



Notre Dame Lawyer Committee Initiative



Region 8 NDAA Meeting February 15, 2014
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What is the Notre Dame Lawyer Committee Initiative?

The Notre Dame Lawyer Committee is a collaborative nationwide initiative of the NDAA and NDLA which has a dual purpose of: (1) providing local support for all ND alums who are in the legal profession; and (2) providing an organized and accessible network for ND Law students and alums for networking, programming, employment opportunities and support. The initiative began in 2012.

Who is being recruited for the Notre Dame Lawyer Committees?

Those organizing the Notre Dame Lawyer Committees are reaching out to all members of the legal profession who have a degree from Notre Dame, Notre Dame Law School or St. Mary's who reside within the geographic areas covered by each local Notre Dame Club.

What is the role of the local Notre Dame Clubs?

The Notre Dame Lawyer Committees are being organized throughout the country under the umbrellas of the local Notre Dame Clubs. Some Clubs have incorporated the Notre Dame Lawyer Committee into the organization of the Club itself either through adopting By-Laws that describe the role and objective of the committee or as a designated group within the Club's organization. Other Clubs have provided the means for communicating the Notre Dame Lawyer Committee events and provided events where members of the Notre Dame Lawyer Committee can attend as a group, e.g. sponsoring a table at UND Night celebrations.

How do the Notre Dame Lawyer Committees benefit the local Notre Dame Clubs?

The local clubs where ND Lawyer Committees have been organized in the past 18 months have enjoyed having a pool of additional volunteers for Club activities, new members and increased attendance at Club events.

Where are we with this initiative in Region 8?

Among the 12 Notre Dame Clubs in Region 8, we have one Notre Dame Lawyer Committee that is up, running and has a full calendar of events and Steering Committee meetings for 2014 and that is right here in Indianapolis. John Maley is the Chair of the Notre Dame Lawyer Committee of the Notre Dame Club of Indianapolis. Two attorneys in South Bend have agreed to organize the Notre Dame Lawyer Committee for the St. Joseph Valley Club but no events have yet been hosted or scheduled. Outreach to the other Region 8 Clubs has not resulted in locating local attorneys who might be interested in organizing the Lawyer Committee or who are interested in organizing the Lawyer Committee. Several Clubs report an insufficient number of attorneys with a Notre Dame degree to warrant organizing a formal ND Lawyer Committee.

What can you do to help?

Help identify attorneys among your members who presumably have a Notre Dame degree and provide me their contact information. Help identify members of your Club who may know attorneys who have a Notre Dame degree in your area and provide me their contact information. Make an announcement about the ND Lawyer Committee Initiative and my interest in hearing from anyone interested in helping to organize the ND Lawyer Committee at your upcoming Board Meetings, Club Events and in your email blasts. Agree to include Notre Dame Law Students who may be in your area for the summer in your Club Events held during the summer months and let me know with whom I should communicate the names of those students. Consider how your Club will incorporate the Notre Dame Lawyer Committee once I am successful in getting more committees organized. Contact me with any questions, leads or ideas you may have. Send me an email to all three of the email addresses below so that I can assure your email address is cleared for my work firewall.

My Contact Information:

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Email addresses: Nancy.Gargula@usdoj.gov; mgargula@sbcglobal.net; njgargula@sbcglobal.net; Email is the best way to contact me but please send emails to all three addresses because I travel for my job and I don't have access to my home emails when I am out of town for work.

Thank you for your help.

Nancy