

WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

Washington Young Lawyers Committee

Washington Young Lawyers Committee Meeting | Virtual via Zoom

Monday, June 2, 2025, | 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

[Via Zoom](#) | Meeting ID: 899 4611 1517 | Passcode 608920 | Call In 888-788-0099

AGENDA:

- 1) **Welcome & Introductions; Approval of April Meeting Minutes** – Mason
- 2) **WSBA Updates** –Chelle, Jordan
 - a) BOG Meeting Updates
 - b) WSBA Updates
- 3) **Bylaw Amendment Update** – Mason
- 4) **PSLA Nomination Decisions** – Alex
- 5) **Team Updates and Regional Reports** – All
 - a) **Financial Focus CLE** – Chawisa
 - b) **Social Media** – Ariel
 - c) **Legal Lunchbox CLE** - Hanna
 - d) **Mentorship Project Team** – Janta
 - e) **Public Service Leadership Award** – Alex/Chelle
- 6) **New ideas for Next Meeting** – All
- 7) **Adjournment** – Mason

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Washington Young Lawyers Committee Meeting I Virtual via Zoom Monday, May 19, 2025, | 12:02 p.m. – 12:59 p.m. Meeting Minutes

WYLC Members Present In-Person or Phone: Mason Ji, Steven Brown, Mackenzie Lloyd, Hanna Harrison, Chawisa Laicharoenwat, Matthew Rommelmann, Stephan Yhann, Bethany Nolan, Alexander Reaganson, Ariel Cook, Janta Steele, Adin Johnson

WYLC Members Absent: Sydney Sherman (unexcused), Thomas Garvey (unexcused), Michelle Hesse (unexcused), Aaron Haynes (unexcused), Michelle Mendoza (unexcused), Makenzie Spinks (unexcused)

Board of Governors Liaison: Jordan Couch (not present)

WSBA Staff: Chelle Gegax – WSBA Member Services and Engagement Specialist, Julianne Unite – WSBA Member Services and Engagement Manager (departed 12:29 p.m.), Vanessa Sweeney – WSBA Member Services and Engagement Program Coordinator

Public Attendees: Bilal Adra

Welcome & Introductions; Approval of April Meeting Minutes – Mason

WYLC Chair, Mason Ji, opened the meeting at 12:02 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance. On motion by WYLC Member Alexander Reaganson, pending amendment of the inclusion of Ariel Cook's attendance at the April meeting, seconded by Mackenzie Lloyd, the WYLC unanimously approved the April WYLC Meeting minutes (12-0-0).

WSBA Updates – Chelle

WSBA Member Services and Engagement Specialist Chelle Gegax provided an update, and mentioned Board of Governors (BOG) Liaison Jordan Couch is unable to attend today's WYLC meeting due to the Budget and Audit meeting today but advised committee members to email Jordan with any questions. Chelle shared that WSBA volunteer applications are currently open, with an application deadline of May 30. The WYLC has not identified a Chair-Elect for next year and if anyone interested in applying should follow up with Chelle or apply online via myWSBA. WYLC Committee Member and Chair-Elect Alexander Reaganson offered to answer anyone's questions about the role. And Mason mentioned to reach out to if anyone has questions about the role of Chair.

Bylaws Amendment Update – Mason

Mason kicked off the bylaw amendment discussion by thanking the bylaw amendment project team for their work over the past month. A Washington Young Lawyer Definition survey was sent to all new lawyers and results are included in the current meeting materials. The final version of the bylaw amendment must be submitted to the BOG by June 12. The intent of surveying new members was to integrate results into the WYLC's proposal and cover letter to the BOG. Mason suggested the committee take five minutes to review the survey results. Mason noted the survey responses appear inconsistent and opened the floor for folks to offer some thought. WYLC Member Ariel Cook raised the issue of conflicting responses regarding the inclusion of LLLTs in the definition and asked whether the committee has clarity on whether they are, or should be, included in the definition. Mason responded, mentioning that the LLLT program is being sunsetted soon. WSBA Member Services and Engagement Manager Julianne Unite clarified that the LLLT program is not ending, but rather the program has and will not accept new applicants. LLLTs and LPOs are all considered members of the bar and are generally eligible for the same benefits and leadership opportunities as lawyer members, including congressional district and at-large diversity BOG seats and joining and serving on section executive committees. Julianne noted that the young lawyer definition as it stands, is unique as it's exclusive and narrow because it is limited to only lawyer members, which may explain the division reflected in the survey. Julianne added that the number of LLLTs will not increase; rather it would remain the same or even shrink, while LPOs remain an active licensure type that continues to accept new applicants and could expand, however the number has remained around 1000 for the past several years. Ariel asked for clarification that the definition is the only area that LLLTs and LPOs are excluded from compared to other benefits. Julianne confirmed that when the WSBA refers to "members", it always includes LLLTs and LPOs, except in the context of the young lawyer definition because it is limited to only lawyer members. Ariel commented that it seems odd that they have access to everything except this one category. Alex added that this discrepancy is a major focus for proposing a change to the definition. Alex asked if there are any expected changes for LPOs. Julianne confirmed that the LPO program will most likely remain the same and added that the LPO program has existed much longer than the LLLT program. Mason commented that that the narrow margin on the LLLT survey question was surprising and proposed that the definition project team committee get together to propose a final version of the definition to the full committee, acknowledging integrating the LLLT and LPO will be the tricky part. Alex noted tension between questions 9 and 10 and agreed that the project team get together and resolve some of the inconsistencies. Janta suggested gathering general feedback from the committee on whether or not there is a strong leaning around two questions: 1) including expanding to be 'members' instead of 'lawyers' (to include LLLT and LPOs), 2) giving extra time to people who were licensed first in another jurisdiction. Janta and Chelle will set up a poll for the committee to take during the current meeting. Julianne recommended filtering the survey data by certain types, and other ways, to see trends that the aggregate results do not show. This can be done live during the next project team meeting, which may assist in identifying the direction and what to propose.

Project Team Updates and Regional Reports – All

Financial Focus CLE - Chawisa

WYLC Member Chawisa Laicharoenwat shared that an additional speaker is needed to cover health insurance and disability. A speaker who will cover malpractice is confirmed. Chawisa encouraged the committee to reach out with names of potential speakers. Ariel suggested reaching out to Jordan Couch as a resource for an appropriate speaker referral.

Social Media - Ariel

Ariel introduced a plan for the WYLC's social media presence. Ariel proposed either forming a committee of 2-3 people or managing the accounts individually. Currently there are no active social media accounts as for the WYLC. Ariel noted the value of a social media (Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube) presence to drive engagement and participation. There is an existing WYLC Facebook group but has not been updated since 2020. Ariel met with WSBA Communications Coordinator Connor Luk, to discuss creating a LinkedIn account specific to the WYLC. Ariel will create an Instagram account and aim to post once per month to maintain activity. The target is to launch the counts prior to the July After-Bar Social event. There are specific guidelines that will need to be adhered to, and a contract to sign. WYLC Member Hanna Harrison expressed interest to help. Ariel will send contract and guidelines to Hanna.

