

Dear Members of the Council of the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar:

Preparing law students to be lawyers requires that they should be educated with respect to bias, cultural awareness, and anti-racism. Such skills are essential parts of professional competence, legal practice, and being a lawyer. We believe that every law school should develop such training and education for its students.

The American Bar Association mandates the minimum requirements that every law school must meet, though often it is left to individual law schools to decide how to implement these obligations. We believe that the ABA should require, or at least consider requiring, that every law school provide training and education around bias, cultural competence, and anti-racism. That said, we do not believe that the specific content of such training and education should be mandated by the American Bar Association; instead, we believe such work should be left to each law school to decide for its students.

We therefore collectively urge the Council to charge the Standards Review Subcommittee to study and consider enacting a requirement that every law school must provide training and education of its students with regard to bias, cultural awareness, and anti-racist practices. We are in a unique moment in our history to confront racism that is deeply embedded in our institutions, including in the legal profession, and we hope that the Council will take this important first step.

Sincerely,

Alicia Ouellette  
President and Dean  
Albany Law School

Camille Nelson  
Outgoing Dean and Professor of Law  
American University Washington College of Law &  
Dean Designate and Professor of Law  
University of Hawai'i William S. Richardson School of Law

Robert D. Dinerstein  
Professor of Law and Acting Dean  
American University Washington College of Law

Justice (ret.) Elizabeth A. McClanahan  
President and Dean  
Appalachian School of Law

Douglas Sylvester  
Dean  
Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law  
Arizona State University

Jace C. Gatewood  
Interim Dean and CEO  
Atlanta's John Marshall Law School

Vincent D. Rougeau  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Boston College Law School

Angela Onwuachi-Willig  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Boston University School of Law

D. Gordon Smith  
Dean and Woodruff J. Deem Professor of Law  
J. Reuben Clark Law School  
Brigham Young University

Michael T. Cahill  
President, Joseph Crea Dean, and Professor of Law  
Brooklyn Law School

Niels Schaumann  
President and Dean  
California Western School of Law

Sean M. Scott  
President and Dean Designate  
California Western School of Law

Reynaldo Anaya Valencia  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Capital University Law School

Melanie Leslie  
Dean and Samuel Belkin Professor of Law  
Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law  
Yeshiva University

Jessica Berg and Michael Scharf  
Co-Deans and Professors  
Case Western Reserve University School of Law

Matt Parlow  
Dean and Donald P. Kennedy Chair in Law  
Chapman University Dale E. Fowler School of Law

Lee Fisher  
Dean and Joseph C. Hostetler-Baker Hostetler Chair in Law  
Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, Cleveland State University

Gillian Lester  
Dean and the Lucy G. Moses Professor of Law  
Columbia Law School

Latonia Haney Keith  
Interim Dean  
Professor of Law  
Concordia University School of Law

Joshua P. Fershée  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Creighton University School of Law

Henry C. (Corky) Strickland  
Dean and Ethel P. Malugen Professor of Law  
Cumberland School of Law

Jennifer Rosato Perea  
Dean and Professor  
DePaul University College of Law

Daniel M. Filler  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law

Kerry Abrams  
James B. Duke and Benjamin N. Duke Dean  
Duke University School of Law

Luke Bierman  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Elon University School of Law

Dean Mary Anne Bobinski  
Asa Griggs Candler Professor of Law  
Emory University School of Law

Deidré A. Keller  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Florida A&M University College of Law

C. Peter Goplerud  
President and Dean  
Florida Coastal School of Law

Antony Page  
Dean and FIU Foundation Professor of Law  
Florida International University College of Law

Matthew Diller  
Dean and Paul Fuller Professor of Law  
Fordham University School of Law

Christopher Alan Bracey  
Interim Dean  
Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs  
Professor of Law  
George Washington University Law School

Dayna Bowen Matthew  
Dean Designate and Harold H. Greene Professor of Law  
George Washington University Law School

