

## THE NEW YORK BAR FOUNDATION

2016

### *The Real Property Law Section Melvyn Mitzner Scholarship*

The New York Bar Foundation is pleased to announce the **2016 Real Property Law Section Melvyn Mitzner Scholarship**, which has been established by The Foundation through a gift from the Real Property Law Section of the New York State Bar Association (NYSBA) and from Rosalyn Mitzner to honor the memory of Melvyn Mitzner, a former Chair of the Section. The \$5,000.00 scholarship will be awarded to a second or third-year law student. Efforts will be made to honor Melvyn Mitzner's commitment to professional achievement in the area of real property law including legal writing, lecturing and scholarship; and diversity in the profession. To ensure geographic diversity, the Foundation will strive to select students attending New York State law schools in different counties each year, so that over time students from all areas of the State will be able to benefit from the scholarship.

A preference will be given to students who demonstrate financial need.

#### **The Real Property Law Section Melvyn Mitzner Scholarship:**

1. The Scholarship, valued at \$5,000.00 will be awarded to one student enrolled on a full time or part-time basis during academic year 2015-2016 in a law school in the State of New York.
2. The recipient will be a guest member of the Real Property Law Section during the 2016 calendar year.
3. The scholarship recipient will be invited to attend Executive Committee meetings of the NYSBA Real Property Law Section during the 2016 calendar year.
4. The scholarship recipient will be notified no later than January 18, 2016, and invited to attend the Annual Meeting of the Section in New York City on January 28, 2016.

#### **Eligibility:**

1. The scholarship is open to second- and third-year full time students who are enrolled in a law school in the State of New York during the fall 2015 semester. If attending part-time, the scholarship is open to second, third and fourth-year students enrolled in a law school in the State of New York during the fall 2015 semester.
2. The student must have attained a minimum 3.0 or equivalent GPA in law school and must have attained a ranking in the top quarter of the class.
3. Preference will be given to students who demonstrate financial need.

#### **Payment of Scholarship**

The scholarship will be applied to the student's 2015-2016 academic year tuition. A check, made payable to the law school and the student, will be sent to the appropriate office at the school.

#### **Scholarship Application Requirements**

1. The applicant must submit the following:
2. Completed application (form below).

3. Cover letter of interest in the practice of real property law.
4. A resume describing prior employment and other relevant qualifications and activities.
5. Unofficial law school transcript
6. Two letters of recommendation, at least one of which is from a law school professor unrelated to the applicant by blood or marriage.
7. An essay written by the student demonstrating why he or she exemplifies Melvyn Mitzner's core values of academic excellence, a demonstrated interest in public service, high integrity and, an interest in real property law. The essay should be no more than two pages, 12 point font, double spaced with 1 inch margins.

### **Deadline**

The application and supporting documents must be postmarked on or before ***Tuesday, December 15, 2015.***

### **Judging**

#### **Criteria for judging will be:**

1. Content and quality of application materials.
2. Demonstrated interest in real property law, especially related to legal research, writing, and lecturing.
3. Record of academic excellence.
4. Maturity, integrity, professionalism.
5. Leadership experience.
6. Work experience.
7. Any other relevant factors.

### **Submission**

All materials must be submitted by mail with a postmark on or before ***Tuesday, December 15, 2015.***

Mail to:

Melvyn Mitzner Scholarship  
The New York Bar Foundation  
One Elk Street  
Albany, NY 12207

## *About the Real Property Law Section/Melvyn Mitzner*

Melvyn Mitzner of New York was named chair of the New York State Bar Association's (NYSBA) 4,200-member Real Property Law Section in 2001 – 2002 and a legend in the New York Real Estate legal community.

He was the senior vice president and chief underwriting counsel of Commonwealth Land Title Insurance Company, LandAmerica Financial Group, Inc., and Lawyers Title Insurance Corporation, who earned his law degree from Brooklyn Law School.

Melvyn was very active in the section and was a member of its committees on Condominiums and Cooperatives, and Real Estate Financing and Liens. He was a past co-chair of the Committee on Real Estate Taxation—Local and State, and of the Committee on Title and Transfer. He was also a contributing author to the NYSBA publication, *Real Estate Titles*.

