



OHIO WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION NETWORK NEWSLETTER

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Our purpose is to promote the leadership, advancement and interests of women attorneys through professional education, networking and the exchange of ideas between our members, local bar associations, business and the community.

The OWBF Leadership Institute Begins With Its Inaugural Class



Leadership Institute Class L-R (front row): Erin Sutton, Stephanie Chmiel, Sasha VanDeGrift, Lori Clary, Magistrate Sharon Dennis; L-R (second row): Jennifer Fuller, Sommer Sheely, Marilena DiSilvio, Bonnie Kristan, Martha Asseff, Patricia Gajda

By Valoria C. Hoover

On Sept. 15, members selected as the first Ohio Women's Bar Foundation (OWBF) Leadership Institute class came together at the Hilton Hotel at Polaris as 11 individual leaders—and they left the next day as the First Leadership OWBF Class. Conversations and presentations by top attorneys, seasoned leaders and knowledgeable

clients, along with a few activities that deepened their connections with each other, marked an action-packed unforgettable day and a half.

It began on Thursday afternoon with the class members getting to know one another and then having an opening dinner with those who helped create the OWBF Leadership Institute. At the dinner, several OWBF committee members and advisory members

brought meaning and inspiration to the class through giving their words of wisdom. Those in attendance included OWBF President Angela Courtwright, advisory committee members Maria Kortan-Sampson (and past OWBA president) and Mary Sullivan and OWBF Leadership Institute committee members Lynne Day, Gerrie Cotter and Summer Moses.

Throughout the day dedicated to Practical Business Strategies and Rainmaking, the Leadership OWBF Class asked many tough and free-ranging questions of the volunteer presenters. To emphasize that we need to work to-

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