



The Legal  
Accountability  
Project

# LAP SPONSORSHIP LEVELS



[www.legalaccountabilityproject.org](http://www.legalaccountabilityproject.org)

# THE LEGAL ACCOUNTABILITY PROJECT: IMPROVING THE COURTS, ONE CLERKSHIP AT A TIME.

The Legal Accountability Project (LAP) is a nonprofit aimed at ensuring that law clerks have positive clerkship experiences, while extending support and resources to those who do not. Aliza Shatzman founded LAP in June 2022 following her personal experience with harassment and retaliation during and after her DC clerkship, which she first shared publicly in written testimony before the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet in March 2022 and has shared in numerous public forums since then, in order to ensure that future generations of clerks would have broader, more equitable access to information about judicial clerkships.

## WHY SUPPORT LAP?

LAP is the resource that Aliza wishes existed when she was a law student applying for clerkships. LAP works on several initiatives in collaboration with law schools, law firms, bar associations, the judiciary, and other stakeholders aimed at increasing transparency in the clerkship application process and diversifying judicial chambers.

LAP's main initiative this year is a Centralized Clerkships Database, where law clerk alumni from every institution can submit post-clerkship surveys about their clerkship experiences, and law students at participating institutions can read all the surveys, in order to identify judges who will create positive work environments and avoid judges who mistreat their clerks. The Database democratizes information and replaces the “whisper networks” which are currently one of the only ways for prospective clerks to obtain information about judges. This transparency initiative ensures that law students have as much information about as many judges as possible, before making important career decisions, considering the outsized influence that a judicial clerkship and a law clerk's relationship with a judge have on future career success.

The Database also empowers more diverse students—including female, non-white, LGBTQ+, and first-generation students—to pursue clerkships, by increasing the breadth and candor of accessible information. These students disproportionately lack access to formal networks and information channels that help some of their peers obtain clerkships. LAP's Database increases diversity and equity in the clerkship pipeline, and the legal profession generally. Transparency benefits everyone, but it particularly benefits historically marginalized groups, who have unique considerations when deciding whether and where to clerk, including whether judges hire diverse applicants and are sensitive to diverse identities.

By fostering beneficial clerkship experiences, LAP helps to shape the next generation of enthusiastic attorneys. LAP believes that every student and alumnus who wants to clerk, should feel empowered to pursue a judicial clerkship in a safe work environment. Applicants must be mindful about where and for whom they clerk, in a way that students are currently not able to. At a minimum, the clerkship work environment must be safe, respectful, and free from discrimination and harassment. LAP's multi-pronged advocacy, accountability, transparency, and education strategies foster these types of exemplary judicial workplaces.

The Database is a subscription model. Law schools will pay a small subscription fee when the Database goes live in fall 2023. This resource will ensure that students considering clerkship have as much information about judges as possible, prior to commencing the application process.

LAP is fundraising to maintain the Clerkships Database. This critical technology is transforming not only the clerkship application process, but the legal profession, for the next generation of attorneys, thereby ensuring that everyone can pursue careers they love in safe workplaces. Your financial contribution will help LAP bring this initiative to more emerging attorneys this year.

LAP's President and Founder is a leading voice for judicial accountability. She regularly writes and speaks about judicial ethics, clerkships, and diversity in the courts. She has developed a substantial public platform and social media following to advocate for change and to spotlight collaborators in these efforts.

Supporting LAP is a way for your organization to show the legal profession in general, and your attorneys in particular, that you support diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in the profession; judicial accountability; transparency; and safe work environments for legal professionals.

You can learn more about The Legal Accountability Project by visiting their website ([www.legalaccountabilityproject.org](http://www.legalaccountabilityproject.org)). You can also reach out to Aliza via email at [Aliza.Shatzman@legalaccountabilityproject.org](mailto:Aliza.Shatzman@legalaccountabilityproject.org) for more information about sponsorship opportunities.

## GENERAL BENEFITS

- LAP's founding sponsors have the opportunity to get in on the ground level with innovative legal technology that is transforming the clerkship application process, legal profession, and judiciary for the next generation of attorneys.
- Diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI): Historically marginalized groups (including female, non-white, LGBTQ+, and first-generation students) disproportionately lack access to formal networks and information channels that help some of their peers obtain clerkships. Diversifying the upper echelons of the legal profession – including the judiciary – starts with increasing the diversity pipeline, considering the outsized influence that a judicial clerkship, and a relationship with a judge, have on new attorneys' future career success.
- Attorney recruitment: LAP's Clerkships Database helps law firms attract and retain better talent. Today's law clerks are tomorrow's law firm associates. LAP's Database will empower more diverse students and young attorneys to pursue better clerkships and return to their firms afterward as enthusiastic associates.
- Innovative legal technology: This legal technology initiative democratizes information about judges and replaces the "whisper networks" which are currently one of the only ways for prospective clerks to obtain information about judges, thereby encouraging more law students to pursue judicial clerkships with the confidence that they will be treated fairly and respectfully throughout their tenure as law clerks.
- Shaping the future face of the profession: By fostering beneficial clerkship experiences, you can help LAP to shape the next generation of enthusiastic associates, who will bring to their firms, following their clerkships, important insight into judicial decision-making and litigation strategy.
- Improving the judiciary: A better judiciary creates a better society. LAP's advocacy work and transparency initiatives raise the bar on workplace civility in the judiciary. Judges understand this, which is why LAP has enjoyed support from many federal and state judges. Judges regularly convey that transparency benefits both judges and clerks, by helping everyone to identify positive working relationships.

## WHAT BENEFITS COME WITH SPONSORSHIP?

<b>Benefit</b>	<b>Platinum (\$25,000)</b>	<b>Gold (\$12,500)</b>	<b>Silver (\$5,000)</b>	<b>Bronze (\$2,500)</b>	<b>Copper (\$500)</b>	<b>Description</b>
Organization recognition in Clerkships Database	X					Organization featured prominently on Clerkships Database homepage, where it will be viewed by law students, clerks, and law school administrators daily
Organization spotlight	At least 6 per year	At least 6 per year	At least 3 per year	At least 1 per year		LAP highlights an attorney, innovative practice, or interesting case to its membership (social media, weekly e-newsletter, and programming)
Sponsorship recognition	At least 6 per year	At least 6 per year	At least 3 per year	At least 1 per year	At least 1 per year	Recognition on LAP's website, in weekly newsletter, on all social media platforms, and in any programming material
Programming	X	X	X	X		Opportunities for LAP to speak at the organization, conduct training and educational programming on issues related to DEI, judicial accountability/ethics, and clerkships
LAP-aided clerkship advising	X	X	X			Organization's summer associates and attorneys receive tailored clerkship advising from LAP experts