

October 2020

Hello Future Lawyers!

Welcome to the Fall 2020 issue of *Just the Facts: Student News from the State Bar*.

This is a vibrant newsletter that will be published three times per year (spring, summer, and fall). In addition, important updates and information will be sent to you throughout the year. We hope to be fully engaged in your academic journeys and beyond law school.

In this issue:

- [Meet Jeneise Briggs, the State Bar's New Law School Outreach Coordinator. \(Fun fact: She's from Jamaica\)](#)
- [Chance to Win a \\$40 Amazon Gift Card \(It's easy!\)](#)
- [Interested in Construction Law? Apply for This Scholarship](#)
- [Lunchtime CLE with the State Bar Labor and Employment Law Section](#)
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Greetings!

Let me take a moment to introduce myself. My name is Dr. Jeneise Briggs. I serve as the State Bar of Wisconsin as the Diversity and Inclusion Specialist as well as the Law School Outreach Coordinator. I'm in my second month with the State Bar.

Prior to working with the State Bar, I worked in higher education in various capacities, most recently as the senior assistant to the president for diversity and inclusion at Marian University, Fond du Lac.

I am a lifelong learner. I'm so excited to be working with and learning from you while understanding more in-depth the justice system here in the U.S. I'm originally from Jamaica. I'm also eager to bridge cultural differences and understanding through knowledge and experiential experiences to broaden my own knowledge of people and our world.



Chance to WIN a \$40 Amazon Gift Card: Become a Student Associate Member (or Refer a Friend)

Are you a student associate member of the State Bar?

If so, refer a law school friend by sending their name, law school and email address to:

jbriggs@wisbar.org

If not, sign up to become a [student associate member](#) today! Receive all the benefits available to help you now as a student and in your future law career.

Here are a few of the benefits available:

- A network of important contacts
- Job search assistance
- Free continuing legal education course with practicing attorneys
- Resources to help you in your studies and professional career
- Experience with issues and concerns you will encounter as a lawyer
- A realistic sense of what to expect in your day-to-day professional life
- Familiarity with the profession that could otherwise take several years to develop
- Current information on the changes in law and impact of coming legislation
- Free or special student discounts on publications

If you submit your email or refer a friend, you will be entered to win a \$40 Amazon gift card.

Scholarship Opportunity: Construction and Public Contract Law Section

The State Bar Construction and Public Contract Law Section is pleased to again offer a \$2000 scholarship to a recipient from each Wisconsin Law school. Applicants must be in 2L or 3L classes, in good academic standing, and have an interest in construction or public contracting law. The award will be applied to tuition for the spring 2021 semester. For full details, please see \$2000 scholarship application located on the State Bar website, WisBar.org. **The deadline to apply is Oct. 23, 2020.**

Lunchtime CLE: Employers and Employees Expectations in COVID

The State Bar Labor and Employment Law Section holds CLE presentations over the lunch hour throughout the academic year.

Their first presentation this year is a live webcast on Thursday, Oct. 22, 2020, on the topic of *Employees' Rights and Employers' Legitimate Expectations in the Age of the Pandemic*. Free to law students, the webcast features Marilyn Townsend of Townsend Law, Madison, and Sharon Renet, a staff attorney with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission in Washington, D.C.

The speakers will present an overview of the laws that provide workers with health and safety protections and benefits during the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19). For more information and registration details, look for the Labor and Employment Law CLE Luncheon – Webcast on [WisBar.org's Marketplace](#).

Build Your Network, Learn Practice Tips at WSSFC – Now Virtual!

The State Bar of Wisconsin **2020 Solo & Small Firm Conference** (WSSFC) is Oct. 28-30 – and you can attend on your computer. It's 2020, so WSSFC is a virtual event – but with all the great features of an in-person conference. Experience amazing live plenary sessions, interactive breakout sessions, and insights from seasoned practitioners and renowned presenters. Attend sessions on substantive law, practice management, technology, quality of life and ethics. Participate in fun, interactive social events, meet new colleagues, and expand your circle.

The best news: law students attend free. [Find out more on WisBar.org](#).



Boost Your Job Search

Want to get the jump on job postings? Be sure you:

- Look for Friday for Hire on the State Bar's [Facebook](#) page – new job openings are posted every Friday.
- Be sure to like and follow the State Bar on Facebook, [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [YouTube](#) to receive notification of all State Bar postings and opportunities.
- Check out the [Classifieds](#) on the State Bar of Wisconsin's website for open positions and business opportunities.
- Visit the pages for [Local and Specialty Bars](#) to access their elists for occasional job postings.

Get a Head Start on Your Career

It's no secret that getting involved with the State Bar after graduation helps kick off careers by helping you meet colleagues and stay in touch with practice areas and issues. Here are a few easy ways to get involved:

- **Join a Section**

With 24 area-specific [sections](#), the State Bar offers lawyers the opportunity to meet and get involved with colleagues in specific practice areas. Section members have opportunities to network with other legal professionals, participate in continuing legal education seminars, and explore professional development opportunities. For more information about sections, visit the [section web pages on WisBar.org](#).

- **Join State Bar Divisions**

The State Bar's [four divisions](#) offer members the opportunity to meet and work with other attorneys who share certain characteristics. The divisions are organized under broad categories that reflect the location and experience of State Bar members.

As a new lawyer, you are automatically enrolled in the Young Lawyers Division. Wisconsin lawyers who live and practice outside the state are automatically enrolled in the Nonresident Lawyers Division. Lawyers in government practice are members of the Government Lawyers Division.

To learn more about each division and ways to get involved, visit the [divisions' web pages on WisBar.org](#).

- **Keep Your Practice Up to Date with PINNACLE® Seminars, Webinars, and Books**

State Bar of Wisconsin PINNACLE offers a wide variety of continuing legal education (CLE) programs to help you earn your credits. There are many ways to watch CLE programs – through live seminars or webinars, webcast replays, and on demand. In addition, find your practice area books either in print or [online](#) via Books UnBound®, the State Bar’s interactive online library.

To learn more and see upcoming CLE seminars and browse the selection of books, visit [WisBar.org Marketplace](#).

- **Become a WisLAP volunteer**

The State Bar’s [Wisconsin Lawyers Assistance Program](#) (WisLAP) is a free, confidential peer-support program with approximately 150 volunteer lawyers and judges trained to offer support and guidance to lawyers, judges, law students, and their families. These volunteers are at the forefront of the WisLAP program. Training is free. Visit [WisBar.org](#) to learn more about WisLAP volunteer opportunities.

Get Answers to Your Legal Dilemmas

Have a legal ethics question? Contact the State Bar’s two full-time ethics counsel, [Aviva Kaiser](#) and [Tim Pierce](#), to guide and help in resolving questions regarding Wisconsin’s Rules of Professional Conduct for Attorneys. They also release monthly articles addressing ethical hot topics, [like this one in WisBar InsideTrack](#) on whether you may encourage client online reviews.

Find Us on Social Media

Stay connected with the State Bar of Wisconsin on social media:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [YouTube](#)

Let's Connect: We Want to Hear From You

Please share ideas or topics you'd want to see us capture in the newsletter by emailing me at jbriggs@wisbar.org.

Don't forget: the State Bar is here to help you. Let us know if we can assist you – give Jeneise Briggs a call at (608) 250-6083 or send her an [email](#).

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