



Managing Partners:

We invite you to send an associate or rising leader to the Indiana State Bar Association Leadership Development Academy (LDA).

LDA is a five-month program designed to help attorneys expand their professional networks, strengthen their leadership skills, and become more connected to Indiana's legal community. Each class brings together 25 legal professionals for five sessions held across the state.

Participants learn directly from Indiana Supreme Court justices, state and federal judges, local community and business leaders, and more. By the end of the program, participants will not only have leadership training, but also relationships, resources, and a statewide perspective they can rely on throughout their careers.

The Value

LDA's greatest benefit is the connections participants build. In addition to their own cohort, graduates join a statewide network of more than 300 LDA alumni who have gone on to become judges, executive directors, board members, and bar leaders in their communities. I speak from personal experience when I say that participation in LDA substantially expanded my professional network, greatly enhancing my own practice.

Through LDA, your associates will:

- **Expand the firm's statewide reach:** Your attorneys will build meaningful relationships with practitioners from different counties, practice areas, and practice settings. When a case takes them into an unfamiliar court or part of the state, they will have colleagues they can call on for insights into local judges, practices, and expectations.
- **Increase the firm's visibility:** Participants interact directly with Indiana Supreme Court justices; federal, state, and local judges; government officials and community leaders; and attorneys from across Indiana. LDA graduates also go on to serve on boards, commissions, task forces, and other community and professional initiatives.
- **Build future referral and business-development resources:** LDA gives associates the opportunity to develop genuine relationships early in their careers. Over time, those relationships can lead to referrals, introductions, and new opportunities for the firm.
- **Develop the next generation of firm leaders:** Your associates will dive deep into their own strengths and see firsthand how attorneys across Indiana lead their firms,



organizations, and communities. They return better prepared to take initiative, represent the firm in the legal community, mentor others, and assume greater responsibility as their careers progress.

The Investment

- **Time away from the office:** LDA requires full, active participation in five multi-day sessions. Participants will need to step away from billable work during the sessions and during travel to locations throughout Indiana. The 2027 program will take place:
 - January 21–23
 - February 18–19
 - March 18–19
 - April 8–9
 - May 6–8
- **Tuition:** Tuition for the entire LDA program is \$1,700 and includes meals, speaker fees, lodging, and at least 12 hours of CLE. Scholarships are available for those requesting financial assistance.

In return, your firm gains associates with stronger leadership skills, a broader understanding of Indiana's legal community, and an expanded network of contacts. Those resources provide referrals, local insight, professional connections, and new opportunities long after the program concludes.

We hope you will consider investing in one of your firm's rising leaders. You can learn more at inbar.org/LDA.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly with any questions about the program. Thank you.

Jason Mizzell

LDA Chair, 2026-27

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