

Volunteer Opportunity: Pro Bono and Public Service Committee

Entity Type:

- Board
 Committee
 Council
 Other Bar Entity

Created By:

- WSBA
 Supreme Court
 Court Rule

Term:

- One Year
 Two Years
 Three Years
 Four Years

Meetings:

- In-Person Only
 Virtual Only
 Hybrid

Eligibility:

License Type:

- Lawyer
 LLLT
 LPO

License Status:

- Active
 Inactive
 Judicial
 Honorary
 Pro Bono

Public Members:

- Yes
 No

The Pro Bono and Public Service Committee serves WSBA members by communicating opportunities and eliminating barriers to providing pro bono services to communities that experience poverty and injustice. Each year, Committee members author Bar News articles to promote pro bono, plan a Legal LunchBox CLE centered on pro bono, plan an annual Pro Bono CLE event, and review or draft new rules and policies to better promote a culture of service among WSBA members. In recent years, the Committee has developed model pro bono policies for law firms, government entities, and in-house counsel; redesigned and relaunched the ProBonoWA portal to help WSBA members find volunteer opportunities; and updated rules around Pro Bono Status for WSBA members who no longer practice law but wish to continue volunteering. The Committee developed a novel Pro Bono CLE & Networking event aimed at educating WSBA members and matching them to volunteer opportunities.

Appointment is for a two-year term with eligibility to be reappointed for a second two-year term. Members are expected to participate in monthly full Committee meetings. Committee members are also expected to join at least one subcommittee: Rules & Policy, CLE, and Communications. All full Committee and subcommittee meetings are held virtually, with at least one in-person gathering per year (with hybrid capability).

Benefits:

- Develop a deeper understanding of statewide pro bono and legal aid needs and services delivery
- Create connections, build relationships, and network with the pro bono and legal aid community
- Enhance leadership development through project management and committee work
- Earn *pro bono publico* hours (as defined by RPC 61).

Time commitment: Monthly Committee meetings are 1-2 hours via Zoom. Subcommittees meet for 1 hour monthly via Zoom. Twice a year the Committee will hold two longer strategic planning meetings – one at the start of the fiscal year and one mid-year. Subcommittee-related projects may require time outside of meetings, approximately 2-3 hours a month.

Requirements:

- Active WSBA members are eligible to apply.
- Members must be able to access and review meeting materials electronically.

Preferred Qualifications and Skills: Applicants must be active WSBA members in good standing. One Pro Bono Status position is available. There is no requirement for years of practice or practice area. Applicants should be committed to advancing WSBA's mission to serve the public and champion justice through pro bono and public service opportunities, participate in monthly Committee and subcommittee meetings, and have some interest or experience with pro bono and public service work.

Strongly preferred qualifications: understanding of how pro bono and public service connects to Access to Justice and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion issues; experience or interest in applying an equity lens to pro bono and public service programs.

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[**Apply**](#)
[**Questions?**](#)

Reimbursement policy: This is an unpaid volunteer position. Reasonable travel expenses may be reimbursed per the WSBA Expense Reimbursement Policy.

Selection and appointment process: Candidates are reviewed by a Nomination Team including the committee co-chairs, staff liaison and BOG liaison. Recommendations are made to the Board of Governor's Nominations Committee, which makes the appointments.

For further information: See <https://www.wsba.org/Legal-Community/Committees-Boards-and-Other-Groups/Pro-Bono-and-Public-Service-Committee>

How to apply: See instructions at www.wsba.org/joincommittee. Questions about the application? Email barleaders@wsba.org.

We are committed to promoting diversity, equity and inclusion on the Board and strongly encourage folks from a diverse array of backgrounds to apply. We define diversity broadly to include age, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, geographical location, indigenous background, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, social class, and veteran status.