of classes**
- 7-8 **Reading Period**
- 9-22 **Final Exams**
- 21 **First Day of Winter**
- 25 **Christmas Day**

January

- 11 **Classes Begin**
- 17 **MLK Day (no classes)**
- 20 **MLK Presentation**
- 25 **Pizza & Policy in the Pit**

HARRISBURG LAW NEWS

Submission information:

The *NEXT* issue of *The Digest* will be published on **November 29, 2010**. All information should be submitted to **Dorothy Koncar**. (dakoncar@widener.edu), Administration Building, by **NOON, Tuesday, November 23** in order for the news to be published.

I was always looking outside myself for strength and confidence, but it comes from within. It is there all the time."

~Anna Freud

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INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

What Are You Doing Next Summer?...

Think about traveling abroad to Sydney, Nairobi, Lausanne or Venice. Widener School of Law offers students an opportunity to study abroad during the summer of 2011. Students may travel to Lausanne, Sydney, Nairobi or Venice and earn credits while enjoying an enriching academic experience and the history and culture of a foreign country. For additional information, please contact the Coordinator of International Programs at Ext. 2248 or check out our website at law.widener.edu



LEGAL INFORMATION CENTER

REGULAR LIBRARY HOURS

Mon. – Thurs.	8:00 a.m.-Midnight
Friday	8:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m.
Saturday	8:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.
Sunday	10:00 a.m.-Midnight

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY HOURS

November 24	8:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m.
November 25	Closed—Thanksgiving Day
November 26—27	9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
November 28	Noon—Midnight



EXAM HOURS

Everyday	8:00 a.m.—2:00 a.m.
December 22	8:00 a.m. 10:00 p.m.

REGISTRAR'S INFORMATION LINE

717-541-1941

STUDENT INFORMATION LINE

717-541-1939



BLANKET & SUPPLY DRIVE

Benefiting the Harrisburg Humane Society and Animal Rescue, Inc.

November 17th – December 18th in the Pit!

- **WHY BLANKETS?** Blankets, towels, sheets, and sleeping bags (used or new) provide comfort and warmth to animals that otherwise live on bare concrete, as well as providing an outlet for their nesting instincts. Animals at a no-kill shelter (like the HAHS) may live in kennels for extended periods of time, so every small comfort these animals are granted has great potential to increase their quality of life. Additionally, animals that cuddle with blankets are more likely to be adopted! Problematic behaviors associated with kennel life are reduced when stress is decreased and comfort is increased. This allows an animal's true personality to emerge and enables adopters to focus on the animal's positive qualities rather than everything that is "wrong" with the animal. Also, the image of a dog or cat curled up in a blanket is more endearing than one of an isolated and frightened animal that is sitting on concrete or old newspapers. This is emotionally appealing to adopters and draws visitors to that animal's pen.
- **WHAT ELSE CAN I DONATE?**
 - The Humane Society's website has a Wish List which can be accessed here:
 - <http://www.humanesocietyhbg.org/wish-list>
 - This list includes anything from pet food to office supplies.
 - Animal Rescue, Inc.'s website also has a Wish List which can be accessed here:
 - http://www.animalrescueinc.org/special_wishlist.asp
 - This list includes cleaning supplies, and even aluminum cans for their recycling fundraiser!

PLEASE take a little time this holiday season to remember your furry friends! All donations are GREATLY appreciated! We had an incredibly successful drive last year and would like to repeat that this year!



ABA Hosts Blood Drive At Widener Law

When: Tuesday, November 30, 2010

Where: The "Pit"

Time: Noon - 6pm



Some facts about Blood Donations:

- *The #1 reason donors say they give blood is because they "want to help others"*
- *Two most common reasons cited by people who don't give blood are: "Never thought about it" and "I don't like needles"*
- *The actual blood donation typically takes less than 10-12 minutes. The entire process, from the time you arrive to the time you leave, takes about an hour.*
- *Statistics show that 25 percent or more of us will require blood at least once in our lifetime.*
- *Whole blood donors can donate as frequently as every 56 days. A benefit from donating this often is that you receive a mini-physical once every two months.*
- *Each whole blood donation can help as many as three people. One unit is divided into three parts: red blood cells, platelets, and plasma.*

***If you have additional questions, or wish to sign up email: 3rdcircuitgovernor@gmail.com.

CAMPUS SAFETY



REMINDER: AS OF NOVEMBER 16, 2010, THE INTERSECTION AT THEA DRIVE AND VARTAN WAY IS NOW A FOUR-WAY STOP. PLEASE OBSERVE THIS NEW TRAFFIC CONTROL REGULATION AS YOU TRAVEL ON THEA DRIVE AND VARTAN WAY.

Widener University Personal Safety Information

The safety of the Widener community is a vital concern across campus. The Campus Safety Department works diligently to ensure that our students, staff and faculty members are living and working in a safe and peaceful environment. **Widener University expects the community to share in this responsibility.** As Widener community members, we must report any infractions of Widener University policies and state laws in order to keep Widener University safe and secure.

