

WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

Member Engagement Council CHARTER

(Adopted by the WSBA Board of Governors on July 27, 2018)

(Extended indefinitely by the WSBA Board of Governors on September 28, 2018)

(Amended by the WSBA Board of Governors March 19, 2020)

(Amended by the WSBA Board of Governors January 14, 2022)

Background

The WSBA must rely on member involvement, feedback, and expertise to operate and meet its mission; as such, the Board of Governors must continually interface with members to create mutual understanding, drive priorities, seek feedback, form relationships, and share involvement opportunities. The Member Engagement Council will further this objective.

Member Engagement Council Purpose

The Council shall seek to educate members in a proactive manner about WSBA's and Board of Governor's actions and work, seek input and involve members in decision-making process, build relationship between members and WSBA governance and ensure ongoing updates of members on WSBA processes and measurement. In carrying out these lofty goals, the council shall seek to create mutual understanding between the board and members, drive board priorities, form relationships with WSBA sections, specialty, minority and regional bars and share opportunities across regions of the state and members resident outside the geographical area of the state.

The Council will serve as an advisory body to the Board of Governors as set forth in the WSBA Bylaws.

Member Engagement Council Membership

The Council shall consist of eleven voting members constituted as follows:

- Two Co-Chairs – one of whom will be a Governor or Officer of the Board of Governors from the Eastern side of the state and one from the Western side of the state.
- Four current Governors or Officers of the Board of Governors.
- Four WSBA Members who are not a current Governor or Officer of the Board of Governors.
- One position could be either a WSBA Member or a Member of the Board of Governors.

Terms

- Co-Chairs: Two year term – subject to renewal by the President with the option to make the 2nd term a Co-Chair or a regular member
- Board or Officer of the Board of the Governors: One year term.
- WSBA Members At Large: Two year term.
- WSBA Member At Large or BOG position: Two year term.

For the initial staggering of terms, two of the At Large positions shall have two year terms and two At Large positions shall have three year terms. All subsequent terms will be for two-years as stated above.

Council members should not serve more than two consecutive terms. After two consecutive terms have been served, the Council members should not serve on the Council for at least one year before seeking to serve again.

Nominations and Appointments

The Executive Director will designate WSBA staff liaison(s). Council members will be appointed in accordance with WSBA Bylaws Art. IX(C)(1-6) as follows:

- The WSBA President will nominate the Co-Chairs, one from the west side of the state and the other from the east side and the Governors or Officers of the Board of Governors, subject to approval by the Board of Governors.
- Nominations for WSBA Members At Large will be determined by a Nomination Team comprised of the Council Co-Chairs and the designated staff liaison.
- WSBA Members At Large will be appointed by the Board of Governors.

Voting Procedures

All Council members are eligible to vote.

Attendance Requirements

Council members who have three consecutive unexcused absences in any 12 month period will be considered to have resigned from the Council. The Council may seek a replacement member through the regular WSBA volunteer process, unless the absent member was nominated by the WSBA President. In that case the WSBA President will be asked to appoint a replacement. Council members may be excused for good cause by the Chair. Such an excuse should be sought prior to the meeting.