How To Get Started IN PRIVACY LAW

1. If you’re still in law school:
   - Take courses in data privacy law, admin law, international law, computer crime, intellectual property, constitutional law.
   - Take courses outside the law school in technical areas (computer science, cybersecurity) or business.
   - Create a privacy-related writing sample through a journal note or seminar paper and try to get it included in the IAPP Daily Dashboard.
   - Practice privacy skills through an internship or externship with a local in-house privacy lawyer, government privacy office, think tank or civil rights advocacy organization.

2. Seek out post-graduate fellowships.
   - There are many available in organizations with a privacy focus such as the IAPP, FPF, or others.

3. Look beyond Big Law.
   - Don’t limit yourself as to where you might work or what your title might be: Consider in-house positions in compliance or legal departments, or openings in state and federal government offices. Consulting firms often hire recent law school graduates as well.

4. Search.
   - There are a variety of privacy careers listed on the IAPP’s Career Central page, or on USAJobs.gov.

5. Write about privacy issues.
   - Pick a niche that interests you, get smart about it, and start writing: blogs, papers, op-eds, even tweetstorms, all help you stand out in the field.
   - Platforms like LinkedIn and Medium make it easy to self-publish. But also consider reaching out to the editor of the IAPP’s Publications, who will often publish or link to your work.

   - Become a member of the IAPP and the Privacy Bar.
   - Attend privacy conferences, KnowledgeNet Chapter Meetings, and After Hours events. Some conferences provide scholarships for students. Or pitch a session for a speaker pass.
   - Reach out to privacy professionals in your community and arrange to meet for coffee.
   - Subscribe to a privacy law listserv such as the IAPP Privacy List.

   - Learn to follow your data. Understand where it goes and who controls it.
   - Learn how to manage your privacy with mobile device settings, encryption, etc.

8. Earn privacy credentials.
   - Get certified as a privacy professional.
   - Earn privacy-related continuing education credits through conferences, trainings, etc.

   - Follow interesting people (and those they follow) on Twitter and/or other social media.

10. Find a niche.
    - Pick a piece of privacy legislation and make it your specialty. You have to start somewhere and having a home base makes it easier to wrap your head around how the law works. A particular interest also demonstrates to employers that you are dedicated to the field.

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