



*The WSBA Board of Governors (BOG) met on January 26-27 in Spokane. Gonzaga University Law School Dean Jane Korn welcomed the BOG, guests, and liaisons to the beautiful Hemmingson Center in the heart of the Gonzaga campus on Thursday as the meeting got underway. Below is a recap of the meeting.*

### **Honoring Local Hero Hon. Gregory D. Sypolt (Ret.)**

The WSBA presents its Local Hero Award to WSBA members and local community members who have made noteworthy contributions to their communities. The Spokane County Bar Association selected the Honorable Gregory D. Sypolt (Ret.) for the award, in recognition of his longstanding demonstrated commitment to diversity and the community. WSBA President Robin Haynes presented the award at a luncheon in Spokane on January 26. Judge Sypolt was unable to attend. Accepting the award on his behalf were his wife, Molly, and his longtime judicial assistant, Karen Bachmeier.

### **Amendments to WSBA Bylaws Article XI. Sections**

Following many months of public discussion, and considering all of the input received, the Board of Governors approved Section XI of the WSBA Bylaws relating to the Sections, as amended on November 18, 2016. The amended Bylaws apply minimum governance standards to existing section bylaws, while maintaining flexibility in the manner in which sections operate. Section XI addresses: (1) the numbers and types of officers; (2) executive committee member terms; (3) the timing and manner of annual elections and other matters previously reported on and considered by the BOG in public session since first reading on August 23, 2016. ([See public materials beginning at page 18.](#))

**Proposed New Practice Area for Limited License Legal Technicians (LLLT):** LLLT Board Chair Steve Crossland provided an update of board activities and introduced the proposed second practice area for LLLTs, "Estate and Healthcare Law." Governors and audience members provided input. The LLLT Board anticipates submitting the proposed second practice area to the Supreme Court in March and welcomes further input. Additional information may be found at [www.wsba.org/LLLT](http://www.wsba.org/LLLT) and comments may be emailed to [LLLT@wsba.org](mailto:LLLT@wsba.org). ([See public materials beginning at page 35.](#))

**Update from the Practice of Law Board (POLB):** POLB Chair, the Hon. Paul Bastine (Ret.), and BOG liaison Sean Davis (At-Large), sought comments and input regarding the Practice of Law Board's 2016 activities, including suggested amendments to GR 25 Practice of Law Board Regulations. These amendments include a renewed focus on the Board's functions, including (1) educating the public about how to receive competent legal assistance; (2) considering and recommending to the Supreme Court new avenues for persons not currently authorized to practice law to provide legal services; (3) receiving, reviewing, and referring complaints alleging

the unauthorized practice of law; and (4) drafting advisory opinions. ([See public materials beginning at page 38.](#))

**BOG Decision Regarding License Fee Petition:** The Board voted to not hold a referendum vote on the license fee petition filed with the WSBA in December. The Board found that the petition did not qualify under GR 12 because the Court issued an order finding the fees set by the Board to be reasonable and the fee that would be set if the petition were to pass to be unreasonable. The Board further concluded that any vote would be fiscally unsound and futile given the Court's order and that the outcome potentially could be in violation of a Supreme Court order. ([See public materials beginning at page 108.](#))

### **Generative Discussion: The Shifting Demographics of Our Membership**

Day two of the meeting kicked off with District 3 Governor and Treasurer Jill Karmy, Director of Human Resources Frances Dujon-Reynolds, and Director of Advancement/Chief Development Officer Terra Nevitt leading a discussion regarding older members transitioning out of the bar. Executive Director Paula Littlewood presented demographic information about the shifting demographics for the profession as Baby Boomers begin to reach retirement age in large numbers. The WSBA's research shows that nearly 50% of the bar's membership will transition out of the practice in the next 10-15 years. Senior lawyers section members and other members of the audience shared their thoughts on the impact this transition will have and how best to capture the knowledge and experience of these retiring members for a "second season of service." Discussion centered around how best to support retiring members and what avenues for giving back these members might explore such as mentoring and pro bono services. ([See public materials beginning at page 123.](#))

### **Resolution for A Day of Remembrance**

The BOG passed a resolution for A Day of Remembrance that recognizes the 75th Anniversary of Executive Order 9066 and reaffirms WSBA's mission and guiding principles. During World War II the United States government imposed curfews, removal, and incarceration of more than 120,000 Japanese Americans, including U.S. citizens, residing in Washington and other western states, citing military necessity. These actions followed President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066 issued on February 19, 1942, and those that did not comply with the Order were prosecuted. Lawyers and courts in Washington played a role in both the imposition and enforcement of these actions as well as in the efforts 40 years later to vacate unlawful convictions and obtain judgments of governmental misconduct. ([See public materials beginning at page 131.](#))

### **Contact WSBA with Questions**

As always, if you have questions or would like more information, please don't hesitate to contact [questions@wsba.org](mailto:questions@wsba.org).