

**American Bar Association
Law Student Division
May 2009 Update**

**ABA Networking Opportunities, Activities, Programs,
Internships, and Scholarships for Law Students**

Law Student Division Activities and Deadlines

Law Student Division Competitions

2009-2010 Competition Entry Forms Coming in June

Entry forms for the 2009-2010 competition season will be available June 1, 2009. Watch our [Competitions website](#) for details and eligibility requirements.

**ABA Law Student Division
2009-2010 National Leadership Positions Still Available**

**ABA Law Student Division Creates Two National Leadership Positions
Applications must be received no later than May 19, 2009 (5:00 p.m. CST)**

The Division's Board of Governors recently created two national Project Director positions to maximize the ABA Law Student Division's opportunities to create and provide benefits for law students. Both positions have one-year terms.

- Project Director - Law Student Mental Health Initiative
- Project Director - Veterans Advocacy Initiative

These Project Director positions will be an integral part of the Division's national leadership team to ensure the continuity of and focus on the Mental Health Initiative and the Veterans Advocacy Initiative and to be responsible for coordinating and administering these programs. The Project Directors will focus their efforts on:

- Serving as a link between law schools, law students and the ABA Law Student Division;
- Updating and researching information for their respective web portals and toolkits; and
- Maintaining a communication pipeline regarding their assigned project with law students and other entities with similar interests.

[More information about the Projector Directors, position descriptions and an application form.](#)

**Delegates to the ABA House of Delegates
Nomination Deadline: June 1, 2009 (postmarked)**

The ABA House of Delegates has the ultimate responsibility for establishing Association policy both as to the administration of the Association and its positions on professional and public issues. Delegates to the House of Delegates are responsible for attending each meeting of the House, participating fully in its proceedings, and discharging the responsibilities of the House. Additionally, it is the responsibility of each delegate to keep his/her constituency fully apprised of actions taken by the House and, to the extent possible, matters pending before the House, and to assist constituent entities in presenting issues of concern for debate and action taken by the House.

The Law Student Division elects three Delegates to the ABA House of Delegates to serve a one-year term. In short, these delegates are responsible for:

- Representing the Division to the ABA House of Delegates and advocating Division positions to other ABA entities;
- Working for ABA House of Delegates adoption of Division resolutions, co-sponsored resolutions, and resolutions directly affecting law students filed with the House;
- Serving as the main contact and coordinators to the 65+ Law Student Division liaisons to other ABA entities; and
- Maintaining a webpage on the Division's website devoted to updating the membership regarding legislation on Capitol Hill and within the ABA on issues relevant to law students.

[Additional Information about the Delegate position and a Nomination Form](#)

Vice Chair - Student Bar Associations

Nomination Deadline: June 1, 2009 (postmarked)

Student Bar Associations are an essential link between the Division and law students around the country. SBA Presidents bring the concerns and issues of their students to a regional and national level. The Vice Chair-SBA serves as the voice and representative of SBAs on a national level. Serving a one-year term, the Vice Chair-SBA is responsible for:

- Strengthening relationships between the SBA and ABA organizations at local, regional and national levels;
- Facilitating discussions with SBA Presidents regarding issues of concern to law schools, law students, and legal education;
- Representing the interests of student bar association and assisting these organization leaders in drafting/filing policy recommendations on behalf of SBA Presidents;
- Maintaining and developing resources and materials for the Division's SBA webpage, handbook, conferences and law school chapters.

[<>Additional Information about the Vice Chair-SBA position and a Nomination Form](#)

ABA Annual Meeting Provides Opportunity for Law Students to Connect, Lead and Learn

ABA Annual Meeting

July 30-August 4, 2009 - Chicago, Illinois

Career Fair: July 30, 2009

Law Student Division Activities: July 29-August 2, 2009

- [ABA Law Student Division PRELIMINARY Schedule of Events](#)
- [Tell me about the Career Fair and Resume Review](#)
- **May 29, 2009 - Early Bird Advance Registration Deadline:**
\$50 LSD Members/\$75 ABA Non-Member law students
- **May 30-July 7, 2009 - Advance Registration:**
\$75 LSD Members/\$100 ABA Non-Member law students
- **July 7, 2009 –Advance Registration and Housing "Final" Deadline**
- [ABA Annual Meeting Registration and Housing Forms](#)

Registration fee includes admittance to the Career Fair and a Law Student "all access to CLE" meeting badge. Below is a small sampling of the vast number of educational programs taking place during the Chicago Annual Meeting.

