

[Lora M. Whitticker](#)

Manager of Alumni Relations & In-House Opportunities
Jenner & Block LLP

Service Summary:

- BWLA Member since 2003
- Young Lawyers Committee Co-Chair
- Board Member at Large
- Financial Secretary
- Nominating Committee

Lora's Story:

I love being a member of BWLA because it is a respite for black women lawyers that are dedicated to lifting as we climb. When I moved to Chicago in 2002, I knew 3 people – my good friend and law school classmate Colette (Savage) Jones and two of her friends. After becoming active in the legal and political community, I am proud to say that I have hundreds of contacts nationwide. As a young law firm associate, I felt isolated and yearned to hear from and connect with other black women lawyers that were able to successfully navigate the types of legal environments that I was thrust into. I found a “home” with BWLA.

The Black Women Lawyers Association of Greater Chicago introduced me to amazing women in our profession that I [still] look up to like Judge Pat Holmes, Z. Scott, Dorothy Capers, Leslie Davis, Jeanne Gills, Cheryl Blackwell Bryson (RIP), and Judge Ann Claire Williams. In addition, I met many peers and friends through BWLA that have come up through the ranks along with me including Past President Nathalina Hudson, Kenyanna (Scott) Bell, Chante Spann, Tiffany (Booker) McGee, and Erica Kirkwood. One of the best things about BWLA is being able to meet and influence bright younger lawyers coming up behind me that I can impart my knowledge and experiences to and help their careers to flourish like Past Presidents Kenya Jenkins-Wright, Kalia Coleman, and our current President Kenyatta Beverly. All these ladies shine bright and are primed to move into great positions of power and influence in government, law firms, and in-house corporate counsel careers.

Organizations like BWLA helped me to ultimately find my career path moving from practitioner to legal recruiter to law firm management professional. At Jenner & Block, I oversee alumni engagement and assist firm lawyers seeking to transition into in-house roles with corporate legal departments. I would not be as successful in this role, had I not developed a strong professional network, honed my interpersonal skills, and stayed committed to serving others – all skills I developed in bar associations like BWLA. I always make time to talk to law students and young lawyers that are trying their best to navigate this profession. I also do professional career coaching for peers. My personal motto is, “each one, reach one.”

Lora's Bio:

Ms. Whitticker is a 2002 graduate of Indiana University School of Law and began her career practicing law at Locke Lord and Dentons (then Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal) in Chicago, where she focused on complex commercial litigation, insurance and toxic tort litigation. She subsequently moved to the legal recruiting side of the profession with a nationally respected legal search firm.

Ms. Whitticker has been a featured speaker on subjects relating to alternative legal career strategies, in house recruiting, personal branding, social media engagement, and career coaching at programs sponsored by the Cook County Bar Association, Black Women Lawyers Bar Association, the National Bar Association, and several law schools. She credits her community involvement for helping her to develop a vast professional network of attorneys and in-house counsel nationwide.