ALLEGHENY COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
Serving the Pittsburgh Legal Community

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NEWS RELEASE
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Record 48 Diverse Law Students Successfully Complete ACBA Summer Clerkship Program

Program is Pittsburgh's Premier Pipeline for Future Diverse Attorneys

PITTSBURGH – The 2023 installment of the ACBA Summer Clerkship Program – regarded as the Pittsburgh Legal Community's premier pipeline for future diverse attorneys – concluded last month, the most successful summer in the program's 18-year history**.**

A record 48 diverse law students were placed with participating Pittsburgh-area employers, including law firms, corporate legal departments, nonprofits, legal services organizations and governmental legal departments.

"The Summer Clerkship Program is one of the Allegheny County Bar Association's premier initiatives, and this summer's edition was our most successful to date. That is something our entire bar association can be very proud of," said ACBA President Marla Presley. "The SCP has so much momentum. I expect we will continue to see an increase in the number of participating students and employers, and this program will make an even bigger impact."

"It is exciting to see the Summer Clerkship Program continue to grow and flourish," said Kellie Ware, the ACBA's Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. "Literally hundreds of diverse attorneys in the Pittsburgh-area have participated in the SCP. We're now seeing lawyers who came through the program as students hiring through the program as employers. It's been a key factor in helping diverse law students, who are underrepresented in the profession, get plugged into positions and resources they might not have had access to otherwise. The program helps to build personal and professional connections, it's deepening the diverse talent pool within the Pittsburgh Legal Community."

In addition to a record 48 participants, 15 new employers came aboard in 2023, bringing the total number of participating employers to 52.

In addition to legal work in their respective positions, SCP participants also took part in a mentoring program with diverse attorneys, attended networking events, an exclusive lunch with Pittsburgh-area judges, a mentor/mentee reception, one-on-one sessions with prominent figures from the Pittsburgh Legal Community, a "career sampler" panel and a reception for immersion in the legal community. Additionally, this year's program included an increased number of social activities such as a Pittsburgh CLO performance, Pittsburgh Pirates game, community service work through Global Links and more opportunities to see what the city has to offer.

In addition to participating employers, the SCP growth was made possible through the sponsorship of Dickie McCamey & Chilcote, Dollar Bank, Reed Smith and the Pittsburgh Legal Diversity and Inclusion Coalition.

The ACBA is accepting inquiries from interested law firms, employers and sponsors for the 2024 program. For more information, contact Kellie Ware at kware@acba.org.

About the SCP

Launched in 2005, the ACBA Summer Clerkship Program is open to first-year law students who identify as persons of color, disabled (as defined by the ADA) or as LGBTQ+.

Students must attend the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, Thomas R. Kline School of Law at Duquesne University, Penn State Dickinson School of Law, Penn State Law School – University Park, West Virginia University College of Law, or be an Allegheny County native who attends law school elsewhere but is returning home for the summer.

Students apply to the program at the conclusion of their first semester and interview with potential Pittsburgh-area employers. Following a mutual matching process, students embark on a meaningful legal summer work experience. Each year's students are treated as a cohort with support and supplemental learning, networking, social and enrichment opportunities provided by the ACBA.

Through the program, the ACBA seeks to attract and identify high-potential diverse law students who may become candidates for future employment in Pittsburgh and to integrate them into the Pittsburgh Legal Community. The program adds to the to the diversity and overall talent of the Pittsburgh Legal Community and the region as a whole. Since 2005, the ACBA has placed more than 365 diverse first-year law students in summer clerkship positions in Pittsburgh.

Participating Employers

The following law firms, corporate legal departments, nonprofits and government agencies participated in the 2023 ACBA Summer Clerkship Program.

- Alcoa Corp.
- Allegheny County Civil Division – 5th Judicial District
- Allegheny County District Attorney's Office
- Allegheny County Family Division – Juvenile Section
- Allegheny County Family Division – Chambers of the Hon. Nicola Henry-Taylor
- Allegheny County Office of the Public Defender
- Arconic Corporation
- ATI Inc.
- Babst Calland
- Bernstein-Burkley, P.C.
- BNY Mellon
- Bowles Rice LLP
- Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC
- Caroselli Beachler & Coleman, LLC
- City of Pittsburgh Law Department
- Crown Castle USA, Inc.
- DiBella Weinheimer
- Dickie, McCamey & Chilcote, P.C.
- Dicks Sporting Goods
- Disability Rights PA
- Duquesne Light Company
- Edgar Snyder & Associates
- Fifth Judicial District Court Admin.
- Fisher Phillips
- GNC Holdings, LLC
- Highmark Health
- Jackson Kelly PLLC

- Kazmarek Mowrey Cloud Laseter LLP
- Leech Tishman Fuscaldo & Lampl
- Littler Mendelson, P.C.
- Matis Baum O'Connor, P.C.
- Marcus & Shapira LLP
- Metz Lewis Brodman Must O'Keefe LLC
- Meyer, Unkovic & Scott LLP
- Neighborhood Legal Services
- Osterhout Berger Disability Law
- Pittsburgh Penguins
- PPG Industries, Inc.
- Rothman Gordon, P.C.
- Rulis & Bochicchio, LLC
- Sitko Bruno, LLC
- Steptoe & Johnson PLLC
- Strassburger McKenna Gutnick & Gefsky
- The Webb Law Firm
- Tucker Arensberg, P.C.
- United States Steel Corporation
- United States Bankruptcy Court – Western District
- UPMC
- Wabtec Corporation
- Whiteford, Taylor & Preston
- Zimmer Kunz, PLLC

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About the ACBA

Chartered in 1870 and headquartered in downtown Pittsburgh, the Allegheny County Bar Association is a professional organization with more than 5,000 member attorneys, judges, district justices, legal administrators and paralegals.