PRESS RELEASE

On May 7, 2012, the American Samoa Bar Association (ASBA) announced that it was accepting applications for its 2012 - 2013 Legal Education Scholarship. Applicants must have graduated from a High School in American Samoa, or have personal ties to the Territory, and are currently enrolled as post-graduate law students in good standing. All applications must be postmarked or receive by email no later than June 30, 2012.

This year, the ASBA intends to offer a minimum of $1,000.00 in scholarship grants. According to Jennifer Joneson, head of the ASBA Scholarship Committee, the annual scholarship grant has been offered by the ASBA for the past several years and is a way for the Bar Association to promote the study of law by encouraging our local students to consider the practice of law as a career choice. Several attorneys who are now practicing lawyers in American Samoa and other states are past recipients of this award.

The President of the ASBA, Marcellus Talaimalo Uiagalelei, emphasized the fact that the American Samoa Bar Association was created by law in order to “improve the administration of justice.” “This annual award is one way the ASBA is becoming a responsible member of this community, while at the same time fulfilling its mandate of promoting law and justice in American Samoa,” said Uiagalelei. The ASBA hopes that in the future it will be able to increase its annual scholarship award so that it is able to assist more aspiring attorneys.

All applications must be addressed to Jennifer L. Joneson, Chair, American Samoa Bar Association Scholarship Committee, P.O. Box 3501, Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799, or submitted via email to: jennifer@rjvlaw.com. Ms. Joneson can be reached at telephone (684) 699-2100, or facsimile (684) 699-2105. Interested individuals may also visit the ASBA’s web site at www.asbar.org for more information regarding this award.

The ASBA will announce this year’s scholarship recipient sometime in mid-July after the Scholarship Board has considered all applications timely received.

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