

Dear Division Member:

My name is Matt Mecoli and I am running for the position of Delegate of Diversity and Inclusion. I bring both an extensive experience of fighting for law students and a dedication to advocacy on behalf of diversity and inclusion to the position.

I served on Division leadership before as 3rd Circuit Governor and I have spent the last year as a liaison to a Goal III diversity entity, the Commission on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (“SOGI”). During my last two years with the Division, I have become well-versed in the issues facing law students, as well as the inner workings of the ABA. I have authored and passed resolutions supporting diversity before the Division Assembly. And in recognition of my work as the liaison to SOGI, I have recently been appointed to co-chair a committee in the Section on Civil Rights and Social Justice.

Given this background, I can represent your interests and the interests of all law students before the House of Delegates. I am knowledgeable in topics that are vital to law students including Public Service Loan Forgiveness, the Uniform Bar Exam, the various standards of the Section on Legal Education, and more.

Additionally, in my role as your Delegate of Diversity & Inclusion, I would convene a special ad-hoc committee consisting of the liaisons to the major diversity entities: Women in the Profession, Race and Ethnicity in the Profession, Hispanic Rights and Responsibilities, Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, and Disability Rights. This committee will work to coordinate efforts to expand diversity and inclusion with the Division and support efforts to advance the cause of diversity and inclusion in the greater ABA.

And I make no empty promises.

I have acted as an advocate for diversity and inclusion in the legal profession since my first day with the ABA, and I will continue to do so until my last. As the 3rd Circuit Governor, I utilized my position on the Board to help be an advocate for diversity issues. At that time, the major diversity initiative was the proposed (and now passed) changes to Model Rule 8.4, which for the first time ever included nondiscrimination language in the black letter law of our professional ethics standards.

During Midyear 2016, I spoke on behalf of the Division before a hearing of the Standing Committee on Ethics and Professional Responsibility in favor of the changes to Model Rule 8.4. I also secured the Assembly's support of that measure and delivered our delegate votes to the passage of the changes to Model Rule 8.4.

While with SOGI, I have founded the Student Shield Project, which is an anti-bullying initiative that creates simple, straightforward, one-page documents informing elementary and secondary students of their rights under federal and state law. Right now, the project focuses on LGBT students, but with the help of other Goal III entities, it will expand to include other at-risk populations as well.

After all of this and the significant restructuring of the Division, I am looking to return to Division leadership in order to continue to serve the interests of law students.

I'm happy to answer any questions you might have during the question and answer session, and I look forward to meeting many of you at ABA Annual in New York.

Sincerely,  
Matt Mecoli

# MATHEW C. MECOLI

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## EDUCATION

**Drexel University Kline School of Law**, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

*Juris Doctor*, Expected 2018

- *Member*, Provost's Dragon '24 Advisory Committee

**University of Alabama**, Tuscaloosa, Alabama

Bachelor of Arts, *Cum Laude*, Political Science, 2014

GPA: 3.54 ; Minor in Entrepreneurship

- *Contributing Writer*, "The Crimson White" newspaper
- *Junior Analyst*, Culverhouse Investment Management Group

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**ABA, Section on Civil Rights and Social Justice**, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

*Co-Chair, Committee on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*, June 2017 – August 2018

- Recently appointed as co-chair of this committee.

**ABA, Commission on Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity**, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

*Law Student Division Liaison*, August 2016 – August 2017

- Foster dialogue and discussion on issues facing LGBT law students, and
- Founded an anti-bullying initiative called Student Shield Project.

**Sweeney & Sheehan**, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

*Summer Associate*, May 2016 – August 2016

- Conducted extensive factual and legal research, and
- Provided analysis to attorneys for drafting and preparing documents

**Pennsylvania Competes**, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

*Advocacy Associate*, April 2016 – May 2016

- Called citizens to garner support for antidiscrimination legislation.

**American Bar Association, Law Student Division**, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

*3<sup>rd</sup> Circuit Governor*, March 2015 – March 2016

- Represented law students of PA, NJ & DE,
- Facilitated compromise over a restructuring plan, and
- Wrote, introduced, and passed resolutions before the Division Assembly.

**Reilly, Janiczek & McDevitt, P.C.**, Pennsauken, New Jersey

*Law Clerk*, May 2015 – August 2015

- Conducted legal research into insurance, asbestos, and personal injury matters, and
- Drafted memos, document summaries and letter briefs for attorneys.

**The United Alabama Project**, Tuscaloosa, Alabama

*Founder and President*, November 2013 – June 2014

- Founded and led a student political advocacy and consulting firm.