

## Chapter 5 On-Line Template

### Completing the On-Line Template for Building a Tent of Professional Relationships Who Both Support You and Trust You to Do the Work of a Lawyer

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Please read Chapter 4 first. You may need to refer back to Chapter 4 for longer descriptions of some of the steps in this template.

This template focuses on building a tent of professional relationships who both support you and trust you to do the work of a lawyer. Steps 1-4 emphasize specific professional relationships you should be building in the 1L year. Step 5 involves professional relationships with practicing lawyers and judges who have observed your work and trust you to do the work of a lawyer. Step 6 asks you to build a professional relationship with one or more mentor/coaches. Some 1L students may already have these Step 5 and Step 6 professional relationships, but many students will be building these Step 5 and Step 6 professional relationships in the summers between the 1L and 2L year and the 2L and 3L year, plus other experiences mimicking the actual work of a lawyer during the 2L and 3L years. Step 7 addresses expanding your tent of professional relationship beyond those covered in Steps 1-6. A student in any year of law school can be developing professional relationships with practicing lawyers and judges at law school or bar association events.

Remember that in any time period, you are “leaning” your professional-relationship-tent-building efforts to help you with experiences that will test your fit with your answers to Step 5 of the Roadmap template regarding your fit with a geographic area, an area of practice/type of client, and type of employer.

Fill in the template with reasonably brief answers. You can use bullet points. Remember that a coach who will help you with feedback will only have time to read reasonably brief answers.

## **BUILDING A TENT OF PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIPS TEMPLATE**

**Step 1 - Have you established a relationship with one of your school's career services professionals and asked them to review your resume, your cover letter, and your Roadmap template and give you feedback?**

Yes \_\_\_\_\_

No \_\_\_\_\_

If "no," provide a specific date by which you will establish this relationship.

**Step 2 – Do your grades in any required course indicate a risk of bar pass problems? If you are uncertain, see your academic support staff at your law school.**

Yes \_\_\_\_\_

No \_\_\_\_\_

If "yes," have you seen your academic support staff to create and implement a written professional development plan that will maximize probabilities of passing the bar?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_

No \_\_\_\_\_

If "no," provide a specific date by which you will establish this relationship.

**Step 3 – Do you have good summer experience lined up?**

Yes \_\_\_\_\_.

No \_\_\_\_\_.

If "yes," where is the summer experience?

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If "no," this is a top priority for the time you have available before you reach mid-semester of the spring semester after which you will be increasingly focused on end-of-the-semester tasks. Read Chapter 4, step 3, sub-steps a-e. Focus first on the suggestions of your law school's career services professional with whom you have a relationship. Then emphasize your natural network outlined in Chapter 4, step 3, sub-step d. You are focused particularly on professional relationships that will help you test your fit with your answers to Step 5 of the Roadmap template. Twenty-minute informational meetings with lawyers and judges in your natural network will be useful. List five specific outreach actions you will take with your natural network to be completed by a specific date.

Outreach action 1:

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By this date:

Outreach action 2:

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By this date:

Outreach action 3:

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By this date:

Outreach action 4:

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By this date:

Outreach action 5:

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By this date:

**Step 4 – By the end of the 1L year, will you have a professional relationship with a one professor who has good evidence of your Table 2 strengths that you identified in Step 3 of the Roadmap template?**

Name of the professor: \_\_\_\_\_.

What evidence does the professor have of your Table 2 strengths?

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If you do not yet have this type of professional relationship with a professor, what outreach actions will you be taking to create such a relationship?

Outreach action #1:

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What is the date by which you will take this action?

Outreach action #2:

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What is the date by which you take this action?

Note that a goal by the end of the 2L year is to have two strong professional relationships of this type with professors.

**Step 5 – This step focuses on professional relationships with practicing lawyers and judges who have seen your work sufficiently to trust that you can do the work of a lawyer (see Chapter 4 for a definition of the work of a lawyer in this context). For most 1L students, this is a major goal for the summer between the 1L and 2L years, and then for 2L students, this is also a major goal for the summer between the 2L and 3L years.**

Some 1L students may already have a professional relationship with a practicing lawyer or judge who has seen a sufficient amount of the student’s work to trust that the student can do the work of a lawyer. If you have such a relationship, put the lawyer or judge’s name here:

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Plus, a short description of the work you have done for the lawyer or judge:

If you don't yet have a professional relationship with a practicing lawyer or judge who has seen your work sufficiently to trust that you can do the work of a lawyer, then fill in this Step 5 at the end of the 1L-2L summer. Put the lawyer or judge's name here:

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Plus a short description of the work you have done for the lawyer or judge:

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**Step 6 – This step requires a professional relationship with a mentor/coach defined in Step 6 of Chapter 4.**

Do you already have a professional relationship with a mentor/coach who meets that definition?

Please put the lawyer or judge's name here along with the lawyer's position:

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If you do not already have a professional relationship with a mentor/coach, what outreach actions do you plan to take to create this type of relationship?

Outreach action #1:

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What is the date by which you will take this action?

Outreach action #2:

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What is the date by which you take this action?

**Step 7 – Steps to expand your tent of professional relationships.**

Read Chapter 4, step 7.

What outreach action steps have you taken during this academic year to expand your tent of professional relationships?

Outreach action #1:

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Outreach action #2:

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What outreach actions do you intend to take during the remainder of this academic year to expand your tent of professional relationships?

Outreach action #1:

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What is the date by which you will take this action?

Outreach action #2:

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What is the date by which you take this action?

Remember to have a file system to keep track of these professional relationships and to stay in touch with them.

If at all possible, ask an experienced lawyer or judge to give you feedback on this plan.