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April 18, 2014

Richard L. Hasen  
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Dear Professor Hasen,

I am writing to personally thank you for the tremendous public service that you provide via the election law list serve and election law blog. The list serve in particular provides an open and accessible forum for informative discussion and debate among legal scholars and professionals from a variety of backgrounds and view points; it is a true marketplace of ideas. I greatly appreciate all the time and effort that you devote to maintaining the list serve, as well as your judicious and tolerant approach to moderating comments. You consistently achieve a balance between the goals of civility and open participation (a task none of us envy!).

The election law blog is also a useful service and valuable intellectual activity. While that forum is more of an outlet for opinionated commentary from a select group of legal experts, it is nevertheless a resource for many scholars and certainly a spur for further discussion on the list serve. And it is no exaggeration to say that the group that participates in the election law blog is a veritable Who's Who of election law experts (albeit necessarily not an exhaustive list).

While I often disagree with your opinions, I enthusiastically applaud your efforts and engagement. Too few scholars seek to connect academic research to the real world; but hardly any are entrepreneurial in fostering such connections. And none approach your vigor and success in this capacity. The election law community that you have conjured into existence is truly unique and valuable, even to those of us that are neither lawyers nor active posters.

As a social scientist engaged in academic research on election law issues, I benefit from the constant (sometimes incessant) stream of news updates on the progress of various legal cases, timely analysis of judicial decisions, and the wide ranging discussions relating public policy, law, current events and relevant scholarship. The listserve and blog are not just vehicles to disseminate news and ideas; they serve to spark creative activity in myself and countless others.

I also want to express my appreciation to UC-Irvine for its support of your efforts in maintaining both the election law list serve and the election law blog site. If ever you have reason to do so, please use this letter or call on me to endorse the scholarly and professional merit of these activities. It would be an honor and a pleasure to have even such a small role in supporting your continued service to the academic and legal professions.

Sincerely,

Jeff Milyo