



**THE NEW YORK BAR FOUNDATION  
2025**

***Real Property Law Section Lorraine Power Tharp Scholarship***

The New York Bar Foundation is pleased to announce the ***2025 Real Property Law Section Lorraine Power Tharp Scholarship***, which has been established by The Foundation through a gift from the Real Property Law Section of the New York State Bar Association (NYSBA) and from Russell Tharp to honor the memory of Lorraine Power Tharp, Esq., a former Chair of the Section and a former President of the Association.

The \$5,000.00 scholarship will be awarded to a second- or third-year law student who best exemplifies the core values important to Lorraine – academic excellence, a demonstrated interest in public service, high integrity and, if possible, an interest in real property law.

Efforts will be made to honor Lorraine’s commitment to gender equality and diversity in the profession. To ensure geographic diversity, the Foundation will strive to select students attending New York State law schools in different counties each year, so that over time students from all areas of the state will be able to benefit from the scholarship.

A preference will be given to students who demonstrate financial need.

**The Real Property Law Section Lorraine Power Tharp (LPT) Scholarship**

1. The LPT Scholarship, valued at \$5,000.00, will be awarded to one student enrolled on a full time or part-time basis during academic year 2024-2025 in a law school in the State of New York.
2. The LPT Scholar will be a guest member of the NYSBA Real Property Law Section during the 2025 calendar year.
3. The scholarship recipient will be invited to attend Executive Committee meetings of the NYSBA Real Property Law Section during the 2025 calendar year and to work on one of the Section’s many Committee projects or Task Forces.
4. The scholarship recipient will be notified no later than January 15, 2025 and invited to attend the Annual Meeting of the Section in New York City in January 2025.

**Eligibility**

1. The scholarship is open to all second- and third-year full time students enrolled in a law school in the State of New York during the fall 2024 semester. If attending part-time, the scholarship is open to second-, third- and fourth-year students enrolled in a law school in the State of New York during the fall 2024 semester.
2. The student must have attained a minimum 3.0 or equivalent GPA in law school and must have attained a ranking in the top quarter of the class.
3. Preference will be given to students who demonstrate financial need.

**Payment of Scholarship**

The scholarship will be applied to the student’s 2024/2025 academic year tuition. A check, made payable to the law school and the student, will be sent to the appropriate office at the school.

## **Scholarship Application Requirements**

The applicant **must** submit the following as a single PDF file:

1. Completed application (form below).
2. Cover letter of interest in the practice of real property law.
3. A resume describing your prior employment and other relevant qualifications and activities.
4. Unofficial law school transcript.
5. Two letters of recommendation, at least one of which is from a law school professor unrelated to the applicant by blood or marriage.
6. An essay written by the student demonstrating why he or she exemplifies Lorraine Power Tharp's core values. The essay should be no more than two pages, 12-point font, double spaced with 1-inch margins.

## **Deadline**

Completed application must be submitted by email on or before **Friday, November 15, 2024.**

## **Judging**

**Criteria for judging will be:**

1. Content and quality of application materials.
2. Demonstrated interest in public service and, if possible, real property law.
3. Record of academic excellence.
4. Maturity, integrity, professionalism.
5. Leadership experience.
6. Quality of written expression.
7. Work experience.
8. Any other relevant factors.

## **Submission**

Only single PDF files will be accepted.

Completed application must be submitted by email on or before **Friday, November 15, 2024.**

**Email** submissions should be sent to [\*\*Ldorr@tnybf.org\*\*](mailto:Ldorr@tnybf.org)

Please include **'RP-Tharp Scholarship'** in the subject line.

## *About Lorraine Power Tharp*

Community leader and attorney, Lorraine Power Tharp was well known for her volunteer leadership of many arts, health and equine-related organizations, as well as for her years of service to the New York State Bar Association. She had a genuine sense of caring for others and her infectious smile and extraordinary commitment to serve her community and her profession is missed by all who knew her. Ms. Tharp passed away in 2008 at the age of 60 after a long battle with cancer.

Ms. Tharp was born in Staten Island, but grew up in Massena, New York. She graduated from Smith College, after spending her junior year in Geneva, Switzerland at the Institute des Hautes Etudes Internationales, and received her J.D. from Cornell Law School. Following graduation, she worked in New York City with the firm of Wickes, Riddell, Bloomer, Jacobi & McGuire (subsequently merged into Morgan, Lewis & Bockius) where she was their first female associate attorney. She moved to the Capital District area and worked with the McNamee Lochner Titus and Williams law firm where she was also their first female associate. At the time of her death, Ms. Tharp was a partner in the firm of Whiteman Osterman & Hanna LLP, in Albany and was the Chair of the firm's real estate practice group.



Lorraine Power Tharp  
1947 - 2008

Ms. Tharp was President of the 77,000-member New York State Bar Association in 2002-2003, having also served as President-Elect and Chair of the Association's House of Delegates. She was a past Chair of the Real Property Law Section of the Association. She was a past Co-Chair of that Section's Committees on Financing and Liens, and Land Use and Planning. Ms. Tharp also was a past member of the Association's Committee on Women in the Law. For that Committee, she served as Chair of the Subcommittee on Women in the Profession. In connection with the Subcommittee's work, Ms. Tharp was the Project Chair of the group that drafted the Committee's report and model policy on sexual harassment, which was endorsed by the Executive Committee of the Association. Ms. Tharp was a practice consultant for *New York Real Property Service* and is the author of "Lender Liability - Erosion of the 'Golden Rule,'" *New York State Bar Association Real Property Section Newsletter*, 1988, and "Update on Fleet Factors," *New York State Bar Association Real Property Section Newsletter*, 1990. Ms. Tharp served as a member of the Editorial Board of *Warren's Weed: New York Real Property*.

