



**JTBF SUMMER LEGAL INSTITUTE  
-TWIN CITIES-  
Thursday, July 9, 2009 — Friday, July 17, 2009**

*Co-Sponsored by:*

**Just The Beginning Foundation and  
University of Minnesota Law School**

**OVERVIEW**

Just The Beginning Foundation (“JTBF”) is a nonprofit service organization dedicated to improving the legal system in the United States and preserving and honoring the legacy of minorities in the federal judiciary. The organization seeks to develop and nurture an interest in the legal profession among young people from underrepresented groups and to support their continued advancement, with the long-term goal of increasing diversity in the federal courts and the legal profession as a whole.

The JTBF Summer Legal Institute is an exciting seven-day program designed to introduce high school students to the legal system, expose them to careers in the law, and provide them with practical tools for achieving their educational goals. Students work with judges, lawyers and law students on legal reasoning, case analysis, writing, negotiation and oral argument exercises. In addition, students and their parents/guardians/mentors receive college preparatory advice on topics such as preparing for standardized tests, completing applications and securing financial aid.

# JTBF Twin Cities Summer Legal Institute 2009

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Summer Legal Institute (“the SLI”) is scheduled to run from approximately 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each weekday (July 9 — July 17, 2009), with a dinner session for students and their parents/guardians/mentors on the final day. The SLI involves a combination of classroom lectures, logic and critical thinking exercises, writing and oral advocacy instruction, guest speakers, and field trips to area law firms, corporations, government offices and courthouses.

Students who participate in the SLI will:

- Study the legal system and how it works;
- Analyze selected cases, debate legal issues and participate in a mock oral argument;
- Learn what it takes to become a lawyer;
- Develop contacts with legal professionals and organizations that provide scholarships, internships and mentors;
- Gain insight into the college admissions process, from preparing for standardized tests to writing persuasive essays; and
- Find out about financial aid resources for college and law school.

Recognizing that the involvement of adult role models is critical to a student’s educational success, the SLI includes a Friday dinner on the last day where parents/guardians/mentors learn the steps involved in helping students navigate the process of taking standardized tests, applying to college, exploring financial aid and working toward the ultimate goal of attending law school.

## LOCATION

The SLI will be held on the campus of the University of Minnesota Law School, located at Walter F. Mondale Hall, 229 19th Ave. South in downtown Minneapolis.

## COST

**The SLI is free to the students.** JTBF will provide breakfast and lunch each day of the program. Students are responsible for their transportation expenses to and from the first day of the program. Students will receive free Metro Transit passes to cover their transportation for the remaining days of the program.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

The SLI is open to students who will be high school sophomores, juniors or seniors in the fall of 2009. Enrollment is limited to forty students. To apply, students must submit the following:

- **Completed Application Form**
- **Statement of Interest**
- **Copy of High School Transcript**
- **Completed Letter of Recommendation Form or a Separate Letter of Recommendation**

### **Completed application packets should be sent to:**

Sam Finkelstein  
Program Director  
Just The Beginning Foundation  
233 S. Wacker Dr., Suite 6600  
Chicago, Illinois 60606

Application packets may also be faxed to 312-258-5600 or e-mailed to [sfinkelstein@jtbf.org](mailto:sfinkelstein@jtbf.org).

### **COMPLETED APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAY 1, 2009**

For further information about the Summer Legal Institute, call 312-258-4868 or visit [www.jtbf.org](http://www.jtbf.org).

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## APPLICATION FORM

Please type or print clearly, using black or blue ink.

Name		
Home Address		
City, State, Zip Code		
Home Phone Number	Cell Phone Number	E-mail Address
Sex: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	Date of Birth (Month, Day, Year)	Expected Graduation Date
High School		
High School Address		

The following two questions are optional:

Ethnic Identity (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaskan Native <input type="checkbox"/> Latino / Hispanic <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African-American <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> White	Are you eligible to receive free or reduced-cost school lunch?  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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How did you find out about the Summer Legal Institute?		
Parent/Guardian Name(s)		
Home Phone Number	Work Phone Number	Cell Phone Number
Parent/Guardian Signature		Date
I agree to attend all program sessions if selected to participate in the SLI, except in case of emergency.		

### Statement of Interest (required)

**On a separate piece of paper, please submit a typewritten essay of no more than 500 words telling us about yourself and discussing why you would like to participate in this program. Be sure to include your name on the statement.**

<b>Application Checklist</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Completed Letter of Recommendation Form <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of high school transcript <input type="checkbox"/> Statement of Interest <input type="checkbox"/> Completed application form (signed by the applicant and a parent or guardian)	Please fax (312-258-5600), e-mail (sfinkelstein@jtbf.org) or mail your complete application packet to:  Sam Finkelstein Program Director Just The Beginning Foundation 233 S. Wacker Dr., Suite 6600 Chicago, Illinois 60606  DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2009
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## LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FORM

Applicant: Please give this form to a teacher, counselor, pastor, employer, etc. to complete. You may **not** be recommended by a relative. Your recommender may also submit a letter of recommendation instead of this form.

Your Name and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address and phone number where you can be reached:

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

Relationship to the applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you known the applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you believe the applicant should be selected to participate in the JTBF Summer Legal Institute?

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