William M. Treanor  
Dean and Paul Regis Dean Leadership Professor  
Georgetown University Law Center

Leslie E. Wolf  
Interim Dean  
Distinguished University Professor of Law  
Georgia State University College of Law

Eric C. Christiansen  
Interim Dean and Professor of Law  
Golden Gate University

Jacob Rooksby  
Dean, Professor of Law, and Professor of Education  
Gonzaga University School of Law

John F. Manning  
Morgan and Helen Chu Dean and Professor of Law  
Harvard Law School

Danielle Holley-Walker  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Howard University School of Law

Austen Parrish  
Dean and James H. Rudy Professor  
Indiana University Maurer School of Law

Karen E. Bravo  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law

Jennifer J. Johnson  
Dean and Erskine Wood Sr. Professor of Law  
Lewis and Clark Law School

Matthew R. Lyon  
Vice President and Dean  
Lincoln Memorial University Duncan School of Law

Lee Ann Wheelis Lockridge  
Interim Dean and Professor of Law  
Louisiana State University Law Center

Michael J. Kaufman,  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Loyola University Chicago School of Law

Michael Waterstone  
Dean, Loyola Law School  
Senior Vice President, Loyola Marymount University

Madeleine M. Landrieu  
Dean and Judge Adrian G. Duplantier  
Distinguished Professor of Law  
Loyola New Orleans College of Law

Melanie B. Jacobs  
Interim Dean  
Professor of Law  
Michigan State University College of Law

Patricia Bennett  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Mississippi College School of Law

Anthony Niedwiecki  
President and Dean  
Stephen B. and Lisa S. Bonner Distinguished Chair  
Mitchell Hamline School of Law

Anthony W. Crowell  
Dean and President  
New York Law School

Trevor W. Morrison  
Dean and Roth Professor of Law  
New York University School of Law

Browne C. Lewis  
Dean and Professor of Law  
North Carolina Central University School of Law

James Hackney  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Northeastern University School of Law

Cassandra L. Hill  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Northern Illinois University College of Law

Judith Daar  
Ambassador Patricia L. Herbold Dean and Professor of Law  
Northern Kentucky University  
Salmon P. Chase College of Law

James B. Speta  
Interim Dean and Elizabeth Froehling Horner Professor in Law of Business and Commerce  
Northwestern Pritzker School of Law

José Roberto Juárez, Jr.  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad College of Law

Jim Roth  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Oklahoma City University School of Law

Danielle M. Conway  
Dean and Donald J. Farage Professor of Law  
Dickinson Law  
The Pennsylvania State University

Hari M. Osofsky  
Dean, Penn State Law and the School of International Affairs  
Distinguished Professor of Law, Professor of International Affairs, Professor of Geography  
The Pennsylvania State University-University Park

Paul L. Caron  
Duane and Kelly Roberts Dean and Professor of Law  
Pepperdine Caruso School of Law

Jennifer Gerarda Brown  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Quinnipiac University School of Law

Gregory W. Bowman  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Roger Williams University School of Law

Kimberly M. Mutcherson  
Co-Dean and Professor of Law  
Rutgers Law School

David Lopez  
Co-Dean  
Rutgers Law School

Michael A. Simons  
Dean and John V. Brennan Professor of Law  
St. John's University School of Law

William P. Johnson  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Saint Louis University School of Law

Patricia E. Roberts  
Dean and Charles E. Cantú Distinguished Professor of Law  
St. Mary's University School of Law

Tamara F. Lawson  
Dean and Professor of Law  
St. Thomas University School of Law

Anna M. Han  
Interim Dean  
Santa Clara University School of Law

Annette E. Clark  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Seattle University School of Law

Kathleen M. Boozang  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Seton Hall Law

Michael F. Barry  
President and Dean  
South Texas College of Law Houston

Camille Davidson  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Southern Illinois University School of Law

Jennifer M. Collins  
Dean  
SMU Dedman School of Law

John K. Pierre  
Chancellor  
Southern University Law Center

Susan Westerberg Prager  
Dean and Chief Executive Officer  
Southwestern Law School