Law Practice Management

The Credit Crisis - How Compensation Practices Adversely Affect the Advancement of Women and Minorities in the Law and How We Must Change Them

Thursday, July 30 (10:30 a.m. - 12:00 Noon)

Explore the extent to which present practices within the profession account for a disturbingly disproportionate allocation of money and power away from women and minorities in law firms. A panel of general counselors and managing partners will address how to fundamentally change these practices in order to effectuate real advancement of women and minorities in the profession.

General Practice Solo and Small Firm Practice

Solo Day: THE HOW & TAO OF LEGAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Friday, July 31, 2009 (8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.)

This will be a two track program focusing on so-called "hard" and "soft" skills and issues affecting law firm formation and growth.

Part I (8:30am-10:00am): The "HOW" program will focus on fundamental business start up issues and skills such as preparing business plans for the firm's use or for lenders, principals of budgeting, cash flow projections and other financial aspects necessary for planning and growth.

Part II (2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.): The "TAO" part will focus on the law firm as an entrepreneurial enterprise, and include discussions on entrepreneurship, leadership, core firm and personal values, and their importance in ensuring growth for the firm.

General Practice Solo and Small Firm Practice

Historical Trial - The Insanity Trial of Mrs. Abraham Lincoln

Friday, July 31, 2009 (2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.)

Only ten years after Abraham Lincoln was assassinated, a Chicago court found his widow insane and committed her to a mental institution? Was she really insane or did her son, attorney Robert Todd Lincoln, conspire against her? Join forensic expert, Professor James Starrs, psychologist Dr. Darlene Shelton, trial consultant David Weinberg, and trial lawyers Carlin Phillips and Shain Khoshbin as they retry this historic case before the Honorable George Leighton using modern technology, forensic science and audience participation.

Science and Technology Law

Seven Secrets Every Lawyer Must Know to Survive and Thrive... Even in a Recession

Saturday, August 1 (10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.)

2009 is shaping up to be a red-ink year for lawyers and law firms. Thousands of lawyers nationwide have been laid off, and the lawyers who remain are learning to cope with less support following thousands more staff layoffs. But there's another side to this story. Not all lawyers or law firms are suffering. Some are holding their own... And some are thriving. How can you learn to thrive as a rainmaker, as a lawyer just starting a practice, or as a job candidate, even in this unprecedented economic climate?

ABA Economic Recovery Resources

Find the latest information from the ABA on how to get through the economic downturn. Our Economic Recovery Resources portal contains resources and tips on a variety of topics from job searching, to practice management, to professional development and more. [Tell me more](#)

ABA Recession Recovery Teleconference Series

How's the recession affecting you? Need some insight on navigating these troubled economic times? Listen in to the **ABA Recession Recovery Teleconference Series, free to all ABA Law Student Division members**. These four teleconferences feature expert faculty providing practical tips and strategies for succeeding in today's career climate. Programs will focus on marketing yourself, succeeding as a solo practitioner, adapting to the new legal environment, and stabilizing your outlook in an unstable world. [Tell me more](#)

How to Sell Yourself: Developing the Perfect Pitch

Tuesday, May 19, 2009 (1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time)

Listen in to practical insights on how to strike just the right note – on paper and in person – to land a job, get a promotion or attract new business. An expert faculty will address important national and regional job market trends; resume and interviewing tips and techniques; how to make the right impression; how to craft that 30-second elevator pitch; and finding professional development opportunities. [Tell me more](#)

Solutions: Overcoming the Obstacles of Going and Being Solo in a Down Economy

Tuesday, June 2, 2009 (1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time)

