

sports law alumni association

if you build it, they will come

National Sports Law Institute Alumni Board

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Paul Anderson, Associate Director, National Sports Law Institute & Adjunct Assistant Professor Marquette University Law School, Milwaukee, WI (L'95)

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Marquette's Sports Law Program continues to enjoy success and attracts growing numbers of students who are interested in the popular specialization of sports law. Several years ago, the Sports Law Alumni Association and Alumni Board were established.

The Association

All law school alumni who receive the Sports Law Certificate or are interested in the Sports Law Program are invited to become members of the Sports Law Association. There is no fee and members become part of a growing network of former alums who are interested in sports law. This was done, according to Paul Anderson, JD, associate director of the National Sports Law Institute and Chair of the Alumni Board, "to formally recognize the growing number of alumni who support the Sports Law Program." The Program has experienced tremendous growth, now offering a Sports Law Certificate, 10 courses and 10 internships. The Association, in turn, is a vehicle for alumni to support Marquette Law School generally and the Sports Law Program specifically. Alumni interested in becoming involved with the Association can contact Paul Anderson at 414.288.5816 or paul.anderson@mu.edu. Members do not have to have gone through the Program.

The Board

The Board, according to Paul, "gives an active voice to the Association." The Board is comprised of three committees: the *management committee*, which is in charge of all Board and Association matters including mem-

bership; the *scholarship committee*, which supports the Annual Alumni Scholarship fund; and the *awards committee*, which presents the Sports Law Alumni of the Year Award, to an individual who demonstrates the following qualities; dedication to the Sports Law Program while a student, contributions to the Alumni Board or Association, contributions to the field of sports law in general, and support of the Institute and Sports Law Program after his/her time as a law student.

The first such award was bestowed this year to **William S. Miller (L'96)** who is Executive Vice President/Professional Sports, The Leib Group, LLC, Mequon, WI. Bill is a founding Alumni Board member, serving on its Management Committee. He also is Chair of the Sports & Entertainment Law Section of the State Bar of Wisconsin.

The Program

The Sports Law Program provides the nation's most comprehensive offering of sports law courses and student internships with sports organizations as well as opportunities to become a member of the *Marquette Sports Law Review* and the Sports Law Moot Court team. Our broad, well-rounded curriculum is designed to provide Marquette law students with both a theoretical and a practical education concerning legal regulation of the amateur and professional sports industries, thereby enhancing their attractiveness to sports industry employers.

Sports law students learn about many specialized areas of law with general application outside the sports industry (eg. antitrust, labor, intellectual proper-

ty, federal disability discrimination laws, etc.) and develop contract negotiation, business planning, and transactional skills. They also learn how several related areas of law combine to govern a complex industry and how courts resolve competing policy concerns when different bodies of law intersect. Virtually all of the knowledge and skills developed by students in sports law courses and internships is readily transferable and useful in serving clients in other industries.

The Institute

Founded in 1989, the National Sports Law Institute (NSLI) is affiliated with Marquette's sports law program. Its mission is to be the leading national educational and research institute for the study of legal, ethical, and business issues affecting amateur and professional sports from both an academic and practical perspective. It provides educational opportunities for law students as well as current and future leaders in the sports industry.

The NSLI provides a national forum for discussion and consideration of American and international sports issues and encourages input by persons and organizations with a wide range of viewpoints. The NSLI seeks to promote a legal environment in which sports at all levels of competition will flourish. In an effort to achieve these goals, the NSLI sponsors high quality national conferences and symposia and disseminates knowledge through publication of thoughtful scholarship in the *Marquette Sports Law Review*. It also serves as a resource for the media and public.

As a part of Marquette University, a Catholic Jesuit university, the NSLI is committed to searching for truth, dis-

covering and sharing knowledge, fostering professional excellence, developing leaders, and serving those in the sports industry. Although the NSLI will not espouse any particular ideological viewpoint, it will seek to promote ethical and moral practices within the sports industry as a means of furthering Marquette University's mission.

Annual Alumni Scholarship

Created in the spring of 2001, the Scholarship is an expression of alumni support for the NSLI, Marquette's Sports Law Program, and particularly the Marquette Sports Law Review. The Scholarship is awarded annually to the Editors of the *Marquette Sports Law Review*.

All graduates of Marquette's Sports Law Program are invited to join the Sports Law Alumni Association. This organization's activities are directed by the members of the Alumni Board who raise funds for the Alumni Scholarship Fund, participate in career panels that provide guidance and advice to sports law students, and support the NSLI and Marquette's Sports Law program. For more information on the Program, Institute and Association check the Sports Law Program's website at www.mu.edu/law/sports/index.html.



Paul Anderson, JD
Associate Director
Sports Law Institute

Paul M. Anderson is the Associate Director of the National Sports Law Institute of Marquette University Law School where he is an Adjunct Assistant Professor. He is a 1995 graduate of Marquette University Law School where he received the first Joseph E. O'Neill scholarship for sports ethics and the founder and Chairman of the NSLI's Alumni Board. A former Editor-in-Chief of the *Marquette Sports Law Journal*, Professor Anderson is currently the Supervisor of the *Marquette Sports Law Review*, and the Editor of the *Journal of Legal Aspects of Sport*. He is the author of numerous articles and several books including *Major League Leases: An Overview Of Major League Facility Leases And How They Are Negotiated (2001)* (with William Miller). Professor Anderson teaches "Topics in Advanced Legal Research - Sports Law," co-teaches the "Selected Topics in Sports Law - Seminar," and has co-taught the "Sport, Law and Society" Seminar and taught "Regulation of Amateur Athletics."