Jenny S. Martinez  
Richard E. Lang Professor of Law and Dean  
Stanford Law School

Michèle Alexandre  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Stetson University College of Law

Andrew Perlman  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Suffolk University Law School

Jack Wade Nowlin  
Dean and W. Frank Newton Professor of Law  
Texas Tech University School of Law

Joan Bullock  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Thurgood Marshall School of Law  
Texas Southern University

Christopher J. (C.J.) Peters  
Dean and C. Blake McDowell, Jr. Professor of Law  
The University of Akron School of Law

Marc L. Miller  
Dean & Ralph W. Bilby Professor  
University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law

Margaret E. Sova McCabe  
Dean and Professor of Law  
University of Arkansas School of Law (Fayetteville)

Cynthia Nance  
Nathan G. Gordon Professor of Law, Dean Emeritus  
University of Arkansas School of Law (Fayetteville)

Theresa M. Beiner  
Dean & Nadine Baum Distinguished Professor of Law  
University of Arkansas Little Rock Bowen School of Law

Ronald Weich  
Dean  
University of Baltimore School of Law

Aviva Abramovsky  
Dean and Professor of Law  
University at Buffalo School of Law  
The State University of New York

Erwin Chemerinsky  
Dean and Jesse H. Choper Distinguished Professor of Law  
University of California, Berkeley School of Law

Kevin Johnson  
Dean, Mabie-Appallas Professor of Public Interest Law, and Professor of Chicana/o Studies  
University of California, Davis School of Law

David L. Faigman  
Chancellor & Dean and John F. Digardi Distinguished Professor of Law  
University of California Hastings College of the Law

L. Song Richardson  
Dean and Chancellor's Professor of Law  
University of California, Irvine School of Law

Jennifer L. Mnookin  
Dean and Ralph and Shirley Shapiro Professor of Law  
UCLA Law School

Thomas J. Miles  
Dean and Clifton R. Musser Professor of Law & Economics  
The University of Chicago Law School

Verna L. Williams  
Dean and Nippert Professor of Law  
University of Cincinnati College of Law

S. James Anaya  
Dean and University Distinguished Professor  
University of Colorado Law School

Eboni S. Nelson  
Dean Designate and Professor of Law  
University of Connecticut School of Law

Andrew Strauss  
Dean and Professor of Law  
University of Dayton School of Law

Phyllis L. Crocker  
Dean and Professor of Law  
University of Detroit Mercy School of Law

Renée McDonald Hutchins  
Dean and Rauh Chair of Public Interest Law  
University of the District of Columbia School of Law

Laura Ann Rosenbury  
Dean and Levin, Mabee & Levin Professor of Law  
University of Florida  
Fredric G. Levin College of Law

Avi Soifer  
Dean and Professor of Law  
William S. Richardson School of Law  
University of Hawai'i

Leonard M. Baynes  
Dean and Professor of Law  
University of Houston Law Center

Vikram David Amar  
Dean and Iwan Foundation Professor of Law  
University of Illinois College of Law

Darby Dickerson  
Dean and Professor of Law  
UIC John Marshall Law School  
The University of Illinois at Chicago

Kevin K. Washburn  
N. William Hines Dean and Professor of Law  
The University of Iowa College of Law

Stephen W. Mazza  
Dean and Professor of Law  
University of Kansas School of Law

Colin Crawford  
Dean and Professor of Law  
University of Louisville  
Brandeis School of Law

Donald B. Tobin  
Dean and Professor of Law  
University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law

Eric J. Mitnick  
Dean and Professor of Law  
University of Massachusetts School of Law

Katharine Schaffzin  
Dean and Professor of Law  
The University of Memphis  
Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law

Anthony E. Varona  
Dean and M. Minnette Massey Professor of Law  
University of Miami School of Law

Mark D. West  
Dean and Nippon Life Professor of Law  
University of Michigan Law School

