

2023-24 General Board

Student Bar Association,
MSU College of Law

Resolution No. 1

February 1, 2024, Introduced by Administrative Director Amber Sanders

Supported by: President Kathryn Rejaei, Vice President Vincenzo Convertino, Finance Director Bailey Berg, Community Affairs Director Torence Witherspoon, Chairperson Eli Martinez, Chairperson Zweibohmer,

A Resolution: *In Support of Unity, Respect, and Positive Change: Standing with the Black Law Students Association (BLSA)*

Whereas, the Michigan State University College of Law Student Bar Association (SBA) is dedicated to promoting the welfare of the College of Law and representing the concerns and interests of its students;

Whereas, the SBA is committed to fostering academic and social interaction among students, faculty, alumni, administration, and the board of trustees of the College of Law, and to promoting diversity, professionalism, and service within the legal community;

Whereas, the SBA recognizes the importance of upholding a standard of professionalism that transcends the boundaries of the legal field and values inclusivity, respect, and understanding;

Whereas, during a class period in January 2024, a racial comment was made, which is unequivocally unacceptable within our academic community;

Whereas, the members of the SBA acknowledge the negative and violent historical implications of such words and understand the need for a commitment to unity and positive change within our legal community;

Whereas, the SBA stands in solidarity with the Black Law Students Association (BLSA) and condemns any form of discrimination;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Michigan State University College of Law Student Bar Association:

1. Affirms its unwavering support for the Black Law Students Association (BLSA).
2. Expresses its collective stance against the racial comment made during a class period in January 2024, emphasizing that such remarks have no place within our academic community.
3. Recognizes the negative historical implications of the words used and acknowledges the importance of upholding a standard of professionalism that goes beyond the legal field.

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4. Commits to fostering a community of unity and stands together as Spartan Lawyers, dedicated to instigating positive change.
5. Declares its commitment to working collaboratively with the Black Law Students Association and any other student organization affected by similar behavior.
6. Condemns any form of discrimination and pledges to actively engage in efforts to create an environment that fosters diversity, equity, and inclusion.
7. Acknowledges that our strength lies in unity and affirms that we will not tolerate any conduct that undermines the principles of inclusivity, respect, and understanding.
8. Pledges unwavering support for the Black Law Students Association and recognizes the pain caused by the recent incident, committing to supporting fellow students throughout the healing process.
9. Reiterates the commitment of Spartan Lawyers to lead by example, ensuring that the legal community remains a bastion of integrity, respect, and positive transformation.

Be it further resolved, that this resolution be communicated to the members of the Michigan State University College of Law community, including students, faculty, administration, alumni, and the board of trustees, as a testament to the SBA's dedication to creating a diverse, inclusive, and respectful academic environment.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

 02/05/2024
Kathryn Rejaei, President