



## **PUBLIC INTEREST LEADERSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATION FOR THE CLASS BEGINNING IN JANUARY 2021**

***UPDATE: The original application deadline has been extended.  
The new deadline to apply is Friday, November 20th. Those who  
have already applied do not need to re-apply.***

### **The Program**

The Boston Bar Association (BBA) Public Interest Leadership Program (PILP) is a unique leadership academy, exclusively for attorneys in their first ten years of practice. The program consists of five modules, each of which will be completed over a 45-60 day period. The modules cover the fundamentals of leadership in the legal profession including: Effective Organizational Leadership; Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Pro Bono; and Board Service. Each module consists of expert speakers on each topic, round table discussions, and opportunities to put newly learned skills into practice. The program will now take ten months from January 2021 through October 2021. All meetings will take place over Zoom, and participants will complete the program by attending 80% or more of the meetings.

### **Why Join PILP?**

PILP leaders become part of a strong professional network of leaders in the Boston area. Members of PILP have utilized this program to become leaders at the bar, in their places of employment, and in their communities. PILP members participate in a staff supported program to explore community programs, network with business leaders, develop leadership skills, and understand the pro bono landscape. Furthermore, program participants become part of a growing alumni/ae network of past PILP participants. The Boston Bar Association strives to select a class of Public Interest Leaders that represent the diverse and talented legal community from which we draw.

### **Why Support an Applicant from your office for PILP?**

This program provides employers with additional professional development opportunities, mentorship, and visibility for future leaders in their organizations. PILP is a unique platform to ensure that attorneys are included and invested in the Boston legal community. PILP also provides junior attorneys with an opportunity to step out of their comfort zone, network, and enhance their abilities to work as part of a diverse team and within a larger organizational structure.

### **Selection Criteria**

Applicants must be BBA members within ten years of graduation from law school. The Selection Committee will evaluate the application pool based on a number of important criteria, including: (a) the extent to which applicants have demonstrated leadership in their community by participation in public service, *pro bono*, and/or organized bar activities; (b) the extent to which applicants are willing to commit time and energy to the future good of the profession; and (c) the extent to which the incoming PILP group will reflect personal, professional, and legal practice diversity, in keeping with the BBA's mission. Only one applicant from each firm or organization may apply per year. Although, those firms, affinity bars, or legal service organizations interested in sponsoring more than one applicant are encouraged to contact [dnewton@bostonbar.org](mailto:dnewton@bostonbar.org) for leave to submit an additional applicant.

### **To apply, please submit:**

- 1. Public Interest Leadership Program Application**
- 2. Commitment Letter (including employer recommendation letter)\***
- 3. Resume**

*\*See the commitment letter for additional information on waivers.*

**Please email applications on or before Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup> to:**

Doug Newton

Sections and Public Service Assistant

[dnewton@bostonbar.org](mailto:dnewton@bostonbar.org)

**REQUIRED INFORMATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Earliest Bar Admission Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Personal Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer or Business: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Business Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred contact location: Home  Business  BBA Member: Yes  No

**Personal Statement**

**Please provide answers to the following questions, using no more than 750 words total.** Responses may be inserted within this document or included as attachment to the application:

1. Describe your experience working in public service, pro bono, and/or organized bar activities and how those experiences have affected you personally and professionally.
  
2. How would your friends/ colleagues describe you as a leader?
  
3. What skills do you expect to develop or enhance by participating in PILP?

I hereby certify that the facts set forth in the above application, and the additional information submitted in support thereof, are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that falsified statements in any of the statements made in support of this application shall be considered sufficient cause for denial of selection as a Public Interest Leader. I certify that I will commit up to 100 hours or the equivalent if chosen to participate in the Program.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Signature

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION - OPTIONAL**

Please note that this page is an optional attachment to your application. Choosing not to complete the information requested on this page of the application will not affect your likelihood of being selected.

**Professional Background:**

Law School(s): \_\_\_\_\_

State(s) where admitted: \_\_\_\_\_

Practice Area(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Professional Organization Memberships:**

Organization

Role

**Additional Information**

If there is other information about you which you believe furthers the BBA's goals of service to the community and diversity & inclusion, and which you feel would be useful to the Selection Committee in evaluating your application, please feel free to share this information in no more than 300 words.