Listen as both seasoned as well as new solo practitioners discuss the steps involved in setting-up shop as a first-time solo. This expert faculty will address some of the nuts and bolts of the practice such as: engagement letters, insurance issues, technology challenges, office logistics and the development of billing models. Additionally, they will share their strategy for building a client base as well collecting fees in a down economy. [Tell me more](#)

Recession-Proof Yourself: Take Control in a Down Economy

Tuesday, June 16, 2009 (1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time)

Just because the economy is out of whack doesn't mean your professional life has to be. This teleconference will help you build a solid foundation to reach your career development goals and financial stability. Find out what you can do right now to take a proactive approach to safeguarding your financial future. Discover the fundamentals for career success and fulfillment by evaluating what you want and assessing your priorities. Learn how to develop a manageable plan and how to breakdown your goals into smaller steps and how to determine and maintain a healthy work-life balance. Panelists will share the best networking resources and techniques and help you find and utilize technologies to aid you in your professional development. [Tell me more](#)

Staying Positive in a Down Economy: Beyond the "Group Hug"

Tuesday, June 30, 2009 (1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time)

Whether you're helping your friends or yourself, this teleconference will help you restore morale both at home or in the office. Learn techniques to help your laid-off friends and classmates find the motivation they need to get out of their PJs in the morning. Panelist will give tips on how to stay positive and motivated; alleviate stress/depression in a down

economy; help others while helping yourself through pro bono and public service; and how to set up a schedule and a transition team to call and check in on them. [Tell me more](#)

ABA Entities Offer Law Students Opportunities to Build a Networking Base and a Strong Resume

Taxation

Public Service Fellowship

Application Deadline: August 1, 2009

Applications for the Tax Section's Public Service Fellowships are now being accepted! The Fellowships provide funding for recent law students or judicial clerks who commit to working in a tax-related 501(c)(3) organization for two years. The Fellowships were established last year to address the need for tax legal assistance, and to foster an interest in tax-related public service among those individuals who participate. [Tell me more](#)

Domestic Violence

Annual Law Student Writing Competition

Entry Deadline: May 31, 2009 (5:00 p.m. EST)

Law students are invited to submit articles addressing domestic violence and the law from a national or international perspective. Submissions must further the legal needs of victims of domestic violence or domestic violence victims and their children, or advance efforts to address the incidence, causes and effects of intimate partner violence. Entries should be emailed to runger@staff.abanet.org. Winners will be notified in August 2009. [Tell me more](#)

Public Utility, Communications & Transportation Law

Student Writing Contest

Entry Deadline: June 1, 2009

ABA Law Student Division members are invited to participate in this writing contest. The winner will receive a cash prize of \$2,500, free Section membership, airfare and hotel accommodations to attend the Section's Fall Council Meeting. [Tell me more](#)

State and Local Government

Smith-Babcock-Williams Writing Competition

Entry Deadline: June 8, 2009

ABA Law Student Division members are invited to pose and elaborate upon a question of significance in planning law, land use law, local government law or environmental law. The winning entry will be awarded a prize of \$2,500 and will be submitted for publication in /The Urban Lawyer/, the law journal of the ABA Section of State & Local Government Law. In addition to the first prize, the Competition will offer a second place prize of \$1,000 and up to two Honorable Mentions of \$250. For details, contact [the Section of State and Local Government](#).

Public Education

Law Day Activity Award

Entry Deadline: June 12, 2009

A new category has been added to the Law Day Activity Awards this year to showcase achievements by law students. For a Law Day program to be considered it must be conducted by law students, highlight the 2009 Law Day theme, expand public awareness of the rule of law, reach people through media coverage, and extend beyond Law Day by involving local schools or community members. Winners will receive an inscribed plaque, a \$100 credit toward purchase at the Law Day store and prominent feature in the 2010 Law Day Planning Guide and website. [Tell me more](#)

Dispute Resolution

Boskey ADR Writing Competition

Entry Deadline: June 15, 2009

This competition is designed to promote greater interest in and understanding of the field of dispute resolution and collaborative decision-making among students enrolled in ABA-approved law schools and also graduate programs in the United States and abroad. The essay may address any aspect of dispute resolution practice, theory or research that the contestant chooses. First Prize: \$1,000 to the competition winner and posting of the winning essay and runner-up online. [Tell me more](#)