The committee took a few minutes to complete the poll to gather feedback on the definition.

Legal Lunchbox CLE - Hanna

Hanna provided an update after a meeting this morning with Chelle, Vanessa, and Tyler O'Brien (aka The Long-Haired Lawyer on LinkedIn). The Legal Lunchbox will take place on July 29, with the confirmed topic of digital professionalism and building your online presence, geared towards new lawyers. Tyler will be the presenter. A rough outline with key topics was drafted: growing a professional network, creating a LinkedIn profile, and developing a personal brand. Additional topics to include is considering other types of social media including YouTube, TikTok, and Instagram, and determining what are mandatory, and what are common mistakes (e.g. posting inappropriate content).

Mentorship Project Team - Janta

Janta shared that the project team has not yet held its first meeting. Hanna is the other member of the team. Chelle reminded the committee of a previously suggested idea to host a Brown Bag lunchtime event focused on the goals new and young lawyers, and potentially law students, are looking for in a mentorship program. Further discussion can take place at the next project team meeting.

Public Service Leadership Awards – Alex/Chelle

Chelle shared that 14 nominations have been submitted so far, noting six are for the same person. Nominations close at the end of May. Alex commented that the outreach efforts included sending communication to the pro bono and public service committees' listserv, pro bono counsel, and the public service and legal aid listservs, to ensure as much coverage as possible. Alex noted that while the program is limited to four winners, something to discuss at next meeting is whether increasing the awardee count to five is something to consider. Alex will share an update after a meeting with pro bono in Seattle on Tuesday.

New Ideas for Next Meeting – All

Mason summarized with two items to be added to the agenda for the June 2 meeting: Consideration for an additional PSLA award and addressing the bylaws amendment. Ariel added a request for committee members to share ideas for the first social media post as it is important to identify appropriate early content for the first couple of posts. Chelle confirmed that the PSLA recipient evaluations will occur at the June 2 meeting.

Chelle noted that the July 17-18, 2025 BOG meeting will be in Walla Walla. The WYLC is invited to dinner with the BOG on the evening of Thursday July 17, at 6:30 p.m. If unable to attend in person, there will be a Zoom option to join. The Marcus Whitman Hotel is \$176 for Thursday night and is a direct bill to WSBA for WYLC Committee Members. The WYLC meeting will take place on Friday, July 18, and run concurrent with the BOG meeting. Chelle will send an RSVP poll to track planned attendance for the BOG meeting. The morning of Friday, July 18 will include breakfast with the BOG. Friday WYLC meet 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. followed by the Local Hero lunch from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m., which the WYLC is invited to attend. Bylaws still on the calendar as second read. The room rate at the Marcus Whitman Hotel on Friday night is \$279. Mason plans to be there in person. Janta asked about transportation to Walla Walla. Chelle explained per WSBA fiscal policy, whatever the cheapest of the commute options is what should be used. Reimbursement questions should be directed to Chelle.

Adjournment – Mason

Mason adjourned the meeting at 12:59 p.m.

View results

Respondent

1

Anonymous

05:30

Time to complete

Eligibility Requirements

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Nomination Process

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1. Nominee Name: *

2. Firm/Employer: *

3. Mailing Address: *

[Redacted]

4. Phone Number: *

[Redacted]

5. E-Mail Address: *

[Redacted]

6. WSBA Number: *

[Redacted]

7. Year Admitted to Practice in Washington:

[Empty]

8. Nominator's Name: *

[Redacted]

9. Nominator's Email: *

[Redacted]

10. Relationship to Nominee: *

Co-worker

11. Describe the nominee's leadership in his or her local community: *

[Redacted] is an incredibly valued member of our legal community, doing incredible work, providing mentorship to other new attorneys, compassion to [Redacted] clients, and on the board for young lawyers.

12. How has the nominee promoted and/or contributed tot he legal profession and community? *

[Redacted] carries [Redacted] with dignity and respect that [Redacted] shows for all clients while representing zealously.

13. Describe a situation in which the nominee has "gone above and beyond"? *

[Redacted] bends over backwards for [Redacted] clients, spends, personal hours, and goes out of [Redacted] way to improve [Redacted] client's situation to help them.

14. Additional information:

Absolute gem of a human being that anyone would be lucky to have represent them.

Additional Materials:

Please submit additional materials such as cover letter, resume, etc. to newmembers@wsba.org.

View results

Respondent

2

Anonymous

46:01

Time to complete

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2. Firm/Employer: *

3. Mailing Address: *

[Redacted]

4. Phone Number: *

[Redacted]

5. E-Mail Address: *

[Redacted]

6. WSBA Number: *

[Redacted]

7. Year Admitted to Practice in Washington:

[Redacted]

8. Nominator's Name: *

[Redacted]

9. Nominator's Email: *

[Redacted]

10. Relationship to Nominee: *

Paralegal

11. Describe the nominee's leadership in his or her local community: *

[Redacted] is currently the [Redacted] of the Family Law Section, dedicating [Redacted] time to organizing CLEs and other events to benefit the local legal community. [Redacted] truly enjoys giving back and seeing people succeed in life. [Redacted] currently represents multiple clients on a pro bono basis, ensuring that they have counsel to help see them through some of their hardest times, including DV Protection Order and custody proceedings. [Redacted] is committed to ensuring [Redacted] clients, colleagues, and friends feel heard, and is always encouraging those [Redacted] represents to believe in themselves and to fight for what's right.

12. How has the nominee promoted and/or contributed tot he legal profession and community? *

[Redacted] goes above and beyond to help serve the community by volunteering [Redacted] time to assist on the family law pro se dockets by helping pro se litigants in preparing orders and strategizing their next steps forward. [Redacted] also enjoys advocating for the underserved and underrepresented communities in Clark County. [Redacted] believes that everyone deserves to be treated fairly and truly fights to ensure that all of those around [Redacted] understand their rights in the courtroom, and their value in the world.

13. Describe a situation in which the nominee has "gone above and beyond"? *

[Redacted] has represented a lot of men and women throughout [Redacted] career, but [Redacted] dedication to helping women who are survivors of domestic violence is truly admirable. I began working for [Redacted] just 5 months ago and in that time, I've seen [Redacted] represent multiple women who were victims of domestic violence on a pro bono basis. One client in particular was attempting to renew a DVPO against her ex husband who suffered from an onset of psychotic symptoms that led him to be unsafe for she and their children. This woman was truly terrified of her ex husband, while also being heartbroken that the love of her life was no longer a recognizable man. This woman was representing herself and [Redacted] decided to tune into the Zoom hearing to keep an eye on things. At the hearing, her ex threatened her on the record while the Court denied her motion to renew based on procedural missteps. [Redacted] immediately contacted her after the hearing and immediately began representing her on a pro bono basis to get the DVPO renewed. This consisted of hours of work, and also resulted in [Redacted] receiving dozens of threats from the opposing party. This didn't stop [Redacted] [Redacted] made sure to get the client's order renewed, and made sure her location remained anonymous, allowing her to feel safe in her own home once again. [Redacted] never once hesitated to help this woman - [Redacted] jumped into action when [Redacted] saw that the woman was about to give up. This is the type of thing [Redacted] does with so many of [Redacted] clients. [Redacted] wants to protect people, and working for [Redacted] and getting to be a part of this team is truly an honor.

