



The New York Bar Foundation 2026 Kay Crawford Murray Commercial Division Diversity Fellowship

The New York Bar Foundation is pleased to announce the 2026 Kay Crawford Murray Commercial and Federal Litigation Section Diversity Fellowship which has been established by The New York Bar Foundation through a gift from the Commercial and Federal Litigation Section of the New York State Bar Association. The Fellowship will be awarded to a current first year (1L) diversity law student who is enrolled in a law school in the State of New York to work in a litigation position in the public sector in the State of New York during the summer of 2026.

Diversity Fellowship Program Goals

To increase the representation of lawyers and students from a diverse range of backgrounds in commercial litigation, and to provide students with an opportunity to experience litigation practice. The ultimate goal of the Fellowship is to create a network and forge relationships which will foster greater diversity among commercial and federal litigators throughout the State of New York. Through the Fellowship, a student will be provided a meaningful and appropriately supervised work experience in the Chambers of Justice Robert Reed of the Commercial Division of the Supreme Court of New York, New York County, 60 Centre Street, New York, NY.

The Fellowship

The Fellowship, valued at \$6,000, will be awarded to one (1) student to spend the summer of 2026 (10 weeks) working on Commercial Division matters in the Chambers of Justice Robert Reed, of the Commercial Division of the Supreme Court of New York, New York County, 60 Centre Street, New York, NY.

1. The Fellow will be a guest member of the NYSBA Commercial and Federal Litigation Section for one year starting with the award of the Fellowship.
2. The Fellowship will be awarded during the month of March 2026 and the official presentation will occur in or about mid-May 2026.

Eligibility

The Fellowship is open to all first-year (1L) students as of Fall 2025 semester that are enrolled in a law school in the State of New York and who are capable of fulfilling the requested work hours and responsibilities. The student must be a member of one of the following racial/ethnic groups: Black/African American; Latino/a; Native American or Alaskan Native; Asian or Pacific Islander.

Fellowship Length

The Fellowship will take place during the summer of 2026 for a period of ten weeks from June 2026 to August 2026. The work requirement per week is 35 hours at the minimum but should not exceed 40 hours.

Location of Fellowship

The 2026 Fellowship will take place in the Commercial Division, in the Chambers of Justice Robert Reed, New York Supreme Court, Commercial Division.

Payment of Fellowship

The student will receive \$3,000 during the month of June from The Foundation with the remaining \$3,000 paid to the student during the month of August.

Housing and Other Expense

Housing, transportation, and all other expenses to participate in the Fellowship will be provided by the student.

Fellowship Application Requirements

The applicant **must** submit the following as a **single PDF file**:

1. A completed application (application form below)
2. Cover letter of interest
3. Unofficial undergraduate school transcript
4. Resume
5. Two letters of recommendation
6. One writing sample on any topic related to the law. The writing sample must be at least five pages but shall not exceed 10 typed pages double spaced.

Fellowship Requirement

At the conclusion of the Fellowship, the recipient will be required to produce a summary evaluation report that may be produced as an article in the Commercial and Federal Litigation Section Newsletter and/or the Foundation's Newsletter.

Deadline

Completed application must be submitted by email on or before **Friday, March 6, 2026.**

Format

Only single PDF files will be accepted.

Judging

Criteria for judging applications will be:

1. Content and quality of application materials
2. Demonstrated interest in litigation
3. Work experience
4. Academic record
5. Leadership experience
6. Extracurricular activities and community service
7. Quality of written expression
8. Maturity, integrity and professionalism
9. Any other relevant factors

Submission

Completed application must be submitted by email on or before **Friday, March 6, 2026.**

Email submissions should be sent to [**Ldorr@tnybf.org**](mailto:Ldorr@tnybf.org)

Please include “**ComFed Fellowship**” in the subject line.

About the **COMMERCIAL AND FEDERAL LITIGATION SECTION
of the NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION**

The Purpose of the Section is to improve the quality of representation of clients, provide a forum for the improvement of law and procedure in the areas of commercial and federal litigation, and enhance the administration of justice.

The Section serves its mission by:

Developing relationships and sharing practice experiences with fellow commercial and federal litigators, with state and federal judges, and with regulatory and administrative bodies;

Establishing committees for the purpose of promoting research and discussion on current issues affecting our practice;

Influencing and proposing legislation affecting our practice;

Developing continuing legal education programs on topics relevant to our practice; and

Providing networking opportunities for its members.

About **THE NEW YORK BAR FOUNDATION**

Founded in 1950, The New York Bar Foundation is dedicated to aiding educational, direct legal services, and charitable projects aimed at meeting the law-related needs of the public and the profession. The Foundation solicits charitable contributions and provides funding for the following purposes:

- Increasing public understanding of the law
- Improving the justice system and the law
- Facilitating the delivery of civil legal services
- Enhancing professional competence and ethics

For more information about The New York Bar Foundation, go to
www.tnybf.org



2026
Kay Crawford Murray
Commercial and Federal Litigation Section
Diversity Fellowship

*Provided by The New York Bar Foundation
through a gift from the Commercial and Federal Litigation Section
of the New York State Bar Association*

APPLICATION FORM

Name: _____

Permanent Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

School Address: _____
(if different)

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Law School attending: _____

___ Day student ___ Evening student

Year of Law School Study as of December 1, 2025: _____

Please indicate diversity status below:

- ☐ Asian or Pacific Islander
- ☐ Black/African American
- ☐ Latino/a
- ☐ Lesbian Gay Bisexual or Transgendered
- ☐ Native American or Alaskan native - person having origins in any of the original peoples of America

Prior Education

College Name	Address	Major	Dates Attended
	Degree		

Attach the following materials to this application as a single PDF file:

1. A cover letter which indicates your interest in the practice of litigation and the receipt of this Fellowship.
2. An undergraduate transcript. (Transcripts need not be official; finalists may be asked to provide official transcripts.)
3. A resume describing your prior employment and other relevant activities and qualifications.
4. Two letters of recommendation. (These may be the same as used for law school applications.)
5. One writing sample on any topic related to the law. (Must be at least five but shall not exceed 10 double-spaced typewritten pages.)

Application Deadline:

Completed application must be submitted by email on or before **Friday, March 6, 2026.**

Email submissions should be sent to Ldorr@tnybf.org
Please include "ComFed Fellowship" in the subject line.

Certification

I hereby certify that all of the statements contained, and information provided in this application, and in the attachments hereto, are truthful, to the best of my knowledge, and that I meet the eligibility requirements for the 2026 Kay Crawford Murray Commercial and Federal Litigation Section Diversity Fellowship.

Applicant's Signature

Date

Where did you hear of TNYBF Scholarship Opportunity? _____