

BSP Law Charitable Foundation Joel Stern Scholarship

From March 2014 to February 2021, **Joel Stern served as Chief Executive Officer** of the National Association of Minority and Women Owned Law Firms (NAMWOLF). Before that, he **spent more than 25 years as in-house counsel** for major companies, leading nationally recognized legal programs and serving as a trusted advisor, mentor, and executive coach to business and legal leaders.

Joel **exemplifies courage, perseverance, and leadership** in all aspects of his life. Since being diagnosed with Stage IV renal cell carcinoma in 2020, he **has continued mentoring others, advancing charitable initiatives, and demonstrating an unwavering commitment to service and excellence**. As Joel says:

“With my cancer diagnosis, nothing changes, except I have more obstacles I am confronted with now.”

The **Joel Stern Scholarship** honors his ongoing legacy by recognizing law students who demonstrate the qualities Joel embodies — **resilience, integrity, and the drive to make an impact through advocacy and service**. The award provides \$5,000 to a student who reflects BSP Law’s core values: **striving to make oneself invaluable to colleagues and clients by taking ownership, building strong relationships, exhibiting drive to succeed, displaying exceptional talent, and being authentic and real in their work**.

Eligibility Requirements

To qualify for the Joel Stern Scholarship, applicants must:

- Be a **current law student in good academic standing** at an accredited law school.
- Demonstrate **commitment to excellence in advocacy, writing, or litigation-related skills**.
- Exhibit **leadership, mentorship, or community service** that shows dedication to strengthening the legal profession and giving back to others.

Scholarship Amount: \$5,000

See the attached application form and guidelines for submission details.

Joel Stern Scholarship Application

Please include the following with your application:

- Full Name
 - Email Address
 - Phone Number
 - Law School
 - Year in Law School
 - Transcript
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Essays

Applicants must submit short essays (maximum 300 words per question; 900 words total) addressing:

1. **Creating Opportunities Through Advocacy**
How can today's law students use their advocacy skills, initiative, or leadership to open doors and create meaningful opportunities for the next generation of legal professionals?
2. **Demonstrating Leadership, Service, and Professional Merit**
Describe how you have demonstrated leadership, mentorship, or community involvement that reflects excellence, professionalism, and a commitment to giving back. How have these experiences shaped your approach to the law?
3. **Resilience and the Spirit of the Joel Stern Scholarship**
Share an example of how you've shown perseverance, authenticity, and drive in overcoming a challenge. How do these experiences reflect the qualities BSP Law and Joel Stern stand for — invaluable, ownership, relationships, drive, exceptional talent, and realness?

Submission Guidelines

Interested applicants must submit an essay answering the above essay prompts and submit to scholarship@bsplaw.com by **11:59 PM ET on Friday, February 13, 2026**. Please no calls.

All submissions must follow the formatting below:

- Questions must be included in your response, and bolded. (*Questions do not count towards the word maximum for the response.*)
- Font: Times New Roman
- Font Size: 12
- Text must be justified and double-spaced.
- Essays must be submitted in a PDF. No other formats will be accepted.
- Please name your file "Last Name_First Name_Joel Stern Scholarship Submission"