Garry W. Jenkins  
Dean and William S. Pattee Professor of Law  
University of Minnesota Law School

Susan H. Duncan  
Dean and Professor of Law  
University of Mississippi School of Law

Lyrissa Lidsky  
Dean and Judge C.A. Leedy Professor of Law  
University of Missouri School of Law

Barbara Glesner Fines  
Dean and Rubey M. Hulen Professor of Law  
University of Missouri - Kansas City School of Law

Richard Moberly  
Dean and Richard C. & Catherine S. Schmoker Professor of Law  
University of Nebraska College of Law

Daniel W. Hamilton  
Dean and Richard J. Morgan Professor  
UNLV, William S. Boyd School of Law

Megan Carpenter  
Dean and Professor of Law  
University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School of Law

Martin H. Brinkley  
Dean and Arch T. Allen Distinguished Professor  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Law

Felicia Epps  
Dean and Professor of Law  
University of North Texas at Dallas College of Law

Katheleen R. Guzman  
Dean  
University of Oklahoma College of Law

Marcilynn A. Burke  
Dean  
Dave Frohnmayer Chair in Leadership and Law  
University of Oregon School of Law

Theodore W. Ruger  
Dean & Bernard G. Segal Professor  
University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School

Amy J. Wildermuth  
Dean and Professor of Law  
University of Pittsburgh School of Law

Wendy C. Perdue  
Dean and Professor of Law  
University of Richmond School of Law

Robert K. Vischer  
Dean and Mengler Chair in Law  
University of St. Thomas School of Law

Susan Freiwald  
Dean and Professor of Law  
University of San Francisco School of Law

Andrew T. Guzman  
Dean and Carl Mason Franklin Chair in Law, and Professor of Law and Political Science  
USC Gould School of Law

Douglas A. Blaze  
Interim Dean and E. E. Overton and Art Stolnitz Professor  
University of Tennessee College of Law

Ward Farnsworth  
Dean and John Jeffers Research Chair in Law  
University of Texas School of Law

D. Benjamin Barros  
Dean and Professor of Law  
University of Toledo College of Law

Lyn Suzanne Entzeroth  
Dean and Dean John Rogers Endowed Chair  
The University of Tulsa College of Law

Elizabeth Kronk Warner  
Dean and Professor of Law  
S.J. Quinney College of Law  
University of Utah

Risa Goluboff  
Dean and Arnold H. Leon Professor of Law  
University of Virginia School of Law

Mario L. Barnes  
Toni Rembe Dean and Professor of Law  
University of Washington School of Law

Margaret Raymond  
Dean  
University of Wisconsin Law School

Chris Guthrie  
Dean and John Wade-Kent Syverud Professor of Law  
Vanderbilt Law School

Thomas McHenry  
President and Dean  
Vermont Law School

Mark C. Alexander  
Arthur J. Kania Dean and Professor of Law  
Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law

Jane. H. Aiken  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Wake Forest Law School

Carla Pratt  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Washburn University School of Law

Brant T. Hellwig  
Dean of the School of Law  
Washington and Lee University

Nancy Staudt  
Dean and Howard & Caroline Cayne Distinguished Professor of Law  
Washington University School of Law-St. Louis

Richard A. Bierschbach  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Wayne State University Law School

John E. Taylor  
Interim Dean and Jackson Kelly Professor  
West Virginia University College of Law

Sudha Setty  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Western New England University School of Law

Allen K Easley  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Western State College of Law at Westcliff University

James McGrath  
President and Dean & Professor of Law  
Western Michigan University Thomas M. Cooley Law School

A. Benjamin Spencer  
Dean and Chancellor Professor  
William & Mary Law School

Brian Gallini  
Dean and Professor of Law  
Willamette University College of Law

Heather K. Gerken  
Dean and  
Sol & Lillian Goldman Professor of Law  
Yale Law School

National Bar Association  
President Dean Alfreda Robinson