

Washington State Bar Association

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Cailen Wevodau Receives WSBA Local Hero Award

Government attorney recognized for work with domestic violence survivors

SEATTLE, WA [March 9, 2017] – The Washington State Bar Association (WSBA) has presented Olympia attorney Cailen Wevodau with its Local Hero Award, in recognition of her outstanding commitment to survivors of domestic violence in Thurston County. The Local Hero Award is given to those who have made noteworthy contributions to their communities. WSBA President Robin Haynes presented the award at a luncheon in Olympia on March 9, 2017. Wevodau was nominated by the Government Lawyers Bar Association of Washington.

As Deputy Prosecuting Attorney with the Thurston County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, Wevodau has worked with hundreds of survivors of domestic violence to ensure these individuals are treated compassionately in the criminal justice system. She also works with local law enforcement to make sure that every law enforcement officer in Thurston County has the most up-to-date information on the current laws surrounding domestic violence as well as knowledge about the local resources available to help survivors.

"Based on the nature of her work, Cailen frequently deals with people who are going through some of the worst times of their lives," says Brian Considine, managing attorney/ legislative liaison for the Washington State Gambling Commission. "Through all of this, she is always a consummate professional, making sure people are heard and understand what is going on, while ensuring information is gathered appropriately and presented to the court."

For the past two-and-a-half years, Wevodau has been the team leader of the Domestic Violence Team, which is co-located with the Family Justice Center in downtown Olympia and works to provide services to domestic violence victims. She has participated in the Citizen's Academy, teaching the local community how the criminal justice system works and how domestic violence is addressed in Thurston County, and has attended victim advocacy training at Safeplace to help ensure the county has an understanding of how to empathetically address citizens from all walks of life in its community.

Outside of her work in the Prosecuting Attorney's Office, Wevodau is a board member for Together!, a nonprofit dedicated to youth health and safety, and volunteers with the Yelm Community Services. "She is dedicated to making her community a better place," says Considine.

About the Washington State Bar Association

The WSBA is part of the judicial branch and is authorized by the Washington Supreme Court to license the state's 40,000 lawyers and other legal professionals. In furtherance of its obligation to protect and serve the public, the WSBA both regulates lawyers and other legal professionals under the authority of the Court and serves its members as a professional association — all without public funding. The WSBA's mission is to serve the public and the members of the Bar, to ensure the integrity of the legal profession, and to champion justice.

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