



Mergers & Acquisitions Committee

Application to First Annual ABA M&A Committee National Invitational

The M&A Committee of the American Bar Association’s Business Law Section is seeking applications from students enrolled in ABA-approved law schools to participate, in teams of two, in its First Annual ABA M&A Committee National Invitational, to be held in January 2024.

Information about the event is attached to this application cover page. Students seeking an invitation to participate in the competition should complete this application, prepare the one page statement of interest described below, and send these materials to Thaddeus Chase, McDermott Will & Emery at techase@mwe.com (limit two submissions per law school). Both students on a proposed team should complete the application and statement of interest together and submit them jointly.

The application deadline is November 6, 2023.

Names: _____
Law School: _____
Emails: _____
Phone Numbers: _____

Statement of Interest:

Write a one-page (12 pt font) statement of interest to participate in the competition. This statement should address (i) any corporate or transactional experience you have had to date, including classes taken, externships and professional experience prior to law school or while in law school, (ii) your professional goals after graduating from law school, (iii) why you are interested in participating in this competition, and (iv) any other information you would like to share with the committee reviewing applications.

Include the statement with this page, but do not include your names on your statement.

By signing this application, you confirm that you have read the background information provided with this application, that your statement of interest is accurate, that you will participate in the quarterfinals round held (remotely) on January 20, 2024 and, if you are chosen to continue to the finals, you will attend the finals competition in person on January 25 and 26 in Laguna Beach, California.

Signatures: _____

Date: _____, 2023



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Information About and Key Dates for First Annual ABA M&A Committee National Invitational

1. Applications will be accepted until November 6, 2023. Limit two submissions per law school. Invitations will be extended to eight 2-member teams, four of whom will represent the seller and four of whom will represent the buyer. By November 13, 2023, the eight finalist teams will be selected. All teams will be assigned a coach, who will be a member of the ABA's Mergers & Acquisitions Committee; however, teams may also find their own coach.
2. On December 1, 2023, an information packet will be sent to all participants. This packet will include:
 - A summary of facts and other information about “the deal” (one for the buyer and one for the seller).
 - A purchase agreement, which will be the same for both the buyer and the seller.
 - Instructions for the participants.
3. An organizational zoom meeting / conference call will be made available on or around December 16, 2023. At this meeting, we will review the competition format and instructions, and we will address questions from participants.
4. On January 12, 2024, participants will exchange a list of 3 “showstopper” issues and a mark-up of provisions of the purchase agreement applicable to the issues list.
5. On January 18, 2024, a zoom meeting / conference call will be made available to address any questions from participants.
6. The quarterfinal round negotiations will be held on January 20, 2024.
 - This round will involve two separate negotiations (and against separate teams), one at 10 AM CDT and one at 11:30 CDT.
 - The negotiations will be held virtually, via zoom.
 - Each negotiation will last 40 minutes, followed by some time for the judges to provide feedback to the teams.



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- The two teams on the buyer side and the two teams on the seller side that score the highest will be announced at or around 1:00 CDT. These four teams will compete in the finals.
7. The finals will be in person and will be held on January 25 and 26 at the ABA M&A Committee meeting at the Montage Hotel in Laguna Beach, California.
- A supplemental information packet will be distributed on January 21, 2024, containing additional facts for the finals. The teams will use the same purchase agreement.
 - The ABA will provide the two negotiators from each team a travel stipend to cover expenses for airfare, accommodations at a hotel close to the Montage, and meals not otherwise provided by the Committee.
 - The semi-final round will be held on January 25, 2024. The highest scoring buyer team and the highest scoring seller team will continue to the final round be held on January 26, 2024. The winning team will be announced at the M&A Committee's evening ceremonies on January 26, 2024.
8. Questions: Thaddeus Chase techase@mwe.com

As a result of information or feedback from potential participants or law schools, or unanticipated circumstances (including approval conditions that may be proposed by the ABA's Board of Governors), the organizers of the event may (i) revise this information or the structure of this competition, or (ii) cancel or reschedule the event.

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