

## 1<sup>st</sup> Assignment

### Reading:

Explore the following website:

[Oregon Secretary of State – Business Registration and Guidance](#)

- how to register a business
- business information center
- starting a business – business wizard

[Oregon.gov Resource Center](#) - learn about additional pandemic tools and resources available to businesses

<https://sos.oregon.gov/business/Documents/business-guides/start-business-guide.pdf>

*(Explore these online tools and be ready to talk about them in class)*

Read the following articles and explore the websites:

[25 Things All Young Lawyers Should Know](#) (Above the Law web article)

[How I Started My Law Practice Right Out of Law School](#) (Business Insider)

[Starting Your Solo Practice as a 3L](#) (My Shingle blog)

[How to Start a Law Firm](#) watch Sam's video and read the article (Lawyerist)

[How to start a law firm: A complete guide](#) (Clio)

Listen to any podcast episode from [The Lawyerist](#) that interests you

### Assignment:

#### Remember:

Send your completed assignment to me as a PDF through Slack.

Name the PDF with the assignment number and your last name

Turn in your assignment to me via a private message to Kristin LaMont in Slack

*(examples: 1 Jones, Sarah or 1 Smith, Matt)*

#### A. Answer the following questions:

1. Have you ever owned a business before? If yes – tell me about it.
2. Has anyone in your immediate family owned a business? If yes – tell me about it.
3. Do you want to start your own law practice? Why? Why not? What are your plans after graduation?
  - a. *A lot of students take this class without an intention to start their own practice. This class will still be useful for you. Feel free to be candid about your interests.*

4. What are your fears?
  - a. Fears of starting a practice, being a lawyer, or?
5. Describe your “best life” one year, five years and ten years from now.
  - a. Please be detailed – and dream big.
6. Where do you want live?
7. What kind of law do you want to practice? Why?
 

If you aren’t sure – tell me about your thoughts on selecting a practice area
8. What kind of law do you NOT want to practice? Why?
9. Do you want to be a solo, partner or something else?
10. Tell me something you want me to know about you. Hobbies, passions, why you want to be a lawyer? Whatever you would like to share with me.
11. Imagine your own law practice (*you can change your mind later... this is your first attempt – **be bold and dream big!***) Tell me:
  - Your firm’s name
  - Type of practice (ie., estates, business, family, securities etc...)
  - Location of practice
  - How big will your practice be? Just you? Partners? Associates?
  - What is your dream for this practice? Why did you select this area of law?
  - Dig deep and do your best to describe your wishes and dreams.

**B. Use the [Business Xpress](#) website tools to explore starting your business.**

1. What did you learn from the website that you didn’t know already?
2. Create a comprehensive *decision list/decision tree* of the things you will need to consider when starting your law firm (per what you learned from the *Business Xpress* website.)
3. *Select the type of business entity you want to use for your law firm (ie., professional corporation, llc etc...)* Download and fill out the appropriate forms so that you are ready to “register” your new law firm with the Oregon Secretary of State’s offices. (Note – if you plan to start your firm in another state, you are welcome to explore their website and use their forms for this exercise.)
  - a. Why did you select this business entity? Pros/Cons?
  - b. How much is the fee to register your business with the SOS?