14. Additional information:

After 19 years at another firm, I joined Butchard Law in January of this year. I was nervous starting over, but I am so glad I made the move - [REDACTED] drive and determination is something I've rarely seen and is truly inspiring. Watching [REDACTED] stand firm in [REDACTED] convictions and dedication to the community has motivated me to take chances, to judge less, to listen more closely, and to always try to lift up those around me. [REDACTED] is a bright, young attorney with huge ambitions and limitless potential. [REDACTED] deserves to be nominated for Public Service and Leadership for all [REDACTED] has given to our local legal community and all of those it serves.

Additional Materials:

Please submit additional materials such as cover letter, resume, etc. to newmembers@wsba.org.

View results

Respondent

3

Anonymous

05:51

Time to complete

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2. Firm/Employer: *

3. Mailing Address: *

4. Phone Number: *

5. E-Mail Address: *

6. WSBA Number: *

7. Year Admitted to Practice in Washington:

8. Nominator's Name: *

9. Nominator's Email: *

10. Relationship to Nominee: *

11. Describe the nominee's leadership in his or her local community: *

12. How has the nominee promoted and/or contributed tot he legal profession and community? *

13. Describe a situation in which the nominee has "gone above and beyond"? *

14. Additional information:

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View results

Respondent

4 Anonymous

10:53

Time to complete

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2. Firm/Employer: *

3. Mailing Address: *

[Redacted]

4. Phone Number: *

[Redacted]

5. E-Mail Address: *

[Redacted]

6. WSBA Number: *

[Redacted]

7. Year Admitted to Practice in Washington:

1

8. Nominator's Name: *

[Redacted]

9. Nominator's Email: *

[Redacted]

10. Relationship to Nominee: *

Supervisor

11. Describe the nominee's leadership in his or her local community: *

As President of the Skagit County Bar Association and a staff attorney at Skagit Legal Aid, [Redacted] has played a critical leadership role in expanding access to justice and strengthening the local legal community. [Redacted] helps place pro bono clients with volunteer attorneys, ensuring low-income individuals receive high-quality legal representation. [Redacted] actively builds relationships between legal aid, private practitioners, and community partners to increase the impact of local pro bono efforts.

[Redacted] has also forged a strong and collaborative relationship with Skagit County District Court through [Redacted] involvement with their Relicensing Clinic. Under [Redacted] guidance, the Clinic modified how it structured debt payments and decreased infraction debt to the state mandatory minimum of \$20 per infraction. [Redacted] involvement has resulted in more streamlined processes, increased judicial support, and significantly greater relief for participants seeking to restore their driver's licenses.

[Redacted] leadership style emphasizes collaboration and trust, and [Redacted] is widely recognized for [Redacted] ability to bring people together in service of the public good. [Redacted] work has reinvigorated local commitment to pro bono service and made meaningful legal help more available to those who need it most.

12. How has the nominee promoted and/or contributed tot he legal profession and community? *

[Redacted] has made significant contributions to both the legal profession and the broader community through [Redacted] direct legal work and leadership roles. At Skagit Legal Aid, [Redacted] supports people navigating the collateral consequences of criminal convictions, helping clients vacate records, eliminate court debt, and restore their driving privileges. This work removes life-altering barriers and empowers clients to move forward with dignity.

In addition, [Redacted] stepped up to serve as President of the Skagit County Bar Association at a critical moment. After several years of reduced engagement and organizational drift, [Redacted] has taken a leading role in revitalizing the local bar. Under [Redacted] leadership, the association has resumed regular meetings, increased member participation, and strengthened its support for public service and community outreach. [Redacted] has reestablished the bar as a meaningful hub for professional connection and a platform for promoting access to justice. [Redacted] initiative and steady leadership have reenergized the legal community in Skagit County and restored a vital institution to functionality and purpose.

13. Describe a situation in which the nominee has "gone above and beyond"? *

██████████ has gone above and beyond through █████ deep, sustained partnership with Underground Ministries, a grassroots organization that walks alongside individuals coming out of incarceration. Rather than limiting █████ role to traditional legal representation, █████ integrates █████ work into a broader reentry model grounded in trust, accompaniment, and relationship. █████ works directly with reentry navigators, many of whom are formerly incarcerated themselves, to identify and remove legal barriers that stand in the way of clients' second chances, including convictions, court fines, suspended licenses, and probation restrictions.

██████████ does not just take on referrals; █████ shows up in person to reentry circles, community events, and client meetings, often after hours or outside standard legal contexts. █████ approach recognizes that trust is earned over time, especially with individuals who have been harmed by legal systems. By aligning █████ legal work with community-led reentry support, █████ ensures █████ clients are not just legally represented but truly seen and accompanied. █████ commitment to justice-in-representation exemplifies a rare level of compassion, humility, and professional integrity.

14. Additional information:

██████████ was Skagit Legal Aid's first legal extern after the organization became an independent nonprofit, marking a pivotal moment in its growth. █████ early involvement helped shape the organization's commitment to developing the next generation of public interest attorneys. After graduating from law school, █████ made the intentional decision to return to █████ home community in the Skagit Valley, a place █████ deeply cares about, to make a difference. █████ personal investment in the community is evident in every aspect of █████ work, from █████ leadership within the local bar to █████ client-centered legal advocacy. █████ career reflects a rare combination of legal skill, humility, and long-term commitment to rural justice.

Additional Materials:

Please submit additional materials such as cover letter, resume, etc. to newmembers@wsba.org.

View results

Respondent

5

Anonymous

14:11

Time to complete

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2. Firm/Employer: *

3. Mailing Address: *

[Redacted]

4. Phone Number: *

[Redacted]

5. E-Mail Address: *

[Redacted]

6. WSBA Number: *

[Redacted]

7. Year Admitted to Practice in Washington:

[Redacted]

8. Nominator's Name: *

[Redacted]

9. Nominator's Email: *

[Redacted]

10. Relationship to Nominee: *

Colleague

11. Describe the nominee's leadership in his or her local community: *

[Redacted] is a member of the Spokane County Bar Association, Intellectual Property Section and the Washington Women Lawyers Association. [Redacted] is also the Spokane Club Board of Trustees, Board Chair (2024/2025). In [Redacted] role as Board Chair, [Redacted] has devoted on average between 75-100 hours per month volunteering [Redacted] time during the week and on weekends for the Spokane Club. [Redacted] selflessly gives of [Redacted] without seeking anything in return. [Redacted] filled a role that was in desperate need of someone to step in, roll up sleeves, and get to work. [Redacted] rose to the challenge. I am quite certain [Redacted] is one of the youngest, newest member of the bar, if not the youngest, to ever fill a spot on the board and in this capacity.

