

Sam Welchance
Drake SBA Letter of Intent

Dear SBA and fellow members of the 1L class,

Upon deep reflection and consideration about the opportunities at hand as a member of the Drake Student Bar Association, I am happy to announce my intention to run in the Fall 2025 election to serve the Drake Law Class of 2028. I believe I possess strengths that could fit either the Honor Board Representative or 1L Representative roles.

Regarding the Honor Board position, this is a role that I have experience in from my time in undergrad at the University of Minnesota Duluth. I served as our student government's Associate Speaker of Congress, involved with disciplinary matters involving ensuring that our student government was serving the student body as best as they could. In handling these matters, I was forced to make tough decisions involving members of our body who were not serving as well as they could in their positions, including motions to impeach, if necessary. I did so not as an authoritarian, but as someone who listened and acted upon disputes equally. Making sure everyone has their side heard is fundamental, and that is ever important on the Honor Board.

1L Representative is a position I am also greatly interested in, as this is a role that would bring me close to my class by participating in actions that could impact them day-to-day. A very large portion of this class are first-generation law students, myself included. Making this law school a place where everyone can thrive if they try is something that should be possible, and I will bring those values with me to this position and to meetings of the SBA as a whole.

I appreciate the consideration of my candidacy, and I hope to have the opportunity to serve in one of the capacities listed above. I am excited about this possibility to make our voice heard as 1Ls, and I hope that I have the chance to make that collective voice shine in this body!

Sincerely,

Sam Welchance
JD Candidate
Drake Law School

SBA Candidate Questionnaire

Turn in this questionnaire with your petition. Please answer each question in 50 words or less. This questionnaire will be distributed amongst the law school along with the photo you submit. If you do not submit a photo, your Drake ID photo may be used.

What is your name and your pronouns?

Sam Welchance (he/him)

Where are you from?

Olivia, Minnesota, a small farming town in Southwestern Minnesota. I was born in a suburb of Nashville, Tennessee, and I also lived in Jacksonville, Florida for two years.

What did you do before law school?

I came straight to law school from undergrad at the University of Minnesota Duluth, where I majored in Human Resource Management, and minored in Health Care Management and International Studies.

Why did you decide to come to law school?

I decided on law school after looking jobs that could be available long-term in the HR and employment law areas, which I find super appealing. I hope to learn more about those areas through this community, but I always keep my mind open to what may happen!

Please describe your previous leadership experience.

In my most recent role, I served in leadership for the University of Minnesota Duluth's student government, where I served in a representative role initially, before becoming our Associate Speaker, who dealt with disciplinary issues and other administrative tasks with our officers and members at large.

Why do you want to be in the SBA?

SBA aligns very closely with roles that I have done, and above all, it allows me to support those that I care about. If I can help serve my class and lead with respect and an appreciation of all our differences, I will feel a great sense of accomplishment.

List three adjectives that describe yourself.

Open-minded, driven, and dedicated.

Tell us something interesting about yourself.

I'll go the random route. I was nominated in junior high to a statewide honor choir, and was accepted. Sadly, those days are loooong gone.