Ms. Tharp was elected in 1994 to membership in the American College of Real Estate Lawyers, and was a Fellow, Director and Treasurer of The New York Bar Foundation and a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation. She also was a member of the American Bar Association, where she served as a Delegate to the ABA House of Delegates, and the Albany County and Saratoga County Bar Associations.

In 1997, Ms. Tharp was appointed by then Chief Judge Judith S. Kaye to serve a four-year term on the newly created New York State Continuing Legal Education ("CLE") Board and charged with overseeing the accreditation process and other matters in connection with continuing legal education for attorneys admitted in the State of New York. Since 1983, Ms. Tharp had participated, as speaker and/or chair, in numerous State Bar lectures and other CLE programs.

At the time of her death, Ms. Tharp held numerous volunteer leadership positions serving her community and her profession. She was a Commissioner of the New York State Racing Commission; and the first woman to serve on the Commission, Chair of the Board of the New York State Thoroughbred Breeding and Development Fund Corporation; and one of the members of the Third Judicial District Independent Judicial Election Qualification Commission, part of the statewide network for screening judicial candidates. She was the Vice Chair and a trustee of Saratoga Hospital, a member of the Board of Directors of the Saratoga Performing Arts Center, a trustee of The Hyde Collection, a trustee and Secretary of the Board of the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame, a member of the Board of the Empire State College Foundation and a member of the Board of the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce.

Ms. Tharp's commitment to community extended over many years, having served as Chair of the City of Saratoga Springs Planning Board, and on the boards of directors of Equinox, Leadership Saratoga, Saratoga County Arts Council and Home-Made Theater. She assisted in fundraising efforts for many organizations including Skidmore College and Smith College. Ms. Tharp was the recipient of the 1995 Leadership Saratoga Distinguished Alumni Award, the 2002 Soroptimist Woman of Distinction Award, the 2003 Kate Stoneman Award from Albany Law School, the 2003 Woman of Excellence in the Professions Award from the Albany-Colonie Chamber of Commerce, and she was honored in 2004 by the New York County Lawyers' Association as one of the "Outstanding Women of the Bar." Most recently she was honored by the NYS Bar Association's Special Committee on Animals and the Law, a committee she founded, for her vision in recognizing the role that animals play in all walks of life, and the importance of fostering a society that is humane not only to animals but also to the people who value them.

Everyday Ms. Tharp talked about how blessed she was, with a devoted husband and family of whom she was extremely proud, for her wide circle of friends and for the enjoyment and fun of working with a myriad of organizations and people to make her community and her profession better for others in the present and the future. Ms. Tharp touched and inspired all who knew her and enriched the lives of countless individuals.

## *About the Real Property Law Section of the New York State Bar Association*

The Real Property Law Section serves New York real property lawyers and the public, promotes the successful transaction of real estate business in New York State, and contributes to the sound development of real property law in New York State. Toward that end, the Section:

- Identifies and draws public attention to problems, abuses, and issues affecting real property, recommending improvements in real property law, procedure and practice as appropriate.
- Publishes a high-quality journal to keep Section members informed of developments and the latest thinking in real property law.
- Provides a Section website and gives Section members a variety of forums to discuss the state of the law and possibilities for improvement.
- Offers high quality continuing legal education programs to Section members
- Acts as a resource for legislators and government officials and comments on and, where appropriate, initiates legislation.
- Establishes and operates committees and task forces that seek to achieve the Section's goals within numerous areas of real property law.
- Educates the public about real estate law and the benefits of using lawyers in real property transactions, particularly residential transactions.
- Works with the real estate finance, brokerage, title insurance, surveying and other related industries, to improve practices, communications and working relationships.

## *About The New York Bar Foundation*

Founded in 1950, The New York Bar Foundation is dedicated to aiding educational, direct legal services, and charitable projects aimed at meeting the law-related needs of the public and the profession. The Foundation solicits charitable contributions and provides funding through its grant making program for the following purposes:

- Increasing public understanding of the law
- Improving the justice system and the law
- Facilitating the delivery of civil legal services
- Enhancing professional competence and ethics

For more information about The New York Bar Foundation, go to [www.tnybf.org](http://www.tnybf.org)



**2025**

***Real Property Law Section Lorraine Power Tharp Scholarship***

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the Real Property Law Section of the New York State Bar Association*

**Application Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Law School Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Student \_\_\_\_\_ Night Student \_\_\_\_\_

Year of Law School Study as of September 1, 2024: \_\_\_\_\_

Prior Education:

Dates	College Name	Address	Major	Attended	Degree
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Are you receiving financial aid or participating in a work study program at the law school?

\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No If yes, please describe

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Have you previously received Scholarships? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No If yes, please describe:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What is your GPA and class ranking in law school as of July 1, 2024?

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**Attach the following materials to this application as a single PDF file:**

1. Cover letter indicating your interest in the practice of real property law.
2. A law school transcript (transcripts need not be official; finalists may be asked to provide official transcripts).
3. A resume describing your prior employment and other relevant qualifications and activities.
4. Two letters of recommendation, at least one of which is from a law school professor unrelated by blood or marriage to the applicant.
5. Two-page double-spaced essay written by the applicant demonstrating why s/he exemplifies Lorraine Power Tharp's core values of academic excellence, a demonstrated interest in public service, high integrity and, if possible, an interest in real property law.

**Application Deadline:**

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**Certification:**

**I hereby certify that all of the statements contained, and information provided in this application and in the attachments hereto, are truthful, to the best of my knowledge, and that I meet the eligibility requirements for the 2025 Real Property Law Section Lorraine Power Tharp Scholarship.**

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Applicant's Signature

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Date

Where did you hear of TNYBF Scholarship Opportunity? \_\_\_\_\_