
THE TISL TIMES

The Official Newsletter of the 45th General Assembly

Today's Schedule

11:30: Lunch (on your own!)

1:00: Third Legislative Session

2:30: President's Address
House Chamber

3:30 Third Legislative Session Continues



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International Man of Mystery

AMC3 Case Involves Drug Smuggler

An international drug smuggler leaves the United States and travels north to Canada. The reason for this trip is simple: get large amounts of MDMA and return back to the states to sell it for massive profits. It has worked multiple times before. In fact, he has become one of the largest distributors of the drug in the Northeast. Unfortunately for him, driving with his headlights off leads to a police encounter that may change his life forever.



Although this sounds remarkably like a movie you'd be seeing in a theater near you, this is actually part of the case for this year's Appellate Moot Court Collegiate Challenge (AMC3). For those of you unaware, the AMC3 is a program in which teams of lawyers compete to sway the opinion of a supreme court in their favor. They reference a seemingly endless supply of previous court decisions in order to bolster support for their side, while simultaneously attempting to break down their opponents' arguments. If this wasn't entertaining enough, the justices are also questioning each side's interpretations and making them back up their claims with specific examples. The end result of this is a debate that blows my mind every time I attend it.

I can't pretend that I'm able to share with you the tension and excitement that happens while court is in session; all I can do is attempt to paint a picture of it for you. Unfortunately, I'm no Bob Ross. So if you happen to have some free time, do yourself a favor and check out an AMC3 session or two. You'll certainly come away learning a thing or two about law that you never knew.

-Chuck Fleming

New Recycling Program Takes GA

This year, the 45th Annual General Assembly will adopt a new recycling program to reduce the amount of waste created by delegates over the weekend.

State Treasurer David Snapp, who helped organize the effort, says “In the past we filled up multiple dumpsters with trash, and a good percentage of the trash we were throwing away is stuff that could easily be recycled.”

Receptacles for paper recycling have been placed throughout the capitol building, and bins for cans and other materials will be available in meal areas.

Snapp notes that due to the prohibition of extra signage in the capitol, the recycling program will rely on word of mouth to be a success. (Recycle this issue of The TISL Times when you have finished reading it!)

Aside from asking delegates to be green by recycling, Snapp also encourages them to spend some green at the TISL store, where he will be working across from a recycling bin for most of the assembly.

-Eilidh Jenness

Rep. Seeks to Preserve Historical Monuments

On the bill calendar for the 45th General Assembly is An act to amend the “Tennessee Heritage Protection Act of 2013,” sponsored by Representative Maddie McGrady from Rhodes College. The Tennessee Heritage Protection Act of 2013, which the bill seeks to amend, prevents

any “statue, monument, memorial, nameplate or plaque” erected in honor of any American military conflict from being “relocated, removed, altered, renamed, rededicated, or otherwise disturbed” without a waiver granted from the Tennessee historical commission.

McGrady’s bill amends the Act in three ways. Firstly, it changes the phrase “the War Between the States” to “the American Civil War.” Secondly, it adds protection for the monuments of “civil or human rights leader.” Finally, the bill deletes sections that are made irrelevant by the aforementioned changes.

McGrady claims she drafted this bill because she believes that “all aspects of history should be equally represented and they’re not if you’re only protecting white southern heritage.” When asked how protecting war memorials equated to exclusively protecting white southern heritage, McGrady pointed to the recent controversies over Memphis’ Nathan Bedford Forrest Memorial Park, which was recently renamed to Health Sciences Park one month before the Heritage Protection Act was passed.

McGrady believes this name change was the impetus for the passage of the Heritage Protection Act. She also claims that the term “War Between the States” is “reminiscent of the Confederate mentality” and wishes to “create a more inclusive public memory” by including protection for civil rights and human rights leaders of history, in addition to war heroes.

-Chandler Schneider

