



New York City Bar Mentoring Circles for Small Firm and Solo Practitioners

The New York City Bar Mentoring Circles are designed to serve members at all stages of their practice. Each Circle includes several experienced lawyers and a somewhat larger group of newer lawyers who are establishing a practice.

In a traditional mentoring set up, experienced practitioners advise junior practitioners one-on-one. With Mentoring Circles, each member is both a mentee and a mentor and all members receive professional development and networking opportunities. While the benefits to a newer attorney might be obvious, Circles offer equally valuable opportunities to more experienced attorneys, for whom networking with newer solos and small firm practitioners may open up opportunities for help with piled up legal work and expansion of business through referrals of cases.

Mentoring Circles provide members with a confidential and more personal forum that allows the groups to hone law practice development and management skills, build relationships, expand referral networks and engage in substantive discussions.

The City Bar Mentoring Circles are divided into the following areas:

- Corporate Practice
- Family Law
- General Practice
- Immigration
- Intellectual Property
- Litigation

Circles meet once a month September through June. Each meeting begins with a 30 minute reception where members of all six Circles can benefit from joint networking. The reception is followed by individual breakouts for each Circle lasting up to one hour. From time to time featured speakers address the members of all six Circles during the initial 30 minute reception. Circles are also encouraged to hold joint meetings when appropriate.

Circle members are encouraged to maintain communication between monthly meetings through email and established LinkedIn Groups.

Participation is limited to current City Bar members. Space in each Circle is limited and filled on a first come first serve basis. The annual cost of participation is \$200.