

Yours is a Very Bad Law Review.

A jazz riff off [Yours is a Very Bad Hotel.](#)

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Last summer, I responded to a call for papers on the Rule of Law.

- Emory Law's *Emory Corporate Governance and Accountability Review (ECGAR)* asked for submissions.
- I wrote an article using rudimentary game theory to try to understand why some law firms faced with executive orders fought and others settled.

I expected the issue to be published quickly.

- On August 30, 2025, I executed a publication agreement for that issue.
- Given that the topic was “the rule of law,” and that *ECGAR* was an online journal, I had high hopes.
- On November 11, 2025, I received an email from the Editor in Chief that the first round of substantive edits would come to me on November 21, 2025.

NOVEMBER 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

All of the substantive edits were to be finished in January 2026:

JANUARY 2026						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

The point of the issue was to have a timely discussion about the rule of law.



The edits were good, and the student editors were responsive and courteous.

But, in the end, there were multiple delays.



That delay
wasn't all bad.

Every delay meant that I
could include more
information about the
latest developments
regarding the law firm
executive orders.



But each month's delay meant that the issue was becoming less and less timely.

The advantage of publishing in an online journal is supposed to be speed.



Typically, journal publication delays are caused by getting late responses from authors. The more authors who take too long to return edits, the longer the delay.



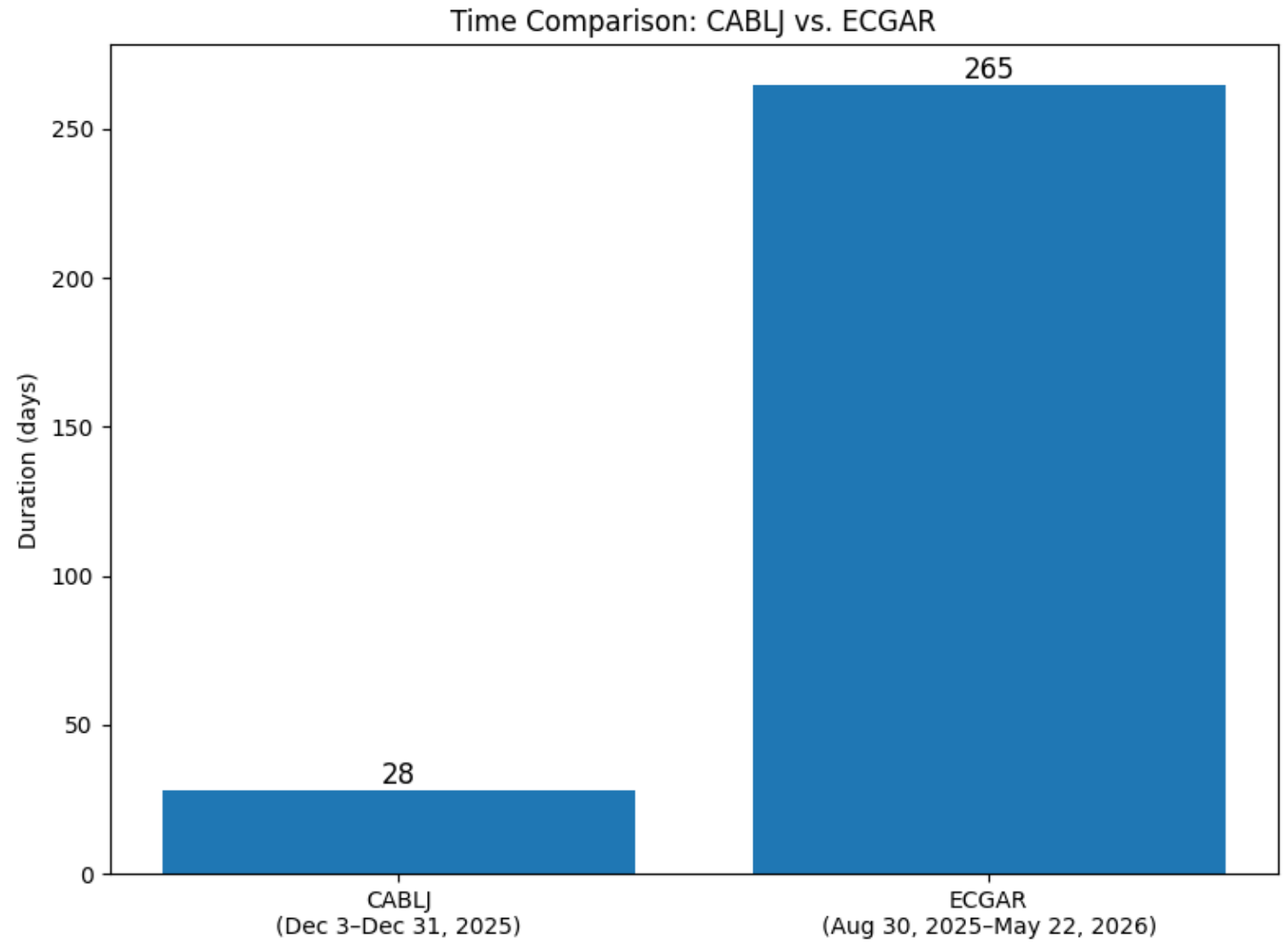
ECGAR is an online journal.

