

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 Boards¹), 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.

Name of Entity:	Litigation Section
Chair or Co-Chairs:	Susan C. Nelson
Staff Liaison: <i>(include name, job title, and department if known)</i>	Click or tap here to enter text.
Board of Governors Liaison:	Jordan Couch
Purpose of Entity: <i>May be stated in Bylaws, Charter, Court Rule, etc.</i>	
The Litigation Section strives to be the voice of civil litigators practicing in Washington State. The Section is involved in a wide range of activities that interest those who handle civil matters in superior or federal courts. Activities include review and formal input concerning legislation and rule making, annual midyear trial skills seminar and support for litigation skills training.	
Strategy to Fulfill Purpose:	
Continue with current programs focused on litigation skills, professionalism, diversity and mentorship.	

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”?

By focusing on core fundamentals of professionalism and diversity while pursuing justice for our clients.

2020-2021 Entity Accomplishments:

Support of WSBA’s Trial Advocacy Program. Review and comment on legislative bills relevant to the section and its membership. Scholarship and/or grant programs at all three WA Law Schools, including becoming the title sponsor of SU Law’s inaugural Motions Competition and hosting a litigator’s panel for UW Law’s students in conjunction with Litigation Section’s scholarship/grant program. Continuation of mentorship program, including recruitment and pairing of experienced litigators as mentors and law students/young attorneys as mentees.

Looking Ahead: 2021-2022 Top Goals & Priorities:

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|----------|--|
| 1 | Support of WSBA’s Trial Advocacy Program |
| 2 | Review and comment on legislative bills relevant to the section and its members |
| 3 | Scholarship and/or grant programs at all three WA Law Schools |
| 4 | Continuation of mentorship program, including recruitment and pairing of experienced litigators as mentors and law students/young attorneys as mentees. |
| 5 | Educational events – annual Trial Skill CLE seminar |

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 actively ensure that our CLE programs include diverse speakers/presenters. We try to ensure both practice, geographic, and ethnic diversity on our Executive Committee. We will continue to promote diversity within our section leadership and in the presenters and speakers at section programs and identify outreach opportunities to increase diversity in our membership and leadership

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.*

WSBA Staff has been wonderful to work with and responsive when we have questions. Staff has also been helpful in assisting our section in complying with WSBA requirements. In the past, BOG Liaison was engaged, participated and was most helpful in providing insight and outreach for the BOG to our section. This year Jordan Couch has been engaged and provided necessary information for our section to follow developments within the Bar Association as a whole.

SECTIONS ONLY: Please quantify your section's 2020-2021 member benefits:

For example:

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

0	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
\$6,000	Scholarships, donations, grants arranged for WA Law Schols
3	Law School outreach events/benefits coordinated
2	Other (please describe): Mentor Program; Listserve. Unable to host Annual Reception/Dinner for Supreme Court.

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

Size of Entity:	9 (including Young Lawyer Liaison)
Membership Size: (for Sections Only) <i>(As of September 30, 2021)</i>	1045
Number of Applicants for FY22 Positions <i>(October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022)</i>	2
How many current volunteer position vacancies for this entity?	1
FY21 Revenue (\$): For Sections Only: <i>As of September 30, 2021</i>	\$32,211
Direct Expenses: <i>As of September 30, 2021. For Sections, this does not include the Per-Member- Charge.</i>	\$2,111

ⁱ 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.