Welcome to ONU Law! The “small school” environment of ONU Law School, together with the personal attention and the wealth of knowledge and experience of ONU law professors have allowed me to harness the skills that I use every day in my practice.

Prior to attending ONU Law, I graduated from Cornell University with my undergraduate degree and earned my master’s degree from Buffalo State College. I thought that my background had properly prepared me for law school. However, the rigorous courses and the knowledge of the professors, combined with the one-on-one attention that you receive at ONU, made law school one of the toughest challenges that I had ever faced in my quest to become an attorney. There was nowhere to hide. The professors challenged me with each question and with each case. With each passing day, I found myself engaging in some of the most mind blowing thought processes in order to maneuver my way through class. At the end of the day, thanks to my preparation at ONU, I have found that there is no case too complex, no theory too complicated, and no legal challenge too large to overcome. I always feel prepared.

Practicing law for 7 years in the Washington DC Metro Area I have had the opportunity to be involved in some of the most challenging types of cases, one of which was appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. I have litigated cases against some of the best attorneys in the DC area. It takes years of practice to master the art of preparing a case for trial. You need a solid foundation in the fundamentals of the law to begin the mastery of this process. Often times, I find that even the attorneys who belong to the most prestigious Washington DC law firms have difficulty because they are not used to the rigors of trial preparation and lack some of the foundations that I gained at ONU. I use that to my advantage to gain the ‘extra edge’ that I need to do best job on behalf of my client. The solid foundation that I gained after enduring the rigors of ONU Law is the reason why I am able to gain that edge in my everyday practice.

Further, the connections that I have formed with my professors are just as important to me as the knowledge that I have gained. In fact, I still keep in contact with my former law school professors, some of whom I speak to on a daily basis. There are times where I would like to get a second opinion of a particular issue or case of first impression, where I am able to call one of my former professors just to get their opinion. I do not know of any other school where that would be the case.

I cannot stress enough the importance of my experience at ONU Law School and how it has properly prepared me for the practice of law. I hope that you too have that experience and join me as an ONU Law School Alum. Good luck to you in your decision and in your future endeavors, wherever they may lead you.

Sincerely,

Richard I. Hutson, Esq.