

Toledo Bar Association Welcomes the First Class of the TBA Fellowship Collaborative

The Toledo Bar Association, in collaboration with the Toledo Legal Aid Society, established a new, one-year fellowship program for new attorneys that provides meaningful training, mentoring, paying work, law practice resources, and development of marketable skills that will assist them in their long-term career advancement. This program will also provide a service to the community through fellows helping to provide representation to underrepresented populations, individuals of modest means, and parties who might otherwise proceed pro se.

Through a generous grant from the Toledo Bar Foundation, fellows will be given many of the tools and resources they will need to start a successful practice. Those tools include a computer, a shared printer/scanner, access to practice management software, a stipend for professional liability insurance, and a virtual law office set up. Also, University of Toledo College of Law Clinician Rob Salem has agreed to spearhead the training plan for the fellows. This training will begin with topics of basic law office management and will then move into substantive areas of law, including domestic and juvenile law. Rob will be coordinating with local attorney experts in each area of law to ensure the fellows receive the training they need to succeed.

In addition to helping the fellows start their own practice, the Toledo Legal Aid Society will also be employing these fellows part-time. Each fellow will be paired with an attorney from the felony division and the misdemeanor division. These pairings will establish a mentoring relationship with two experienced attorneys and provide a strong foundation for a career in criminal defense. Fellows will engage



Francis de la Serna



Sarah Haberland



Brian Morrissey

What are your goals for this Fellowship?

"I would like to gain civil litigation experience in different areas of the law and develop a niche."

"I want to absorb everything I possibly can, from the various styles of representation to the details of the law."

"I hope to further my career through this fellowship and gain valuable experience through the help and support provided in the fellowship."

in client interviews; conduct arraignment and bond modification hearings; negotiate with prosecutors; research legal issues; participate in trials and suppression hearings; draft sentencing memoranda; and participate in sentencing hearings. Notably, fellows will gain valuable experience in representing clients in both felony and misdemeanor courts.

This is an exciting opportunity for the Toledo Bar Association to partner with the Toledo Legal Aid Society and help young lawyers start and grow their practice here in Toledo.

Meet the 2018 Fellows

Francis de la Serna grew up in Bowling Green, Ohio and attended Miami University for undergrad. He moved to Northeast Ohio for law school, attending University of Akron School of Law. His practice area interests include criminal law, family law,

juvenile law and personal injury. In his free time, he enjoys golfing, basketball, and playing with his half Yorkshire, half Chinese crested dog, Yoda.

Brian Morrissey is a Toledo native, and attended the University of Toledo for both undergrad and law school. He is interested in criminal law and domestic relations. His favorite TV show of all time is Seinfeld (and would argue with anyone who says Friends is better)!

Sarah Haberland is from Rossford, Ohio and attended Ohio University for undergrad. She returned to Toledo for law school, attending the University of Toledo College of Law. Her practice areas of interest are criminal defense, probate, employment and domestic relations. When Sarah is not practicing law, she enjoys spending time with her two children, Harlow and Hunter.