

New Lawyers Spotlight: How has your HCBA membership helped you develop professionally?



Esther O. Agbaje

Associate; Ciresi Conlin

As a new lawyer in Minnesota, the HCBA has helped me meet other lawyers in this vibrant community. I was quickly introduced to the Civil Litigation Section where I acted as a liaison to the New Lawyers Section. I participated in the Leaders Impacting the Nonprofit Community (LINC) program that provided important information about the roles lawyers can play on nonprofit boards. As an incoming co-director for CLEs in the New Lawyers Section, I look forward to working with colleagues to develop CLEs that will continue to professionally benefit HCBA members.



Colin Hunter Hargreaves

Associate Attorney; Halunen Law

One of the most challenging aspects of being a young attorney is wading through unknown legal waters. Fortunately for me, when I first began practicing I became a member of the HCBA and found a wonderfully unique network of supportive, intelligent, and driven attorneys in the HCBA's New Lawyers Section. This helped me develop professionally by allowing me to find support by asking questions without judgment, attend a number of networking events, and become engaged in the legal community. This is part of the reason why I ran for the New Lawyers Section Co-Social Chair; I wanted to be a part of creating these special events that help attorneys in our community engage and connect with each other.



Jessica Lindstrom

Associate Attorney;
Long, Reher, Hanson & Price

My HCBA membership has been invaluable to my development as an attorney. Joining the HCBA New Lawyers Section has allowed me to connect with attorneys who have similar years of experience and are growing in their career at the same time as I am. This has provided me with opportunities not only to connect on a personal level but also on a professional level providing referral sources and additional networking opportunities I would otherwise not be exposed to due to differences in practice areas. Most importantly, my HCBA membership has created lasting professional connections and friendships that I will continue to rely on throughout my career.

Jonathon D. Nelson

Associate Attorney; Gurstel Law Firm



Joining the HCBA early on is one of the best decisions that I made as a law student. While I was testing-the-waters in law school, the HCBA provided me with countless opportunities to network with practicing attorneys and ask them questions about their respective practice areas; attending those networking events and speaking with HCBA members helped me formulate a strategic plan for my career. After I graduated from law school, I quickly took advantage of the HCBA's frequent complimentary CLEs, learning a great deal from other attorneys' experiences. I also joined HCBA Sections related to my current practice, and I naturally developed a network of seasoned attorneys that I can rely on to help me out when I'm faced with a difficult case. My membership in the HCBA has helped me to form meaningful professional relationships within the Minnesota legal community, and has helped shape my career path.

Roxanne Thorelli

Attorney; Winthrop & Weinstine



My HCBA membership has helped me develop professionally through valuable networking and leadership opportunities, allowing me to gain confidence in marketing myself as a young professional. As a law student, I joined the HCBA to network in order to learn more about the variety of work that attorneys are offered and to cultivate my interpersonal skills and become more comfortable interacting with other legal professionals. As a new attorney, I continue to attend HCBA social events, community service events, and CLEs in order to connect with others and impact the community, as well as to form a strong brand for myself in a male-dominated environment. I have also accepted a leadership position within the New Lawyers Section of HCBA, which will help me establish myself in the legal community, become acquainted with more experienced attorneys, and demonstrate and cultivate my leadership skills.

Daniel Willing

Internal Wealth Strategist;
RBC Wealth Management



My membership with the HCBA has given me the opportunity to develop a strong network of fantastic attorneys. HCBA events and section meetings are a wonderful way to connect to the community and make lasting friendships.