Real Property, Trust & Estates- Trust and Estate Division

2009 RPTE Student Writing Competition

Entry Deadline: June 19, 2009

Open to all ABA Law Student Division members who are also members of the Section of Real Property, Trust & Estate Law. Students may write about any timely topic addressing real property, trust or estate law. The winner will receive \$2,500 and travel to the Section's Fall Meeting. For contest questions, please contact [Amanda Pauli](#). [Tell me more](#)

Air and Space Law and Rolls-Royce

Air and Space Writing Competition

Entry Deadline: October 2, 2009

Entrants must submit their own original article addressing a topic relevant to the aerospace industry. The first-place winner will receive \$3,000 and the second-place winner will receive a \$2,000 prize. Contact [Dawn Holiday](#) for details and more information.>/p>

Visit www.abanet.org/lsd/competitions/writing-contests/ for a complete listing of law student writing competitions, scholarships, and awards available from ABA entities.

Enhance Your Legal Education Without Leaving Home ABA Live Teleconferences and Audio Webcasts

Litigation

Litigation Fundamentals: Opening Statement

May 21, 2009 (1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time)

Part one of a six part series titled "Access to Justice". Learn the applicable law related to opening statements, relevant motions, contents from the plaintiff's and defendant's perspectives and techniques to use when making an opening statement. This program is offered free to the first 250 registrants who are legal services/pro bono attorneys or ABA Law Student Division members as part of the "Access to Justice" initiative. [Tell me more](#)

Health Law

Fundamental of Tax-Exempt Health Care Organizations

May 21 (12:00 Noon - 1:30 p.m. Eastern Time)

Learn the fundamentals of forming and operating a tax-exempt healthcare organization, such as a hospital, nursing home, home healthcare provider, or assisted living facility. This program will focus on requirements for obtaining and retaining federal and state tax exemption for a healthcare organization. For unpublished discounts for ABA Law Student Division members, contact [Sheena Wade](#). [Tell me more](#)

Business Law

The 8th Annual Commercial Law Developments Update

July 16, 2009 (1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Eastern Time)

This teleconference is a comprehensive review of recent critical developments in commercial law. These developments include recent decisions under UCC Article 9 as well as those involving guaranties, letters of credit, intellectual property, and consumer law. For unpublished discounts for ABA Law Student Division members, contact [Enna Rois](#). [Tell me more](#)

Science and Technology Law

Challenges and Opportunities for Law Students and Graduates in a Troubled and Unsettled Economic Environment

Online Lunch & Learn Presentation from Suffolk University Law School

[Access the 2009 SciTech Lunch & Learn iTunes Presentation](#)

CLE Now!

[Free CLE](#) is now accessible to ABA members. Programs are digital downloads that you can access at your convenience. [Visit the ABA website](#) for a complete list of ABA CLE, including Live Teleconferences and Audio Web casts.

Strengthen Your Legal Education Experience While Building a Strong Network

Litigation

3rd Annual National Institute on E-Discovery

May 22, 2009

Hotel Sax (333 N. Dearborn Street, Chicago, IL)

E-discovery has shaken up litigation across America. Judges must deal with e-discovery, issues unheard of ten years ago. Arbitrators are trying to figure out its impact in international and domestic arbitration. Learn practical solutions for adopting and dealing with electronically stored information (ESI) from legal professional who must adjust their legal strategies to accommodate this new era of e-discovery. Scholarships are available from the ABA Center for Continuing Legal Education for Law Student Division members to attend this program. [Tell me more](#)

Intellectual Property Law

Free Roundtable - Environmental Marketing Roundtable

Thursday, June 4, 2009 (12:00 Noon - 1:30 p.m.)

