

NYSBA BLOGGING POLICY

Approved by the NYSBA Executive Committee January 2020

BLOG APPROVAL PROCESS

The New York State Bar Association (NYSBA) has dedicated a portion of its website to blogs (www.nysba.org/blogs). If a NYSBA section, committee, or other NYSBA entity would like to set up a blog page, they must email webmaster@nysba.org for approval to start a blog page. NYSBA can approve or decline a proposal for a blog page for any reason. If approved, NYSBA will set up a blog page for that Section, committee or NYSBA entity.

BLOG ADMINISTRATION

1. Approved NYSBA entities should appoint a blog administrator (or more than one) from the group to be the primary blogger(s). Blog posts should be “signed” by the person making the post in the event the blog is written by multiple parties using a common login. For blogs with multiple logins the system indicates the name of the contributor. Sections and Committees may have more than one blog (at the discretion of NYSBA). The creation of all blogs requires the approval of the Section or Committee chair.
2. All approved blog pages, must include a header at the top of the blog page, which states, “*The opinions expressed and statements made by the bloggers are those of the blogger alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of NYSBA, its sections, committees, special committees or subcommittees or any employee or other member thereof. Posts or portions thereof are not intended to represent legal advice of any kind.*”
3. Blog administrators should consult with their staff liaison with regard to any questions about posts.
4. Blog administrators should ensure that content is uploaded to the blog on a regular basis, preferably at least one post per month. If there is inactivity on a blog page that exceeds one year, NYSBA, at its discretion, will give notice to the NYSBA entity that the blog will be removed from the NYSBA website.
5. All blog submissions, including comments, become the property of NYSBA which reserves the right to reproduce these entries in any format currently known or to be developed in the future.
6. NYSBA is the publisher of all blogs and as such retains the right to edit or remove any submission for style, content, clarity, brevity, usage, or any other reason. NYSBA reserves the right to only publish comments relevant to the conversation.

BLOG GUIDELINES

1. NYSBA blogs exist for the purpose of expanding the body of knowledge relating to positions of the Bar Association and have no commercial intent or purpose. NYSBA Sections, committees, and other NYSBA entities with approved blog pages are invited to blog on topics of interest to the NYSBA membership and the public at large.
2. Use of a NYSBA blog should not be construed as any type of contract or employment. Blog contributions are strictly voluntary and should not be considered works for hire. Contributors will receive no consideration for their work.

3. As the publisher, NYSBA encourages thoughtful and cogent blog posts and insightful commentary. Blog posts that become personal, resort to inappropriate language, or do not support the overall mission of NYSBA will not be published or will be removed. Comments will only be published if they directly relate to the blog post to which they are attached and comply with the above standards.
4. By posting content to a blog, you warrant and represent that you either own or otherwise control all of the rights to that content, including, without limitation, all the rights necessary for you to submit the content. If you would like to post certain content on the blog that was originally posted elsewhere, please send an email to webmaster@nysba.org.
5. When crafting posts, do not provide legal advice. Contact webmaster@nysba.org or your staff liaison if you ever have questions on this point.
6. Use caution when discussing actual matters or litigation on the blogs (even as a hypothetical). Blogs are not confidential communications. Messages may be seen by other parties, government agencies, or opposing counsel.
7. Blog administrators and bloggers are encouraged to post links to their blog posts to personal and NYSBA-sanctioned social media accounts in order to encourage traffic to the blog post.
8. Posts are subject to libel, slander, and antitrust laws.
9. Blog administrators and members who utilize NYSBA's Blog pages must also comply with the provisions of NYSBA's Social Media and Digital Communications Policy.
10. NYSBA reserves the right to terminate access to any user who does not abide by this policy.