12. How has the nominee promoted and/or contributed tot he legal profession and community? *

In addition to the time [Redacted] volunteers with the Spokane Club Board of Trustees, [Redacted] also donates pro bono legal services. At Kutak Rock, if there is an opportunity to provide pro bono counsel, [Redacted] is the first to step up to the plate and selflessly assist. In one recent matter, [Redacted] obtained a complete victory for [Redacted] client who could not afford legal services on [Redacted] own as a struggling college student. Again, [Redacted] rose to the challenge and helped when nobody else would.

13. Describe a situation in which the nominee has "gone above and beyond"? *

As if [Redacted] selfless contributions described above were not enough, [Redacted] has gone above and beyond many times volunteering [Redacted] time with the Women & Children's Free Restaurant & Community Kitchen. [Redacted] withstood the cold winter weather when [Redacted] stood outside for hours delivering food to those in need. On another occasion, [Redacted] helped coordinate a donation drive for Vanessa Behan to help underserved children.

Aside from these extraordinary acts of service, [Redacted] is the newest member of the bar and only associate in our Spokane office to volunteer as a member of the firm's On Campus Interview Committee and the Social Committee. Through [Redacted] work, [Redacted] has gone above and beyond to mentor law students and new attorneys to foster inclusivity, engagement, and to strengthen skills. [Redacted] is a cut above the rest in all [Redacted] does. Through all [Redacted] work, from filling a Herculean role with the Spokane Club as its Board Chair to withstanding the cold volunteering at a local food bank, there is one attribute that always shines through -- [Redacted] is dedicated to leadership and public service. I cannot think of someone more deserving than [Redacted]

14. Additional information:

Additional Materials:

Please submit additional materials such as cover letter, resume, etc. to newmembers@wsba.org.

View results

Respondent

6

Anonymous

02:22

Time to complete

Eligibility Requirements

Award recipients must meet the “young lawyer” definition in the Washington State Bar Association (WSBA) Bylaws. Under the Bylaws, an active member is considered a young lawyer if at least one of two criteria is met: 1) the member has been admitted to practice for fewer than five years (in any state), or 2) the member is under 36 years of age.

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1. Nominee Name: *

2. Firm/Employer: *

3. Mailing Address: *

[Redacted]

4. Phone Number: *

[Redacted]

5. E-Mail Address: *

[Redacted]

6. WSBA Number: *

[Redacted]

7. Year Admitted to Practice in Washington:

[Redacted]

8. Nominator's Name: *

[Redacted]

9. Nominator's Email: *

[Redacted]

10. Relationship to Nominee: *

Colleague

11. Describe the nominee's leadership in his or her local community: *

Leads the immigration legal services program at Central Washington Legal Aid, focused on underserved rural communities in Yakima, Grant, Franklin, and Adams Counties

12. How has the nominee promoted and/or contributed tot he legal profession and community? *

Trained and mentored five DOJ-accredited representatives: five at La Casa Hogar (2021–2023) and two at CWLA (2025)

13. Describe a situation in which the nominee has "gone above and beyond"? *

Maintained long-term follow-up with clients and mentored staff and volunteers, often doing work well beyond [Redacted] job description

14. Additional information:

[Redacted] helps others grow into leadership, expanding access far beyond what [Redacted] could do alone

Additional Materials:

Please submit additional materials such as cover letter, resume, etc. to newmembers@wsba.org.

View results

Respondent

7 Anonymous

08:16

Time to complete

Eligibility Requirements

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2. Firm/Employer: *

3. Mailing Address: *

[Redacted]

4. Phone Number: *

[Redacted]

5. E-Mail Address: *

[Redacted]

6. WSBA Number: *

[Redacted]

7. Year Admitted to Practice in Washington:

[Redacted]

8. Nominator's Name: *

[Redacted]

9. Nominator's Email: *

[Redacted]

10. Relationship to Nominee: *

Colleague

11. Describe the nominee's leadership in his or her local community: *

[Redacted] plays a pivotal role in [Redacted] work with CWLA. [Redacted] leads the immigration legal services program at Central Washington Legal Aid, focused on underserved rural communities in Yakima, Grant, Franklin, and Adams Counties - which is especially vital in today's political climate. [Redacted] previously directed citizenship legal services at La Casa Hogar in Yakima. [Redacted] led the way in obtaining DOJ recognition for CWLA and mentored two staff members through the DOJ accreditation process this year. [Redacted] has created free and accessible legal clinics across Central Washington, bringing immigration support to communities that would otherwise go without.

12. How has the nominee promoted and/or contributed tot he legal profession and community? *

[Redacted] trained and mentored five DOJ-accredited representatives: five at La Casa Hogar (2021–2023) and two at CWLA (2025). [Redacted] provides structured immigration law training and practical supervision for new legal advocates. [Redacted] is the VP of Development for the Latina/o Bar Association of Washington, organizing fundraising efforts and building community. [Redacted] regularly volunteers [Redacted] time to train students, community organizers, and attorneys on immigrant rights and legal basics. [Redacted] is bringing legal services directly to Spanish-speaking communities that are historically excluded from representation.

13. Describe a situation in which the nominee has "gone above and beyond"? *

[Redacted] has organized large-scale legal clinics in remote rural towns, coordinating dozens of volunteers and providing high-quality legal services in a single day. At La Casa Hogar, [Redacted] led quarterly naturalization clinics and served over 500 applicants—many of whom had complicated legal matters, limited literacy, or decades of fear around applying. [Redacted] has personally created training materials, translated outreach documents, and ensured clinics were welcoming, accessible, and empowering.

14. Additional information:

[Redacted] work in Central Washington has shifted what legal access looks like for rural immigrants! Very deserving of this honor.

Additional Materials:

Please submit additional materials such as cover letter, resume, etc. to newmembers@wsba.org.

View results

Respondent

8

Anonymous

03:46

Time to complete

Eligibility Requirements

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2. Firm/Employer: *

3. Mailing Address: *

[Redacted]

4. Phone Number: *

[Redacted]

5. E-Mail Address: *

[Redacted]

6. WSBA Number: *

[Redacted]

7. Year Admitted to Practice in Washington:

[Redacted]

8. Nominator's Name: *

[Redacted]

9. Nominator's Email: *

[Redacted]

10. Relationship to Nominee: *

Former Colleague

11. Describe the nominee's leadership in his or her local community: *

Leads the immigration legal services program at Central Washington Legal Aid, focused on underserved rural communities in Yakima, Grant, Franklin, and Adams Counties
Previously directed citizenship legal services at La Casa Hogar in Yakima
Obtained DOJ Recognition for CWLA and mentored two staff through the DOJ accreditation process in 2025
Created free legal clinics across Central Washington, bringing immigration support to communities that would otherwise go without
Centers trauma-informed, culturally competent, Spanish-language services for immigrants and mixed-status families

12. How has the nominee promoted and/or contributed tot he legal profession and community? *

Trained and mentored seven DOJ-accredited representatives: five at La Casa Hogar (2021–2023) and two at CWLA (2025)
Provides structured immigration law training and practical supervision for new legal advocates
Serves as Vice President of Development for the Latina/o Bar Association of Washington (LBAW), organizing fundraising efforts and building community
Regularly volunteers her time to train students, community organizers, and attorneys on immigrant rights and legal basics
Brings legal services directly to Spanish-speaking communities that are historically excluded from representation

