

January 3, 2023

Board of Governors/Directors  
North Carolina Bar Association/Foundation  
8000 Weston Parkway  
Cary, NC 27513

Dear Board of Governors/Directors:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this report in lieu of a personal appearance at the January 19, 2023 meeting of the NC Bar Association/ Foundation.

Following Luke Bierman's service as Dean, I have been honored to serve as Interim Dean for the past year. Elon Law expects to conclude its national search for its fourth dean, and there will likely be an announcement about the new Dean this winter. We look forward to introducing you to our new Dean in the coming months.

Elon Law has recently celebrated several important milestones. December saw the graduation of 127 students in Elon Law's Class of 2022 in a ceremony highlighted by remarks from NCBA President-Elect Patti Ramseur. This was our 15<sup>th</sup> Commencement since our founding in 2006 and the sixth under our highly experiential curriculum, which features a Residency in Practice that places each Elon Law student in judicial chambers or legal officers under the supervision of experienced attorneys and judges. We appreciate the many members of the NCBA who assist in educating our students with these exceptional practical experiences.

A highlight of the fall term was the return of our study abroad opportunity to South Africa. Professor Patricia Perkins and Eric Townsend, director of law school communications, led a group of students on the December trip as part of Professor Perkins' "Prisoners' Rights" course. The group visited with court and prison system officials, as they compared the prison systems of South Africa and the United States. The fall trimester also featured a successful Elon Law Review Symposium on the Law of COVID-19, a global webinar on the integrity of our voting system and specifically voting machine technology, the first in-person Billings, Exum & Frye National Moot Court Competition in three years, which drew 36 law schools from 25 law schools across the country, and the first Distinguished Leadership Lecture since 2019, featuring acclaimed legal affairs journalist Dan Abrams.

I look forward to reporting in a few months on all the exciting accomplishments of our students and faculty in 2023. Thank you for this opportunity to report on Elon Law's recent achievements and for your support in mentoring and educating our students about the privileges and responsibilities of our profession.

Sincerely,

Alan D. Woodlief, Jr.  
Interim Dean  
Professor of Law