



Application to the  
University at Buffalo  
School of Law

**SPECIAL INTEREST  
JOURNALS**

BUFFALO ENVIRONMENTAL LAW JOURNAL

BUFFALO HUMAN RIGHTS LAW REVIEW

**To apply, submit a packet which includes, in the following order:**

1. **Grading rubric** (page 7) with your name, email, phone number, and the journals you are applying to, ranked in order of preference (1 is the highest, 5 is the lowest). If you are interested in being on more than one specialty journal please note that in your rankings.

2. **Cover Letter/Statement of Interest**

3. **Resume**

4. **Article Edits**

a. **Textual Edits.** Detach pages 8-10 from the application and staple it to your completed packet. Edit the passage for grammar and punctuation. Your edits should be on the article pages in colored ink. Assume all substantive content presented in the passage is true and supported by the footnotes (i.e., you do not need to check the sources for content).

b. **Completed Bluebook Test** (footnotes 1 through 20). On a separate page, rewrite footnotes 1 through 20 in accordance with the Bluebook (20th ed.). To indicate italics, underline once. To indicate small caps, underline twice. To indicate a capital letter in small caps, underline three times. If you think you have found a discrepancy, use your best judgment in answering (you can also add a brief note explaining the alleged issue).

Applications must be submitted by **Wednesday April 29 @ 5:00 p.m. electronically** One copy must be submitted to each journal you are applying to. \*You do not need to rewrite your article edits multiple times if you are applying to multiple journals. You may write them once, scan your packet, and print the number of copies you need. However, edits should still appear in color and clear to the grader.

We will not accept late applications. Questions or concerns may be emailed to the following:

- Buffalo Environmental Law Journal: Meghan McElligott ([mlmcelli@buffalo.edu](mailto:mlmcelli@buffalo.edu))
- Buffalo Human Rights Law Review: Mary Hamilton ([maryhami@buffalo.edu](mailto:maryhami@buffalo.edu))

If accepted, you will hear from your respective journal within 1-2 Weeks. Remember, by submitting this application you are NOT applying to the Buffalo Law Review. The Buffalo Law Review has a separate application process!

## **BUFFALO ENVIRONMENTAL LAW JOURNAL**

The Buffalo Environmental Law Journal is a law review dedicated to publishing high quality articles on the most pressing issues facing our environment, including climate change, invasive species, energy policy, agriculture, and pollution. It serves to expand the legal community's understanding of environmental legal issues.

### **Responsibilities**

- Edit academic articles
- Find and retrieve sources
- Correctly cite sources according to the Bluebook citation system (20th ed.)
- Meet deadlines for citepacks and promptly respond to journal communications

### **Benefits**

- Become a member of the environmental legal community at UB and beyond
- Achieve a deeper understanding of environmental legal issues
- Enhance Bluebook citation and editing skills
- Help further the discourse on environmental law
- Develop a discussion topic for future employers

To learn more about the Buffalo Environmental Law Journal, visit our website at <http://www.law.buffalo.edu/beyond/journals/belj.html> or contact us at [belj1993@gmail.com](mailto:belj1993@gmail.com).

## **BUFFALO HUMAN RIGHTS LAW REVIEW**

The Buffalo Human Rights Law Review (BHRLR) focuses on the interdisciplinary study of international human rights law. Founded in 1994 as the Buffalo Journal of International Law, the BHRLR was renamed in 1997 to better reflect the journal's projects and relationship to the UB Law International Law Program and the Buffalo Human Rights Center. The BHRLR publishes annually in the Spring. Together with the related Buffalo Human Rights Center, the Baldy Center for Law & Social Policy, and the UB Law Jessup International Moot Court competition teams, the BHRLR seeks to unite professionals, students, legal practitioners, policymakers, advocates, and cross-disciplinary scholars, and to encourage thereby the development and practical application of human rights law.

The BHRLR strives to be one of the preeminent publications in the field of human rights. In furtherance of this endeavor, the BHRLR is supported by an Editorial Board of Advisors composed of internationally recognized scholars and actors in human rights. The BHRLR prides itself on maintaining the highest level of integrity and objectivity in its selection process. As a result, admission to the BHRLR is open to the entire student body. Working on BHRLR is a good opportunity to sharpen your research and writing skills, to learn the Bluebook, and to have your own work published.

