

2011-2012

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AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

**Center for Racial and
Ethnic Diversity**

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April 2012

Dear Bar Association and Foundation Executives:

The Law School Admission Council (LSAC), American Bar Foundation (ABF), and ABA Center for Racial and Ethnic Diversity (Diversity Center) are currently developing a new publication, with the working title *Diversity Databook*. The *Databook*, which has a target publication date of fall 2012, will be a compilation of selected reports, statistics and other related data pertaining to diversity and inclusion in the legal profession and justice system.

While the *Diversity Databook* is national in scope, we plan to include contributions from state and local bar organizations. We would like to learn of reports from your organization or jurisdiction that may be considered for inclusion or reference in the *Databook*. Please forward to us relevant reports you have, regarding diversity in the profession or equal justice concerns in your jurisdiction, which have been prepared in the last 5-7 years.

Broadly understood, diversity is about inclusion, fairness, and respect for all, creating a positive and enriching work environment that recognizes and respects a wide array of individual differences. The *Diversity Databook* will focus primarily on racial and ethnic diversity, as well as gender diversity. However, "diversity" may also refer to many other categories of individual difference, including belief systems, age, sexual orientation, and physical ability. We welcome information you may have on any dimension of professional diversity, specifically focusing on:

- Research reports or briefs on diversity in the legal profession or equal justice in the civil and criminal justice system
- Research reports or briefs on diversity within your organization's membership; this may include—but is not limited to—demographic composition of your members
- Research reports or briefs on diversity within your organization's leadership, e.g., governing body, committees, and section leaders

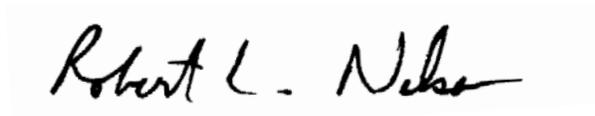
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Please submit your responses via e-mail to Spencer Headworth at sheadworth@abfn.org. The information can be submitted as attached documents and/or links to information posted online. To ensure consideration of your materials for inclusion in the *Diversity Databook*, please submit your materials by **May 11, 2012**.

Thank you in advance for your assistance with this important initiative. Participating organizations will receive a complimentary copy of the *Diversity Databook*.

Please let us know if we can address any questions or concerns.

Best regards,



Robert Nelson
Director and MacCrate Research Chair, American Bar Foundation and
Professor of Sociology and Law, Northwestern University



Reynaldo Anaya Valencia
Chair, Law School Admission Council Diversity Committee



I.S. Leevy Johnson
Chair, American Bar Association Center on Racial and Ethnic Diversity

Cc: Spencer Headworth, ABF Research Assistant
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