

BAR FOUNDATION AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

The New Jersey State Bar Foundation is a nonprofit organization founded to carry out the charitable and educational purposes of the organized bar. Since the inception of the foundation's continuous, law-related educational programming for the public in 1988, public response has been overwhelming. The foundation's public education services and programs include the following:

FREE PUBLICATIONS

The foundation offers a number of free publications, either in print or online, including *Consumer's Guide to New Jersey Law*; *The Students Rights Handbook* cosponsored with the American Civil Liberties Union of New Jersey; *The Right to Special Education in New Jersey*, cosponsored with Education Law Center; *Domestic Violence: The Law and You*; *Law Points for Senior Citizens (Third Edition)*; *What You Need to Know About Plagiarism*; *Disability Law: A Legal Primer (Sixth Edition)* cosponsored with the Essex County Bar Association; *AIDS and the Law*, cosponsored with the Hyacinth Foundation; *Starting and Succeeding With a New Business*; *Residential Construction and Renovation—A Legal Guide for New Jersey Homeowners* and *What You Need to Know About Adoption*. *The Bill of Rights Bulletin*, a 24-page newsletter containing articles, puzzles and constitutional trivia, as well as *Historical Documents of New Jersey and the United States* and *Constitutionally New Jersey*, a companion piece to the *Bill of Rights Bulletin* are also offered to schools throughout New Jersey. All of these publications may be downloaded from the foundation's website at njsbf.org. Some are available in print, Braille and audio.

The Legal Eagle

The foundation's popular legal newspaper for kids, *The Legal Eagle*, is distributed to elementary, middle and high schools throughout the state. The newspaper, published three times a year, is a resource for students and teachers that helps stimulate discussions about the law and how it can impact everyday life. Topics covered in the past year include gun control, the ERA, free speech and digital privacy.

Respect

As a result of the popularity of *The Legal Eagle's* special diversity issue, the foundation launched a new publication in

October 2001. Intended for middle and high school students, the *Respect* newsletter highlights issues of diversity. Topics covered in the past year include institutional racism, immigration, cash bail and affirmative action.

MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION

Initiated in 1982, the Vincent J. Apruzzese High School Mock Trial Competition, open to all public and private schools in the state, has taught more than 110,000 students the fundamentals of our court system. Through playing the roles of witnesses, attorneys and jurors, thousands of students each year learn firsthand about the judicial system by trying their cases before real judges in real courtrooms and at the New Jersey Law Center in New Brunswick. Our state competition has produced two national champions. New Jersey is one of only a few states to win the nationwide competition twice.

Elementary and middle school students can also learn about trial procedures and the court system through the foundation's highly successful Law Fair and Law Adventure competitions, as well as the Mini-Court program for younger students.

HELPING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

The foundation, the Community Health Law Project and the New Jersey Institute for Continuing Legal Education sponsor annual conferences on issues of interest to persons with disabilities, their families and the professionals who serve them. The free conferences deal with healthcare, housing, education, guardianship, estate planning, the Americans with Disabilities Act and much more.

VIOLENCE PREVENTION/ANTI-BIAS TRAININGS

Committed to the promotion of a positive school climate and violence prevention, the Foundation provides comprehensive programming that supports schools in establishing conflict resolution programs, active school climate teams and relevant anti-bias programming suitable for differing school populations. Our trainings include Conflict Resolution, Peer Mediation, Social Emotional Character Development, The Role of the School Climate Team, How to Teach the Holocaust, as well as a three-part Why We Bully series

that includes workshops on Unconscious Bias, Understanding HIB Characteristics and Talking About Race.

All trainings are held at the New Jersey Law Center and attendees receive relevant material or curriculum guides to take back to their classrooms.

COURT NIGHT

The foundation, along with county bar and specialty bar associations sponsor court night programs for the public. Through these programs, judges, attorneys and court personnel explain the workings of the court system to interested participants. County bar associations interested in cosponsoring local court nights are invited to call the bar foundation at 732-937-7507 for details.

COSPONSORSHIPS

To maximize the impact of its public education mandate, the foundation combines its efforts with those of other non-profit organizations in cosponsoring law-related and vio-

lence prevention initiatives, projects, conferences and publications. Major grants given by the foundation in the past have supported such projects as domestic violence pamphlets, advanced healthcare directives kits, conferences on family law and immigrant rights, as well as programs for the developmentally disabled, handbooks for children leaving foster care and career mentoring events for inner-city youth.

For more information about New Jersey State Bar Foundation programs and publications visit the foundation online at njsbf.org. If you are interested in participating in a public education program, or would like information on any program, please contact the foundation's executive director.

SOCIAL MEDIA

@NJStateBarFdn can be found on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. On YouTube we can be found by searching New Jersey State Bar Foundation. Please take a moment to follow us on Twitter and Instagram and like our Facebook page, inviting your friends to like the page as well.

LAWYERS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Confidential Support and Assistance

The New Jersey Lawyers Assistance Program is a confidential, free, and independent program assisting attorneys, judges, law students, and law graduates with substance use and mental health issues affecting personal and professional well being. The program offers assessments, referrals to substance use disorder and mental health resources if necessary, and ongoing support.

As part of the vision to help attorneys achieve and maintain well being, NJLAP delivers prevention and educational

programs throughout the state. NJLAP maintains an active social media presence, sharing news, updates and mental health-related information of special interest to attorneys. A quarterly newsletter focuses on "balance" and its importance. Funding for NJLAP is provided by a minimal assessment on all lawyer license renewal fees.

No matter what the problem, you need not manage alone. Call NJLAP at 800-246-5527.