

AYAT NIZAM

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January 15, 2020

American Bar Association
321 North Clark Street
Chicago, IL
60654

To Whom It May Concern:

I respectfully submit my resume for consideration of the Chair position on the American Bar Association Law Student Division. I am a second-year Dual JD student at the University of Windsor Faculty of Law and University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. As a highly motivated, hard-working individual, I believe I would be a definite asset to the Law Student Division Council. My previous, as well as current, experiences on Division, combined with my skillset make me an excellent candidate for this team, as I will continue to bring my dedication, loyalty and trust.

Pursuing a career in law has been a dream of mine since my adolescent years. Throughout my academic career, social developments and experiences, I have been able to understand the true meaning and work behind studying and practicing law. My mother has been my greatest inspiration and motivation for me to pursue a career in law. Despite marrying young and having 3 children within 5 years, she continued her education in order to gain her Diploma but was unable to pursue the career in law she was passionate about.

From the beginning of my juris doctorate degree, I knew to get involved past that of just academia. I knew in order to make a difference, I needed to discover what I was passionate about and to utilize the skills I had acquired in my undergraduate and master's degrees, in a positive manner. In addition to taking on the role of Class President for the second year in a row, I was involved in the Black Law Student Association, Business Law Association and Arab American Law Student Association. However, that was not enough for me. I heard about the Law Student Division of the ABA through my school's ABA Representative and attended the Midyear meeting to learn more about the organization, as well as run for and was elected into the role of National Vice-Chair of the division. Taking on a variety of positions, as a general member to Class President, has allowed me to gain insights on the varying needs of each student and members of an organization. I have been able to gain, as well as enhance my critical thinking, public speaking, teamwork, research and people skills. The extracurricular and volunteer work I have been involved in throughout my years, has lit a spark within me to assist and encourage others to believe not only in themselves, but also in the community as well.

Throughout my role as National Vice-Chair, I was given the opportunity to gain first-hand experience as to the operations behind the Division. In assisting the National Chair, I became familiar with representing and speaking on behalf of the Law Student Division nationally, as well as locally in my own community. I assisted in executing the Division's goals and mission, as well as own goal of focusing on the mental health and wellbeing of law students across the nation. Alongside my council members, we were able to facilitate a T-shirt contest to help raise awareness for the mental health of law students, as well as raise funds for our Division. In addition to assisting the National Chair, my role as National Vice Chair allowed me to establish and build relations with the ABA Representative and SBA presidents at schools across the country, ABA entity members, ABA professional staff and other ABA divisions, including the Young Lawyers Division. In addition, this year, the position of Vice-Chair was appointed to become a member of the House of Delegates. This has allowed me to gain experience dealing and working with the ABA House of Delegates in order to better advocate and communicate resolutions the Division feels best represents law students across the country.

This past summer, I was also able to intern at Wayne County Third Circuit Court, in the civil department with the Honorable Judge Berry. In addition, last semester I was also able to volunteer at my local Community Legal Aid. Through both my work experiences, I worked at a fast pace in order to meet strict deadlines, witnessed a variety of motions and trials, worked on multiple projects simultaneously and sharpened my legal research and writing skills. In addition, I was able to enhance key analytical skills such as organization, problem solving, tenacity, research and attention to detail. Not only would I need to persevere and solve problems that arose within a limited time, I was also required to eloquently communicate with Judges, clerks, clients and personal from a variety of statures. Overall, the experiences I was able to gain have enhanced the way I hold true to my ethics, values and beliefs, all the while developing my peers, my community and myself. I believe the mindset of continuous personal leadership development and the current skillset, dedication and balance I possess, align to those required for the role of National Chair.

I am confident that my skills will meet those needed for the position offered. However, more importantly, I am eager to continue to learn. I bring with me not only education and experience, but maturity as well. The experiences I was able to gain this past year through being a part of the Law Student Division are ones I will continue to hold near and dear to my heart. I am thankful for the connections, relationships and impacts I was able to be a part of and hope to continue the incredible work my team and I have achieved so far. Thank you for taking the time to consider my application. Please feel free to contact me at your convenience for this position and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
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EDUCATION

University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, Detroit, Michigan

University of Windsor Law School, Windsor, Ontario

American Juris Doctor and Canadian Juris Doctor expected May 2021, GPA: 3.0

- American Bar Association, Law Student Division Vice Chair
- Student Bar Association, 2L Dual JD Class President
- G. Mennen Williams Moot Court Competition, Passed with Distinction
- Windsor Law Moot Court and Advocacy Program, Client Consultation Moot Competitor

University of Windsor Odette School of Business, Windsor, Ontario

Master of Business Administration, Strategy and Entrepreneurship, June 2018, GPA: 3.4

- Dr. Ross H. Paul Scholarship in Graduate Studies

University of Windsor Odette School of Business, Windsor, Ontario

Honors Bachelor of Commerce in Business Administration, Human Resource Management, April 2016

- Dean's Award for Excellence In Leadership

EXPERIENCE

Community Legal Aid, Windsor, Ontario

Caseworker, September 2019 – Present

- Research and draft letters, legal memoranda and pleadings relating to landlord-tenant disputes and criminal matters such as trespass, theft and assault
- Conduct client intake interviews, consultations, fact investigations
- Facilitate communication with clients, review counsel, litigators, court staff, and other community agencies

Third Judicial Circuit Court, Detroit, Michigan

Judicial Intern to the Hon. Annette Berry, May 2019 – August 2019

- Prepared a memorandum on a motion for reconsideration regarding a landlord liability claim
- Observed civil motion hearings and trials, and criminal matters through the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice shadow program

Detroit Mercy Law First-Year Experiential Clinic, Detroit, Michigan

Student Attorney, January 2019

- Gathered property tax information from pro bono clients, assisted in preparing property tax forms, and communicated persuasively with clinic attendees in regards to joining property tax programs

Farhat & Associates Law Firm, Windsor, Ontario

Junior Real Estate Law Clerk, January 2016 – July 2018

- Conducted research for client files by investigating case facts and analyzing legal documents such as wills, mortgages, deeds, agreements of purchase and sale, and court orders
- Prepared and maintained legal documents such as deeds, mortgages, and real estate applications
- Executed real estate transactions, from drafting an agreement of purchase and sale to closing procedures

MBA APEX (Advanced Program in Experiential Consulting), Windsor, Ontario

Project Consultant for Detroit Economic Growth Corporation (DEGC), June 2017 – January 2018

- Conducted research for a strategic firm audit and provided recommendations with an implementation plan
- Created a framework to assist DEGC in identifying local, national, and international investment leads

LANGUAGES

Arabic – fluent