



Washington State Bar Association

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Ayuni Hautea-Wimpee Receives WSBA Local Hero Award

(SEATTLE) — The Washington State Bar Association (WSBA) has presented Lacey attorney **Ayuni Hautea-Wimpee** with its Local Hero Award, in recognition of her volunteer service to Thurston County Volunteer Legal Services and to Washington Women Lawyers, Capitol Chapter. Hautea-Wimpee was nominated by the Government Lawyers Bar Association.

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 Olympia on Thursday, Jan. 17, attended by members of the WSBA Board of Governors and local attorneys and judges. “Ayuni has been an exemplary public servant throughout her entire career, deeply committed to giving back and helping those who are most in need of legal assistance,” said WSBA President **Michele Radosevich**.

Hautea-Wimpee has been a state employee for over 34 years; for the majority of her career, she has worked in policy and rates development and management capacities within the state’s Medicaid program. Currently, she is the trauma program manager for the state Health Care Authority, where she uses her legal background to analyze policy issues and to write and interpret agency rules. She also negotiates and manages client services contracts for healthcare services not available in Washington state or in bordering cities.

Hautea-Wimpee received her undergraduate degree from the University of the Philippines at Los Banos, and an MBA from Saint Martin’s College. She received her law degree from the University of Puget Sound (now Seattle University) School of Law.

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On her own time, Hautea-Wimpee is a regular volunteer at Thurston County Volunteer Legal Services (TCVLS), putting her legal skills and training to work serving low-income individuals in Thurston County.

Hautea-Wimpee also served for several years on the board of Washington Women Lawyers' Capitol Chapter. "Ayuni offered her wisdom and mentorship to young women lawyers joining the profession [and] could always be counted on to assist with events to promote pro bono in Thurston County," said fellow board member **Rebecca Glasgow**. "Ayuni's unending positive attitude and good cheer made her a welcome addition to any WWL meeting or event."

Prior to her work with TCVLS, Hautea-Wimpee volunteered and served on the boards of the Capital Area Youth Symphony Association and Student Orchestras of Greater Olympia. She also served as team manager for her two sons' South Sound Football Club soccer teams through their high school years.

Hautea-Wimpee said the award is a tribute to her parents, who exemplified public service. Her mother taught public school for 40 years and her father was a government lawyer.

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 34,800 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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