

Civil Rights Law Section

WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

March Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 3/8/2021

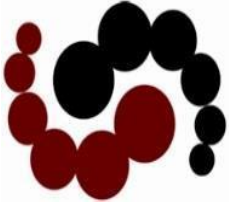
Time: 12:00 p.m.

Location: [Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 826 6658 1532

Passcode: 777703

1. **Present:** Tobin, Mickey, Laura, Molly, Chalia, Jaime, Bridget, Stephan.
2. **February Minutes Adopted.**
3. **Legislative Research Committee Update**
 - a. Discussed legislative tracking process with WSBA.
 - i. Tobin will reach to Alec for update.
 - b. Reviewed bills must be passed out of House of Origin by March 9, 2021.
 - i. HB 1090 – passed House. Discuss GR 12 statement & letter of support.
 - ii. HB 1078 – passed House. Discuss GR 12 statement & letter of support.
 - iii. HB 1202 – awaiting vote on House floor. Discuss GR 12 statement & letter of support. In a 6-1 vote, the BOG Legislative Committee authorized our section to support HB 1202.
 - iv. SB 5263 – Adopted by Senate. Discuss potential GR 12 statement & letter of support to be sent to House.
 - v. HB 1499 – died in Appropriations Committee.
 - c. Voting Rights hearing at 8am on Wednesday – Jaime and Molly to email listserve.
 - d. Discussed Juneteenth Holliday – section will track
4. **CRLS 2021 Value Statement - Update**
 - a. Tobin to continue working with WSBA staff to publish value statement on Website.
5. **Community Connections Committee – Outreach Efforts**
 - a. Next VHH organized by CCC with AIDNW. – Laura will help organize w/ community organizations.
 - b. Member contact information provided by WSBA and corresponding outreach efforts. – Chalia and Tobin to draft email and send to members.
 - c. Open newsletter editorial position – community member – will send out outreach letter to community organizations. Tobin will draft email.
6. **CRLS Elections**
 - a. Briefly discussed CRLS election process.



Civil Rights Law Section

WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

Executive Committee 2021 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, 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, 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 communities 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 2021 session:

- To actively challenge and confront our open and implicit biases.
- 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.
- 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 on racial equity and justice.
- To advocate for legislatively 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.¹

¹ See "The Characteristics of White Supremacy Culture" found at <https://www.showingupforracialjustice.org/white-supremacy-culture-characteristics.html>.

The War on Drugs: A Domestic and International Driving Force of Mass Incarceration
Washington State Bar Association
Webcast only
Tuesday, May 18, 2021
21805WEB

This seminar has been approved for 3.5 CLE credits, including X Law and Legal Procedure, X Ethics and X Other

The War on Drugs is a global system of laws and policies implemented with the stated purpose of significantly reducing the use, production, and distribution of narcotics. But rather than fulfilling this purpose, the War on Drugs increased the incarceration of Black and Brown people on a massive scale. The War on Drugs is now recognized as one of the largest driving forces of mass incarceration, both domestically and across the globe.

The Washington State Bar Association's Civil Rights Law Section and World Peace Through Law Section offer this CLE to provide attendees with a brief history of the War on Drugs and its contribution to mass incarceration. Attendees will also hear the steps we can take to develop a system that rehabilitates rather than punitively punishes those suffering from addiction.

Section Partner: Civil Rights Law and World Peace Through Law

Co-Chairs:

Anne Watanabe – Attorney, Seattle, WA

Tobin Klusty – Mazzone Law Firm, PLLC, Everett, WA

12:30 p.m. Registration Opens

12:45 p.m. Webcast Lobby Opens

12:55 p.m. Welcome and Introductions by Program Co-Chairs

Anne Watanabe – Attorney, Seattle, WA

Tobin Klusty – Mazzone Law Firm, PLLC, Everett, WA

1:00 p.m.

Drug Use

30 minutes, .5 credit Other

Medical and psychological summary of the reasons why individuals consume narcotics

-Dr. Charissa Fotinos – Washington Health Care Authority, Seattle, WA

1:30 p.m.

History of the War on Drugs

60 minutes 1.0 credit L&LP

Summary of the development of the War on Drugs, including its roots in United States' politics and how domestic policies led to the expansion of the War on Drugs across the globe.

-Dr. Katherine Beckett – University of Washington, Seattle, WA

2:30 p.m. BREAK

2:45 p.m.

The War on Drugs' Effect on Mass Incarceration

60 minutes, 1.0 credit L&LP

Explanation of how the War on Drugs has led to mass incarceration in the United States and across the globe with a disproportionate impact on minorities

-Dr. Katherine Beckett – University of Washington, Seattle, WA

-Adria Cots Fernández – International Drug Policy Consortium, London

3:45 p.m.

What We Can/Should Do

60 minutes, 1.0 credit L&LP

Provide attendees with proposals to counteract the War on Drugs

-Salvador Mungia – Gordon Thomas Honeywell, Tacoma, WA

4:45 p.m.

Complete online evaluations • Adjourn

Please Join Us for Our Annual

LAW SCHOOL NETWORKING EVENT

w/ an Environmental Justice Focus

April 22, 2021 at 5:30pm (via Zoom)

Not your typical networking event!

- Raffles (w/prizes)
- Break out sessions
- Presentations on the intersection of lawyering and environmental justice work

Details & Registration (Zoom link):

<https://forms.gle/LrJwXRDvPjLw9ATz8>

By email: gabrielle.gurian@atg.wa.gov

Hosted by:



**Civil Rights
Law Section**

