



## MEMORANDUM

To: All Incoming Students  
From: Randi Teplitz, Assistant Dean of Students  
Date: July 29, 2020  
Re: Orientation 2020--REVISED

Welcome to Widener Law Commonwealth!

We are delighted that you are embarking on your path to becoming an attorney with us. This memorandum gives you information about important dates and times. It also has some details about buying textbooks and preparing for classes. Please read this memo in conjunction with the comprehensive orientation schedule.

**Fall Classes** –Due to rising COVID-19 cases nationwide and following the guidance of health professionals, fall classes will be delivered remotely. You can expect your classes to be rigorous and engaging and your professors will have the same expectations of you as they would if you were sitting in the classroom. We will provide you with information on how to access your classes prior to our start date.

**Library** -- The library will need to limit occupancy due to physical distancing requirements. Face masks will also be required. Priority will be given to students in need of a distraction free environment or who lack a stable internet connection. A reservation system will be implemented to ensure that the library space maintains an appropriate and safe population density. Library usage policies will be distributed soon.

**Student IDs** – You must have an ID in order to access our buildings and use the library. Please upload your photo so that we can process your student ID. If you are unable to do so, you must schedule an appointment with Brian Fearnbaugh in Media Services. He can be reached at [bmfearnbaugh@widener.edu](mailto:bmfearnbaugh@widener.edu). Walk-in appointments will not be available.

Students IDs can be picked up at Campus Safety if you will be accessing the building to use the library. However, if you will not be coming to campus, we will e-mail you your ID barcode so that you will be able to access library resources remotely.

**Welcome to Fall 2020 Town Hall Meeting** – The Fall 2020 semester will surely be unique. Please join our community town hall meeting to hear from Dean Hussey about campus changes for the fall semester. He will also be available to answer questions during the event. Please e-mail me your questions to me at [rbteplitz@widener.edu](mailto:rbteplitz@widener.edu) or you may ask them using the chat feature during the live event. This town hall will be held on Monday, August 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Attendance is optional. We will send out the event link as we get closer.

**Orientation** – Orientation Part 1 will be held Tuesday, August 11 – Friday, August 14 from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. All Orientation sessions will be held virtually. We will e-mail you the specific links to access the Orientation sessions as we get closer. **You must attend all Orientation sessions.** If you cannot attend, you must let me know and I will make the recording available to you.

- Part 1: Tuesday, August 11<sup>th</sup> - Friday, August 14<sup>th</sup>:  
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. (VIRTUAL)
- Part 2: Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. (VIRTUAL)
- Part 3: Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup>  
Professional Development Day: 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. (VIRTUAL)

**Welcome to the Profession Induction Ceremony** – The Welcome to the Profession Ceremony will be held on Saturday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. The Honorable Royce Morris will be administering the Affirmation of Professionalism and you will officially become a member of our professional community. This is a mandatory event. **Although this will be a virtual event, professional attire is required.**

**Introduction to Legal Process** – You must attend all Introduction to Legal Process classes. Successful completion of this course is a graduation requirement. The classes will be on the following days:

Tuesday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-8:30 p.m. –VIRTUAL

Wednesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-8:30 p.m. –VIRTUAL

Thursday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-8:30 p.m. –VIRTUAL

Saturday, August 15<sup>th</sup>, 9:00-10:45 a.m. – Exam (VIRTUAL)

**Advisor-Advisee Meeting** – Your academic advisor will contact you with the date/time of an academic advisor meeting. This meeting will be held virtually and will likely occur within the first two weeks of the semester. If you have not heard from your advisor by the end of the second week of the semester, please let me know.

**Textbooks** – Your professors expect you to be prepared and ready on the first day of class; there is no first week grace period in law school. As such, I recommend that you order all of your textbooks two weeks or more before classes begin. Here's what you need to do:

- You can find your course schedule on MyWidener using the link on the bottom of the law school's homepage: <http://commonwealthlaw.widener.edu>.
- When you have your schedule, you can find your textbooks and first assignments posted at: <http://commonwealthlaw.widener.edu/current-students/academics/>. Please click on the "Fall 2020 Textbooks and First Assignments" document.
- If you want to buy your textbooks from the university's bookstore, use this link: <https://www.bkstr.com/widenerestore/shop/textbooks-and-course-materials>. Use "LAWH" as your department. We do not have a physical bookstore on the Harrisburg campus. The bookstore on the Chester campus fulfills our orders and ships the books to you at your home or school address in the greater Harrisburg area.
- If you need assistance with the upfront costs associated with making textbook purchases, please contact Allura Lawrence in Financial Aid (aalawrence@widener.edu) to see if you are eligible for the book voucher program.
- You do not need to buy from the university's bookstore and may buy or rent your textbooks from other retailers.
- Complete the first assignment for each of your courses as set out in the "Fall 2020 Textbooks and First Assignments" document mentioned above.

**Tobacco-Free Campus** – We are a tobacco-free campus, which also includes your car if it is parked on university property. You may not smoke, chew, or vape.

**Important Office Contacts**—In compliance with public health and University guidance, in-person appointments will not be available during the Fall semester. However, our

administrative offices are fully operational and stand ready to serve you. Please use these e-mail addresses to schedule appointments when needed:

Registrar: [cwreg@widener.edu](mailto:cwreg@widener.edu)

Financial Aid: [aalawrence@widener.edu](mailto:aalawrence@widener.edu)

Career Development: [elmandrell@widener.edu](mailto:elmandrell@widener.edu)

Law Library: [refcwlaw@widener.edu](mailto:refcwlaw@widener.edu)

Media Services: [bmfearnbaugh@widener.edu](mailto:bmfearnbaugh@widener.edu)

ITS Help Desk: [hbhelpdesk@widener.edu](mailto:hbhelpdesk@widener.edu)

Dean of Students: [rbteplitz@widener.edu](mailto:rbteplitz@widener.edu)

Campus Safety: (717) 541-1911

I look forward to meeting you soon. If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to email me at [rbteplitz@widener.edu](mailto:rbteplitz@widener.edu).

**Summary of Key Dates and Times:**

- Mon., Aug. 10<sup>th</sup> 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Welcome to Fall 2020 Town Hall (VIRTUAL) (OPTIONAL)
- Tues., Aug. 11<sup>th</sup> 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Orientation (VIRTUAL) (MANDATORY)  
6:00 - 8:30 p.m. Intro to Legal Process (VIRTUAL) (MANDATORY)
- Wed., Aug. 12<sup>th</sup> 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Orientation (VIRTUAL) (MANDATORY)  
6:00 - 8:30 p.m. Intro to Legal Process (VIRTUAL) (MANDATORY)
- Thurs., Aug. 13<sup>th</sup> 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Orientation (VIRTUAL) (MANDATORY)  
6:00 - 8:30 p.m. Intro to Legal Process (VIRTUAL) (MANDATORY)
- Fri., August 14<sup>th</sup> 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Orientation (VIRTUAL) (MANDATORY)
- Sat., Aug. 15<sup>th</sup> 9:00 - 10:45 a.m. Intro to Legal Process Exam (VIRTUAL) (MANDATORY)  
11:30 - 12:15 p.m. Welcome to the Profession Induction Ceremony (VIRTUAL) (MANDATORY)  
**PROFESSIONAL DRESS IS REQUIRED**
- Wed., Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Orientation, Part II (VIRTUAL) (MANDATORY)
- Mon., Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. Professional Development Day (VIRTUAL) (MANDATORY)

# # #