



Washington State Bar Association

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 13, 2013

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Lori Bashor-Sarancik Receives WSBA Local Hero Award

(SEATTLE) — The Washington State Bar Association (WSBA) has presented **Lori Bashor-Sarancik** with its Local Hero Award, in recognition of her work with Cowlitz Wahkiakum Legal Aid. The Local Hero Award is given to those who have made noteworthy contributions to their communities. WSBA President **Michele Radosevich** presented the award at a luncheon in Vancouver on Friday, March 8, attended by members of the WSBA Board of Governors and local attorneys and judges. Bashor was nominated by the Cowlitz Wahkiakum Bar Association.

Since 2011, Bashor-Sarancik has been the director of the Cowlitz Wahkiakum Legal Aid, located in Longview. As director, she works to develop revenue to help the nonprofit group offer services to low-income members of the community. Bashor-Sarancik is also responsible for recruiting and maintaining the volunteers needed for the program's ongoing pro bono work.

"I have seen Lori come into the legal community through legal aid and create wonderful opportunities for the low-income members of our community," said **Jamie Foster**, president of the Cowlitz Wahkiakum Bar Association. "Our community need for legal services is high, and as a non-profit organization, resources and volunteers are the main components. Lori handles both of these components extremely well through her relationships through the legal community and her ability to look at alternative revenue resources to increase the funds for the organization.... Lori has been instrumental in applying for new grants that will allow legal aid to continue to maximize the services provided and reach out to many members of the community. Our community is very grateful to have Lori."

Bashor-Sarancik serves on the Longview Housing Authority Board of Commissioners, and is a past president of the Cowlitz County League of Women Voters and of Earlywords Toastmasters. She has also volunteered with Cowlitz County Court Appointed Special Advocates and is involved with the WSBA's focus group testing for new plain language family law forms, part of the Washington State Plan for Integrated Pro Se Assistance Services.

Bashor-Sarancik received her bachelor's degree from UCLA in 1989. Before joining Cowlitz Wahkiakum Legal Aid, she worked for Home Depot for 22 years in corporate leadership and store management positions.

Bashor-Sarancik lives in Cowlitz County with her husband **Gary Bashor**, a superior court judge for Cowlitz County, and their son Alex.

About the Washington State Bar Association

The WSBA is part of the judicial branch and is authorized by the Washington State Supreme Court to license the state's 35,400 lawyers. The WSBA both regulates lawyers under the authority of the Court and serves its members as a professional association — all without public funding. The WSBA's mission is to serve the public and the members of the Bar, ensure the integrity of the legal profession, and to champion justice.

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