13. Describe a situation in which the nominee has "gone above and beyond"? *

Organized large-scale legal clinics in remote rural towns, coordinating dozens of volunteers and providing high-quality legal services in a single day
At La Casa Hogar, led quarterly naturalization clinics and served over 500 applicants—many of whom had complicated legal matters, limited literacy, or decades of fear around applying
Maintained long-term follow-up with clients and mentored staff and volunteers, often doing work well beyond her job description
Personally created training materials, translated outreach documents, and ensured clinics were welcoming, accessible, and empowering

14. Additional information:

■■■■ is a first-generation lawyer, a member of the ■■■■ community, and a ■■■■
■■■■ work reflects deep personal and professional commitment to justice, dignity, and community care
■■■■ is known for ■■■■ generosity, reliability, and thoughtful mentorship
■■■■ helps others grow into leadership, expanding access far beyond what ■■■■ could do alone
■■■■ work in Central Washington has shifted what legal access looks like for rural immigrants

Additional Materials:

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View results

Respondent

9

Anonymous

35:21

Time to complete

Eligibility Requirements

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1. Nominee Name: *

2. Firm/Employer: *

3. Mailing Address: *

[Redacted]

4. Phone Number: *

[Redacted]

5. E-Mail Address: *

[Redacted]

6. WSBA Number: *

[Redacted]

7. Year Admitted to Practice in Washington:

[Redacted]

8. Nominator's Name: *

[Redacted]

9. Nominator's Email: *

[Redacted]

10. Relationship to Nominee: *

colleague, friend, mentor

11. Describe the nominee's leadership in his or her local community: *

[Redacted] is a leader and outstanding advocate! [Redacted] values [Redacted] work providing immigration legal services to underserved rural communities and especially in Central Washington. [Redacted] heads the immigration program at Central Washington Legal Aid, where [Redacted] expanded services many other counties in easter washington. [Redacted] has led citizenship services at La Casa Hogar in Yakima. In 2025, [Redacted] secured DOJ Recognition for CWLA and guided two staff members through the DOJ accreditation process. [Redacted] has also established free legal clinics across the region, ensuring immigrants and mixed-status families receive trauma-informed, culturally competent support in Spanish.

12. How has the nominee promoted and/or contributed tot he legal profession and community? *

[Redacted] has significantly contributed to both the legal profession and [Redacted] community. [Redacted] is always "on" and always focused on the needs of the underserved. [Redacted] trained and mentored seven DOJ-accredited representatives, including five at La Casa Hogar and two at CWLA, providing hands-on immigration law training and supervision. As Vice President of Development for the Latina/o Bar Association of Washington, [Redacted] leads fundraising efforts and fosters community connections. [Redacted] also volunteers regularly, teaching immigrant rights and legal basics to students, community organizers, and attorneys. Through [Redacted] work, [Redacted] ensures that historically excluded Spanish-speaking communities have direct access to essential legal services.

13. Describe a situation in which the nominee has "gone above and beyond"? *

[Redacted] goes above and beyond in everything [Redacted] does. [Redacted] has been dedicated to this work since I first met [Redacted] in law school. [Redacted] is an organizer! [Redacted] has let large-scale legal clinics in remote rural towns, bringing together dozens of volunteers to provide vital legal services. At La Casa Hogar, [Redacted] led quarterly naturalization clinics that served over 500 applicants, many facing complex legal issues, low literacy, and deep-seated fears about applying. Beyond [Redacted] job duties, [Redacted] created training materials, translated outreach documents, and ensured every clinic was welcoming and accessible, maintaining long-term follow-up with clients and mentoring staff to keep the impact going.

14. Additional information:

■■■ is a first gen lawyer, a member of the ■■■ community, and a ■■■ whose work is deeply rooted in justice, dignity, and community care. ■■■ is known for ■■■ unwavering generosity, dedication, reliability, and commitment to mentorship. Through ■■■ mentorship ■■■ helps others step into leadership and extend legal access far beyond ■■■ own reach. I have personally experienced this mentorship as ■■■ has helped me in my own practice to better understand immigrants' needs. In Central Washington, ■■■ has transformed what legal access looks like for rural immigrants, creating lasting impact through ■■■ compassion, vision, and tireless advocacy. ■■■ is amazing!!!

Additional Materials:

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View results

Respondent

10

Anonymous

12:19

Time to complete

Eligibility Requirements

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2. Firm/Employer: *

3. Mailing Address: *

[Redacted]

4. Phone Number: *

[Redacted]

5. E-Mail Address: *

[Redacted]

6. WSBA Number: *

[Redacted]

7. Year Admitted to Practice in Washington:

[Redacted]

8. Nominator's Name: *

[Redacted]

9. Nominator's Email: *

[Redacted]

10. Relationship to Nominee: *

Bar Association Members/Volunteer at Probono Clinics together

11. Describe the nominee's leadership in his or her local community: *

Though [Redacted] is relatively new to Tacoma, [Redacted] has quickly become a trusted advocate through [Redacted] work at Tacomaprobono's Right to Counsel program, where [Redacted] supports tenants facing eviction and housing instability. Beyond [Redacted] full-time role, Ben volunteers with the Tacomaprobono Name and Identity Document Clinic, where [Redacted] has rapidly developed deep expertise. [Redacted] now handles complex cases and mentors fellow volunteers, helping expand the clinic's capacity to serve victims of domestic violence, stalking, and LGBTQIA+ individuals seeking sealed or public name changes. By helping clients obtain identity documents that align with their names and genders, [Redacted] work promotes safety, reduces discrimination, and supports mental health within marginalized communities.

12. How has the nominee promoted and/or contributed tot he legal profession and community? *

[Redacted] is actively involved with the Tacoma-Pierce County Bar Association, regularly attending events that address housing access, dispute resolution, and civic engagement. [Redacted] seeks out opportunities to build community among attorneys and is committed to mobilizing others in service of shared goals. [Redacted] energy and willingness to collaborate have made him a connecting force within the legal community.

13. Describe a situation in which the nominee has "gone above and beyond"? *

Without violating attorney client privilege there was an incredibly difficult case that far exceeded the "30" minutes clinic individuals get. [Redacted] not only did legal research, [Redacted] organized a work group to help increase a client's odds fo a better outcome. [Redacted] appeared at hearings on the client's behalf and continued to develop legal protection strategies well in excess of the commitment made by volunteers.

14. Additional information:

█ is a kind and thoughtful fellow attorney. Always willing to listen and help identify solutions to problems and help achieve optimal client outcomes. It has been a pleasure to work along side █ and to have █ as a competent and thoughtful sounding board so that all clients can have ideal outcomes on their cases and get the best legal representation and solutions available to them. █ came into law during the COVID era which made it even harder to connect with the local legal community and █ persevered trying to create space and inclusion for others.

