

**WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION**  
**LAW CLERK BOARD**

**MINUTES**  
**April 7, 2023**

**Law Clerk Board Members in Attendance**

- |                                                         |                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emily Mowrey, Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> Alexa Ritchie              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tracy Finnegan      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Christell Casey |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Michelle Myers                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paul Drutman    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Meyers         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Reinhart    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leone Reinbold      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gary Epperley   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Benjamin Phillabaum |                                                     |

**Staff and others in attendance for some or all the meeting**

Cathy Biestek, Managing Regulatory Counsel; Katherine Skinner, Law Clerk Program Lead

**Public Session**

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

The February 3, 2023, Law Clerk Board (Board) meeting minutes were approved.

**Jurisprudence Workgroup**

Christell provided an overview of the jurisprudence workgroup, why it was created and an explanation of the new guidelines. The workgroup was formed by the Board to create guidelines for the Board to use when they review requests from enrolled law clerks to add a book(s) to the jurisprudence reading list. The Board voted to approve the guidelines presented by the workgroup effective immediately.

**Alternatives to the Bar Exam**

The bar licensure task force would like the Board to review and provide comments on their recommendation on alternatives to the bar exam. Cathy asked for volunteers to meet to review and draft comments on the recommendation. Leone and Emily volunteered to assist in drafting comments.

**Board Meeting Calendar**

The Board approved the fiscal year 2024 board meeting calendar presented by Katherine.



### **Outreach and updates**

The Board asked Katherine to draft and submit a comment in support of the APR 11 suggested amendment.

Leone updated the Board that she is working with the STAR committee and is preparing a presentation for a future date.

### **Executive Session**

#### **Requests**

- The Board denied one fourth year proposal
- The Board approved one employment waiver
- The Board approved one leave of absence request
- The Board reviewed four jurisprudence book requests:
  - Five books approved
  - Three books denied

#### **Applications**

The Board approved two applications for enrollment in the Law Clerk Program beginning when the final confirmation letter is sent.

#### **Evaluations**

- The Board conducted three first-year evaluations and approved continuation in the program upon completion of all remaining first year coursework and book reports.
- The Board conducted two fourth-year evaluations and approved successful completion of the program upon submission of all remaining coursework and book reports.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katherine Skinner, Law Clerk Program Lead