1. **If you are the victim of a crime, contact a member of the Campus Safety Office at x3948.**
2. **If you see a suspicious person or condition, report it immediately.** Immediately contact a member of the Campus Safety Office at x3948. Be prepared to provide the following information: direction of travel, what the person looked like, what the person was wearing and what happened.
3. **Protect your property.** Safeguard items such as cell phones, wallets, purses, I-pods, laptop and other valuable items. Make sure that you keep a list of all your serial numbers for valuables in a safe place. Make sure that you keep these items safeguarded and secured.
4. **Use the Campus Safety escort service.** The Campus Safety Department offers a walking escort service for individual protection while walking through campus. These officers are here for your safety so take advantage of it.



A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN OF STUDENTS

The current controversy over high-alcohol/high-caffeine beverages such as Four Loko raises a number of interesting issues for law students to consider. As most of you are aware, the media coverage of Four Loko, including reporting of at least a couple of deaths reportedly associated with the high-alcohol/high-caffeine beverage, has resulted in its being banned in two states so far. Further regulatory action may not be required. After reviewing the matter for a year, the United States Food and Drug Administration, has indicated that it might impose a regulatory ban, holding that caffeine is a dangerous additive when combined with alcoholic beverages. As a result, the maker of the beverage has announced that it will “voluntarily” take out the caffeine content of its product.

Perhaps my biggest concern with the product is that it seems so clearly aimed at underage and younger-but-legal drinkers in general, and more specifically at drinkers that think a caffeine buzz will help them stay up drinking all night. The potent mix is sold in brightly colored cans filled with sweet, fruity flavors, thus marketed like a bubblegum flavored cigarette sold by Joe Camel. The biggest problem with these drinkers is that they think the two potent drugs – alcohol and caffeine – somehow cancel each other out, whereas the fact is that the caffeine buzz just serves to keep the drinker vertical long enough to consume enough alcohol to get into serious trouble.

Critics of the attacks on Four Loko and its ilk have argued that there have always been alcoholic beverages that combine alcohol and caffeine. There are more traditional drinks like Rum and Coke or Irish Coffee, more recent combinations of Red Bull and vodka or Jaegermeister, and even a fictional version, “Buzz Beer,” a mixture of coffee and beer that was a recurring joke on the “Drew Carey Show.” But none of these compare to Four Loko. A 12-ounce can of Coke has 34 milligrams of caffeine and a cup of coffee can have 60 milligrams up to, depending on how it is brewed, 120 milligrams. The more recently introduced Red Bull packs 80 milligrams into its 8.3 ounce can. But Four Loko packs a whopping 260 milligrams of caffeine into each can. That’s the equivalent of drinking a six-pack of Coke and then drinking another can and two-thirds.

Four Loko comes in a 23.5 ounce can and, in addition to the caffeine, has 12 percent alcohol by volume. As a result, a person could blow a blood alcohol level of 0.15, almost twice the legal limit in most states, after drinking one can.

But there is a strong backlash against banning the product. A Huffington Post blogger argued, “The crusade against Four Loko is wrong. We have every right to drink a deranged caffeinated alcohol cocktail if we want to. It is potent but it does not kill people, as the sensational news stories will have you believe. The few that have “died” from it, thus igniting this controversy, died because they drank it irresponsibly; combining it (usually several Four Lokos) with other liquor, beer, and, it often seems, with diet pills. We should not have to suffer the irresponsibility of a few. Demonizing the drink is unjust because abusing any powerful alcoholic substance can lead to similar harmful consequences.”

Another poster managed to blame liberals, “The leftist liberal nanny state strikes again. Hard liquor is legal because they pay off the leftists, but not beer with caffeine, so the liberals must flex their Marxists muscle to show everyone who is in power. I love how liberals always talk about right to choose, privacy and freedom, yet who is constantly taking it away? Oh that's right, liberals.” Unbelievable!

One would like to hope that a product so blatantly aimed at high schoolers and college undergraduates would be of little interest to law students. Nevertheless, this is a good time to remember that law students (and lawyers generally) are under a great deal of stress and can be very susceptible to developing problems with alcohol and abuse of prescription drugs such as Adderall, not to mention tobacco. While I don’t expect to see law students drinking Four Loko (apparently, there are efforts to hoard the soon-to-be-extinct caffeinated version), I do know that there are law students and lawyers who run into problems, which is why I am always ready to confidentially refer students to Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers.

SIDEBAR CAFÉ

November 22-23

Breakfast from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Lunch from 11:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.



Monday	Kettle Classic Montaque's Deli Café Feature Itza Pizza	Tomato Bisque Soup Chicken Caesar Wrap Egg & Sausage on a Muffin Bacon Ranch Pizza by the Slice
Tuesday	Kettle Classic Montaque's Deli Café Feature Itza Pizza	Cheddar Cheese Soup Ham & Pepperoni Melt Egg & Bacon Bagel Cheese Burger Pizza by the Slice
Wednesday	Kettle Classic Montaque's Deli Café Feature Itza Pizza	CLOSED
Thursday	Kettle Classic Montaque's Deli Café Feature Itza Pizza	CLOSED HAPPY THANKSGIVING
Friday	Kettle Classic Montaque's Deli Café Feature Itza Pizza	CLOSED

Thanksgiving