Additional Materials:

Please submit additional materials such as cover letter, resume, etc. to newmembers@wsba.org.

Contact

[www.linkedin.com/in/\[REDACTED\]](https://www.linkedin.com/in/[REDACTED])
(LinkedIn)

Top Skills

Legal Assistance
Legal Administration
Legal Service

Certifications

LexisNexis Certification Part 1:
Proficiency Certification

[REDACTED]
Attorney at Law
Tacoma, Washington, United States

Summary

Attorney with a demonstrated history of working in diverse and challenging environments. Skilled in Personnel Management, Human Resources, Leadership, Project Planning, and Project Management. Admitted to Washington State Bar Association Oct 2022. Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) - The Ohio State University Class of 2015. Juris Doctor - Seattle University School of Law Class of 2022.

Experience

Tacomaprobono Community Lawyers
Staff Attorney
February 2025 - Present (4 months)

Nexus Legal Counsel
Associate Attorney
April 2024 - Present (1 year 2 months)

Skate Like a Girl
Board Member
March 2021 - October 2024 (3 years 8 months)
Seattle, Washington, United States

Tacomaprobono Community Lawyers
Staff Attorney
September 2022 - March 2024 (1 year 7 months)

Seattle University School of Law
Law Student
August 2019 - May 2022 (2 years 10 months)

Legal Aid at Work
Legal Extern
August 2021 - December 2021 (5 months)
San Francisco, California, United States

Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles

Law Clerk

May 2021 - July 2021 (3 months)

Los Angeles, California, United States

US Army

3 years 8 months

Assistant Operations Officer

March 2017 - August 2019 (2 years 6 months)

Olympia, WA

Planning and managing programs and projects for a field artillery battalion

Company Fire Support Officer

October 2016 - March 2017 (6 months)

Fairbanks, Alaska

Coordinated indirect fire assets for an infantry company

Adjutant

May 2016 - October 2016 (6 months)

Fairbanks, Alaska

Managed several battalion programs/projects and all personnel actions

Fire Direction Officer

January 2016 - May 2016 (5 months)

Fairbanks, Alaska

Calculating firing data for 6 howitzers in support of an infantry battalion

Education

Seattle University School of Law

Doctor of Law - JD, Law · (2019 - 2022)

The Ohio State University

Bachelor of Arts - BA, Psychology · (2011 - 2015)

View results

Respondent

11 Anonymous

07:58

Time to complete

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2. Firm/Employer: *

3. Mailing Address: *

[Redacted]

4. Phone Number: *

[Redacted]

5. E-Mail Address: *

[Redacted]

6. WSBA Number: *

[Redacted]

7. Year Admitted to Practice in Washington:

[Redacted]

8. Nominator's Name: *

[Redacted]

9. Nominator's Email: *

[Redacted]

10. Relationship to Nominee: *

President of TPCBA

11. Describe the nominee's leadership in his or her local community: *

[Redacted] exemplifies the spirit of service, advocacy, and community impact as a new attorney in the Tacoma legal community. [Redacted] dedication to justice, coupled with [Redacted] grounded approach to guiding individuals through their most challenging moments, makes [Redacted] an exceptional candidate for this award. [Redacted] commitment to improving [Redacted] community is evident in both [Redacted] legal and non-legal work. As a veteran and former field artillery officer, [Redacted] journey into law reflects resilience, adaptability, and a deeply rooted desire to protect and uplift others. Transitioning from military service to the legal profession within a mere 90 days, [Redacted] pursued law not for prestige but as a means to shield vulnerable populations from systemic and personal harm.

12. How has the nominee promoted and/or contributed tot he legal profession and community? *

In [Redacted] practice, [Redacted] focuses on eviction defense, family law, and veterans' advocacy. [Redacted] provides not only legal representation but also a compassionate presence, helping clients navigate some of the most difficult days of their lives. [Redacted] ability to distill complex legal processes into relatable and manageable steps ensures that those [Redacted] serves feel supported and empowered. [Redacted] dedication extends beyond [Redacted] caseload. [Redacted] actively volunteers with organizations like Tacoma Pro Bono and Skate Like a Girl, demonstrating a commitment to grassroots change and community enrichment. [Redacted] involvement with the National Lawyers Guild highlights [Redacted] passion for equity and justice, while [Redacted] work teaching skateboarding fosters inclusion and confidence among participants.

13. Describe a situation in which the nominee has "gone above and beyond"? *

Beyond [redacted] impressive legal acumen, [redacted] humility and humor make [redacted] an approachable and inspiring role model. Whether mentoring others or reflecting on the unpredictable nature of courtroom decisions, [redacted] approaches [redacted] work with authenticity and a clear-eyed dedication to justice.

14. Additional information:

[redacted] exceptional contributions to [redacted] community, [redacted] unwavering advocacy for justice, and [redacted] commitment to improving the legal profession make [redacted] a standout nominee for this award. Through [redacted] work, [redacted] embodies the values of service, empathy, and integrity, making a lasting impact on those [redacted] serves and the broader Tacoma community. This award would not only recognize [redacted] achievements but also celebrate [redacted] as a beacon of what new attorneys can achieve when driven by purpose and a desire to uplift others. [redacted] recently won the Tacoma Pierce County Bar Associations Service by a New attorney and is a speaker at the annual bar convention this year. [redacted] is a member of TPCBA new and young lawyers and has been featured in articles in the TPCBA magazine.

Additional Materials:

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View results

Respondent

12 Anonymous

01:43

Time to complete

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2. Firm/Employer: *

3. Mailing Address: *

[Redacted]

4. Phone Number: *

[Redacted]

5. E-Mail Address: *

[Redacted]

6. WSBA Number: *

[Redacted]

7. Year Admitted to Practice in Washington:

[Redacted]

8. Nominator's Name: *

[Redacted]

9. Nominator's Email: *

[Redacted]

10. Relationship to Nominee: *

Supervisor

11. Describe the nominee's leadership in his or her local community: *

[Redacted] has consistently shown exceptional leadership across Central Washington by building and expanding access to free legal services for low-income immigrant communities. Through [Redacted] role at Central Washington Legal Aid and previously at La Casa Hogar, [Redacted] has led efforts to deliver culturally competent, bilingual legal representation in rural areas where legal support is often nonexistent. [Redacted] designs and leads large-scale legal clinics, supervises and trains future DOJ-accredited representatives, and advocates fiercely for systemic equity through community partnerships and on-the-ground service.

12. How has the nominee promoted and/or contributed tot he legal profession and community? *

[Redacted] embodies the values of public service in every facet of [Redacted] work. [Redacted] has transformed legal access in rural immigrant communities through [Redacted] advocacy, clinic leadership, and trauma-informed representation. In addition to [Redacted] client-facing work, [Redacted] trains and mentors law students, DOJ representatives, and volunteers, helping to grow the next generation of public interest leaders. As Vice President of Development for LBAW, [Redacted] uplifts Latina/o legal professionals and has played a critical role in shaping anti-racist, inclusive spaces within the profession.

