



Just The Beginning Foundation

Summer Legal Institute and ISBA Law & Leadership Volunteer Opportunities

Program Dates: July 23-August 4, 2012

This program combines JTBF's Summer Legal Institute (SLI) and the Illinois Law and Leadership Institute (ILLI). The program is designed to introduce high school students of diverse backgrounds to the legal system, expose them to careers in the law, and provide them with tools for achieving their educational goals.

Engaged volunteers are paramount to the program's success. Each of the following opportunities requires one to two hours of your time and has a huge impact on the students. If you are interested in any of the following opportunities, or in proposing an alternative activity, please contact Laura Ramsey at lramsey@jtbf.org or 312-258-4868.

1. Mock Trial

Assist students in navigating a mock trial simulation. Help the student prosecutor or defense attorney prepare witnesses and phrase questions. Assist in jury deliberations and debriefing after the trial.

2. Oral Argument Preparation

Students devote at least one hour each day to understanding the facts and applicable law of their oral argument problem. Volunteers are invited to work with small groups on understanding the facts, developing arguments and presentation skills. You need not be an experienced litigator to enjoy this activity.

3. Oral Argument Judging

Provide questions and feedback to students during their appellate oral argument. You will be impressed and enthralled by the legal arguments students present.

4. Introduce Your Practice Area and Develop an Interactive Program

Work with JTBF program staff to create a fun and interactive simulation, game or exercise that introduces students to your practice area or passion. The options are truly endless and staff is available to help ensure the program meets your expectations and is fun and engaging for students.

5. Lunch Roundtable

Talk with students about background and legal career. Taking time out of your day to enjoy lunch with these students demonstrates you care about their future in the law and motivates students.



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6. Leadership Development

The ISBA Law & Leadership Cohort meets each day of the three week program to prepare students to become leaders in the legal field. Volunteer to work with these students on an interactive leadership activity, discuss leadership success and assist in a long term written project, drafting a position paper for the Illinois State Bar Student Association.

7. Offer a Job Shadow or Internship Opportunity to Program Participants

Students gain invaluable experience during job shadows or internships at law firms, large corporations or small businesses. Invite a student from this program to intern and you will help a motivated young person reach their goals and also gain a responsible intern with training in legal concepts, professionalism and effective communication skills.