COMMITMENT LETTER

**Firm / In-House Attorneys**

A Commitment Letter must be provided by all applicants employed by a firm or corporate legal department. This Commitment Letter must be signed by a designated representative of the sponsoring firm or entity or by the applicant's direct supervisor. Please forward on or before Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup> to Doug Newton, Sections and Public Service Assistant, [dnewton@bostonbar.org](mailto:dnewton@bostonbar.org), fax: 617-778-1919.

**Section One**

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Individual Completing this Form: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Firm or Entity: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section Two**

As the applicant's managing partner or direct supervisor, please provide a recommendation on behalf of the applicant that addresses the following considerations:

1. A thoughtful review of the applicant's qualifications and personal strengths.
2. How does your firm or entity expect to benefit from the applicant's participation in the program?

**Section Three**

I have authority to commit to the following on behalf of the above-named firm or entity if the above-named applicant is selected to participate in the Public Interest Leadership Program:

To provide up to 100 hours of credit to the applicant towards applicable employment requirements for the duration of the program.\*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of managing partner, supervisor, or designated representative of the sponsor firm or entity

*\*The BBA understands that many employers require that their attorneys meet certain goals concerning the number of hours billed or worked. Some organizations also require that their attorneys dedicate specific amounts of time towards other professional development or public interest-related tasks. It is the BBA's intent that the applicant's employer shows a commitment to the program by agreeing to give up to 100 hours of credit to the applicant towards his or her employment requirements.*

**COMMITMENT LETTER**

**Government Attorneys**

This Commitment Letter must be completed and provided for all applicants employed by government agencies that cannot provide credit for hours their employees spend on outside activities. This Commitment Letter must be signed by a designated representative of the sponsoring entity or by the applicant's direct supervisor. Please forward on or before Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup> to Doug Newton, Sections and Public Service Assistant, [dnewton@bostonbar.org](mailto:dnewton@bostonbar.org), fax: 617-778-1919.

**Section One**

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Individual Completing this Form: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section Two**

As the applicant's manager or direct supervisor, please provide a recommendation on behalf of the applicant that addresses the following considerations:

1. A thoughtful review of the applicant's qualifications and personal strengths.
2. How does your organization expect to benefit from the applicant's participation in the program?

**Section Three**

I have authority to acknowledge the following on behalf of the above-named entity if the above-named applicant is selected to participate in the Public Interest Leadership Program:

The above-named applicant can devote up to 100 hours to the Program for its duration.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of supervisor or designated representative  
of the sponsor entity

**COMMITMENT LETTER**

**Legal Services Attorneys**

This Commitment Letter must be completed by all applicants employed by legal services organizations that cannot provide credit for hours their employees spend on outside activities. This Commitment Letter must be signed by a designated representative of the sponsoring entity or by the applicant's direct supervisor. Please forward on or before Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup> to Doug Newton, Sections and Public Service Assistant, [dnewton@bostonbar.org](mailto:dnewton@bostonbar.org), fax: 617-778-1919.

**Section One**

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Individual Completing this Form: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section Two**

As the applicant's manager or direct supervisor, please provide a recommendation on behalf of the applicant that addresses the following considerations:

1. A thoughtful review of the applicant's qualifications and personal strengths.
2. How does your organization expect to benefit from the applicant's participation in the program?

**Section Three**

I have authority to acknowledge the following on behalf of the above-named entity if the above-named applicant is selected to participate in the Public Interest Leadership Program:

The above-named applicant can devote up to 100 hours to the Program for its duration.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of supervisor or designated representative  
of the sponsor entity

**COMMITMENT LETTER**

**Self-employed or In Transition**

This Commitment Letter must be completed by all applicants who are self-employed or in transition. **TWO letters of recommendation must be submitted.** Please forward on or before Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup> to Doug Newton, Sections and Public Service Assistant, [dnewton@bostonbar.org](mailto:dnewton@bostonbar.org), fax: 617-778-1919.

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Individual Completing this Form: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Note to recommender: Please include a thoughtful review of the applicant's qualifications and personal strengths.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of recommender