

Just The Facts

Welcome to the April 2023 issue of the “Just the Facts” Law Student Newsletter

Welcome future lawyers! I hope this has been an amazing year for you. As you approach the exam season, continue to have finishing energy. You can do it! Robin Sharma stated, “Starting strong is good. Finishing strong is epic.”

Celebrating a Diversity Clerkship Program Alumn **MATTHEW TORRES**

Matthew Torres joined Ohiku Law Office in May 2022 through the State Bar Diversity Clerkship Program. Through the mentorship of everyone at the office, he has learned the importance of client-centered legal representation by listening to clients and focusing on their needs and desired outcomes. Matthew has experience in mediation through the Marquette University Small Claims Clinic, where he successfully mediated a range of cases from landlord-tenant disputes to car collision claims. Matthew is a second-year law student at Marquette University Law School. He currently serves as the National Chair for the Hispanic Latino Law Student Association (HLLSA) and the Media & Membership Director for the American Constitution Society for Law and Public Policy.



Matthew graduated from Marquette University in 2021 summa cum laude with his Bachelor’s degree in Criminology & Law Studies and Social Welfare & Justice. His prior experience includes serving as the Staff Manager of Marquette University’s Service-Learning Program and as a Mentor/Fellow for Milwaukee Succeeds.

In his free time Matthew enjoys running, reading, hanging out with his friends, and exploring Milwaukee.

Join us. It's FREE!

Keeping your finger on the pulse of what's relevant and timely in the legal profession is vital for any law student. When you diligently follow the latest legal trends and

developments, you can more readily identify potential practice areas of interest, sound more knowledgeable in interviews, and provide content for networking conversations. There's no better opportunity to see what's relevant in the legal profession than the 2023 State Bar of Wisconsin Annual Meeting & Conference!

As a State Bar of Wisconsin law student associate, you can attend the 2023 AMC for FREE! You'll find this event helpful in transitioning from the study of law to the practice of law. Law students who are registered in the free State Bar of Wisconsin Law Student Associate Program may attend the AMC with no registration fee required! Please note there is a cost associated with attending Thursday's networking luncheon. Visit the [Law Student Associate Program webpage](#) for more details, and [sign up here](#).

Questions about the AMC registration process? Contact us:
Customerservice@wisbar.org 608-257-3838

Don't miss this opportunity to connect, learn, and relax—sign up today!



Law Student Benefits

Law Student Associate Members, TODAY is the time to start taking advantage of State Bar of Wisconsin benefits that will help you in your present and future law career, including:

- A network of important contacts
- Job search assistance
- Diversity Clerkship Program
- 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



PINNACLE™ State Bar of Wisconsin PINNACLE is the largest provider of continuing legal education (CLE) in the state. With an emphasis on providing current, relevant, and practical legal information in a convenient manner, PINNACLE is dedicated to meeting the needs of Wisconsin practitioners for CLE in the information age. PINNACLE seminars are available in a variety of formats: Live programs, webcasts, webcast replays, telephone seminars, and web audio programs. Attend the live or webcast version of a seminar and receive free access to the webcast recording for 90 days. Take a closer look! Books UnBound is an additional benefit available to Law Student Associates.

**Take a closer look!
“Books UnBound” is also a
benefit to you as a student.**



Networking Opportunities

The most important factor in your job search, besides graduating, is having a large, well-connected network of professional contacts on which to call. Becoming involved in the activities and programs sponsored by the State Bar helps you establish that network. You have opportunities to meet and interact with professionals in several ways, including:

- Joining area of practice sections
- Attending seminars
- Attending PINNACLE institutes
- Submitting articles for publication in section and division newsletters
- Attending programs with practicing lawyers
- Attending programs sponsored by the State Bar at your law school



Sections

Law Student Associates can subscribe to State Bar Sections and start making connections today! When you become a Law Student Associate with the State Bar you can join any section, gain access to section blogs and newsletters, and make connections with experienced attorneys in specific practice areas. After graduation, join as many sections as you like for one year of FREE membership. In addition, the Business Law, Elder Law and Special Needs, Family Law, Intellectual Property & Technology Law, and Litigation Sections offer two years of free membership to new attorneys. After this period, you can take advantage

of low annual section dues ranging from only \$20-\$44 per year. Joining is easy!
[Choose from 24 area-specific sections.](#)

Learn more by visiting <https://www.wisbar.org/groups> or by contacting one of our Section Coordinators, Christine Casey (ccasey@wisbar.org) or Kara Olson (kolson@wisbar.org).



