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Note from the Editors and the Liberty University Law School Community

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NOTE FROM THE EDITORS AND THE LIBERTY UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL COMMUNITY

The first article in this Volume was written by the late James W. Jeans, Sr., Distinguished University Professor of Law. Professor Jeans passed away on Monday, October 30, 2006, at the age of 78. All of us who knew Professor Jeans have mourned the loss of our friend, teacher, colleague, and mentor. Fortunately, we are reminded of his great contribution every time we stand as an advocate in the James W. Jeans Mock Trial Courtroom at Liberty University School of Law.

Any history of trial advocacy in America would have to acknowledge the contributions of Professor Jeans. Liberty law students benefited from his vast trial and appellate advocacy experience, his teaching expertise, and his legal scholarship. In his law practice he tried nearly 250 cases to completion and briefed and argued more than 65 cases before state and federal appellate courts.

Professor Jeans earned his undergraduate and law degrees from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. From 1966 to 1994, he taught courses in trial advocacy, torts, civil procedure, evidence, and related courses at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law. He was also appointed by the Supreme Court of Missouri to a committee of twelve to draft Civil Instructions and served as a reporter and editor of Missouri Approved Instructions, 2d ed.

Professor Jeans helped to launch the National Institute of Trial Advocacy (NITA) in 1972 as a founding faculty member. He was also on the founding faculties of the Court Practice Institute; the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers; Trial Lawyers College; and the American Association of Trial Lawyers-Hastings College Trial Advocacy (also serving as its co-chairman). He held the position of lecturer at the Academy College of Judicial Education and the National College of Judicial Education. Seeing the continuing education needs of legal professionals over 30 years ago, Professor Jeans was a leader in developing early Continuing Legal Education programs that have become standard fare for practicing attorneys nationwide.

Unfortunately, Professor Jeans was not able to finish the following article before his passing. The Law Review has reproduced what Professor Jeans had completed, with as little editorial change as possible.

The Article, and the short memorials following, are this Law Review's and the Liberty University School of Law community's tribute to our beloved Professor. We cherish the memory of this great man of the law, and we invite you to join us in remembering him and his remarkable life and service.



Professor James W. Jeans, Sr.
(1928-2006)