- Because it's online, “going to the publisher” is a lot less involved than it is for a print journal.
- In the end, the issue had only four authors.

Here's a
comparison:

- When my co-authors and I were published in Arizona State's Corporate and Business Law Journal, which is also an online journal, the whole process, start to finish, was under a month (28 days).
- ECGAR took 265 days from start to finish.

That's 9.5 times longer.



What might account for the difference in publication periods?

Was it the students' fault?

Probably not, though perhaps they could have prodded the authors to return their edits more promptly.

But one of my friends was also an author in the issue, and she turned around the edits quickly, as did I.

What can student editors do when authors are late with their manuscripts?

They can turn to their faculty advisor.



That's what I did.

I asked ECGAR's
faculty advisor to
help the students
move the
publication
along.

What I got:

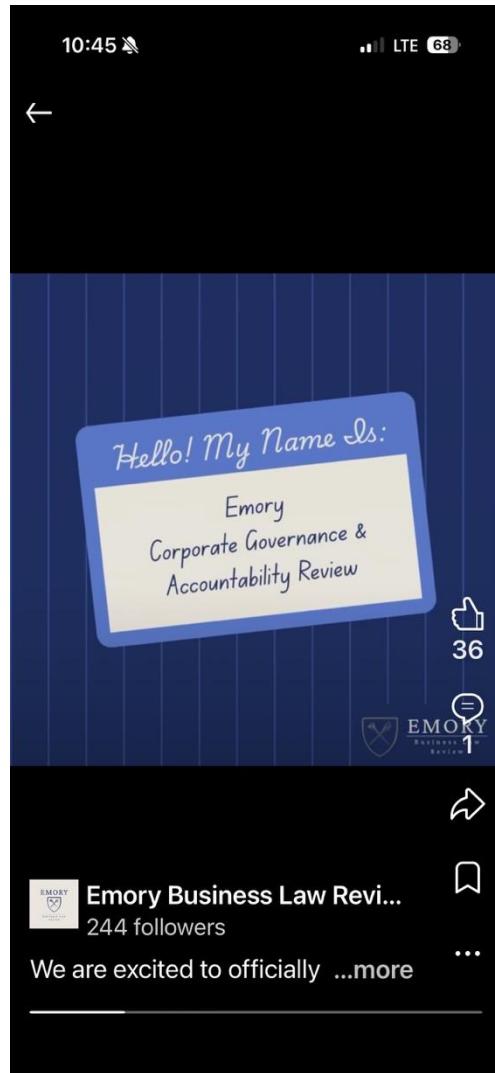


And not just from the faculty advisor.

- I reached out to more administrators at Emory to explain that the timeliness of the issue was important to all of the authors.
- My guess? Emory was uncomfortable publishing an issue criticizing the administration.
 - But my article is now out.

And ECGAR? Well, it has ceased to be.

IT'S GONE FROM THIS:



TO THIS:



So, before you consider publishing in the new version of this journal

