

# WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

## Office of the President

**TO:** WSBA Membership, Washington Supreme Court, General Release  
**FROM:** President Rajeev D. Majumdar  
**DATE:** June 28, 2020  
**RE:** Resolution of the WSBA in Affirming the Rule 6's Program Value and Role in Providing an Additional Path to Justice for Underrepresented Communities, and Support for Rule 6 Diploma Privilege

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*On June 26, 2020, the Washington State Bar Association adopted the following resolution:*

WHEREAS, the Washington Supreme Court's Admission and Practice Rule (APR), 6 commonly known as the "Law Clerk" Program ("Program"), is an alternative to traditional law school education that might otherwise be unattainable due to economic and institutional barriers, and,

WHEREAS, the Program is a four-year course of study designed to provide educational and practical experience through a combination of work and study with an experienced lawyer or judge with at least ten (10) years of experience and in good standing with the Washington State Bar Association ("WSBA") during their Tutoring, and

WHEREAS, the Program is operated under court supervision by the Law Clerk Board which is comprised of volunteer WSBA members, and is comprised of WSBA volunteer Law Clerk Tutors who volunteer their time teaching the law to APR Rule 6 students for no financial compensation, and

WHEREAS, the Program offers an increased opportunity for non-traditional law school students, working parents, and other members of the public that are interested in becoming an attorney to serve the public, and

WHEREAS, without the Program, the WSBA and the members of the public would be deprived of many talented, hardworking attorneys that have provided valuable legal services to clients, and

WHEREAS, the Program has consistently provided a steady stream of competent, skilled, and proficient lawyers that have practical experience from having worked directly with a licensed attorney when they pass the Washington State Bar Exam, and,

WHEREAS, given the ever-increasing costs of traditional law school debt that face the overwhelming majority of most traditional law school graduates, the Program's graduates are frequently in an advantageous position to offer pro bono and/or moderate means legal services to their clients, and

WHEREAS, the Program offers increased access to justice, increasing the public good and benefiting the citizens of the State of Washington; Now therefore,

**Be it resolved** by the Board of Governors of the WSBA that we memorialize our full and continued support for the court approved and supervised Program and urge every qualified Member of the WSBA to consider serving as a Tutor for a prospective Law Clerk student.

**Be it further resolved** that the Board of Governors respectfully encourages the Washington Supreme Court to amend the Order Granting Diploma Privilege and Temporarily Modifying Admission & Practice Rules dated June 12, 2020 to include qualified graduates of the Program.

**Be it further resolved** that the Board of Governors hereby thanks all of the volunteers of the APR Rule 6 Law Clerk Board, and all of the APR Rule 6 Law Clerk Tutors who have spent countless hours to make this Program an ongoing success for the benefit of the citizens of the State of Washington.

Approved by the WSBA Board of Governors on June 26, 2020.



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Rajeev D. Majumdar  
WSBA President, 2019-2020