

Heather DiFranco

Director of Professional Development

Cleveland
T 216.363.6190
hdifranco@beneschlaw.com

Overview

Heather works collaboratively with Practice Group Leaders and Firm leadership to further the firm's strategic objective of developing outstanding attorneys who deliver innovative and industry-leading legal services.

Heather is also responsible for developing and implementing firm-wide and practice-specific training programs, and firm-wide mentoring initiatives. She also oversees the First-Year Associate Program and the attorney evaluation processes.

A recognized leader in the legal career development industry, Heather joins Benesch after successful careers at both Cleveland State University College of Law and Case Western Reserve University School of Law. She has held national leadership roles for The National Association for Law Placement (NALP), including serving on the Board of Directors, chairing numerous national task forces and advisory groups, and speaking at conferences. She also served as the Planning Committee Vice Chair and Local Host for the 2025 NALP Annual Education Conference held in Cleveland, Ohio.

Credentials

EDUCATION

- The Ohio State University, Moritz College of Law, J.D.
- Baldwin Wallace University, B.A.

Memberships

- Member, National Association for Law Placement
- Member, Professional Development Consortium
- Member, Association for Talent Development

Awards & Recognition

- NALP President's Award, 2019
- NALP Service Excellence Award, 2016

Beyond the office

Avid supporter of the arts

Avid supporter of the arts

Semi-Pro Chauffer

Of children to sports, theater, and friends' houses.

Avid Reader

Always looking for the next great book to read.

News & Insights

- Becoming a "New Again" Professional | Heather DiFranco
  February 12, 2025 | Contributed Content & Presentations

Speaking & Events

PAST EVENTS

- Going Back to Law School: Moving from Practice to Law School Career Advising | Heather DiFranco
  April 1, 2024 | Speaking Engagement
- Tips for 1L Success | Heather DiFranco
  September 3, 2019 | Speaking Engagement

- Hot Topic - NALP/ABA Employment Outcomes Reporting Advisory Group Update | Heather DiFranco
  April 1, 2019 | Speaking Engagement
- The Lean CSO: Managing Shifting Demands with Efficiency and Grace | Heather DiFranco
  April 2, 2018 | Speaking Engagement