

New Lawyer Institute: A Gateway to the Profession

NEW YORK
CITY BAR

What is NLI?

The NLI provides new lawyers with a professional home at the New York City Bar Association. Featuring speakers from government, the judiciary and the rest of the legal community, the NLI offers a continuing education curriculum designed to equip new lawyers with the practical skills and substantive knowledge they need to advance their careers. The program also includes training and experience in professional networking and job interviewing, and access to mentorship opportunities. The NLI offers a connection to the New York legal community and the opportunities available to new lawyers.

What our Alumni think of the New Lawyers Institute

How the NLI has been useful to our participants?

“Being member of the NLI, and by extension the City Bar, has broadened my professional network. By attending NLI events, I am able to meet attorneys from a wide range of practice areas.”

– Joam Alisme, Assistant Law Clerk, Kings County Supreme Court, New York Law School

“The NLI program was extremely helpful with teaching me how to use the New York City Bar Association resources, make great connections, attend a variety of thought-provoking CLE, and think outside of the box when it comes to my job search and professional development. I would definitely encourage a recent graduate to consider it!”

– Tushara Jones Saint Vitus, Hofstra University School of Law

“NLI was useful for me primarily because of the networking and support it provided. The program encouraged me to meet attorneys in various practice areas that I would have not met on my own. It helped as a support group as well while I was looking for a job. The panels were very helpful from resume preparation to salary negotiation. NLI also provided endless resources with the helpful staff and the visiting attorneys, I felt like I had an entire network to help me outside of my own.”

– Nutan Sewdath, In House, the Praedium Group, Brooklyn Law School

“NLI has been helpful in complimenting my resume. As a new attorney, it is helpful to show legal schooling.”

– Victorio Roman, Court Square Fellowship, Hofstra University School of Law

“Although I’d had a long career in the legal field before attending law school, NLI was extremely useful in providing a focus on how to transition into my new role as a lawyer and member of the profession. The career development workshops prompt new lawyers to be deliberate and take control of their careers. For instance, in my preparation to discuss job search strategies with my assigned mentor, Stuart Smith, I reached out to a former colleague. That turn resulted in an offer of an interview for my current position with Duane Morris. I continue to reap the benefits of being an inaugural NLI participant by my work as a member of the NLI Advisory committee and in gaining valuable opportunities to speak at the NYC Bar on various topics.”

– Ralph Carter, Duane Morris LLP, St. John’s University School of Law

What aspects of the NLI did our alumni enjoy?

“What a pleasure to resume my legal education with CLE instructors of the highest caliber, but without the pressure and the expense and the exams of law school!”

– Donald Glassman, Brooklyn Law School

“NLI help me organize my goals and place many things into perspective. For example, it was useful to have actual employers look at my resume, other than career and services at my school. It also helped me strategize as to what can be done while I looked for work, outside of volunteering. I found it useful to really get involved in a city bar committee, it made a difference. NLI created opportunities and thoroughly supplemented the resources that my law school supplied. The NLI speaker series was the part I particularly enjoyed. It was important that as a recent graduated I saw my law career as something that is long term. That my first job may not be my dream job, but it can lead me there. When I graduated from law school, I quickly learned it is not what I expected. I learned that getting acclimated to the legal profession is a process; I wasn’t expected to know everything upon graduation. This is why it was such a pleasure to hear from so many lawyers at the end of their careers, discuss their beginning. It reminded me that what I am going through and feeling is normal and I am not a failure.”

– Dalourny Nemorin, Public Defender at Neighborhood Defender Service of Harlem, CUNY School of Law

So, do our alumni recommend the program?

“NLI was instrumental in my exploration of law practice areas where I had the opportunity to meet and interview practicing attorneys, expand my professional network, and grow professionally. As I was searching for employment after law school, I was able to demonstrate to prospective employers that even as I was in the process searching for meaningful work and obtaining my license to practice, I was actively engaged in the legal profession. The New Lawyers Institute was invaluable in keeping me engaged, helping me plug into the New York City legal community and establish a strong professional network.”

– Vita Trujillo Office of General Counsel and Senior Vice Chancellor for Legal Affairs for the City University of New York, CUNY School of Law

"Most definitely. The NLI is an incredible program that supported me through the difficult transitions post-law school. In addition to learning from and meeting inspiring legal professionals, the program introduced me to the vibrant community that exists in the NYC Bar Association, and the importance of being engaged with it."

– Taier Perlman, Brooklyn Law School

"Yes. I would definitely recommend this program for a recent graduate. I found the Speaker Series to be very helpful in learning about many different career paths."

– Paige Munson, Health Care Advocate at the Center for Independence of the Disabled in New York, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law

"Definitely, I think it is a great way to transition from law school to the working, because it gives the chance to communicate with people who are in the same situation as you and provide you with different perspective on finding a job and different career options."

- CUNY School of Law Participant

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