

**LAWYER TO LAWYER MENTORING PROGRAM**  
**WORKSHEET L**  
**INTRODUCTION TO CAREER PATHS**

Worksheet L is intended to facilitate a discussion about different career paths for lawyers, the environments in different types of practice settings, and the resources for exploring career options.

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- Discuss the different types of law practice. For example, government or public office, private practice, large firm vs. small firm vs. solo practice, corporate, environmental, the judiciary, non-traditional legal positions, Legal Aid.
- Share with the mentee your experiences and the environments in the different practice settings in which you have worked. Invite another experienced lawyer to discuss with you and the mentee his or her experiences in different practice settings.
- If the mentor specializes in an area of practice, share with the mentee how you acquired the expertise in that area. Why did you choose to practice in that concentration? Discuss how to secure a position in your practice concentration.
- Describe to the mentee your typical day with respect to things such as court appearances, trial work, research and writing, client contact, discovery, mediation/dispute resolution, hours/vacation/benefits/quality of life, etc.
- Share with the mentee what you enjoy most and least about your practice area. What or who was most instrumental in your developing practice expertise? What has been your greatest achievement?
- If the mentee is not in the type of practice he or she would like to be in long-term, the mentor may try to introduce the mentee to lawyers in the field he or she would like to explore.
- Discuss networking opportunities that would coincide with the mentee's objectives.
- Discuss the article by Charles Kidd and Kevin McGoff *Top Ten Ethics problems for Lawyers* (attached)
- Share with the mentee tips for succeeding in the practice of law, especially in the practice setting in which the mentee works. Discuss the suggestions made in the attached articles. David J. Levy, *Surviving Your "Junioring" Years*, LAW PRACTICE TODAY, March 2005. Steven C. Bennett, *How to Commit Career Suicide*, NATIONAL LAW JOURNAL, May 8, 2008. <http://www.law.com/jsp/article.jsp?id=1202421194833> Petra Pasternak, *How New Lawyers Can Choose Assignments Wisely*, THE RECORDER, Nov. 15, 2007. <http://www.law.com/jsp/llf/PubArticleLLF.jsp?id=1195034650076>

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## RESOURCES

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DEBORAH ARRON, WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A LAW DEGREE?: A LAWYER'S GUIDE TO CAREER ALTERNATIVES, INSIDE, OUTSIDE AND AROUND THE LAW (2003)

CLIFF ENNICO, YOUR LEGAL CAREER: FINDING SUCCESS AND SATISFACTION IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION (1998)

HINDI GREENBERG, THE LAWYER'S CAREER CHANGE HANDBOOK: MORE THAN 300 THINGS YOU CAN DO WITH A LAW DEGREE (1998)

RON HOGAN, VIEW FROM THE TOP: LAW FIRM LEADERS UNLOCK THE SECRETS OF A SUCCESSFUL LEGAL CAREER (2005)

GARY A. MUENNEKE ET AL., NONLEGAL CAREERS FOR LAWYERS (2006)

GARY A. MUENNEKE, CAREERS IN LAW (2003)

GARY A. MUENNEKE, THE LEGAL CAREER GUIDE, 4<sup>TH</sup> EDITION: FROM LAW STUDENT TO LAWYER (2003)

KIMM ALAYNE WALTON, GUERRILLA TACTICS FOR GETTING THE LEGAL JOB OF YOUR DREAMS, 2<sup>ND</sup> EDITION (2008)

KIMM ALAYNE WALTON, AMERICA'S GREATEST PLACES TO WORK WITH A LAW DEGREE AND HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF ANY JOB, NO MATTER WHERE IT IS! (1998)