Run into Your Career on Purpose

Law students often hear the question "what kind of law do you want to practice when you graduate?" That can be a difficult question with numerous possibilities. Take a moment to review [Wisconsin Legal Trends 2023](#) in the February edition of *Wisconsin Lawyer*. In this article, lawyers and legal professionals from around the state share their insight on the trends they're seeing in 17 practice areas as well as on topics including law firm marketing, office management, legal research, and employment. You'll find this type of content useful in networking conversations, interview settings, and in navigating your path into the legal profession.

Health & Wellness in the Legal Profession

The Wisconsin Lawyers Assistance Program (WisLAP) offers confidential well-being support to lawyers, judges, and law students.



WisLAP staff are available for phone and in-person consultations, self-care retreats, mental health trainings, onsite office hours, and well-being presentations. Additionally, WisLAP trained volunteers are available for individualized peer-to-peer support upon request.

The Lawyers Assistance Program aims to develop a culture within the Wisconsin legal community that fosters work-life balance and destigmatizes mental illness and substance use disorders. WisLAP services are free and available to everyone in the legal community.

For more information or to set-up a consultation, email WisLAP staff at callwislap@wisbar.org.

Tune in to "Bottom Up": A State

Bar of Wisconsin Podcast for Young Lawyers



Check out the new WisLawNOW podcast called “Bottom Up,” produced by the State Bar. Discussions will include relatable stories that highlight interests, challenges, and opportunities for attorneys in their first decade of practice. The podcast is available on multiple platforms. Take a [listen](#) today!

In Case You Missed It:

Episode 7: The Road Less Traveled with In-House Counsel, Larry Whitley

Milwaukee attorney Larry Whitley went straight from law school to an in-house counsel position, working on multi-million dollar deals in real estate right out the gate. In the latest episode of the Bottom Up Podcast, produced by the State Bar of Wisconsin, co-hosts Kristen Hardy and Emil Ovbiagele chat with Whitley about his journey. "There's no right path, just your path," Whitley says.

The Rufus King High School and Marquette University Law School graduate - a former Milwaukee Bucks ball boy and Marquette University Men's Basketball team manager - also discusses giving back to his community, and those who had the biggest influence on his path to the law. [Listen Now](#).

Episode 6: Life, Death, Change & Purpose

In this episode, a near-death experience sparks discussion about self-reflection, making changes, lawyer wellbeing, and finding your purpose. Co-hosts Emil Ovbiagele and Kristen Hardy speak with Joe Forward, communications director at the State Bar of Wisconsin. Joe discusses a recent near-death experience, which he wrote about in Wisconsin Lawyer magazine, and the self-reflection that followed. Many lawyers reached out to Joe after his article appeared, an indication that many identified with the observation that everyone has flaws, but we can always change or recalibrate for the better. [Listen Now](#).

Episode 5: Making Partner, and Refilling Your Cup

A year ago, attorney Rebeca Lopez made partner. It took her almost 10 years, and a lot of work, to become a shareholder at Godfrey & Kahn, S.C. In the latest episode of Bottom Up, a WisLawNOW Podcast produced by the State Bar of Wisconsin, Lopez – an employment lawyer who is also the vice president of the Wisconsin

Hispanic Lawyers Association – shares insights on the secret to her success. [Listen Now](#).

Scholarship Opportunities

[Marquette Law School](#)

[UW Law School](#)



Check out the *ABA Journal* for Law Student News across the country

Share ideas or topics you'd like to see us capture in the newsletter by emailing me!

Jacque Evans M.Ed.
Diversity & Inclusion Specialist
State Bar of Wisconsin
www.wisbar.org
jevans@wisbar.org
(608) 250-6083
(800) 444-9404, ext. 6083



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