Because of the skills it teaches, membership on a journal is highly regarded by various employers. Further, if you are interested in human rights and international law, membership on the BHRLR strengthens your exposure to and understanding of international human rights issues. The benefits of joining the BHRLR extend well beyond top-paying jobs at major firms and prestigious judicial clerkships, NGOs and international fellowships and opportunities.

Members of the BHRLR spend many hours working together and as a result they form a vital part of the international network at UB Law. In conjunction with the Human Rights Center, members of the BHRLR usually overlap with other international initiatives and opportunities at UB Law.

In short, serving as a member of the BHRLR not only enhances your professional opportunities and abilities, it is an opportunity to make many new friends that share an interest in applying an international perspective to their Law School careers.

For more information contact us at [buffalohrlr@gmail.com](mailto:buffalohrlr@gmail.com)

**Please attach one sheet to the cover of each application.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Class Year (1L, 2L): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Rank the journals you are applying for**, in order of preference (1 highest, 2 lowest):

\_\_\_\_\_Environmental Law Journal

\_\_\_\_\_Human Rights Law Review

**Scoring (leave blank, for journal use only):**

Resume (-10 pts. if not attached) \_\_\_\_\_

Cover Letter/Statement of Interest (-10 pts. if not attached) \_\_\_\_\_

Text Edits (30 pts.) \_\_\_\_\_

Bluebook Test (87 pts.) \_\_\_\_\_

Total score \_\_\_\_\_

**ARTICLE EDITS DIRECTIONS:** Edit the following passage for grammar and punctuation. Make your edits in colored ink on this page. Write the corrected footnotes on a separate sheet. For the purposes of this test, assume the footnote sources support all statements in the text (do not source the cited material). One point will be awarded for each correct change to a footnote. One point will be deducted for each unnecessary change.

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Climate change increasingly poses humanitarian concerns for the international community.<sup>1</sup> Populations that rely on the environment for survival are the most vulnerable to environmental degradation and often the least able to adept to climate changes.<sup>2</sup> Large numbers of “climate change refugees’ from across the globe has already migrated or been displaced from natural disasters and climate changes.<sup>3</sup> Projections of increasing internal and international human migration are are staggering.<sup>4</sup> “This reality raises not only profound justice questions, but also geopolitical, national security, and economic ones. As places become unliveble, climate change refugees will increase, as will the risk of armed conflict in some of the most impacted areas”<sup>5</sup>

Scholar primarily discuss planned relocation and climate change refuge, both roactive and reactive, as a climate change adaptation strategy for least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS).<sup>6</sup> However there is growing concern about the sufficient of legal structures at the International level and in developed nations receiving climate change refugees.<sup>7</sup> Scholars propose independent conventions and domestic legislative Amendment.<sup>8</sup>

This paper propoes legal flexibility as a climate change adaptation strategy for the united states. Proactively creating sufficient legal structures that will protect the rights of those forced to relocate as a result of climate changes, while protecting the economic and national security

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<sup>1</sup> Andrea C. Loux, The Persistence of the Ancient Regime: Custom, Utility, and the Common Law in the Nineteenth Century, 79 Cornell Law Review 183, 210-213 (1993).

<sup>2</sup> Fed. R. Civil Proc. 56(b).

<sup>3</sup> June Carabell, Keith Carabell & Harvey Gordenker v. U.S. Army of Corps of Engineers, 391 Fed.3d 704, 709 (6th Circuit 2006)

<sup>4</sup> Nate Silver, Why It’s Hard to Score the Fiscal Deal, FiveThirtyEight Blog, New York Times (January 3, 2014, 1:45 p.m.), <http://fivethirtyeight.blogs.nytimes.com/2014/01/02/why-its-hard-to-score-the-fiscaldeal/>.

<sup>5</sup> Hari M. Osofsky, McAllister, Leslie K., CLIMATE CHANGE LAW AND POLICY, page 378 (2012).

<sup>6</sup> Connecticut Gen. Statute § 9-365, 2012.

