

Good afternoon, all. I hope each of you is well.

Several updates for a Monday.

1. **Everyone in the South Texas community will receive a Zoom license.** Knowing that it is important to be able to create virtual study groups and to connect to peers -- as well as to stay connected with friends and family -- while maintaining social distancing and observing the applicable stay-at-home orders, the college has purchased a site-license agreement with Zoom. This agreement allows us to offer each staff member and student a full, "pro license" version of Zoom. These accounts have no time limit for meetings. Although these Zoom accounts are intended primarily for school-related tasks, you also may use them for social activities such as visiting with family and friends. Please watch for an email from our Technology department with more details.

2. **You might find this conversation on stress-management valuable.** Erica Grigg, from TLAP, presented to Carlos Calderon's Family Law Clinics class today, and we recorded the lecture. Erica presented to the 1L's back in September, and she is exceptional. It was very well-received, and we hope you will find the resource valuable. See it here: <http://stream.stcl.edu/watch.php?vid=0a55792fe>.

3. **Two updates for those taking the Texas Bar Exam:** First, an update from the Texas Board of Law Examiners conversation on Friday:

- The Texas Board of Law Examiners is closely monitoring the feasibility of a July 2020 Texas Bar Exam and is working with the law school deans on recommendations that will be reported to the Supreme Court of Texas no later than May 1.
- The Supreme Court and the BLE's goal is to offer the July bar exam if it is safe to do so, permitted by state and local authorities, and offered by the NCBE.
- The Supreme Court and the BLE's goal is to offer one more Texas Bar Exam before Texas transitions to the UBE.
- The BLE will be sending email updates, as well, to all who have applied to take the July Texas Bar Exam.

Second, the NCBE has identified on their websites two separate dates for a fall bar exam: Sept. 9-10 and Sept. 30-Oct.1. As I mentioned two weeks go, this does not yet mean that Texas will hold a bar exam on those dates. Those dates are fall-back dates should July not be feasible. In other words, there is not likely to be a decision on the timing of the bar exam until at least the first week of May.

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Wrapping up for today . . .

I haven't had an opportunity to mention this, but I am a huge college basketball fan. I love March Madness. In fact, one year ago tonight I was at U.S. Bank Stadium in

Minneapolis watching my Virginia Cavaliers cutting down the net as National Champions. It's silly, I know, but filling out a bracket and watching March Madness is something I've done with my girls for years, and I very much missed having that opportunity this year.

I realize that all of us have had to adjust to our new normal. Just speaking for me: we had to postpone my wife's mother's funeral; my nephew and his fiancée had to postpone their wedding; and I haven't been out of the building, except to run, for three weeks. I am sure that all of us have similar experiences as our routines and expectations for the spring have been disrupted. Sometimes, it becomes very easy to focus on what we miss, rather than on what we have.

That is one reason I have been so pleased to see so many stepping in to focus on the good that is inherent in us all. If you haven't seen the 93-year-old Queen Elizabeth address the U.K. on Sunday, check it out; she is an institution. And, you might also watch this Sunday's episode of "Some Good News", John Krasinski's new online show - particularly if you like *Hamilton*; his nine-year-old guest will never forget it.

So many are doing so much good -- and giving hope to so many. The human spirit is a remarkable thing!

So, I will look forward to March Madness next year. Go 'Hoos!

And, I also will look forward to seeing you on campus soon.

In the meantime, be well and be safe!

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