

BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Kelli Jo Amador
Dinsmore & Shohl LLP
191 W. Nationwide Blvd., Suite 200
Columbus, Ohio 43215



PERSONAL STATEMENT:

When the bar was on Front Street, and I was a young attorney with a shiny new bar number, my mentor told me to join the bar and volunteer my time. “The bar gives us so much,” she said, “it’s our duty to give back to it.” Dutifully I’d march to the old building, sneak past the security guard into the elevator, and attend lunchtime meetings and sidebars celebrations. The words, perhaps forgotten by her, have echoed in my head at every bar event I attend. But it seems to me that no matter how much I give to the bar, in my time and attention, the bar is always giving back more to me. I am a product of the bar’s abilities to improve a lawyer’s skills and career. Because I have been given so much by the Columbus Bar Association, I am honored to be nominated to run for President, and be given an opportunity to *continue* serving the CBA with my leadership.

My involvement with the Columbus Bar Association has almost become an elevator pitch by now. In 2016, I started volunteering for the Minorities in the Law Committee at the urging of my mentor. Maintaining the 35-year-old Minority Clerkship Program in my first term as co-chair took a lot of hard work, grace, time, and most importantly help from other members and people at the bar. That appointment led to other opportunities for involvement. I graduated from Barristers Leadership Program with my assigned “small group” of peers with whom I am still connected. I serve on the Admissions Committee, and I attend Young Lawyers events, and CLEs. I served on the Board of Governors, held the position of Secretary/Treasurer, and the past year have proudly served as

President-Elect. It seems the more I give to the bar, the more the bar gives to me in the form of education, opportunities, and friends.

Last year I ran for President-Elect with the full support of my firm and bar. I have had a wonderful year preparing for the next step in bar leadership: running to serve as President. Bar associations have become more important than ever in the last few months. With law firms, lawyers, and judges facing scrutiny for practicing and upholding the law, bar associations join members of our profession together to defend the rule of law.

Should I be elected, I will continue efforts to improve the bar for members of the profession, as well continue the bar's focus and efforts in lawful diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives.

It would be the height of hypocrisy not to support the bar's lawful efforts for diversity, equity, and inclusion. As a second-generation American, and first generation college and law school graduate, I will be the first Latina to serve as President of the Columbus Bar Association—one of the highest honors of my life. As a self-policing profession, lawyers are also responsible for enriching the profession through inclusion of historically underrepresented groups. The CBA continues one of the oldest diversity clerkship programs in the country—a model so successful other bar associations mirror it in their own cities, to provide legal work experience for underrepresented law students. Representation matters. Diversity, equity, and inclusion matter. Iron sharpens iron. Hatred and exclusion do not make our profession better. For these reasons, I will continue my support for the bar's lawful diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts in my role as President.

It seems forever ago that I was told to give back to the bar—but the words continue to ring through in my life. A reciprocal force, the bar has been there for me in every stage of my career and helped foster my growth as an attorney and professional in the community. If you give to the bar, it will give back to you. For these reasons, I hope you will vote for me to serve as President of the Columbus Bar Association.

EDUCATION:

University of Utah (H.B.A, 2013)

The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law (J.D., 2016)

LAW RELATED BACKGROUND:

Dinsmore & Shohl LLP, Columbus, Ohio

Associate Attorney

October 2020 – Present

Dickie, McCamey, & Chilcote, P.C., Columbus, Ohio

Associate Attorney

August 2016- October 2020

Summer Associate

June 2015- August 2016

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND:

I focus my practice in commercial litigation, insurance defense, and consumer finance litigation. I also handle insurance coverage matters both pre-suit and in litigation, including coverage opinions, examinations under oath, and defending insurers in cases involving bad faith claims.

BAR ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES:

Columbus Bar Association:

President-Elect	June 2024-Present
Secretary Treasurer	May 2023- June 2024
Board of Governors Member	May 2022-May 2023
Admissions Committee Member	July 2021-Present
Co-Chair: Minorities in the Law Committee	July 2018-July 2020
Barrister Leadership Program	January 2018-May 2018

OTHER BAR ASSOCIATION AND LAW RELATED ORGANIZATIONS:

Supreme Court of Ohio

Civil Justice Program Review Committee	Spring 2022
--	-------------

Women Lawyers of Franklin County

Events Chair August 2020-Present

Hispanic National Bar Association

Young Lawyers Division Representative, Region X 2021	September 2020-September 2021
---	----------------------------------

Ohio State Bar Association

Advisory Council on Diversity Initiatives	July 2022-Present July 2019- July 2021
---	---

Leadership Academy	January 2019-June 2019
--------------------	------------------------

HONORS, AWARDS, AND PUBLICATIONS:

“The Minority Clerkship Program Versus Other Diversity Initiatives” Columbus Business First Legal Connections, June 14, 2019, Co-authored with Aracely Tagliaventi

“Supreme Court of Ohio: No Insurance Coverage Provided for Lost Revenue Caused by COVID-19 Shutdowns”, Columbus Business First Legal Connections (Reprint), January 20, 2023, Co-authored with Peter Georgiton