Law Firm of Winston & Strawn LLP (200 Park Avenue, New York, NY)

This interactive discussion on the legal issues surrounding the evolving area of environmental marketing will include a free lunch. To register, please email tarenth@moritthock.com or adam@lustigmanfirm.com

Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice

5th Annual Administrative Law & Regulatory Practice Institute

June 10, 2009

National Press Club (Washington, DC)

Sessions include: OIRA Oversight in the Obama Administration; Structuring an Effective Comment Process for Rulemaking; Congressional Oversight of Agency Rulemaking; Rulemaking in Crisis Situations; and Effective Appellate Advocacy in Agency Rulemaking and Adjudication Cases: The Judicial Perspective. Registration is discounted to \$25 for law student members of the Section of Administrative Law & Regulatory Practice (membership is free), and includes lunch. [Tell me more](#)

Business Law

11th Annual National Institute on Bank Law Basics

June 15-17, 2009

Hotel Nikko (222 Mason Street, San Francisco, CA)

This fundamental banking law course was developed to provide practitioners with an understanding of the basic laws and regulations governing banks and bank holding companies. The course is a comprehensive introduction to banking law regulations for attorneys, consultants, and bank professionals who intend to work in the field. It is also a refresher course for experienced banking law practitioners who practice in a limited area and will benefit from the broad exposure this institute provides. Also included is a two-hour segment on ethical considerations in the representation of banking organizations. Scholarships are available from the ABA Center for Continuing Legal Education for Law Student Division members to attend this program. [Tell me more](#)

Mental and Physical Disability Law

2nd Annual National Conference on the Employment of Lawyers with Disabilities

June 15-16, 2009

Washington Marriott Wardman Park Hotel (2660 Woodley Road, NW, Washington, DC)

This groundbreaking program is designed to encourage legal employers, particularly corporations and law firms, to promote diversity and inclusion within the workplace with emphasis on hiring and retaining lawyers with disabilities. Learn best practices for promoting disability diversity and inclusion and identify legal employers and work settings that are models for the legal profession. Scholarships for lawyers and law students with disabilities to cover lodging and registration costs are available through an application process. For more information, contact [Michael Stratton](#) (202.662.1571). [Tell me more](#)

Antitrust Law

Consumer Protection Conference

June 18-19, 2009

Georgetown University Law Center (Washington, DC)

Join the Antitrust Section for a comprehensive look at consumer protection law in the U.S. and overseas. This conference brings together leading government enforcers, public interest lawyers, and private practitioners to discuss important consumer protection issues. Topics to be addressed include protecting privacy and securing information, managing risks

in new technologies, litigating cases of deception and unfairness, auditing compliance programs, advertising to children, and many others. ABA Law Student Division members may register at no cost. [Tell me more](#)

For more information about the American Bar Association and the Law Student Division, visit <http://www.abanet.org>

Other Items of Interest

Taxation

Job Locator Program

Continue to check the ABA Section of Taxation's Job Locator site for jobs available in tax-related fields. The site lists employment opportunities with law firms with tax practices, government entities in the tax profession, accounting firms and others. [<>Tell me more](#)

Asian Pacific American Bar Association Educational Fund (AEF)

Robert T. Matsui Annual Writing Competition

Entry deadline: June 1, 2009

Award: \$1,500 and publication in the *UCLA Asian Pacific American Law Journal*. [Tell me more](#)

The National Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Bar Association

Michael Greenberg Student Writing Competition

Entry Deadline: June 1, 2009

Designed to entice scholarly submissions fit for publication in a law review, entries should discuss a cutting edge legal issues affecting the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and/or Intersex community. The first place winner will receive \$3,000, publication in the *Journal of Law and Sexuality*, and complimentary registration and travel to the NLGBTB Annual Career Fair and Conference. [Tell me more](#)

California Supreme Court Historical Society

2009 Law Student Writing Competition

Entry Deadline: June 30, 2009

Original, unpublished scholarly writing on any aspect of California legal history, ranging from the Supreme Court itself and its justices and decisions, to local events of legal historical importance-including biography, significant cases, independent state interpretation, the California Constitution, and reorganization of the court system, as well as areas of law such as criminal law, civil rights, family law, tort liability, environmental law, and taxation-in any time period from 1846 to the present. First place winner will receive \$2,500 and publication in the Society's journal, *California Legal History*. Second and third place winners may also be chosen. All winning papers will be posted on [the Society's website](#). [Contact for more information](#).