

# WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

## WSBA ENTITY ANNUAL REPORT

FY 2021: October 1, 2020 – September 30, 2021

*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 October 1, 2020 – September 30, 2021. 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, December 3:** please submit by emailing to Sections Program Specialist Carolyn MacGregor [carolynm@wsba.org](mailto:carolynm@wsba.org).

<b>Name of Entity:</b>	Criminal Law Section
<b>Chair or Co-Chairs:</b>	C. Dale Slack
<b>Staff Liaison:</b> <i>(include name, job title, and department if known)</i>	Click or tap here to enter text.
<b>Board of Governors Liaison:</b>	Alec Stephens
<b>Purpose of Entity:</b> <i>May be stated in Bylaws, Charter, Court Rule, etc.</i>	
The purpose of the Section shall be to seek the participation of interested members of the Bar including prosecutors, defense counsel, law professors, and law enforcement professionals in order to benefit such members, their clients and the general public: a. By providing the opportunity and forum for the interchange of ideas in the areas of criminal law and procedure, including corrections, penology, juvenile offenses, and the criminal justice system generally. b. By initiating and implementing common projects. c. By review of pending legislation and development of proposed statutory enactments to improve and to facilitate the administration of justice within the Section's area of interest. d. By undertaking such other service as may be of benefit to the members, the legal profession and the public. In order to facilitate the purpose of this Section, participation in the Section by members of the Bar who are engaged in prosecution and defense shall be encouraged.	
<b>Strategy to Fulfill Purpose:</b>	

The Criminal Law Section seeks to engage members in twice-yearly CLE events (one mini-CLE and the Criminal Justice Institute, a two-day event) designed to foster participation by both defense and prosecution. Members of the Criminal Law Section also organize outreach events to law schools to encourage those serious about dedicating themselves to the profession to work in an ethical, professional, and cordial manner. The section distributes an annual caselaw update curated by a senior, distinguished member of the judiciary to ensure that members have the resources to stay up-to-date on changes in the law.

**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”?**

The Criminal Law Section seeks to create collaborative and cordial relationships between defense attorneys and prosecutors through events and message boards, and encourage cooperation between all criminal practitioners to strive for a criminal justice system that accomplishes Justice for All. The executive committee frequently provides input on proposed criminal law legislation in a “bipartisan” manner, with an eye to bettering the system for all stakeholders.

**2020-2021 Entity Accomplishments:**

Criminal Justice Institute, caselaw updates to members

**Looking Ahead: 2021-2022 Top Goals & Priorities:**

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| <b>1</b> | <b>Organize mini-CLE and CJI</b>   |
| <b>2</b> | <b>Find creative ways to host social professional events for networking and fellowship</b>   |
| <b>3</b> | <b>Expand member communication and engagement through social media</b>   |
| <b>4</b> | <b>Discuss expansion of CLE offerings and publications</b>   |
| <b>5</b> | <b>Encourage greater participation by members through encouraging input and opening channels to communication with the Executive Committee</b> |

**Please report 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?*

**We maintain liaison with minority sections and groups within the WSBA and our membership is open to all practitioners interested in criminal law. In the coming year, as hopefully we can increase in-person events, we hope to work with other sections focused on under-represented groups of attorneys to ensure that our collaborative and cordial spirit can be enhanced by the addition of traditionally under-represented attorneys.**

**Please describe the relationship with WSBA staff and the Board of Governors.**

*For example:*

- *Quality of WSBA staff support/services*
- *Involvement with Board of Governors, including assigned BOG liaison*

- *Ideas you have on ways WSBA can continue to strengthen/support your entity.*

**Our section has been very lucky to have a history of excellent, invested, and helpful liaisons from the Bar. Even when disagreements occur, we have always found that we can discuss those disagreements and receive help from the Bar. Unresolved issues have generally been related to CLE costs, and not any policy or political issues.**

**SECTIONS ONLY: Please quantify your section's 2020-2021 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
0	Co-sponsored half-day, full-day and/or multi-day CLE seminars with <i>non</i> -WSBA entity
0	Receptions/forums hosted or co-hosted
0	Recognitions/Awards given
0	New Lawyer Outreach events/benefits
Click or tap here to enter text.	Other (please describe): Scholarships to CJI

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

<b>Size of Entity:</b>	13
<b>Membership Size: (for Sections Only)</b> <i>(As of September 30, 2021)</i>	385
<b>Number of Applicants for FY22 Positions</b> <i>(October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022)</i>	6
<b>How many current volunteer position vacancies for this entity?</b>	1 (Young Lawyer Liaison position)
<b>FY21 Revenue (\$): For Sections Only:</b> <i>As of September 30, 2021</i>	\$11,053

<b>Direct Expenses:</b> <i>As of September 30, 2021. For Sections, this does not include the Per-Member-Charge.</i>	\$0
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<sup>i</sup> The Access to Justice Board (not regulatory, but applicable to the distinction herein) and Regulatory Boards (Disciplinary Board, LLLT Board, Limited Practice Board, MCLE Board and Practice of Law Board) are not required by Bylaws or Court Rule submit an annual report to WSBA. However, as part of the administration of monitoring of Regulatory Boards, the Boards listed herein typically provide an annual report to the Court and WSBA should be provided this same report an annual basis.