

# WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

## WSBA ENTITY ANNUAL REPORT FORM

FY 2023: October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023

*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<sup>1</sup>), 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 FY2023 (October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023). 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 the staff liaison.

**Submission Deadline is Friday, October 13:** please submit by emailing [barleaders@wsba.org](mailto:barleaders@wsba.org) or requesting that your staff liaison submit the report internally.

<b>Name of Entity:</b>	Creditor Debtor Section
<b>Entity Size:</b> <i>Total Number of Entity/Section Executive Committee Positions</i>	13 incl. YL Liaisons
<b>Chair or Co-Chairs:</b>	Bruce Medeiros
<b>Staff Liaison:</b> <i>Include name, job title, and department if known</i>	Carolyn MacGregor
<b>Board of Governors Liaison(s):</b>	Matthew Dresden
<b>Purpose of Entity:</b> <i>May be stated in Bylaws, Charter, Court Rule, etc.</i>	
Provide continuing legal education programs on topics of interest to the section membership with the purpose of devoting revenue generated from said programs to debt related legal clinics or debt related education organizations; Provide communication amongst members of the section; Review and comment on proposed creditor-debtor legislation.	
<b>Strategy to Fulfill Purpose:</b>	

The Section sponsors continuing legal education programs that generate revenues which are then distributed, in the form of grants, to statewide legal programs or debt related education organizations. The Section also publishes a newsletter for section members. The Section listserv also serves as an important communications hub for practitioners across the state seeking assistance and information on issues of importance to practice.

**How does the entity’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”?**

See above.

**2022-2023 Entity Accomplishments:**

1) Provide grant funding of \$5,000.00 split between two legal clinics in Washington communities where few bankruptcy/debtor counseling services are located; 2) Provide quality CLE programs, including co-sponsorship of the annual Northwest Bankruptcy Institute (NWBI); 3) Review and comment on proposed creditor-debtor related legislation referred to section executive committee by the WSBA lobbyist; 4) Publication of the section’s semi-annual newsletter; and 5) Maintain active discussions amongst section members via the section’s listserv.

**Looking Ahead: 2023-2024 Top Goals & Priorities:**

<b>1</b>	Increase Membership and CLE Revenue to fund larger grants.
<b>2</b>	Review ways to increase diversity, equity and inclusion within section membership.
<b>3</b>	Continue high quality legal education presentations, including looking at cross-selling CLE programs with other sections.
<b>4</b>	Review and comment, when appropriate, on proposed creditor-debtor related legislation.
<b>5</b>	Publication of section newsletter.

**Please describe how this entity is addressing diversity, equity, and inclusion:**

*How have you elicited input from a variety of perspectives in your 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 the profession? Other?*

The Creditor Debtor Section’s Executive Committee is aware of the need to be inclusive in all our activities. We are inherently diverse in that some of us represent creditors, some of us represent debtors, and other represent both. The Executive Committee strives to recruit candidates that represent members from historically underrepresented backgrounds. WE strive to take positive steps to deal with those issues and the Section welcomes any member of the Bar that is interested in substantive area of practice that we are involved with. We also strive to embrace the cultural differences that make interaction amongst us more interesting. The Sections has not utilized the services of the WSBA Diversity Specialist and have not had any contact with or from that person. The Executive Committee continues to

keep its focus on the issues of diversity and inclusion, together with the issue of avoiding discrimination in our activities.

**Please share feedback regarding the support and engagement provided by WSBA.**

*For example:*

- *Quality of WSBA staff support/services, including technology solutions*
- *Involvement with Board of Governors, including assigned BOG liaison(s)*
- *Ideas you have for ways WSBA can continue to strengthen/support your entity.*

**Carolyn MacGregor has been invaluable in assisting our section.**

**SECTIONS ONLY: Please quantify your section's 2022-2023 member benefits:**

*For example:*

- *\$3000 Scholarships, donations, grants awarded;*
- *4 mini-CLEs produced*

1	Newsletters/publications produced
0	Mini-CLEs produced
1	Co-sponsored half-day, full-day and/or multi-day CLE seminars with WSBA
1	Co-sponsored half-day, full-day and/or multi-day CLE seminars with <i>non-WSBA</i> entity
0	Receptions/forums hosted or co-hosted
2	Scholarships, Donations, & Grants
0	New Lawyer Outreach events/benefits
0	Other (please describe): Click or tap here to enter text.

**SECTIONS ONLY: Please quantify your section's 2022-2023 legislative activity.**

1	Bills Reviewed
1	Bills tracked
1	Comments proposed
0	Bills proposed/drafted

**Entity Detail Report:  
To Be Completed by WSBA Staff**

**Number of Entity Members/Section Executive Committee Members:** 17

<b>Number of Section Members:</b> <i>As of September 1, 2023. Note: The Section Membership year runs on the calendar year.</i>	459
<b>Number of Applicants for FY24 Positions:</b> <i>October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024</i>	5
<b>Do you have vacant positions for the coming year, FY24?</b>	No
<b>FY23 Budgeted Direct Expenses:</b> <i>As of September 30, 2023.  For Sections, this does not include the Per-Member-Charge.</i>	\$14,103
<b>FY23 Total Direct Expenses:</b> <i>Draft estimate as of Dec. 1, 2023  For Sections, this does not include the Per-Member-Charge.</i>	\$12,982

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<sup>i</sup> 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.