

## WSBA LGBT SECTION

Proposed Social Media Policies From the Social Committee  
September 29, 2021

### Policies

Direction from the Board, establishes goals and parameters for the policies

**Goals:** Awareness of the LGBT Law Section; Engage with new and existing section members; Facilitate and encourage social connections between section members; Recruit new members with engaging activities; generate goodwill and credibility for the law section

**Membership:** Limit membership to attorneys; Active members of the Executive Committee must not be banned from the groups/pages; Designated, known representatives of the WSBA must not be banned from the groups/pages

**Content Review/Approval:** All content posted by non-administrators must be approved prior to posting. When there is doubt about whether or not a post complies with the guidelines or the social networks' terms of use, administrators may request that the third-party amend or revise the post to comply with the guidelines. Otherwise, administrators are instructed to err on the side of caution, and reject the post.

**Content:**

**Credit sources:** Sharing direct links is the best way to ensure that credit is properly given, and keep us clear of copyright and fair use issues. Administrators should request that informative posts, informational posts about changes in the law or developing situations, or general news updates, have a source. Admin will have reasonable discretion to decide what specific kinds of posts may be published without sources, and which sources are acceptable.

**Politics:** Politics is unavoidable for our law section, to a degree. Discussing actions taken by public officials, governmental action, or community efforts is relevant. However, the law section should avoid the appearance of taking positions on un-related political issues, any candidates for public office, or elections in accordance with the WSBA guidelines. Endorsements, advocacy, or event organization for political activities cannot be permitted on our social media pages or groups

**Accuracy:** Administrators should screen posts by third-parties to the best of their abilities for accuracy. Administrators should not accept liability for the accuracy of others, especially content that is posted without being approved by administrators (such as in the comments section). When a mistake is made, and recognized, administrators should admit it, provide the correct information, and as appropriate, modify the earlier post with the edit rather than just removing it.

**Relevant/Informative:** Information shared should add value to the members. As a law section, we have a clear focus. Administrators should try to ensure that content

posted contributes to the community's knowledge, skills, improves the legal system, or builds a sense of community for the members.

**Comply with the rules governing lawyer conduct:** When in doubt, administrators are encouraged to consult with the designated WSBA representatives.

**Avoid stepping into antitrust issues:** Avoid discussing or allowing discussion regarding prices, discounts, terms or conditions of sales, salaries, profits, profit margins, etc.

**Civility/Respect:** Administrators are given discretion to remove comments and posts, and ban members who engage in abusive, threatening, offensive, obscene, explicit, racist, or otherwise inappropriate conduct or language. Administrators are encouraged to take opportunities to educate individuals when it is appropriate, but will be given latitude to remove members, comments, and posts without prior warnings in accordance with the guidelines.

**Prohibited Content:** Doxing, outing, screenshots of administrator-removed comments or posts, or other content that invades a person's privacy should be immediately removed, and the individual who posted the prohibited content should be warned, banned, and/or reported as appropriate.

**Advertising:** Encourage members to discuss resources, organizations (such as non-profits who are providing assistance to members of the LGBTQ+ community), and individuals who are involved with relevant issues and practices of law. Discourage direct advertisements for law firms or organizations which are not relevant to the law section work.