



# THE FORUM

July 19, 2006

Dear Incoming Student:

Congratulations on your acceptance and decision to attend South Carolina's best law school. I look forward to meeting you next month. I am proud to serve as this year's Editor In Chief of *The Forum*, the law school's premier monthly publication<sup>1</sup>. It is my goal to uphold the legacy of journalistic excellence and exaggerated claims that have been the pride of our publication for years.

I hope you are reading this letter by a pool, or even better, at the beach or on a ship, with a rum drink in hand because the pirate professors will get their hooks into you in about a month. I don't mean to scare you; they certainly won't deprive you of your rum (or whatever your libation of choice). They actually won't take anything from you aside from thousands of gold coins for "tuition", but some strange phenomenon (I believe there might be invisible Sirens in the law school corridors) causes law students to quit everything they formerly did (except drink rum) and spend insane hours reading, analyzing, and briefing decisions written decades or even centuries ago, all while wondering what their professor expects them to glean from the case. But there will be plenty of time for you to worry about all that over the next three years. Spend the next month lounging in a hammock, skydiving, reading trashy novels, or whatever you do to relax and enjoy yourself.

By now you are certainly wondering exactly what is *The Forum*. It is the law school's monthly humor publication. Our crack team of editors solicits contributions from students, faculty, staff, and any transients currently inhabiting the law school, and we compile the choice submissions with our own original ramblings to create what I hope you find to be an amusing and relaxing read. Feel free to contact me at [theforum\\_usc@hotmail.com](mailto:theforum_usc@hotmail.com) with any questions you have about Columbia or the law school, and I hope you will consider writing and submitting anything that someone else in the law school community might find funny<sup>2</sup>. We promise not to tell your professor you were typing it in class while pretending to take notes.

Sincerely,

Kevin Hardy  
Editor In Chief

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<sup>1</sup> I can say that without upsetting the *Law Review* folks because we're the only monthly publication. And get used to reading footnotes; they are often the most important part of the case.

<sup>2</sup> We only accept signed submissions.