

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:	Business Law Section
Chair or Co-Chairs:	Kelly Lawton-Abbott
Staff Liaison: <i>(include name, job title, and department if known)</i>	Carolyn MacGregor, Sections Program Specialist, Advancement Department
Board of Governors Liaison:	Kevin Fay
Purpose: <i>May be stated in Bylaws, Charter, Court Rule, etc.</i>	
<p>The purpose of the Section shall be to benefit the members of the Section and their clients: (a) By encouraging research and study, and the development of best practices, in the area of business law in the State of Washington, and sharing these efforts through continuing legal education where possible and appropriate; (b) By participating in the development of state legislation and regulations in order to improve and facilitate the administration of justice in the area of business law; and (c) By undertaking such other services relating to the area of business law as maybe of benefit to members of the Section, members of the Bar and the greater public.</p>	
Strategy to Fulfill Purpose:	

CLE's organized by Committee Sections to provide member relevant education opportunities through both virtual and in-person events.	
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 Section seeks to promote professionalism among our members by helping to build and foster personal relationships among business attorneys across the state and by providing a forum for the discussion and exchange of ideas leading to the improvement of the laws relating to these areas of law.	
Top 2023 -2024 Section Accomplishments:	
Organized Annual CLE: 2024 Business Law Update: What Every Business Lawyer Needs to Know Now	
Organized 44th Annual Northwest Securities Institute	
The Corporate Act Revision Committee proposed amendments to the Washington Business Corporation Act (RCW 23B).	
Contributed \$5,000 to Communities Rise	
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	We are currently working on the 2024-2025 goals and priorities during our strategic planning retreat on November 18th.
2	
3	
Looking Ahead: <i>Please share any long-term goals and/or priorities that your entity aims to address.</i>	
1	Increase engagement within the Business Law community.
2	Provide meaningful CLEs and networking opportunities for our members
3	Continue the Section's strong tradition of legislative participation.
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>The Section has tried to promote a culture of diversity, equity, and inclusion, particularly with respect to the constitution of our executive committee. Women and racial and ethnic minorities currently represent almost 100% of our executive committee.</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 believe the Section's relationship with the WSBA staff and governors has been fruitful. The WSBA staff has always been willing to help. We appreciate the lengths to which the WSBA staff always goes to acknowledge the contributions of the section leaders.</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> 		
3	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.	
	Receptions/forums hosted or co-hosted	
\$5,000	\$ amount given through donations/scholarships/grants.	
	Newsletters/publications produced	
3	Mini-CLEs produced	
	New Lawyer Outreach events/benefits	
	Recognitions/Awards given	
1 Legislative proposal	Other (please describe):	
<p style="text-align: center;">SECTION DATA <i>To Be Completed by WSBA Sections Team</i></p>		
Section Membership Information:	1185	Membership Size: (As of September 30, 2024)
	\$19,409	FY24 Revenue (\$): For Sections Only: As of September 30, 2024

Sections

	\$25, 683	\$5,812	Budgeted and Direct Expenses: <i>Does not include the Per-Member-Charge. For Direct Expenses, draft estimate as of December 3, 2024.</i>
Section Executive Committee Information:	22		Size of Executive Committee: <i>(include and specify voting and non-voting positions)</i>
	20		Number of Vacancies for FY25: <i>The number of positions with terms beginning October 1, 2024 (FY25).</i>
	16		Number of Applicants for FY25: <i>Applications submitted in the Spring-Summer of 2024 for terms beginning October 1, 2024 (FY25)</i>

¹ 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.