

TO: Faculty, Students & Staff

FROM: Kristin A. Erickson

RE: Class of 2004 Employment Statistics

Date: April 13, 2005

We recently completed compiling employment statistics for the class of 2004. The attached data are current as of February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2005, and include information for students who graduated between September 1<sup>st</sup> 2003 and August 31<sup>st</sup> 2004. We have employment information for one hundred-thirty of the one hundred-thirty-seven who graduated during this period. For these graduates, the overall employment rate was one hundred-sixteen, or 89.23%. (“Employed” status includes full-time and part-time employment.) Please note that this figure includes four graduates who were full-time post-JD graduate students, three graduates were unemployed but not seeking employment, and five graduates were not seeking while studying for the bar exam. Only two graduates reported that they were unemployed and seeking employment. Therefore, I find the following rate equally meaningful. As of February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2005, 98.30% of 2004 graduates for whom we have information *and* who wanted to be employed, *were* employed.

The largest employment category for our graduates continues to be private practice, with sixty-three graduates (54.31%) employed in private law firms. Of these, twenty-eight (44.44%) are employed in firms with ten or fewer attorneys. Nineteen graduates (30.16%) work in firms of eleven to fifty attorneys and seven graduates (11.11%) work in firms of fifty-one to two hundred-fifty attorneys. Four graduates are employed in firms of five hundred or more attorneys.

The next largest employment category for the class of 2004 is government jobs. Twenty-four graduates (20.69% of those employed) are working in various governmental positions including prosecutor offices, judicial clerkships, and military JAG corps positions. Only eleven graduates are serving judicial clerkships, a number in line with last year, but significantly lower than the number of clerks in previous years.

Four graduates (3.45%) are working in jobs classified as public interest. This category includes Public Defender jobs (two graduates) in addition to non-profit and direct legal service offices.

Geographically, a majority of our graduates (ninety-five, or 81.90%) continue to remain in the Intermountain West. A majority of these are employed in Utah, but we also have graduates in Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, and Idaho. Two graduates are working in the Mid-Atlantic region, one is in New England, four are working in the South-Atlantic region, two are working in the East North Central region, two are located in the West North Central region, eight graduates are employed in the Pacific region, and two are working abroad. Fifteen states are represented.

Eighty-eight graduates provided salary information. The mean overall salary is \$62,889. The median salary is \$55,000, with a range of \$26,000 to \$125,000. The mean salary for male graduates is \$63,810 (range: \$26,000 to \$125,000), for female graduates, \$61,426 (range: \$30,000 to \$115,000). The mean salary for minority graduates is \$57,500, with a range of \$45,000 to \$80,000.