

# **NASHVILLE BAR MINORITY OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM**

## **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Nashville Bar Minority Opportunities Program is a comprehensive set of projects designed to enhance opportunities for professional success by minority lawyers in Nashville. Projects include the following:

### **DAMALI BOOKER FIRST YEAR MINORITY CLERKSHIP PROJECT**

This project involves recruitment and screening of applicants for the first year minority clerkship project, which places first year minority law students with majority firms and organizations as summer clerks. This program creates opportunities for candidates to gain experience during the summer after their first year of law school. This experience improves their marketability, making it easier for them to gain employment their second year and after graduation. Several students are placed each summer as a result of this project. Beginning in 2003, the job fair was named for Damali Booker, who passed away unexpectedly in September 2002 while in her third year of law school. Ms. Booker was a participant in the Job Fair in 2001 and had accepted a permanent position with an employer she first met at the job fair.

### **NASHVILLE HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER INTERN PROGRAM**

The High School Summer Intern Program exposes local minority high school seniors to local legal workplaces as paid summer interns. This project of the Nashville Bar Association offers qualified high school seniors personal experience in the daily legal workplace of private law firms, corporate law divisions or governmental law offices. The program features a formal educational component with weekly assemblies to expose interns to the wide diversity of legal employment opportunities, such as attorney, paralegal, librarian or administrative support personnel.

### **MUSIC CITY MINORITY MIXER**

This summer event includes the minority summer Associates working in Nashville Law firms. This is a way for the associates to be introduced to the Nashville community and the community leaders. This event usually occurs in late June/early July to include as many Associates as possible and takes place at in a venue in the downtown area.

### **EMPLOYER RECOGNITION PROGRAM**

The Nashville Bar Association recognizes firms and government entities that have supported the NBA Minority Opportunities Programs each year at its Law Day Luncheon. Recognition is given for participation in the above projects, for hiring and/or retaining minority attorneys, and for financial support of the program.

## Damali Booker 1L Minority Job Fair

The 1L job fair is a project conducted by the Minority Opportunities Committee of the NBA. It is a job fair held in February of each year for minority students who are in their first year of law school, for summer clerkships between their first and second year. In 2003, the job fair was named in honor of Damali Booker, daughter of Cyrus and Cherie Booker, who had participated in the job fair as a 1L, was in her 3<sup>rd</sup> year of law school and had already accepted a position with an employer she originally met at the job fair. Damali died unexpectedly before her graduation from law school.

Following is the timeline for 2012:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SCHEDULE</u>
1. 10/20/11	Send Announcement Package to Law Schools
2. 10/30/11	Participation Letters to Employers
3. 1/27/12	Candidate Package Submittal Deadline
4. 2/3/12	Resumes Available to Employers
5. 2/10/12	Employer Interview Preference Deadline
6. 2/15/12	Candidates Notified of Interview Schedule
7. 2/20/12	Candidate Interview Confirmation Deadline
<b>8. 2/24/12 (Friday)</b>	<b>Reception (5:30 to 6:30 p.m. @ Bass Berry &amp; Sims) Panel Discussion w/Students (6:30 to 8:00 p.m.)</b>
<b>9. 2/25/12 (Saturday)</b>	<b>Job Fair (8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. @ Bass Berry &amp; Sims)</b>
10. 3/9/12	Project Offers Made Available
11. 3/16/12	Candidate Offer Acceptance Deadline



**2012 DAMALI BOOKER  
1L MINORITY JOB FAIR**

**STUDENT REGISTRATION FORM**

NAME: Mr. ( ) Ms. ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: (HOME) ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ (CELL) ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

LAW SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I will attend the Reception, Panel Discussion & Job Fair

\_\_\_\_\_ I will attend the Job Fair ONLY

Please return this Student Registration Form, the Student Interview Rankings Form, Resume, Undergraduate Transcript, Law School Transcript, a Writing Sample, and a cover letter explaining your interest or connection to practicing law in Nashville, by January 27, 2012 to:

Traci Hollandsworth  
Nashville Bar Association  
150 Fourth Ave, North  
Suite 1050  
Nashville, TN 37219  
(615) 242-9272 - Office  
(615) 630-7050 - Fax  
E-Mail: [traci.hollandsworth@nashvillebar.org](mailto:traci.hollandsworth@nashvillebar.org)

**\*\*\* Please check the NBA's website in mid-December ([www.nashvillebar.org](http://www.nashvillebar.org)) for information on participating firms and organizations.**