<sup>7</sup> Alex Miller, Sugar Dating: A New Take on an Old Issue, 20 BUFF. J. GENDER, L. & SOC. POL’Y 33, 34 (July 15 2012).

<sup>8</sup> Amy L. Kluesner, And They’re Off: Eliminating Drug Use in Thoroughbred Racing, 3 Harvard Journal of Sports and Entertainment Law 297, 308-310 (2012).

interests of the United States, is a necessary element of a national adaptation plan.<sup>9</sup> Regardless of the growing momentum around recognizing human mobility in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and recent progress in Paris, the United States should take measures to recognize international and internal climate migrants.<sup>10</sup> The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)'s most recent report to policymakers warns that greenhouse gas emissions are at a historical high and clearly influence the climate system.<sup>11</sup> Climate changes already, and will continue, to have 'widespread impacts on human and natural systems.'<sup>12</sup> The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations' refugee agency, has growing concern about climate change and its humanitarian impacts on least developed countries (LDCs)<sup>13</sup> LDCs are "climate change hotspots," where changes will "force people into increasing poverty and displacement, exacerbating the factors that lead to conflict."<sup>14</sup> Increasing climate change-induced displacement poses a complex challenge for responding to humanitarian needs.<sup>15</sup>

Post-industrial economic and population growth drive greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, creating unprecedented atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide.<sup>16</sup> GHG emissions and other anthropogenic forces are extremely likely to have been leading cause of vast changes to the global climate system since the mid-20th century.<sup>17</sup> Earths

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<sup>10</sup> Medtronic, Incorporated. v. Nuvasive, Incorporated, No. IPR2014-00073, Paper 31, at 4 (Patent Trial and Appeal Board October 3, 2014).

<sup>11</sup> Aluminum Scuba Tank Buoyancy Compensation System, US Patent Number 5,788,475 (filed November 5, 1996) (issued August 4, 1998).

<sup>12</sup> Arnold W. Reitze, AIR POLLUTION CONTROL LAW: COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT, 316 (2001).

<sup>13</sup> IACtHR, *Yakye Axa v. Paraguay*, Merits, Reparations and Costs, Judgment, 17 June 2005, para.154; ECtHR, *Horie v. UK*, App. No. 31845/10 February 2011, paras. 28-29.

<sup>14</sup> Kluesner, *supra* 8, at 309.

<sup>15</sup> See Weissbrodt, David and Anti-Slavery International (2002) "Abolishing Slavery and its Contemporary Forms," Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations, New York and Geneva p. 2, available at: <http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/slaveryen.pdf>.

<sup>16</sup> See Rep. of the Working Grp. On China U.N. Doc. A/HRC/11/25, at para.2. (29 May 2009). See: Article five of the ECHR, Council of Europe Treaty Series No. 5, 1950.

<sup>17</sup> The Ruling (Jerusalem District Court) 6749/08/11 2013 State of Israel v D.A. and others, hereinafter: the Jerusalem Court Conviction.

atmosphere and ocean warming while snow and ice are diminishing. Combined land and ocean surface temperatures show a global average warming of 0.85°C from 1880 to 2012.<sup>18</sup>

The IPCC's report also points out that "Each of the last three decades has been successively warmer at the Earth's surface than any preceding decade since 1850," and the last 30 years are likely the warmest 30-year period the Northern Hemisphere has seen in the last 1400 years.<sup>19</sup> Ocean surface waters (upper 75 m) have increased by 0.11°C per decade from 1971 to 2010, and it is "virtually certain" that the upper 700 m of ocean has warmed during the same period.<sup>20</sup>

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<sup>18</sup> Johanna E. Bond, International Intersectionality: A Theoretical and Pragmatic Exploration of Women's International Human Rights Violations. Vol. 52 EMORY LAW JOURNAL 71 (2003) pp. 157-158.

<sup>19</sup> see e.g. UN COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS, General Comment 7, Forced evictions, and the right to adequate housing (Sixteenth session, 1997), U.N. Doc. E/1998/22, annex IV at 113 (20 May 1997), paras. 14 and 16.

<sup>20</sup> See id



**THANK YOU FOR SUBMITTING, GOOD LUCK!**