

2017-2018

Student Mentor Program



August 16, 2017

Dear Friend of the Lawyers Collaborative for Diversity,

On **October 24, 2017**, the Lawyers Collaborative for Diversity Inc. (“LCD”) will kick off its annual Mentor Program with a dinner at the Hartford office of Shipman & Goodwin LLP. The Mentor Program, a LCD signature event, matches students of color with lawyers from our member firms, government agencies and corporations. Your support to solicit interested lawyer mentors is key to our ability to meet the overwhelming response we receive from students. Having enough mentors is critical to the success of this program. In the past, we have had more mentees than mentors. Although some lawyers generously offered to work with two students, we would prefer to have a 1:1 ratio of mentors to mentees.

We hope that we can once again count on you to help us make this year’s program a success! We are seeking your assistance in publicizing the opportunity to participate in the mentoring program to the lawyers in your organization. I have attached a detailed description of the program and an attorney fact sheet for any interested parties. Please forward the information to lawyers you think might be interested and encourage them to contact me with any questions or comments. The lawyers should return their fact sheets to Colby Fraschilla via e-mail at CFraschilla@goodwin.com **no later than Tuesday, October 3, 2017**. We are asking each member organization for a *minimum* of three (3) lawyer mentors; however, additional mentors are more than welcome.

As always, we appreciate your help with our programs, and truly value your organization’s commitment to the mission and goals of the Lawyers Collaborative for Diversity. If you have any questions regarding the Mentor Program, please feel free to contact Colby Fraschilla via e-mail at CFraschilla@goodwin.com or (860) 251-5337 or me.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Golden Hebsgaard
Executive Director

Lawyers Collaborative for Diversity (LCD),
c/o Murtha Cullina LLP, City Place I, 185 Asylum Street
Hartford, CT 06123-0637 - - www.lcdiversity.com

Our Members		Our Affiliates
Association of Corporate Counsel Connecticut Branch	MassMutual Financial Group	Connecticut Asian Pacific American Bar Association
Berchem, Moses & Devlin, P.C.	McCarter & English, LLP	Connecticut Bar Association
Boehringer Ingelheim Corporation USA	McElroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter LLP	Connecticut Hispanic Bar Association
Brown Rudnick LLP	Morgan Lewis	Division of Criminal Justice
Carlton Fields Jordan Burt, PA	Murtha Cullina LLP	George W. Crawford Black Bar Association
Carmody, Torrance, Sandak & Hennessey, LLP	Pullman & Comley, LLC	Office of the Attorney General
City of New Haven	Quinnipiac University	Office of State Ethics
Day Pitney LLP	Robinson & Cole LLP	Office of the Treasurer
Eversource Energy	Shipman & Goodwin LLP	South Asian Bar Association of Connecticut
Finn Dixon & Herling LLP	United Technologies Corporation	University of Connecticut
Hinckley, Allen & Snyder, LLP	Updike, Kelly & Spellacy, P.C.	U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of Connecticut
Howard, Kohn, Sprague & Fitzgerald LLP	Wiggin and Dana LLP	Yale University
Jackson Lewis, P.C.	Yale New Haven Health Systems	

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Objective

The Mentor Program for the Lawyers Collaborative for Diversity, Inc. (“LCD”) is designed to provide law students of color an opportunity to develop a one-on-one relationship with a lawyer from one of LCD’s participating organizations. The practicing lawyer provides information on various issues, including, but not limited to, the day-to-day practice of law, large law firm/government agency/corporate culture and assimilation, job research strategies and skills, law school courses, and related academic issues.

Goals

1. To provide the law student of color with an opportunity to learn about the general practice of law;
2. To provide the law student of color with a personal resource who can give advice about issues of concern as related to law school and legal practice;
3. To expose the law student of color to large law firm, corporate, or government agency practice and culture;
4. To prepare more law students of color to compete successfully for positions in large law firms, if they so desire, by informing them early on about the hiring process and hiring criteria;
5. To encourage more law students of color to consider LCD’s member organizations as places to work;
6. To expose members to exceptional law students of color; and
7. To provide mentors with opportunities to share their knowledge and experiences with law students of color.

Eligibility

Eligibility is limited to law students of color.

Terms of Program

The program begins with the *mandatory* Kickoff Dinner on **Tuesday, October 24, 2017**, and concludes at the end of the school year. Summer activity is encouraged but not required as a part of this program.

Program Requirements for Students and Attorneys

Lawyer mentors must understand that this is an opportunity to build a two way relationship and should make their best efforts to meet at least seven times. We also suggest communication should be at least once per month.

The program requires a serious commitment from both students and mentors. Students are encouraged to initiate contact with mentors. They must be responsive to initiatives taken by the mentors and follow through with planned meetings. This two-way relationship requires student input in suggesting ways in which a mentor might be helpful. Students are reminded that the Mentor Program is not a jobs program. They should not make inquiries of their mentors regarding job opportunities in the mentor’s organization.



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MENTOR FACT SHEET

Please print or type.

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

Telephone Number _____

E-mail Address _____

Title _____

Area(s) of Practice _____

Law School and Year of Graduation _____

College(s) and Year(s) of Graduation _____

Major Field of Study _____

Please indicate any specific areas of interest, concern, or preference that may help us make the best possible match for you with your mentee.

Your personal interests, hobbies, volunteer work in the community, pro bono interests, etc., are all important in making a great match. Please note any items you feel would be helpful.

If the need arises, would you be willing to mentor 2 students? ____ Yes ____ No

Are you available to attend the **October 24, 2017** Kick-Off Dinner at Shipman & Goodwin LLP? ____ Yes ____ No

Each interested attorney needs to complete a separate Fact Sheet. Please e-mail by **October 3, 2017**, to Colby Fraschilla at CFraschilla@goodwin.com.