



Open Doors: Advising Law Students and Lawyers with Disabilities

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Case Study #1

As a law school career counselor, you are in the midst of Fall OCI. A 2L with a very high GPA meets with you after he receives his OCI interview schedule and discloses that morning interviews are challenging for him - near impossible - because of medication side effects. You know that the employers conducting these interviews scheduled them only for the morning hours.

How do you proceed?

Case Study #2

An attorney who is up for promotion informs you that due to medical issues he suddenly needs medical leave after being diagnosed with a chronic, inherently unpredictable condition. New challenges presented by this condition include fall hazard risks, travel restrictions, and an inability to consistently bill full-time hours.

How do you proceed, knowing that this attorney is otherwise qualified for the promotion?

LEADRS – Today & Tomorrow

◆ Expanded Mission:

LEADRS supports and enhances the professional, personal, and career development of people with all types of disabilities, both at our firm, and in the legal profession.

◆ Growing Membership & Involvement:

- New board members
- Confidentiality
- Inclusion of staff and vendors
- 68 self-identified members
- Outreach

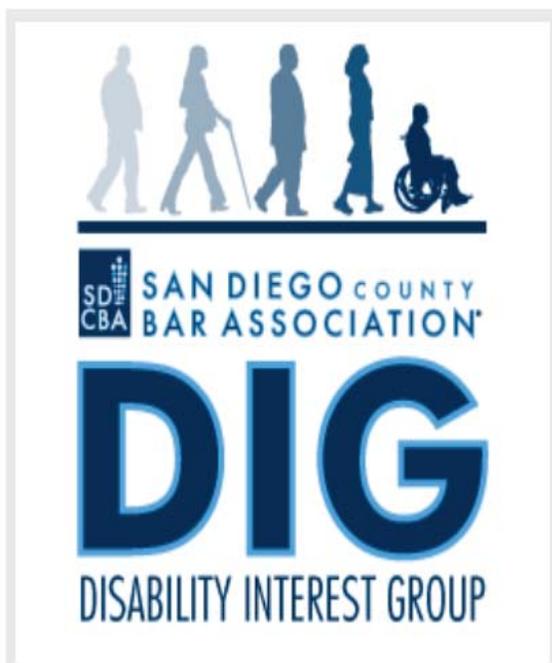
LEADRS
Disability Business Inclusion Group

LEADRS – Plans for 2019

- Encourage self-identification
- Speaking engagements
- Collaborate for recruitment
- Lunch ‘n Learns
- Mentoring groups
- Training programs
- Mental health programs



San Diego County Bar Association Disability Interest Group



Mission: *“The group will strive to raise in the legal community awareness of issues facing those with disabilities, and to emphasize the necessity for accommodation...The focus is to promote law as a viable career choice for those with disabilities....”*

San Diego County Bar Association

DIG Initiatives

- College Programs
- High School Programs
- Professional CLEs
- State and Federal Courts
- Partnership with Dep't of Rehabilitation



Resources for Law Students and Lawyers



- List of ABA Pledge Signatories
- Educational Resources
- Professional Associations
- Mentor Programs
- Internships
- Pro Bono Opportunities



Additional Resources

- Federal Government Hiring – Schedule A
- Scholarships & Fellowships
- Writing Competitions
- Networking Programs
- Job Boards
- Diversity Programs
- “Careers” Page of Law Firm Websites

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