In addition to his NYSBA activities, Mitzner had professional affiliations: the American Bar Association; American College of Real Estate Lawyers; New York State Land Title Association, where he chaired the Legislative Committee; Title Insurance Rate Service Association, Inc., where he chaired the Law and Forms Committee; Westchester County Bar Association, where he chaired the Real Property Law Section; and The Board of Assessment and Review of the City of White Plains, which he chaired. He is a former member of the Rockland County, White Plains and Northern Westchester County bar associations.

At the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, he served on the Committee on Cooperatives and Condominiums and the Real Property Law Committee. He was a sub-chair of the Interest on Interest Legislation Committee; and is a former member of the Housing and Urban Development Committee. Mitzner published numerous articles in the *New York Law Journal* and other periodicals. He was a lecturer on real property law topics.

The Real Property Law Section is one of 25 sections of the NYSBA. These groups publish material dealing with their fields of expertise, much of which is not available through commercial publishers. Sections also sponsor conferences, seminars and institutes, monitor legislation and conduct studies. Each of the sections contributes to policy-making, both in their subject areas and Association-wide. They originate many of the recommendations that become NYSBA policy positions and act as checks and balances of other entities.

The 74,000-member New York State Bar Association is the official statewide organization of lawyers in New York and the largest voluntary state bar association in the nation.

## *About The New York Bar Foundation*

Founded in 1950, The New York Bar Foundation is dedicated to aiding educational, direct legal services, and charitable projects aimed at meeting the law-related needs of the public and the profession. The Foundation solicits charitable contributions and provides funding through its grant making program for the following purposes:

- Increasing public understanding of the law
- Improving the justice system and the law
- Facilitating the delivery of legal services
- Enhancing professional competence and ethics

For more information about The New York Bar Foundation, go to [www.tnybf.org](http://www.tnybf.org)





**THE NEW YORK BAR FOUNDATION  
2016 REAL PROPERTY LAW SECTION  
MELVYN MITZNER SCHOLARSHIP**

*Provided by The New York Bar Foundation through a gift from the Real Property Law Section  
of the New York State Bar Association*

**Application Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Law School attending: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Day student ☐ Evening student

Year of Law School Study as of September 1, 2015: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of anticipated graduation from law school: \_\_\_\_\_

Prior Education: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you receiving financial aid? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, please describe:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Have you previously received Scholarships? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, please describe:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Are you working to pay for your law school expenses? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, please explain:

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What are your career goals?

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What is your GPA and class ranking in law school as of July 1, 2015?

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**Attach the following materials to this application:**

1. Cover letter indicating your interest in the practice of real property law.
2. A law school transcript (transcripts need not be official; finalists may be asked to provide official transcripts).
3. A resume describing your prior employment and other relevant qualifications and activities.
4. Two letters of recommendation, at least one of which is from a law school professor unrelated by blood or marriage to the applicant.
5. An essay written by the student demonstrating why he or she exemplifies Melvyn Mitzner's core values of academic excellence, a demonstrated interest in public service, high integrity and, an interest in real property law. The essay should be no more than two pages, 12 point font, double spaced with 1 inch margins.

**Application Deadline:**

All materials must be submitted by mail with a postmark on or before ***Tuesday, December 15, 2015*** OR by email no later than 4:00 p.m. on ***Tuesday, December 15, 2015***.

**Mail to:**

**The New York Bar Foundation  
One Elk Street  
Albany, NY 12207**

Email submissions should be sent to: [mocclair@tnybf.org](mailto:mocclair@tnybf.org)

**Certification:**

**I hereby certify that all of the statements contained and information provided in this application and in the attachments hereto, are truthful, to the best of my knowledge, and that I meet the eligibility requirements for the 2016 *REAL PROPERTY LAW SECTION MELVYN MITZNER SCHOLARSHIP*.**

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Applicant's Signature

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Date

Where did you hear of TNYBF Fellowship Opportunity? \_\_\_\_\_