

WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

WSBA SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

FY 2025: October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025

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, 2024 – September 30, 2025. 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, October 17: please submit by emailing to Carolyn MacGregor (carolynm@wsba.org).

Name of Section:	Business Law Section
Chair or Co-Chairs:	Barbara Prowant
Staff Liaison: (include name, job title, and department if known)	Carolyn MacGregor, Sections Program Specialist, Advancement Department
Board of Governors Liaison:	Kevin Fay
Purpose: May be stated in Bylaws, Charter, Court Rule, etc.	
The purpose of the Section shall be to benefit the members of the Section and their clients: (a) By encouraging research and study, and the development of best practices, in the area of business law in the State of Washington, and sharing these efforts through continuing legal education where possible and appropriate; (b) By participating in the development of state legislation and regulations in order to improve and facilitate the administration of justice in the area of business law; and (c) By undertaking such other services relating to the area of business law as may be of benefit to members of the Section, members of the Bar and the greater public.	
Strategy to Fulfill Purpose:	

Sections

CLE's organized by Committee Sections to provide member relevant education opportunities; proposed legislative changes coordinated with the WSBA Legislative Affairs; sponsored networking and volunteer events for the members; coordinated and sponsored UW and Seattle U Law School events.	
How does the section'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"?	
The Section seeks to promote professionalism among our members by creating opportunities that promote building and fostering personal relationships among business attorneys across the State and by providing a forum for the discussion and exchange of ideas leading to the improvement of laws relevant to the practice of business lawyers.	
Top 2024-2025 Section Accomplishments:	
BLS Executive Committee Planning Retreat	
Proposed revisions to the LLC Act; provided feedback on proposed HB 1635; considered the Uniform Mortgage Modification Act	
Coordinated and sponsored outreach programs at UW Law School and Seattle U Law School; coordinated volunteer opportunity for the members with Food Lifeline; sponsored a Mariners networking event for the members; co-sponsored a joint networking event with AIPP Seattle KnowledgeNet	
Filled the Financial Institutions Chair, Communication Chair (resulting in creation of a BLS LinkedIn page), and Young Lawyer Liaison positions which had been vacant for some time.	
Next Fiscal Year: 2025-2026 Top SMART Goals & Priorities: <i>Tip: SMART Goals are: Specific Measurable, Relevant and Time-Bound</i> Use this worksheet (under 'Leadership') to develop your SMART goals and then summarize below in 1-2 sentences.	
1	To be provided by the incoming Executive Committee
2	Click or tap here to enter text.
3	Click or tap here to enter text.
Looking Ahead: <i>Please share any long-term goals and/or priorities that your entity aims to address.</i>	
1	Increase BLS membership and member engagement.
2	Continue to provide beneficial CLE programs, as well as networking and volunteer opportunities for the members.
3	Continue the BLS tradition of legislative participation.

Please describe how this entity is addressing diversity, equity, and inclusion: <i>How have you elicited input from a variety of perspectives in 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 in the profession? Other?</i>	
The BLS EC has an “open-door” policy that encourages the members to be included in decision-making. It promotes a culture of diversity, equity, and inclusion as evidence by the composition of the Executive Committee represented by 50% women, racial and ethnic minorities.	
Please share feedback regarding the support and engagement provided by WSBA staff and leadership <i>For example:</i> • Quality of WSBA staff support/services, including technology solutions • Involvement with Board of Governors, including assigned BOG liaison • Ideas you have on ways WSBA can continue to strengthen/support your entity.	
We appreciate our working relationship with the WSBA staff who provide assistance to help the Section and its programs and outreach operate smoothly, and the involvement and communication provided by Kevin Fay, our BOG representative, regarding BOG matters.	
Please quantify your section’s 2024-2025 member benefits: <i>For example:</i> • \$3000 Scholarships, donations, grants awarded; • 4 mini-CLEs produced	
2	Co-sponsored half-day, full-day and/or multi-day CLE seminars with WSBA
1	Co-sponsored half-day, full-day and/or multi-day CLE seminars with <i>non</i> -WSBA entity.
1	Receptions/forums hosted or co-hosted
\$5000 – donation; \$3383 – scholarships	\$ amount given through donations/scholarships/grants.
BLS LinkedIn created	Newsletters/publications produced
7	Mini-CLEs produced
3	New Lawyer Outreach events/benefits
Click or tap here to enter text.	Recognitions/Awards given

Sections

3	Legislative activity (Bills reviewed, tracked, proposed)	
LinkedIn Page created	Other (please describe):	
Volunteer and networking events	Other (please describe):	
SECTION DATA <i>To Be Completed by WSBA Sections Team</i>		
Section Membership Information:	1150	Membership Size: <i>As of September 30, 2025.</i>
	36921.11	FY25 Revenue (\$): <i>As of September 30, 2025.</i>
	21212.14	FY25 Direct Expenses (\$) <i>As of September 30, 2025. This does not include the Per-Member-Charge.</i>
Section Executive Committee Information:	19 voting/1 non-voting	Full Size of Executive Committee (per Section bylaws): <i>Include and specify voting and non-voting positions.</i>
	3	Number of Vacancies for FY26: <i>The number of vacant positions as of October 1, 2025 (FY26).</i>
	18	Number of Applicants for FY26 open positions: <i>Applications submitted in the Spring of 2025 for vacant positions and terms beginning October 1, 2025 (FY26)</i>