

Fellowship Collaborative: Not Just a “One Size Fits All”

by Maggie Humphrey, Esq. | Director of Community Engagement

When we began the TBA Fellowship Collaborative almost two years ago, we had a clear vision of how this program would help new attorneys launch their law practice. We knew we had the resources to train new attorneys, specifically in the areas of criminal and domestic relations. We partnered with UT College of Law and the Toledo Legal Aid Society and developed a training schedule around those substantive topics, but also covering law office management and ethics.

found his skills and interests lined up better with a transactional practice and wanted to explore probate and real estate as possible practice areas. We encourage all our fellows to build the practice that works best for them, we just had not yet had a fellow ask for this kind of training and mentoring.

We reached out to our incredible network of TBA lawyers and were able to put together training and mentorship that worked with this new direction. We set

“The connections made in the Toledo legal community as a result of the training sessions has provided a definite sense of back up when a new issues comes up.”

Our 2018 fellows’ class lined up perfectly with this model. All three were interested in criminal and domestic, so the training planned worked out the way we envisioned.

Our 2019 fellows’ class initially also lined up with this vision. However, a couple months in, one of our fellows, Nathan VanDenBerghe, decided he wanted to take his practice in a different direction. He

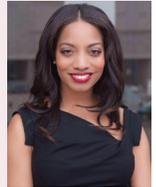
him up with a long time member who practiced primarily in probate and real estate, and they established monthly meeting times. Also, we planned a training specifically on probate law, which all the fellows were welcome to attend. What we happily discovered through this year, is that our TBA members provide an incredible network of resources and talent, and are more than willing to give of their time to help new attorneys. It never takes more than a phone call or email and our members jump to help.

With this kind of backing, we have grown confident that we can assist fellows in whatever practice area they want to explore. We are so proud of Nathan’s growth this year, and are proud that the fellowship could help him start a practice that works best for him. For our 2020 class, we are thrilled to be expanding to four fellows, and are anxious to see what practice areas they want to explore.



Lawyers In the News

Ashley A. Futrell, Assistant United States Attorney in the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Northern District of Ohio, received a 2019 20 Under 40 Leadership Recognition Award on October 29 at the 24th annual 20 Under 40 ceremony. She was among the 200 nominated candidates.



Lorin J. Zaner was a speaker at the Twentieth International Conference of the National Child Abuse Defense & Resource Center in Las Vegas. His topic was “Dealing with Me Too Accusations.”



Judge Jack R. Puffenberger, Presiding Judge of the Lucas County Court of Common Pleas, has been selected by the Board of Directors of The Pat Miller



Foundation as the 2019 recipient of the prestigious Sam Burnett Award. The award is presented annually to an individual who has contributed to the quality of life of our senior citizens.

“I have the privilege of assisting our senior citizens, who face some significant legal challenges in their lives. It is truly an honor to receive an award named after a man who is widely regarded as the champion of our seniors,” said Judge Puffenberger.

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