

# Center for Excellence in Advocacy



N O R T H E R N K E N T U C K Y U N I V E R S I T Y

**“The heart of the Center for Excellence in Advocacy is the creation of extraordinary educational opportunities for students to develop the practical skills they need to be effective legal advocates. Knowing the law is not enough - a successful attorney must also know how to *practice* the law to effectively promote a client’s interests and advance justice.”**

– PROFESSOR RICK BALES, DIRECTOR

**The Center for Excellence in Advocacy**, is a partnership of law students, faculty, and alumni, that continues NKU Chase’s tradition of innovative advocacy skills training. Through participation in the center’s activities, students learn the practical aspects of pretrial procedures, negotiations, mediations, trial techniques, appellate advocacy, and legislation. The advocacy center’s programs encompass all aspects of advocacy skills training opportunities, ensuring that students develop the skills needed to handle a case from beginning to end. At the same time, the center maintains a sharp focus on legal ethics and professionalism. Its programs make NKU Chase a leader in training current and future generations of great advocates.

## **Certificate in Advocacy**

All Chase students are welcome to take advocacy-related courses, attend events sponsored by the Center for Excellence in Advocacy, and join the Chase Student Advocacy Society. Students who want to take their advocacy skills training to the next level can earn a Certificate in Advocacy. The Certificate in Advocacy is a rigorous program of study that includes specialized advocacy skills courses, real-world advocacy field work, participation in at least one advocacy competition, and participation in extracurricular advocacy-related programming.

The courses, externships and *pro bono* experiences are designed to provide Chase students with the opportunity to focus their skills on the type of law practice they intend to pursue, and to demonstrate to prospective legal employers that they are practice-ready on the day they graduate from law school. This certificate is designed to make the transition from law study to law practice as seamless as possible.

**“I learned trial techniques through the advocacy program at NKU Chase that would take me years to learn out in practice. I could not imagine graduating from Chase not having done this program. Not only have I gained excellent advocacy skills, but participating in this program has been a great networking opportunity with local attorneys.”**

– LINDSAY LAWRENCE, '09 GRADUATE, THE LAWRENCE FIRM

## Advancing The Practice Of Law Through Clinics And Externships

- Chase Constitutional Law Clinic
- Children's Law Center
- City Solicitors' Offices
- County Attorneys' Offices
- Federal and State Judiciary
- Federal Public Defender's Office
- Internal Revenue Service
- Kentucky Attorney General
- Kentucky Energy and Environmental Cabinet
- Kentucky Innocence Project
- Legal Aid Societies
- National Labor Relations Board
- Ohio Justice & Policy Center
- Prosecutors' Offices
- Public Defenders' Offices

## Competition Highlights

- **2009 Albert Mugel Tax Moot Court Competition** – National Champions
- **2009 American Association of Justice Regional Trial Competition** – Semi-Finalist
- **2008 Kentucky Mock Trial Competition** – Winners and Finalists
- **2009 & 2008 National Adoption and Child Welfare Law Moot Court Competition** – National Champions
- **2009 ABA National Arbitration Forum Competition** – Regional Semi-Finalist
- **2008 Ohio Mock Trial Competition** – Winners
- **2009 & 2008 Robert F. Wagner Labor and Employment Law Moot Court Competition** – National Finalist
- **2008 ABA National Arbitration Forum Competition** – Regional Champions and National Semi-Finalists

## Excellence in Advocacy Skills Programming

- Advocacy Skills Courses
- Arbitration Competition Teams
- Chase Student Advocacy Society
- CLE Programs
- Client Counseling Competition Teams
- Clinical Internships and Externships
- Featured Lectures
- Moot Court Competition Teams
- Negotiation Competition Teams
- On-campus Kentucky Supreme Court and Court of Appeals Oral Arguments
- Practitioners and Jurists-in-Residence
- *Pro Bono* Service
- Public Interest Fellowships
- Salmon P. Chase Inn of Court
- Seminars and Workshops
- Trial Competition Teams



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