The Pennsylvania Bar Association Quarterly
Writers’ Guidelines

The Pennsylvania Bar Association welcomes submissions of, and proposals for, articles for its scholarly journal, Pennsylvania Bar Association Quarterly. The Quarterly is published in January, April, July, and October as a service to the members of the association and the legal profession at large. With a print circulation of more than 20,000, it is distributed to members of the PBA, the news media, and law and community libraries, as well as being posted on Westlaw, Lexis and other platforms.

The Quarterly is a publication of analysis and opinion regarding substantive legal issues and developments. Authors must be duly licensed attorneys at law.

Please submit your manuscript to us exclusively. The Quarterly does not publish material previously published elsewhere, nor do we publish case notes focused on one particular case. We review articles in a timely fashion and make every effort to honor requests for expedited review.

We require authors to sign a publication agreement that grants the PBA first serial rights to an article and allows the PBA to distribute the article by both print and electronic means.

Length and format

Articles generally run about 5,000-7,000 words, including a table of contents, two or three paragraph abstract, and footnotes (not endnotes). Articles in excess of 7,000 words total will not normally be considered for publication. Footnotes should conform to the latest edition of The Bluebook. Please submit articles prepared in Microsoft Word files via email.

Style guidance:
- Manuscripts should be prepared double-spaced and indented for paragraphs.
- Headings and Subheadings, as appropriate, are recommended.
- Please turn off Track Changes.
- Authors should include a maximum two-sentence biographical note to accompany article.

Queries and unsolicited manuscripts

The Quarterly prefers to receive advance queries about proposed articles by email, although unsolicited manuscripts will be considered. Writers querying The Quarterly for the first time should provide their credentials. Your query should describe the article you have in mind, why the topic would be important or interesting to our readers, and what specific approach or focus you intend to take. A tight, well-planned focus is crucial.

Our editorial calendar usually is set four to six months in advance of the publication date. We sometimes open space to accommodate a late-breaking article, but most of the time our articles are planned many months ahead.

Contact information:

Penn State Dickinson School of Law Prof. Bob Rains, editor
rer10@psu.edu
717-240-5241