

WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

WSBA SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

FY 2024: October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024

The mission of the Washington State Bar Association is to serve the public and the members of the Bar, to ensure integrity of the legal profession, and to champion justice.

Instructions: In accordance with the WSBA Bylaws, Committees, Other Bar Entities (excluding Regulatory Boards^j), Councils, and Sections must submit an annual report to the Executive Director. The information below should reflect the activities and outcomes from the fiscal year October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024. Information in the annual report will be provided to the Executive Director and Board of Governors, and may be published for other purposes, such as *Bar News*, volunteer recruitment messaging, and other WSBA activity-based reporting.

It is recommended that completion of the annual report be a collaborative effort with members of your entity, the BOG liaison, and staff liaison.

Submission Deadline is Friday, October 11: please submit by emailing to Carolyn MacGregor (carolynm@wsba.org).

Name of Section:	Litigation Section
Chair or Co-Chairs:	Tiffany Wilke
Staff Liaison: (include name, job title, and department if known)	Carolyn MacGregor, Sections Program Specialist, Advancement Department
Board of Governors Liaison:	Allison Widney
Purpose: <i>May be stated in Bylaws, Charter, Court Rule, etc.</i>	
<p>The purpose of the Section shall be to seek the participation of all interested members of the Bar, and of state and local bar associations, in order to benefit such members, their clients and the general public: a. b. c. d. e. 1.3 Limitations By providing the opportunity and forum for the interchange of ideas in the areas at trial advocacy, practice and procedure; By initiating and implementing common projects within said areas; By review of pending legislation and development of proposed statutory enactments to improve and facilitate the administration of justice; By assisting the courts in establishing rules and methods for the more certain and expeditious administration of justice; and By undertaking such other services as may be of benefit to the members, the legal profession and the public.</p>	
Strategy to Fulfill Purpose:	

Sections

By conducting CLEs, encouraging mentor/mentee relationships, and hosting “litigation events” to encourage member participation.	
How does the section’s purpose help further the mission of the WSBA “to serve the public and the members of the Bar, to ensure integrity of the legal profession, and to champion justice”?	
The Litigation Section is focused on providing access to the justice system by way of education through CLEs, and access through mentor/mentee relationships.	
Top 2023 -2024 Section Accomplishments:	
Scholarships to all three WA law schools - \$6,000 total	
Resumed the yearly judicial dinner with the WA Supreme Court	
Resumed presenting CLEs	
Next Fiscal Year: 2024-2025 Top SMART Goals & Priorities: <i>Tip: SMART Goals are: Specific Measurable, Relevant and Time-Bound</i> Use this worksheet (under ‘Leadership’) to develop your SMART goals and then summarize below in 1-2 sentences.	
1	Plans for a winter 2025 event with a judicial speaker – goal is to host a networking event with Judge Peterson to further engagement amongst our section. Ideally, we hope to have this occur by February 2025.
2	An October 2024 CLE re: “local rule tips and tricks” for members and non-members alike – this is currently planned to take place virtually on October 15, 2024.
3	More CLEs next year (tentative plan is two of them) which will generate revenue. We would like to plan half-day CLEs and have a goal to start planning these at the start of 2025.
Looking Ahead: <i>Please share any long-term goals and/or priorities that your entity aims to address.</i>	
1	More engagement with our members and beyond by way of LinkedIn updates and social media.
2	We would like to increase and boost knowledge of our mentorship program, by way of “blasts” through WSBA and social media.
3	
Please describe how this entity is addressing diversity, equity, and inclusion: <i>How have you elicited input from a variety of perspectives in decision-making? What have you done to promote a culture of inclusion within the board or committee? What has your committee/board done to promote equitable conditions for members from historically underrepresented backgrounds to enter, stay, thrive and eventually lead in the profession? Other?</i>	

Sections

<p>Our section is comprised of a wide variety of demographics in the legal profession (gender, race, practice areas, ages) and we encourage active participation amongst all groups to host, engage, and otherwise lead section-related events.</p>			
<p>Please share feedback regarding the support and engagement provided by WSBA.</p> <p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Quality of WSBA staff support/services, including technology solutions</i> • <i>Involvement with Board of Governors, including assigned BOG liaison</i> • <i>Ideas you have on ways WSBA can continue to strengthen/support your entity.</i> 			
<p>We benefit greatly from having WSBA staff attend our meetings and help us with the logistics in meeting our goals (i.e., aiding in scheduling CLEs, marketing of the same, etc.).</p>			
<p>Please quantify your section's 2023-2024 member benefits:</p> <p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>\$3000 Scholarships, donations, grants awarded;</i> • <i>4 mini-CLEs produced</i> 			
	Co-sponsored half-day, full-day and/or multi-day CLE seminars with WSBA		
	Co-sponsored half-day, full-day and/or multi-day CLE seminars with <i>non</i> -WSBA entity.		
Judicial Dinner (summer 2024)	Receptions/forums hosted or co-hosted		
Law school scholarships totaling \$6,000	\$ amount given through donations/scholarships/grants.		
	Newsletters/publications produced		
	Mini-CLEs produced		
Facilitated the mentor/mentee program	New Lawyer Outreach events/benefits		
	Recognitions/Awards given		
	Other (please describe):		
<p style="text-align: center;">SECTION DATA <i>To Be Completed by WSBA Sections Team</i></p>			
Section Membership Information:	972		Membership Size: (As of September 30, 2024)
	\$37,489		FY24 Revenue (\$): For Sections Only: As of September 30, 2024
	\$30,290	\$14,126	Budgeted and Direct Expenses:

Sections

			<i>Does not include the Per-Member-Charge. For Direct Expenses, draft estimate as of December 3, 2024.</i>
Section Executive Committee Information:	11		Size of Executive Committee: <i>(include and specify voting and non-voting positions)</i>
	9		Number of Vacancies for FY25: <i>The number of positions with terms beginning October 1, 2024 (FY25).</i>
	6		Number of Applicants for FY25: <i>Applications submitted in the Spring-Summer of 2024 for terms beginning October 1, 2024 (FY25)</i>

ⁱ Supreme Court Boards (Access to Justice Board, Disciplinary Board, LLLT Board, Limited Practice Board, MCLE Board and Practice of Law Board) provide annual reports to WSBA to support its responsibility under [GR 12.3](#), to provide oversight and monitor compliance with applicable rules and orders. Boards have the option to use the WSBA template or to share their annual reports to the Washington Supreme Court.