

# WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

## DISCIPLINARY ADVISORY ROUND TABLE CHARTER

### History

In July 2010, the WSBA Board of Governors (BOG), acting on a recommendation of the BOG Discipline Review Committee, established the 11-member Disciplinary Advisory Roundtable (DART), which was subsequently approved by the Supreme Court. Under its Charter (adopted by the BOG on July 23, 2010), “[t]wo years after the DAR[T]’s formation, it will be reviewed and evaluated by the DAR[T], the Board of Governors and the Supreme Court. If, after the two-year period, it is determined that the DAR[T] is providing value to the disciplinary system, the DAR[T] may be formalized by court rule.”

During its initial iteration, DART convened on September 15, 2010, and held its final meeting on June 27, 2012. In its 2012 Annual Report, the DART concluded that it had provided and could continue to provide a valuable forum for discussion of discipline system concerns and issues. In September 2012, the BOG recommended extending the tenure of DART to September 30, 2015, and adding two additional positions (a second Respondent’s counsel representative and a minority bar association representative), which recommendation was approved by the Supreme Court. In September 2015, the BOG recommended extending DART for another two years to September 30, 2017, and expanded the membership to include the Vice Chair of the Disciplinary Board.

On September 29, 2017, the BOG approved amendments to the charter to extend the function and work of DART indefinitely, include a LLLT and LPO as members, and set member term limits, which was approved by the Court on November 8, 2017.

### Amended Charter

The duties and responsibilities of the Disciplinary Advisory Round Table (DART) are as follows:

- The DART acts as a forum for the identification and discussion of issues and concerns relating to the lawyer, LLLT and LPO disciplinary systems in Washington;
- The DART may make recommendations for change to discipline-system rules and procedures;
- The DART shall provide an annual report to the Supreme Court and the WSBA Board of Governors addressing how it has performed the duties and responsibilities set forth in this Charter and, as appropriate, outlining its future work plans;
- The DART has no independent decision-making authority or regulatory authority.

## **Membership**

The BOG will make appointments to the DART, subject to the approval of the Supreme Court, for the following positions: two respondent's counsel representatives; two members not licensed to practice law; one minority bar association representative; an active member of the Bar who is not otherwise involved in the disciplinary process; one Limited License Legal Technician (LLLT); and one Limited Practice Officer (LPO).

Ex officio members are: a member of the Supreme Court, who shall serve as Chair of the Round Table; the WSBA Chief Disciplinary Counsel; the Executive Director of the WSBA; the Chief Hearing Officer; the Chair of the Disciplinary Board; the Vice Chair of the Disciplinary Board; a lawyer from the WSBA Office of General Counsel, and a Board of Governor appointed by the BOG.

All members are voting members.

## **Terms**

Except for ex officio members, committee appointments shall be for three years and a member's service shall be limited to two consecutive terms, after which the member cannot be reappointed to DART for three years, subject to individual exceptions as approved by the BOG.

Terms of appointment are staggered. Inaugural positions may be filled by appointments of less than three years, as designated by the BOG, to permit certain positions to be filled each year. Terms of office begin at the start of the fiscal year.

In the event of a member vacancy, the BOG may appoint a replacement.

*Adopted by the Board of Governors July 23, 2010; amended January 23, 2014; and approved by the Supreme Court on March 5, 2014. Amended September 18, 2015 and approved by the Supreme Court on September 30, 2015. Amended September 29, 2017 and approved by the Supreme Court on November 8, 2017.*