

# Johnnie Nguyen

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Dear Law Student Leaders,

My name is **Johnnie Nguyen**, and I am running for the **Law Student At-Large position on the ABA's Board of Governors!**

I am a first-generation and openly LGBT law student at the beautiful and vibrant University of Colorado Law School. My parents, both of whom were refugees of the Vietnam War, instilled in me at an early age that **education is the key to philanthropy, prosperity, and progress**. I believe that anyone who commits to the journey of becoming an attorney carries this principle within them.

My confidence in this belief stems from having had the privilege to personally meet hundreds of law student leaders from across the world. During my time as Chair of the ABA's Law Student Division, our Council worked diligently to push policies and projects that served the best interests of all law students. We addressed a myriad of issues, including **increasing access to justice, diversity and inclusion, and law student representation within the ABA, and law school debt**.

However, what I am most proud of is our work in addressing **law student mental health and wellness**. During my term, our Council **ran a national mental awareness effort** that connected law students across the country. At the end of our term, we will have **increased funding within the ABA for mental health programming**. Finally, working with the ABA Commission on Lawyer Assistance Programs, Harvard Law School, and Columbia Law School, we are making a national push to **remove mental health questions on character and fitness portions of bar applications**.

**We are the future of the American judicial system**. I am running for the Law Student At-Large position on the ABA's Board of Governors to continue my commitment to law students. There is still so much important work to do, and I want to be there to make sure it gets done. This 43-member board oversees the ABA's general operations, finances, and future. Unfortunately, there is only one position on the Board reserved for a law student. Therefore, it is crucial that this person can represent the voice of all 110,000+ law students.

I believe that I can well represent law student voices on the ABA's Board of Governors, so I would be honored to earn your support. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at my person cell phone (303-931-4385) or email me at ([Johnnie.Nguyen@Colorado.edu](mailto:Johnnie.Nguyen@Colorado.edu)).

**We're in this together!**

In solidarity,



# Johnnie Nguyen

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## EDUCATION

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**University of Colorado Law School**, Boulder, CO Aug. 2018 – May 2021  
Juris Doctor Candidate.

Activities: National Mock Trial Team; Class President; 350+ Pro-Bono Hours.  
Honors: Seumsap Ly Scholarship.

**University of Colorado Denver**, Denver, CO Aug. 2014 – Dec. 2017  
BA in Political Science, Minor in Ethnic Studies.

Honors: President's Diversity Award; Rosa Park's Diversity Award; Student Advocate of the Year Award.

## EXPERIENCE

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**American Bar Association**, USA Apr. 2019 – Present  
National Chair, Law Student Division

- First openly-LGBT person elected to serve the highest-ranked law student leadership position under the ABA.
- Ran and supported nation-wide mental health projects (awareness campaign, fundraiser, and push to remove and destigmatize mental health questions on the Character and Fitness portions of the bar application).
- ABA Resolutions Supported: Increase law student votes on the ABA House of Delegates; Funding for rural broadband infrastructure; Implementing a "pro-bono scholars" program; Support for early-age voter registration; Parental leave (as opposed to maternal leave); Modernizing federal marijuana policy; Implementing policy closing the gender wage gap; Expanding Circuit Courts' pro bono programs for pro se appellants.

**Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith, LLP**, Denver, CO Expected Summer 2020  
Summer Associate

**Colorado Supreme Court**, Denver, CO Jan. 2020 – Present  
Judicial Extern – Justice William W. Hood III

- Drafting memos reviewing both civil and criminal petitions for writ certiorari; Observing oral arguments.

**United States District Court, District of Colorado**, Denver, CO Aug. – Nov. 2019  
Judicial Extern – Hon. N. Reid Neureiter

- Drafted memos and orders re: the PLRA, class actions, and attorney fees; Observed trials and hearings.

**The Colorado Attorney General's Office**, Denver, CO Summer, 2019  
Legal Extern

- Drafted a criminal appellate brief, legal memos, and a policy proposal re: 3D-printed firearms.

**Woodrow and Peluso, LLC**, Denver, CO Feb. – Jul. 2018  
Law Clerk

- Drafted class action firm's trial documents re: the CO Consumer Protection Act, TCPA, and FCRA.

**Colorado State Legislature**, Denver, CO Jan. 2016 – May 2017  
Legislative Aide (Rep. Lontine, '17); Intern (Sen. Kerr, '16)

- Drafted legislation, conducted policy research, managed interns, and staffed legislator throughout the day.

## VOLUNTEER

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**Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project**  
High school constitutional law teacher and moot court coach.

**Federal Judge Arguello's "Law School Yes We Can Program"**  
Mentor to first-generation pre-law college students.

**The Dakota Access Pipeline Protests**  
Fundraised and traveled to the Standing Rock Reservation to support protestors

**Population Connection** (National Women's Rights Non-Profit)  
Lobby leader for legislation that would repeal the "Global Gag Rule"

## INTERESTS

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Sampling snacks at Costco, basketball, road-cycling, fishing, cooking Asian cuisine, videogames, and Netflix.