

2020-2021 ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Election Day Class Cancellation

With the majority of classes held virtually this semester, there is a renewed opportunity to create space for students and other members of your law school community to engage on election day and to coordinate opportunities for poll working and voter protection work. Check out the [Blueprint for Cancelling Classes on Election Day](#) and reach out to Molly Greene at mgreene@acslaw.org to learn more about how you can establish a day of civic service at your school!

Racial Justice and Commitment to Anti-Racism

ACS issued a statement in June emphasizing its commitment to stand with the civil rights community and condemn racism and violence in all their forms. Several ACS chapters have also issued statements affirming that *all* Black Lives Matter and taking concrete steps towards being anti-racist, including interrogating the ways that we each contribute to white supremacy and racism. Reach out to your ACS National Staff to discuss ways to actively engage on these issues.

Constitution in the Classroom (CITC)

Volunteer to Teach a Lesson About the Constitution Virtually! [Constitution in the Classroom](#) gives lawyers and law students the opportunity to teach lessons on various constitutional topics to elementary, middle, and high school students. Our curriculum this year focuses on the timely topic of [Voting Rights](#). ACS encourages members to get involved around Constitution Day (September 17) and Law Day (May 1), but you can organize a Constitution in the Classroom event in your community year-round! Now is a great time to organize a lesson remotely. Please email LCEmails@acslaw.org with any questions or concerns.

Draft an Op-Ed

Consider submitting an op-ed to your local paper (including your school newspaper) about the importance of voting, protecting the rule of law, the [importance of State Attorneys General elections](#), racial justice, judicial nominations, and climate change. If you need ideas for drafting or placement, please email us at LCEmails@acslaw.org.

ACS Volunteer Opportunities

Through ACS's volunteer efforts, we connect lawyers and law students across the country to opportunities tailored to their interests, skills, and schedule. We are constantly looking for volunteers for ongoing research and pro bono projects on topics including [election protection](#), [voting rights](#), immigration, the right to protest, post-conviction relief, and workers' rights. Our volunteer partners include the Time's Up Legal Defense Fund, All Voting is Local, The National Legal Advocacy Network, and more. Information on some of our current projects can be found [here](#). Please sign up on our [volunteer survey](#) or email us at LCEmails@acslaw.org if you'd like to help or if you know of any volunteer opportunities or trainings where our members could be helpful.

Election Season Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers are needed this election season to help with Election Protection and serve as poll workers. The national, nonpartisan Election Protection coalition works year-round to ensure that all voters have an equal opportunity to vote and have that vote count. In addition, poll workers are essential to protect the vote as well, and localities across the country are experiencing critical poll worker shortages. Are you interested in volunteering on election day and/or leading up to election day? [Sign up here](#).

Notice and Comment Initiative

Notice and comment is a key oversight tool for agency activity, particularly in the current political environment, and it's also a great way to develop knowledge in a particular area of the law. This initiative identifies opportunities to comment on key regulations put forth by federal and state agencies. Submitting a comment for a federal or state notice of proposed rulemaking is one of the simplest and essential ways for the public to participate in the rulemaking process. Consider hosting a Notice and Comment event to encourage your members to write and submit comments. Check out [ACS's Notice and Comment Webinar](#). If you are interested in hosting a Notice and Comment event, email LCEmails@acslaw.org with the subject line "Notice and Comment." We are excited to work with you to help your members get engaged with federal and state rulemaking!

Lastly, keep your eyes and ears open to opportunities to engage locally!

Last spring, our University of Texas ACS Student Chapter signed on to a letter directed at their DA asking her to appoint a special prosecutor for a case involving a police shooting. They noted the close relationship between the DA's office and the police department. "As future members of the legal community and your future colleagues, we ask that you appoint an independent special prosecutor to ensure impartial justice." In deciding whether or not to sign on to this letter, the University of Texas ACS Chapter Leaders worked closely with ACS National Staff.