13. Describe a situation in which the nominee has "gone above and beyond"? *

In spring 2024, [Redacted] coordinated a multi-county, multi-organization immigration legal clinic that served over 60 immigrant families in a single day—many of whom had never previously received legal help. [Redacted] personally trained and supervised over 30 volunteers, including law students and new DOJ reps, ensuring everyone was supported and clients were served with care and dignity. [Redacted] also drafted training materials, translated outreach flyers, and followed up with individual cases long after the clinic ended. This is just one of many times [Redacted] has gone far beyond the scope of [Redacted] role to serve [Redacted] community.

14. Additional information:

■■■■ leadership is grounded in love, integrity, and justice. ■■■■ is not only an exceptional attorney—■■■■ is a connector, teacher, and advocate whose work is transforming what community lawyering looks like in rural Central Washington. ■■■■ deep ties to the immigrant community, ■■■■ commitment to equity, and ■■■■ relentless advocacy make ■■■■ more than deserving of this recognition.

Additional Materials:

Please submit additional materials such as cover letter, resume, etc. to newmembers@wsba.org.

View results

Respondent

13 Anonymous

94:30

Time to complete

Eligibility Requirements

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Nomination Process

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Selection Process

During the selection process, the WYLC will consider the nominee’s leadership in their community and involvement in public service activities as described in RPC 6.1. Long-term service or an extraordinary contribution to the community will be considered, including:

- a) leadership and service in the local community or within a bar association;
- b) WSBA, ABA, or local bar association activities;
- c) Volunteering with pro bono or public service programs; or
- d) Writing a blog post for NWSidebar and/or writing an article for WSBA magazine.

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1. Nominee Name: *

2. Firm/Employer: *

3. Mailing Address: *

[Redacted]

4. Phone Number: *

[Redacted]

5. E-Mail Address: *

[Redacted]

6. WSBA Number: *

[Redacted]

7. Year Admitted to Practice in Washington:

[Redacted]

8. Nominator's Name: *

[Redacted]

9. Nominator's Email: *

[Redacted]

10. Relationship to Nominee: *

Former employee, friend, colleague

11. Describe the nominee's leadership in his or her local community: *

A person with a great responsibility, defending people's rights, actively working to continue making a difference in a society full of injustice, always involved in helping, teaching, building, and leading advocacy towards better treatment for every individual, regardless of race, gender, beliefs, or culture.

12. How has the nominee promoted and/or contributed tot he legal profession and community? *

Becoming involved in non-profit organizations that assist marginalized communities with legal advice, services, and building opportunities for those who are the most vulnerable.

13. Describe a situation in which the nominee has "gone above and beyond"? *

I remember a time when our Attorney had to put the community's needs first, then [Redacted] own, by living closer to where the organization was located, to continue having that interaction with clients on a more personal level, also building trust, and giving required legal support. even if it meant leaving the family whom the attorney could only see during the weekend at times, or even longer, for weeks

14. Additional information:

I had a different path in my life, and meeting this individual inspired me to pursue a career where I could give back to those who need legal guidance to obtain a much brighter future, people who are hard working, honest and great part of our society, who did not just left everything back in the country pursuing a better opportunity, but had been a great asset to this country, people that our neighbors, sister, fathers, mothers. All they ask for is a fair chance at life. people, I am proud to say I serve.

All this was possible for me because of our beloved attorney, [REDACTED]. I received all the support I needed to start my career as a DOJ Accredited Representative at La Casa Hogar. Because of all the support and training I received, I am doing what I love the most, helping people, and it is because of our friend that I received the necessary tools to continue growing and learning ways to support my community. Reason for me to recommend [REDACTED] for the leadership award.

Additional Materials:

Please submit additional materials such as cover letter, resume, etc. to newmembers@wsba.org.

Address: [REDACTED] | P: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED]

EDUCATION

University of Idaho College of Law Moscow, ID
Juris Doctorate, Cum laude Aug. 2020-May 2023
Honors: Deans List (Fall '20, Spring '21, Fall '21, Fall '22, Spring '23), Hispanic Scholarship Fund Scholar (HSF) recipient (2022-23), Latino/a Bar Association of Washington (LBAW) scholarship recipient Spring 2023.
Activities: Chief Moscow Editor of the Idaho Law Review, President of the Latino/a Law Caucus (LLC).
Master of Public Administration May 2021-May 2023
Honors: Deans List (Fall '21, Spring '22, Fall '22, Spring '23)

Western Washington University Bellingham, WA
Bachelor of Arts Sep. 2014-June 2018
Honors: HSF recipient (2017-18)
Activities: WWU Migrant Youth Leadership Conference (March 2015, March 2016).

PUBLIC SERVICE

Hispanic National Bar Association (2020- Present)
Latino/a Bar Association of Washington (2020- Present)
o Judicial Review Committee (2024- Present)

Univ. of Idaho Legal Aid Clinic
o Volunteer Interpreter (2020 -23)

Latino/a Law Caucus
o President (2022 - 23)
o Othello Project- Coordinating NWJP and Law Students to assist farm workers in Othello, WA

Volunteer Representation of asylum seekers, representing them in arguments before the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals (2023)
LAW Advocates, providing civil legal assistance to the indigent (2024- present)
o Elected Chair (2025- present)
o Board Member (2024- present)
o *Pro-bono* attorney for individual clients and at LAW Advocates clinics for the (2023- present)

Washington Women's Lawyers (2023- Present)
Western Washington University Immigration Aid Clinics (2024- present)

EMPLOYMENT

Whatcom Law Group, Blaine, WA Sept. 2023-Present
Attorney
• General practice in the areas of civil litigation, real property, estate planning, and immigration law.
• Deputy Prosecutor of Blaine, WA, responsible for criminal prosecution at all stages to trial.
• Overseeing civil and criminal advocacy on behalf of Spanish speaking clients.

North County Public Defense, Bellingham, WA May 2023-Aug. 2023
Rule 9 Legal Intern
• Conduct interviews with clients regarding defense, appear in front of Bellingham Municipal Court for arraignments and pretrials on behalf of clients; negotiate with prosecutors on behalf of clients.

University of Idaho College of Law, Moscow, ID Aug. 2022-May 2023
Legal Intern - Immigration Clinic
• Draft and submit appellate brief to the Ninth Circuit. Conduct intakes for the clinic and translate meetings.

Research Assistant Aug. 2021-May 2022
• Translated documents, conducted research regarding housing issues and country conditions.
Drafted refugee application and translated meetings.

Law Offices of Carol L. Edward & Associates, P.S., Mount Vernon, WA Jan. 2018-Aug. 2022
Paralegal and then Rule 9 Legal Intern

- Drafted pleadings for EOIR, prepare appeals to USCIS. Drafted appellate briefs and prepare appeals to the Ninth Circuit.
- Prepare packets for attorney review on U visa cases. Translated legal documents, drafted declarations, translated attorney client meetings.
- Prepare packets for attorney review on asylum cases, adjustment cases, green card renewals, citizenship applications, work permit applications, petitions for nonimmigrant workers, VAWA, petitions to remove conditions on residence, U visas, and removals of cancellation.
- Drafted pleadings for EOIR, prepare appeals to USCIS, I-290Bs, and appeals to the BIA. Drafted appellate briefs, translated legal documents, drafted declarations, country condition research, translated attorney client meetings.

