

Jennifer Sherman | Candidacy Statement

Dear Law Students,

My name is Jennifer Sherman and I am a 2L at UC Berkeley, School of Law. I am running to be the Law Student At-Large on the ABA Board of Governors. Currently, I serve as the Delegate of Communications on the Law Student Division Council. I have truly enjoyed serving law students in this role, and want to continue to do so on one of the most important decision-making bodies in the ABA.

This year has been extremely challenging for law students across the country. COVID-19 especially has exposed deep inequities in law school and the bar exam. Yet, even with these realizations, we have been told to keep our heads down and study for class, apply to jobs, and prepare for the bar exam as if nothing has happened. As Delegate of Communications, I have had the opportunity to speak with fellow law students about the difficulties they have faced and the creative solutions they have fought to implement at their schools. I hope to continue to listen and work with law students as the Law Student At-Large. In addition, I look forward to communicating with other ABA leaders about these issues, making sure they are aware of what is important to law students.

As the Law Student At-Large, I plan to tackle COVID-related issues head on. Three areas I specifically want to work on are: reducing law student debt; increasing access to justice; and reforming the bar exam. These may seem like big goals, but COVID-19 has exacerbated the need for change in these three areas. Therefore, it is essential that they become the priorities of the Law Student Division, and in extension, the ABA.

I am running to be the Law Student At-Large because the ABA needs to listen to one of its largest constituencies that shapes the future of the justice system. Thank you for your consideration, and I hope I can earn your support. If you have any questions or ideas, don't hesitate to contact me at jensherman@berkeley.edu.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Sherman

Jennifer Sherman

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley, School of Law, Berkeley, CA

J.D. Candidate, May 2022

Honors: Berkeley Law Dean's Fellowship (Merit Scholarship)

Activities: American Bar Association, Law Student Division, National Delegate of Communications (2020-21); American Constitution Society at Berkeley Law, Vice President; *Berkeley Journal of Gender Law and Justice*, Submissions Editor

The George Washington University, Washington, DC

B.A., *summa cum laude*, Political Science (minor History), May 2017

Honors: Phi Beta Kappa; Pi Sigma Alpha (Political Science Honors Society); Jesse Fant Evans Prize (Excellence in Contemporary History); Harmon Choral Prize (Excellence in Choral Leadership)

Activities: University Singers; Chamber Choir; Pi Beta Phi Fraternity for Women, Leadership and Nominating Committee; DC Bound Guide

EXPERIENCE

U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC

Expected Summer 2021

Summer Legal Internship Program, Professional Responsibility Advisory Office

Legal Aid at Work, San Francisco, CA

Jan. 2021- Present

Legal Externship

Conducted legal and policy research, and helpline support for the Gender Equity and Work & Family programs.

San Francisco City Attorney's Office, Government Team, San Francisco, CA

June 2020 - Aug. 2020

Legal Intern

Conducted research and drafted legal memoranda for the Government Team on various issues. Assisted in litigation preparation, including background research.

Gun Violence Prevention Project, Berkeley Law

Student Leader (Fall 2020 - Spring 2021); Student Researcher (Fall 2019 – Spring 2020)

Supported Giffords Law Center and Brady United Against Gun Violence in research on potential litigation and legislation strategies to reduce gun violence in communities. Led participants in completing research projects.

American Bar Association, Washington, DC

Legislative Associate/Program Assistant, Governmental Affairs Office

April 2017 - May 2019

Researched legislation and ABA policy to support lobbying staff. Drafted, edited, and sent letters to Congress and the Administration on a variety of issues. Attended hearings and coalition meetings as an ABA representative. Planned and executed ABA Day 2018 and 2019, a three day fly-in lobbying event for over 300 bar leaders.

Legal Services Corporation, Washington, DC

Government Relations and Public Affairs Intern

Sept. 2016 - April 2017

Tracked legislation and monitored congressional CJS appropriations activity. Researched and wrote sections of the FY2018 LSC Budget Request to Congress. Compiled and edited LSC "By the Numbers" publication.

National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials Educational Fund, Washington, DC

Policy Intern

May 2016 - Aug. 2016

Conducted legislative research on census, voting rights, and naturalization.

U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC

June 2015 - Aug. 2015

Policy Assistant/Intern, White House Initiative on American Indian & Alaska Native Education

Drafted guidelines and toolkits regarding new initiatives. Assisted in writing a 70+ page policy report on Native Student Environment. Planned internal Department of Education events focusing on diversity and inclusion.