

# INTRODUCTION

*Adam Aft & Craig D. Rust<sup>†</sup>*

With our second issue it is our pleasure to publish two new articles. First, we present *Take This Job and Count It: An Analysis of Law School Employment Data*, written by Kyle P. McEntee and Derek M. Tokaz, two members of “Law School Transparency,” an organization dedicated to encouraging and facilitating the transparent flow of law school consumer information. Second, we are publishing *A Medical Liability Toolkit, Including ADR*, a study authored by Professor Michael Krauss, a leading scholar in the field.

Law School Transparency’s “primary goal is to help inform prospective law students about the value of a U.S. law degree, using dialogue and advocacy to improve the quality and presentation of post-graduation employment outcomes.”<sup>1</sup> Part of achieving this goal involves harnessing the power of data and making it accessible. With that end in mind, Mr. McEntee’s and Mr. Tokaz’s article compiles newly released law school employment data in a manner which we believe prospective law students will find both eye-opening and invaluable in making informed decisions about which schools to attend, or even about whether they should pursue a law degree at all. The authors observe startling trends in the data, such as how a law school admits a median student in the 90th percentile in test scores, yet leaves its graduates with little better than a coin flip’s chance of obtaining legal employment after law school. They also challenge the utility of the *U.S. News* law school rankings in predicting employment opportunities. Their presentation is visually stunning and their data based legal observations are right at home in the JLM.

Professor Michael Krauss’s *Toolkit* deals with data in a more ab-

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<sup>1</sup> [www.lawschooltransparency.com/about/mission/](http://www.lawschooltransparency.com/about/mission/).

stract sense. Data, after all, are not limited to charts and graphs – but comes in tabular form too. The *Toolkit* is a comprehensive review of the status of medical malpractice reforms in the 50 states in table form, allowing scholars and practitioners in the field to get a macro sense of developments in their industry. While the JLM’s core mission will continue to be publishing excellent scholarship analyzing more traditional “metrics,” this piece accomplishes many of the same goals by removing the focus from the minutiae of legal debate and discourse and using data to analyze what is actually happening in insurance markets across the country, on which we imagine individuals ranging from other scholars to policymakers will rely.

We hope you enjoy reading these two articles as much as we have.

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