



Women Lawyers of Ventura County

Mary Sullivan Scholarship Application

2023 - 2024 Academic Year

The Mary Sullivan Scholarship is given to a law student or recent law school graduate who represents the ideals and values of Mary Sullivan. Awards from \$500 to \$3,000 have been given. Ms. Sullivan, a Ventura lawyer and long-time member of WLVC, passed away in 2009. Ms. Sullivan exemplified the best qualities of an attorney, handling her cases with expertise, compassion, and dignity. She practiced initially in family law, but subsequently represented parents in dependency court proceedings. Ms. Sullivan also devoted a considerable amount of time to representing individuals on a pro bono basis.

AWARD CRITERIA:

- (1) Enrolled law student; (2) graduated law school in 2023-2024; or (3) graduated law school in 2022-2024 **and** has not yet passed the bar.
- Strong ties to Ventura County (e.g., resident, or attending law school in Ventura County);
- Commitment to public interest work and/or advancing the interests of women/girls; and
- Financial need

PART ONE – PERSONAL INFORMATION: *(Please type or print clearly.)*

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Current Address: _____

Undergraduate College: _____

Undergraduate Degree: _____ Undergraduate GPA: _____

Non-JD Graduate Degree (if any): _____ Graduate GPA: _____

Law School: _____

(Expected) Graduation Date: _____ Law School GPA: _____

Public Interest Experience: _____

Professional Career Goals: _____

How you learned about this scholarship (be specific): _____

PART TWO – LAW SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT:

Please submit a copy of your most current law school transcript. The transcript does not need to be certified or sealed. Please redact your social security number from the copy of your transcript. If you will be entering your first year of law school, please provide your undergraduate transcript and written proof of enrollment from your law school.

PART THREE – RÉSUMÉ:

Please submit a current résumé detailing your educational and recent work experience. Please also include at least two letters of recommendation.

PART FOUR – NARRATIVE STATEMENT:

Please submit a biographical essay which answers all the following questions:

- A. What is your connection to Ventura County? Your essay should be authentic and specific (e.g., whether you grew up in the County; currently reside here; attend(ed) law school here; work here; intend to settle here, *etc.*). Generalized statements such as “I want to live in Ventura County one day” are strongly discouraged.
- B. Why did you decide to attend law school? What are your career goals, and how do they relate to public interest and/or the advancement of the interests of women/girls?
- C. How do your prior employment, volunteer work, education, and/or extracurricular activities demonstrate your commitment to public interest work and/or advancing the interests of women/girls? How have these experiences contributed to your career path?
- D. What factors concerning your financial situation would you like the WLVC Scholarship Committee to consider? How might the Mary Sullivan Scholarship help you to achieve your goals?

Your essay must be typed in 12-point font, double-spaced, and is subject to a five-page maximum limit. Essays will be reviewed for thoroughness, clarity, substance, and syntax. Please proofread your essay. You are encouraged to be creative and engaging – the narrative is your opportunity to let the WLVC Scholarship Committee know who you are.

DIRECTIONS FOR SUBMITTING YOUR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION:

- A. Compile a complete scholarship application: **Part One** - Personal Information as the cover sheet; **Part Two** - your most current law school transcript (or undergraduate transcript with proof of law school enrollment for incoming 1Ls); **Part Three** - your résumé, and at least two letters of recommendation; and **Part Four:** your Narrative Statement.
Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- B. Email your complete application as a single PDF file attachment to the WLVC Scholarship Chair, Sheri L. Valley, at svalley@mwgjlw.com. The subject line of your email should read “**WLVC 2024 Scholarship Application – [your name].**”
- C. The deadline to submit your scholarship application is **JUNE 7, 2024**. Late applications will not be considered. The WLVC Scholarship Committee will attempt to notify applicants of its decision by July 19, 2024.

NOTE:

- The minimum scholarship award is \$500. Awards of up to \$3,000 have been granted. Some years, multiple awards have been given.

QUESTIONS? For more information about the Mary Sullivan Scholarship, contact the WLVC Scholarship Chair, Sheri L. Valley, at svalley@mwgjlw.com. For more information about WLVC, please visit WLVC’s website at www.wlvc.org. Thank you for your interest in WLVC. Good luck with the scholarship application!