



SpencerFane®

Spencer Fane Selects 2026 Participants for LCLD Leadership Programs

Spencer Fane is proud to announce attorneys [Melinda Bowen](#), [Abena Echternach](#), and [Don Hart](#) as 2026 participants for the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity's (LCLD) prestigious programs: Fellows (Melinda) and Pathfinders (Abena and Don).

The LCLD Fellows program provides professional and personal development opportunities, leadership training, and relationship-building resources to promising midcareer attorneys. Melinda will engage in both in-person and virtual learning sessions while receiving mentorship and guidance from LCLD alumni and prominent legal leaders.

As Pathfinders, Abena and Don have begun immersing themselves in an early career-focused curriculum that offers practical tools for developing and leveraging internal professional networks, leadership skills, and an understanding of career development strategies. In addition to full-class programming, participants are placed in small, facilitator-led groups that help each Pathfinder connect what they learn to the organization at which they work.

At the end of their respective programs, Melinda, Abena, and Don will join attorneys Dina Aouad, Heather Hughes, Elaisha Nandrajog, DeAndrea Washington, Brittainy Joyner, Nicole Zaworska, Joey Blake, Ashley Dickerson, Stacy Young, Kristen Walker, Linda Knight, Brian Peterson, Valentine Uduebor, and Natalie Washington in LCLD Alumni Program membership.

The LCLD is an organization of more than 400 corporate chief legal officers and law firm managing partners who have pledged themselves, through the Leaders at the Front initiative and other means, to creating a truly diverse U.S. legal profession. Spencer Fane is honored to be one of these corporate partners helping the LCLD to

attract, inspire, and nurture talent in society and within our organizations, thereby helping a new and more diverse generation of attorneys ascend to positions of leadership.

Learn more about the Fellows and Pathfinder Programs [here](#) and [here](#).