

# A Recent Alumni Story...

Dear Future Attorney:

**C**ongratulations on your decision to attend law school! I'm thrilled to hear you are considering joining the Ohio Northern Pettit College of Law family. Your law school experience will transform the way you think and will open doors you never thought possible.



My experience at ONU changed my life. Not only did I receive a personal legal education, but I made incredible friendships that have benefitted my life personally and professionally. I attended a large university during my undergraduate studies, but knew I wanted and needed something different for graduate school. I was looking for an educational opportunity where I wouldn't get lost in a crowd. I didn't want to be distracted from the important task at hand of learning the law and I wanted to find a law school where I would get to know my peers and not just compete against them. Most importantly, I wanted to go to a place that would help me find a job and pass the bar exam.

Ohio Northern offered me all these things and much more. I was immediately drawn to the small class sizes and student teacher ratio that ensured that I would know my professors and they would know me. At ONU, you aren't just a name on a seating chart, your professors take a genuine interest getting to know their students and understanding their career goals. During my years of study at ONU, I saw countless examples of professors going above and beyond class time and office hours to make sure my classmates and I had all the tools we needed to be successful and to help us reach our goals.

Ada and the Ohio Northern University campus serve as an ideal setting to focus on your studies. There is no doubt that the community embraces the university and its students. I wanted to be in a place where I could maintain my focus on my legal education. Ada provided a great environment to get to know my classmates outside of the classroom and to forge friendships that would last beyond our years on campus. I became friends with many of my classmates at ONU and that is not something you always see in law school. Other attorneys I interact with seem surprised by how many people I stay in contact with from law school, how well I know my classmates, and how much we try to help each other succeed in our careers. The ONU alumni community is strong and we believe in helping one another succeed. My law classmates and I will regularly communicate about job opportunities and provide introductions to employers. My first two jobs in the legal world were offered to me through ONU alumni connections.

I can say from personal experience, the thing that sets Ohio Northern apart are the people. The faculty and staff of ONU go above and beyond to make sure the students have the best experience possible. The entire administration works tirelessly to ensure that the curriculum, clinic experiences, internships, and extra-curricular activities bolster the skills of the law students to ensure ONU graduates transition into effective practitioners. The ONU administration fosters a family atmosphere that celebrates the accomplishments of students and alumni and sincerely supports one another during life's challenges. The bonds I forged with my classmates have transcended graduation, job changes, and moving around the country. I know we will continue to support one another as we advance in our careers and I look forward to supporting you during your journey. On behalf of the ONU Law alumni, welcome to the family, we are so happy to have you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephanie Swiger".

Stephanie Swiger, JD 2011

Assistant Director of Enforcement, National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) - Indianapolis, Indiana