

## 2015 Irell & Manella Diversity Scholarship

In early October 2014, the firm selected the first scholars for the Irell & Manella Diversity Scholarship. The firm created the scholarship to promote diversity in the legal profession and to attract future leaders who are dedicated to creating an environment of inclusion.

### About the Diversity Scholarship

The Irell & Manella Diversity Scholarship awards \$15,000 scholarships to highly qualified second-year law students who accept offers to join the Irell & Manella Summer Program. To qualify, applicants must: 1) successfully complete one year of law school; 2) have stellar academic achievement; 3) demonstrate leadership ability; 4) showcase a dedication to diversity; and 5) possess a commitment to contributing to the legal profession.

The scholarship selection process took place during the on-campus interview season in August and September. After reviewing several applications from second-year law students across the country, the firm selected Josh Anderson (Berkeley) and Alexis Federico (UC Irvine), both of whom will be joining us next summer.

### About Our Inaugural Scholars



**Josh Anderson.** Josh is a Berkeley second-year law school student who will be joining the Century City office this summer. Josh graduated *summa cum laude* from Florida State University with a degree in Music Performance.

Being the first person in his family to attend college and law school has influenced Josh's career outlook. His family "gave [him the] values: to approach work with pride and [his] success with humility." His contributions at Berkeley are reflective of this inspiration and his life experiences. Josh is a member of the Berkeley Law Queer Caucus and Berkeley Law's First Generation Professionals group. Josh also serves as the Vice President of the Health Law Initiative, a Berkeley Law legal services project.

In addition to his student organization activity, Josh is a member of the *California Law Review* and is the Executive Editor of the *Berkeley Journal of Gender, Law & Justice*.



**Alexis Federico.** Alexis, a second-year law student at UC Irvine, will be joining the Newport Beach office this summer. Alexis received a B.A. in English and Russian from Texas A&M University.

Prior to law school, Alexis served as a helicopter pilot in the Marine Corps, completing three combat deployments in Afghanistan and Iraq. Since her time in the military, Alexis has continued to serve the community through her involvement in organizations such as the Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project. She has also demonstrated a commitment to helping those who have faced significant adversity and trauma through her *pro bono* work for the Mississippi Center for Justice and the Domestic Violence Declarations Project.

One of Alexis' future goals is to develop a clinic at UC Irvine Law in conjunction with the newly founded Orange County organization, the Veterans' Advocacy Society.