

USF SCHOOL OF LAW
Women Lawyers Committee (WLC) and Women’s Law Association (WLA)
JD Mentor Program

GUIDELINES FOR MENTORS

WHAT IS THE GOAL OF THE JD MENTOR PROGRAM?

The goal of the WLC/WLA JD Mentor Program (“Mentor Program”) is to match eligible USF JD students (“Mentees”) with Bay Area attorneys (“Mentors”) who have expressed an interest in volunteering their time and sharing their knowledge about their legal experience.

- JD students can learn about practice areas from attorneys specializing in a variety of legal fields with emphasis on the exchange of information on a variety of topics.

GUIDELINES FOR MENTORS

- 1) Give Mentees insights on the practice of law in the Bay Area.
- 2) Meet with your Mentee at least twice during the Spring Semester, once during the Summer and twice during the Fall Semester, although more meetings are encouraged. At least one of the meetings each Semester should be in person.
- 3) Topics for discussion may include:
 - Mentor’s legal specialty
 - Demands of law practice
 - Law school classes and/or programs applicable to mentor’s legal specialty
 - Changes in the legal profession
 - Approaches to ethical dilemmas
 - The law as a profession and professionalism generally
 - Quality of life issues while in law school and while working in the legal field
 - Law practice management issues
 - Career goals of the student, the legal job market in the Bay Area

NOTE: The Mentor Program is not intended to serve as a recruitment device or job placement program; however, information about careers in law for JD students and career planning can be very useful and we encourage Mentors to share their thoughts on these subjects with students.

- 4) Professional activities may include:
 - “Shadowing” the Mentor for a few hours, a half-day, or longer, depending on job

constraints

- Accompanying the Mentor at hearings, meetings, depositions
- Attending business development functions, Bar Association meetings, or other law-related events with the Mentor

In addition, Mentors may want to invite their Mentee(s) to participate in social and recreational activities, such as wine tasting, golf, baseball games, hiking, biking, soccer matches, sailing, etc.

Conversations between Mentees and Mentors should be kept confidential.