



Leadership Council on Legal Diversity Announces 2014 Fellows

Largest class ever for landmark LCLD program building relationships and leadership skills

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WASHINGTON--(BUSINESS WIRE)--The Leadership Council on Legal Diversity (LCLD) is proud to announce that 171 attorneys have been selected as 2014 LCLD Fellows, joining the classes of 2011, 2012, and 2013 as participants in one of most comprehensive legal talent development programs in the country. This is the largest class of Fellows yet for LCLD. The class of 2011 numbered 119, the class of 2012 grew to 136, and the class of 2013 grew even larger to 168.

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With 215 Members, LCLD is a national organization made up of the general counsel and managing partners of the leading corporations and law firms in the country. Launched in 2011, the LCLD Fellows program is an ambitious, highly structured initiative built to increase diversity at the leadership levels of the nation’s law firms and corporate legal departments.

“Our Fellows program is a unique learning experience designed to empower a new generation of lawyers,” said Brad Smith, LCLD Chair and Executive Vice President and General Counsel of Microsoft Corporation. “These talented individuals have been singled out for leadership by their organizations, and represent a broad spectrum of backgrounds as diverse as the country they serve.”

LCLD's Fellows program was developed under the leadership of its Talent Development Committee, led by Chair Deborah Majoras (Chief Legal Officer and Secretary, Procter & Gamble) and Vice Chair Gary Sasso (President and CEO, Carlton Fields Jordan Burt). Over the course of the year-long program, participants will be challenged to improve their professional brand, build relationships that enhance professional development, participate in corporate learning experiences, and sharpen stewardship and leadership skills.

"Already recognized as high achievers within their own organizations, the Fellows will experience a year of intensive professional development," said Robert Grey, Executive Director of LCLD. "Our Fellows program is unique in the nation, as it focuses on equipping participants with the advanced skills they need to play larger and more responsible roles in our Member organizations."

The Fellows initiative is one of several launched by LCLD since the organization's founding in 2009. Other programs include a national mentoring initiative serving more than 2,000 mentors and mentees, a 1L Scholars program involving more than 200 first-year law students, and special programming for Members through CLE presentations and other platforms.

"We're lucky to have an extraordinarily focused and committed membership," said Grey. "All of us are eager for results and will persist until we see real changes in the makeup of the leadership of the profession."

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