

Alexzandria Johnson
Advocate General, the Black Law Students Association-GTJ Chapter
Final Report for the American Bar Association
Mix and Mingle: A mixer for minority law students and legal professionals
Fall 2017

My name is Alexzandria Johnson and I am a 2L at the John Marshall Law School in Chicago, IL. I serve on the executive board for the Black Law Students Association-GTJ Chapter "BLSA", as Advocate General. In this role, it is my duty to coordinate monthly community service events, and to keep BLSA connected to the community.

Mix & Mingle came to me as an idea to connect diverse law students to diverse legal professionals. Many students stated that they did not know any lawyers that were similar to them. I decided that having a mixer that focused on connecting students and legal professionals from the Chicago legal community would be a great way to solve this problem, while also teaching students how to network and brand themselves.

Mix & Mingle took place on November 9, 2017 from 5pm-7pm at the John Marshall Law School in room 3 East. The event started promptly at 5pm, with some guests arriving as early as 4:45pm. Guests were met with BLSA members checking them in and steering them to enjoy food and music provided by our chapter. Each guest, whether they RSVP'd or not, was able to enjoy food from our buffet style set up. We initially only expected around 60 guests, however, 90 guests RSVP'd. More than 100 guests showed up.

Throughout the event, guests mingled with one another and made long-lasting connections.

Many people have given feedback to myself and other members of the executive board. A John Marshall professor shared her feedback on our school's app stating, "Great BLSA Mixer yesterday! Over 100 Alumni and current students kicking it and connecting! Congratulations BLSA!" I have also received personal emails and in-person feedback.

Students have raved about how successful the event was, during, and after the event. Students were particularly happy about the diversity of the legal professionals. Many of the professionals had a variety of jobs and were able to connect with students that had similar interests.

Students also loved the intimacy and aura of the event. They liked that the legal professionals were open, caring, and willing to get to know them. Both the legal professionals and the students stated that they hoped that Mix and Mingle would continue as an annual event.

The total cost of the event was \$658.70. With the help and support of ABA, BLSA will only incur \$408.70. BLSA is grateful for the support of the ABA, and we hope to continue Mix & Mingle for the years to come.

Pictures from the event are attached on the following pages.





Final Budget for Mix & Mingle
Alexzandria Johnson

The total cost for Mix & Mingle is \$658.70 With the help of the ABA, BLSA-GTJ Chapter will only incur \$408.70. The break down of our expenses are as followed:

Food from school caterer, Eurest: \$426.65

Food ordered was a sandwich buffet including cookies, salad, fruit salad, and drinks.

Alcohol served to guests (not expected to be covered by the funds from the ABA):
\$120

Extra food bought to feed extra guests that RSVP'd later: \$99.92

Food bought was a veggie tray, 2 sandwich trays, and a cookie tray.

Materials for centerpieces: \$12.13

Materials purchased were vases, candles, and other crafts.

Additional receipts for items are attached to email in pdf format, as requested.

***Deans from the John Marshall Law School has requested that the check received from the ABA be made out to the John Marshall Law School.**

THE BLACK LAW STUDENTS ASSOCIATION-GTJ CHAPTER

presents

"Mix and Mingle"

A MIXER FOR
MINORITY LAW STUDENTS AND
LEGAL PROFESSIONALS

November 9, 2017

5pm-7pm

**The John Marshall Law School
Room 3 East**

Refreshments will be served.



Please contact jmlsblsaadvocate@gmail.com for more information.