

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Finalists in 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Transactional LawMeet Competition are Named**

Philadelphia, March 4, 2014. On Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014, eighty-four teams competed in regional rounds of the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Transactional LawMeet. The seven Regional LawMeets were hosted at Western New England University School of Law in Springfield, Massachusetts (New England Region); Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law at Yeshiva University in New York, New York (Mid-Atlantic Region); The University of Georgia School of Law in Athens, Georgia (Southeastern Region); Northwestern University School of Law in Chicago, Illinois (Chicago Region); University of Missouri – Kansas City School of Law in Kansas City, Missouri (Midwestern Region); South Texas College of Law in Houston, Texas (Southwestern Region); and UCLA School of Law in Los Angeles, California (Western Region). The competition asked law students to represent one of two sides in drafting and negotiating an indemnification agreement to address a royalty dispute that arose between the seller and a third party during an acquisition. The drafting stage took place over two months, with students drafting indemnification agreements, having interviews with their clients, and marking up opposing teams' drafts. The regional portion of the competition culminated with the live negotiations this past Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup>.

Two teams were selected from each regional round to compete in the National Rounds on April 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. The finalists from the Southeastern Region were Brooke Baird, Elizabeth Clippard, and Michael Crum from University of Tennessee College of Law and Bradley Steffen and Paige Rabe from Salmon P. Chase College of Law. Teams from each regional round were also recognized as Regional Semi-Finalists, although they do not advance to the National Rounds. The semi-finalists from the Southeastern Region were Andy Shin and Taylor Wilson from The University of Georgia School of Law and Benjamin Smyser, Jili Xue, and Marcus Brown from Emory University School of Law. In addition to finalists and semi-finalists in the negotiations, teams from each region were recognized for their drafting skills. Winners of the Best Draft award from the Southeastern Region were Bentley Adams and Irena Chernova from Atlanta's John Marshall Law School and Benjamin Smyser, Jili Xue, and Marcus Brown from Emory University School of Law.

The fourteen Finalist teams will be competing at the National Rounds of the competition on Thursday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> and Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup>. The National Rounds will be held at Sullivan & Cromwell LLP's New York office. Judges for the National Round include Aaron Holmes (Accenture); Andrew Kaufman (Kirkland & Ellis LLP); Andrew Muratore (Pfizer Inc.); Charles Middleton (Oxbow Corporation); Don Liu (Xerox); Ellen Grady (Safeguard); Karl Klib (Bloomberg L.P.'s former counsel); Stephen Kotran (Sullivan & Cromwell LLP); and Tasha Hutchins (Practical Law).

The 2014 Regional Transactional LawMeet was sponsored by Bloomberg Law and Practical Law. The Southeastern Regional Meet was sponsored by Alston & Bird LLP; Forton, Bentley & Griffin, P.A.; Franzén and Salzano; Hall Booth Smith, P.C.; Jones Day, Morris, Manning & Martin, LLP; and Troutman Sanders LLP.

The participating schools included:

American University Washington College of Law  
Atlanta's John Marshall Law School  
Baylor Law School  
Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law at Yeshiva University  
Boston College Law School  
Boston University School of Law  
Brooklyn Law School  
Case Western Reserve University School of Law  
Cleveland-Marshall College of Law  
Columbia Law School  
Cornell Law School  
Drexel University School of Law  
Duke University School of Law  
Emory University School of Law  
Florida International University College of Law  
Georgetown University Law Center  
Georgia State University College of Law  
Indiana University Maurer School of Law  
Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law  
James E. Beasley School of Law at Temple University  
James E. Rogers College of Law at the University of Arizona  
J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University  
The John Marshall Law School  
Marquette University Law School  
Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra University  
Mississippi College School of Law  
New York Law School  
Northwestern University Law School  
Notre Dame Law School  
Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad Law Center  
The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law  
Oklahoma City University School of Law  
Salmon P. Chase College of Law at Northern Kentucky University  
S.J. Quinney College of Law at the University of Utah  
South Texas College of Law  
Sturm College of Law at the University of Denver  
Thomas Jefferson School of Law  
UC Davis School of Law  
UCLA School of Law  
University of Cincinnati College of Law  
University of Colorado Law School  
University of Georgia School of Law  
University of Houston Law Center  
University of Kansas School of Law  
University of Louisville Louis D. Brandeis School of Law  
University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law  
University of Mississippi School of Law  
University of Missouri – Kansas City School of Law  
University of Pennsylvania Law School

University of San Diego School of Law  
University of South Dakota School of Law  
USC Gould School of Law  
University of Tennessee College of Law  
University of Texas School of Law  
University of Washington School of Law  
Villanova University School of Law  
Washington and Lee University School of Law  
Wayne State University Law School  
Western New England University School of Law  
Widener University School of Law in Harrisburg, PA  
Widener University School of Law in Wilmington, DE  
William & Mary Law School  
William Mitchell College of Law

### **About LawMeets**

LawMeets was founded in 2010 by Drexel University law professor Karl Okamoto as a way to deliver practical skills exercises to law students interested in transactional law. He organized the first Transactional LawMeet, with 11 participating teams, in 2010. Next year, LawMeets organized the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Transactional LawMeet, with 84 participating teams. In 2011, LawMeets added the Intellectual Property LawMeet, which began with 12 participating teams and will now be in its fourth year with at least 24 teams. In addition to hosting competitions for law students, LawMeets creates practical skills exercises for law professors that are delivered via an online platform.

To learn more about LawMeets, please visit [www.LawMeets.com](http://www.LawMeets.com) or email [contact@lawmeets.com](mailto:contact@lawmeets.com).