



EX ANTE

OUR MISTAKES

Shortly after our Autumn issue went to press, Ralph Moore, the author of “*Shuffling Sam Thompson and Other Notes from the 1959 Term*,” 19 GREEN BAG 2D 55 (2015), sent us this note:

An error (mine) on page 64 of my piece on the 1959 Term of the Supreme Court has come to my attention. There is an assertion on that page that seven Justices now sitting attended the Harvard Law School. However, three of the sitting Justices attended and graduated from the Yale Law School, which leaves only six to attend Harvard. Which, of course, is the correct number, counting Justice Ginsburg, who started at Harvard and finished at Columbia. That concentration of educational experience contrasts to the situation during the 1959 Term, during which two of the Justices came from Harvard and the other seven all came from seven different law schools scattered around the country. That was reflected in the rather wider distribution of schools from which the law clerks came in those days. It would not be a bad policy for Justices to follow the examples of Justices Black and Douglas, who always took a clerk (in Douglas’s case his only clerk) from the Circuit to which they were assigned, or the Chief, who always took one clerk from the West and the others from around the rest of the country. My apologies for miscounting.

Then, shortly after the issue went into the mail, we received a tactful note from attentive reader Adam Liptak:

I suspect that I am not the first to point out that Ralph J. Moore Jr.’s charming essay on serving as a law clerk to Chief Justice Warren contained a small error. He writes that “seven of the Justices

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sitting today attended the Harvard Law School.” The right number is six. Justices Thomas, Alito and Sotomayor attended Yale.

It is heartening both to have the Moore article corrected and to know that we have such attentive and knowledgeable authors and readers. It is, however, also a little bit embarrassing to be editors who are neither as attentive nor as knowledgeable as the people we are supposed to be supporting and serving.

EXEMPLARY LEGAL WRITING 2015

Congratulations to the *Green Bag* “exemplary legal writing” honorees for 2015. Samples of their good work appear in the forthcoming 2016 edition of the *Green Bag Almanac & Reader*. They are:

