

## Civil Rights Law Section

WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

### Executive Committee Meeting Agenda

#### MEETING MINUTES

WSBA – Civil Rights Law Section

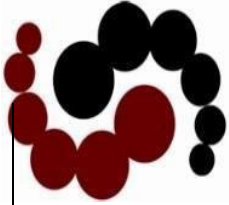
June 7, 2022

(DRAFT)

PRESENT: Sarah Derry, Laura Sierra, Cameron Sheldon, Alec Stephens, Tobin Klusty, Tim Brooks, Christine Ybarra, Carolyn MacGregor

1. **Motions to adopt/amend prior minutes**
  - a. March Minutes adopted.
  - b. May Minutes amended and then adopted.
2. **Annual Working Session – Reminder**
  - a. June 26, 2022/ 5:00 – 7:00 pm
  - b. Agenda Items Discussion
    - i. Values/Mission Re-Affirmation
    - ii. Goal Setting
    - iii. Bylaws Revisit
    - iv. Budget & Allocation Discussion
3. **Upcoming Elections - June 6, 2022**
  - a. Interim Position Voting
    - i. Discussion of current bylaws Section 7.15, which states that “a member [who] is appointed to fill a vacancy in an unexpired term ... will do so until the next annual election when an individual will be elected to serve the remainder of the vacated term.”
    - ii. Discussion of the general process of amending bylaws if Section wishes to do so.
  - b. Open Positions for Appointment
    - i. Secretary
    - ii. Treasurer
4. **Continued Legal Education**
  - a. Next CLE Updates - Update on communications with prior recipients of Civies and proposed CLE panels
    - i. Alejandra Gonza – discussed date/format/structure
      1. In person at WSBA and Hybrid are possibilities
      2. Presenter would prefer an in-person CLE
    - ii. Junga Cha
      1. Presenter prefers Virtual CLE

- 2. Topics are being actively discussed
- b. Next Steps?
  - i. Volunteers secured to support CLE effort
- 5. **Budget Approvals**
  - a. Civies 2021
    - i. Approved \$281.27 for two additional awards
  - b. Annual Retreat
    - i. Approved \$175
  - c. Working Session
    - i. Approved \$75
  - d. Treasurer to provide WSBA with required updates
    - i. Discussion of remaining funds
- 6. **Equity & Disparity Work Group Update**
- 7. **Upcoming Events/Opportunities**
  - a. FY23 Budget Planning - Drop-in session: June 22, Noon to 1 pm - [Zoom meeting link](#)
  - b. Bar Structure Study (ETHOS)
    - i. June 18, 2022 in Seattle and via Zoom
    - ii. July 23, 2022 in Seattle and via Zoom
  - c. General Meeting July 21-22, 2022: Tacoma Convention Center
- 8. **Open Table: Outstanding Topics or Update(s)**
  - a. ListServ Clean Up - [sections@wsba.org](mailto:sections@wsba.org)
    - i. Several members reported loss of access
    - ii. Exec Board to connect with WSBA to ensure access is maintained



# Civil Rights Law Section

WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

## Executive Committee 2022-23 Value Statement

**Our mission** is to educate and advocate for civil liberties and equal rights in the context of civil rights law and the legal issues of Washington State residents, with particular focus on those who have traditionally been denied such rights and equal treatment under the law including, but not limited to, racial, gender, ethnic, or religious minorities; elderly; gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered; immigrants; mentally or physically disabled; impoverished; and homeless.

**We believe** that anti-racism, racial equity, fundamental rights-based and community-centered lawyering are central to the fair administration of justice and to advancing and protecting the civil rights of all people. Carrying the legacy of and standing on the shoulders of those who have fought for equity and civil rights, we must continue our obligation as lawyers to repair the harm done to marginalized communities (whether based on race, gender, or other protected status) of color caused by the legal system. As lawyers, we don't have all the answers but the process of working collaboratively with and learning from impacted communities is in and of itself a valuable place to start.

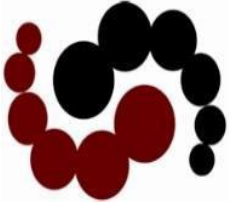
**We commit** to the following actions as we pursue our Section's mission during the 2022 and 2023 sessions:

- To protect the fundamental rights of Washington State residents, including the fundamental right to privacy;
- To vigorously call out [oppose] efforts to diminish fundamental rights, including reproductive rights;
- To actively challenge and confront our open and implicit biases and. ~~• To actively challenge~~ others' open and implicit biases.
- To amplify the voices of those challenging open and implicit biases.
- To reach out to and build sustainable relationships with marginalized communities.
- To continue our support and partnership with Minority Bar Associations.
- To seek opportunities to educate the BOG on the issues of anti-racism and fundamental rights.
- To bring representation into our Section and the BOG from historically marginalized communities.
- To promote ethical accountability by equipping the profession to identify and appropriately report biased, discriminatory, and prejudicial conduct in violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct and the Code of Judicial Conduct.
- To hold CLEs that support the Section's mission, including, but not limited to ~~on~~ racial equity and justice, preservation of fundamental rights.

- To advocate for legislatively preserving and expanding civil liberties by educating and lobbying our legislators.
- To actively divest from white supremacist culture through our own individual and collective actions. White supremacy includes, but is not limited to, the following characteristics: perfectionism, individualism, sense of urgency, defensiveness, worship of the written word, power hoarding, either/or thinking, paternalism, and fear of open conflict.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See “The Characteristics of White Supremacy Culture” found at <https://www.showingupforracialjustice.org/whitesupremacy-culture-characteristics.html>.



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**Proposed Bylaw Amendment**  
**CRLS Bylaw 7.15**

**Current Language**

- 7.15 When a member is appointed to fill a vacancy in an unexpired term, the member will do so until the next annual election when an individual will be elected to serve the remainder of the vacated term. Such appointed members are eligible at the next annual election for election for a full term, unless the member's election to the new term will result in a violation of Sections 7.1, 7.2 and/or 7.3 of this Article.

**Proposed Language**

- 7.15 When a member is appointed to fill a vacancy in an unexpired term, the appointment will last for the full term of the appointment ~~member will do so until the next annual election when an individual will be elected to serve the remainder of the vacated term.~~ Such appointed members are eligible at the next annual election for election for a full term, unless the member's election to the new term will result in a violation of Sections 7.1, 7.2 and/or 7.3 of this Article.