Washington State Office of the Attorney General, Seattle, WA

May 2021-Aug. 2021

Law Clerk

- Researched and prepared memorandums for attorney review. Assisted in preparing witness interviews and motions. Attended meetings to discuss cases, participated in witness questioning.

BAR MEMBERSHIP/ADMISSIONS

- Federal Court - Western District of Washington, 2024- present
- Washington State Bar Association, 2023- present
- Whatcom County Bar Association, 2023-Present

View results

Respondent

14 Anonymous

62:29

Time to complete

Eligibility Requirements

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1. Nominee Name: *

2. Firm/Employer: *

3. Mailing Address: *

[Redacted]

4. Phone Number: *

[Redacted]

5. E-Mail Address: *

[Redacted]

6. WSBA Number: *

[Redacted]

7. Year Admitted to Practice in Washington:

[Redacted]

8. Nominator's Name: *

[Redacted]

9. Nominator's Email: *

[Redacted]

10. Relationship to Nominee: *

Supervisor

11. Describe the nominee's leadership in his or her local community: *

Though a young and new lawyer has made an incredible impact in our legal community, from helping to catalyze the immigration lawyers in town to begin meeting for monthly lunches to her commitment to the bolstering the local county bar association and our chapter of the Washington Women's Lawyer organization. has also assisted the WSBA in filming a launch video for the statewide rollout of Deskbooks for everyone. Most importantly however, has been a tireless volunteer attorney in our civil legal aid clinics, and assumed a leadership role in organizing them by being elected as a Board member for LAW Advocates. And our community has recognized leadership with trust - when our seasoned attorney who chaired LAW Advocates passed away unexpectedly in April of this year, stood up to take the helm of the organization so that its efforts would not falter and was elected as Chair of the organization. This is DESPITE and in the face of the fact that is a young lawyer trying to build a practice in a faltering economy on a border town that depends on trade with Canada. Without being overwhelmed with concern for own material needs is giving time to lead our entire legal community. has many billable hours is responsible for, but that did not stop from leaving bedrest the week of a surgery to rally for the WSBA's Law Day on our courthouse steps. is a leader and a servant of the public.

12. How has the nominee promoted and/or contributed tot he legal profession and community? *

Not forgoing the above descriptions, which are also applicable- I have never met a young attorney, especially in this era of virtual connections, that spends so much effort in giving lawyers a good name by serving the public and our professions. Above and beyond what I described above, has also made time to serve on the Judicial Review Committee of the Latino/a Bar Association of Washington, volunteer at legal clinics not only with LAW Advocates but those sponsored by Western Washington University, and give pro bono consultations to families who do not speak English in our community. There are less than a handful of attorneys who speak Spanish in our community, almost none natively, and only who works in a rural general practice - arrival and commitment to serving the indigent has brought answers and hope to many who had no other resource to understand the issues they face. Even as a law student and limited license lawyer, stepped forward as President of school's Latino/a Caucus and brought them together with the Northwest Justice Project to bring civil legal aid to immigrant farm workers in Othello, WA. brings lawyers together, and helps them serve the community.

13. Describe a situation in which the nominee has "gone above and beyond"? *

As described above, despite having all of the pressures of being a young [redacted] attorney of color in a new town and new job, [redacted] is fearless in asking [redacted] employer to support [redacted] and in sacrificing [redacted] own material wealth to serve the indigent - it is not a small feat to Chair LAW Advocates or to have earned the trust of our local bar to elect [redacted] to do so; it is a position traditionally held by veteran attorneys. This consumes time and energy that takes [redacted] away from [redacted] job and [redacted] family, but [redacted] does it with resolve and positivity. This is like [redacted] and that is also reflected in [redacted] history, despite being Managing Editor of [redacted] Law Review, [redacted] also represented indigent asylum seekers and argued their case in front of the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals before [redacted] graduated law school. Our primary duty as officers of the court, and in the continued service of our country, should be ensuring access to impartial justice for all people. Through [redacted] actions and the issues that she advocates for [redacted] has demonstrated a commitment to these ideals, which I believe is a threshold for anyone you consider for this award.

14. Additional information:

[redacted] character and attitude are also exemplary. In addition to a naturally pleasant and professional demeanor, [redacted] has also established a reputation as a civically engaged and responsible lawyer, earning the respect of opposing counsel as well [redacted] clients and judges. They all know [redacted] works hard, comes prepared, and respects the system we uphold. [redacted] also goes out of [redacted] way to support the lawyers, paralegals, and interns that grace [redacted] firm. For these reasons, as well the other forementioned paragraphs, I can unreservedly endorse and nominate [redacted] of being an ideal candidate for the Public Service & Leadership Award.

Additional Materials:

Please submit additional materials such as cover letter, resume, etc. to newmembers@wsba.org.

View results

Respondent

15 Anonymous

22:55

Time to complete

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1. Nominee Name: *

2. Firm/Employer: *

3. Mailing Address: *

[Redacted]

4. Phone Number: *

[Redacted]

5. E-Mail Address: *

[Redacted]

6. WSBA Number: *

[Redacted]

7. Year Admitted to Practice in Washington:

[Redacted]

8. Nominator's Name: *

[Redacted]

9. Nominator's Email: *

[Redacted]

10. Relationship to Nominee: *

Colleague

11. Describe the nominee's leadership in his or her local community: *

[Redacted] heads our immigration legal services program at Central Washington Legal Aid, focused on underserved rural communities in Yakima, Grant, Franklin, and Adams Counties. Since [Redacted] started with our organization, [Redacted] has helped us obtain DOJ Recognition for CWLA and mentored two staff members through the DOJ accreditation process in 2025. [Redacted] created free legal clinics in these communities to help educate and assist people with immigration support that they would have not had.

12. How has the nominee promoted and/or contributed tot he legal profession and community? *

[Redacted] has trained and mentored five DOJ-accredited representatives in [Redacted] career so far. [Redacted] helped five while working with La Casa Hogar (2021–2023) and two staff members at CWLA (2025) [Redacted] provides free, structured immigration law training and practical supervision for new legal advocates. [Redacted] regularly volunteers [Redacted] time to train students, community organizers, and attorneys on immigrant rights and legal basics [Redacted] serves as Vice President of Development for the Latina/o Bar Association of Washington (LBAW), organizing fundraising efforts and building community.

13. Describe a situation in which the nominee has "gone above and beyond"? *

[Redacted] has organized large legal clinics in rural communities. At [Redacted] time with La Casa Hogar, [Redacted] served over 500 applicants at quarterly naturalization clinics. [Redacted] has also used [Redacted] free time to prepare training materials and outreach documents (in multiple languages) to encourage and welcome volunteers and community members who need help.

14. Additional information:

[Redacted] cares deeply about working within the system to ensure that people are treated with dignity, and have access to justice.

Additional Materials:

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