

WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

WSBA SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

FY 2024: October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024

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 Boards^j), 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, 2023 – September 30, 2024. 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 11: please submit by emailing to Carolyn MacGregor (carolynm@wsba.org).

Name of Section:	Juvenile Law Section
Chair or Co-Chairs:	James Richardson
Staff Liaison: <i>(include name, job title, and department if known)</i>	Carolyn MacGregor, Sections Program Specialist, Advancement Department
Board of Governors Liaison:	Kari Petrasek
Purpose: <i>May be stated in Bylaws, Charter, Court Rule, etc.</i>	
<p>The Section will provide a forum to discuss issues of concern and act as an agent of change to improve the law and practice related to civil and criminal matters involving children and youth in Washington State. This Section welcomes advocates from all interested disciplines and a variety of fields of law, including juvenile justice, child welfare and those who represent youth in civil legal practice. The Section is concerned with all aspects of juvenile law and policy: dependency, offender, civil legal needs of youth and status offenses (children in need of services, youth at risk, and truant).</p>	
Strategy to Fulfill Purpose:	
<p>The Juvenile Law Section provides an opportunity for legal professionals who work with juveniles and their families in child welfare and juvenile justice to meet together and work collaboratively on issues facing their clients. The Section provides benefits to members by sponsoring an annual CLE focusing on current developments in the area of juvenile law. The Section also acts as an agent of change to</p>	

improve the law and practice related to civil and criminal matters involving children and youth in Washington state.	
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 Juvenile Law Section is primarily concerned with providing community, education, collaboration, and support around areas of legal practice for indigent and underrepresented clients and families, including in practice areas such as child welfare, juvenile justice, status offenses, immigration as it relates to children and families, truancy, at-risk youth and children in need of services proceedings, as well as a variety of civil legal needs of youth.	
Top 2023 -2024 Section Accomplishments:	
SIJ CLE Series: in collaboration with Kids in Need of Defense (KIND), the JLS sponsored and produced three mini-CLEs focused on issues related to Special Immigrant Juveniles: (1) Introduction to Special Immigrant Status: Role of State Court, May 3, 2024; (2) Immigrant Children and SIJ Relief: Considerations for Families, June 28, 2024; and (3) Immigrant Children and SIJ Relief: Accessing Benefits and Resources; July 12, 2024.	
Children's Justice Conference Scholarships: the JLS awarded two \$300 scholarships to section members to help fund their attendance at the Children's Justice Conference, the largest child welfare conference in the Pacific Northwest.	
JLS Webpage Redesign: in collaboration with the WSBA, the JLS worked to redesign the JLS webpage, adding customized Executive Committee position descriptions, Executive Committee bios, and other additions to the webpage.	
Next Fiscal Year: 2024-2025 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	The JLS will hold quarterly mini-CLEs or CLEs, free to JLS membership and open to other Sections and general WSBA members, on topics relevant to JLS (including juvenile law, dependency law, juvenile justice, civil legal needs, and race/equity/disproportionality in the juvenile justice legal space).
2	The JLS will increase scholarship opportunities, specifically for JLS members, to provide members specific opportunities and funding to attend trainings and CLEs relevant to JLS (including juvenile law, dependency law, juvenile justice, civil legal needs, and race/equity/disproportionality in the juvenile justice legal space).
3	The JLS will create content for a "Members Only" section of its webpage. Content for this section will include the Warm Hand-Off attorney list and a resource bank, accessible only by JLS members, which will serve as a centralized hub for tools and resources relevant to the work of JLS practitioners.
Looking Ahead: <i>Please share any long-term goals and/or priorities that your entity aims to address.</i>	

Sections

1	The JLS will plan and hold an Executive Committee Retreat (half-day or full-day), which will provide opportunities for building rapport and brainstorming goals for the section.
2	The JLS will reach out to, and collaborate with, other WSBA sections, in planning and producing mini-CLEs and CLEs, as well as other projects that are relevant to the JLS purpose.
3	The JLS will deepen its understanding of, and focus on, inclusivity, equity, and anti-racist legal practice. The JLS will actively recruit Black and brown practitioners, and the JLS will plan and produce mini-CLEs and CLEs that address the disproportionate treatment and outcomes for Black, brown, Native American, and other impacted populations in the juvenile legal system.
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>	
<p>The section meetings include Diversity/Equity/Inclusion on every agenda and has moved discussion of these topics to the top of our monthly meeting agenda; in this way, we are working to ensure we are always keeping issues of disproportionality at the front and center of our practice. The section has connections with a minority bar association and with the Small Town and Rural Practice (STAR) Section, which has increased connections and allowed us to promote equity within our section.</p>	
Please share feedback regarding the support and engagement provided by WSBA. <i>For example:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Quality of WSBA staff support/services, including technology solutions</i> • <i>Involvement with Board of Governors, including assigned BOG liaison</i> • <i>Ideas you have on ways WSBA can continue to strengthen/support your entity.</i> 	
<p>Our BOG liaison attends every meeting and provides exceptional support. Our staff sections specialist has always been able to answer any question we have, and we have appreciated her support as well.</p>	
Please quantify your section's 2023-2024 member benefits: <i>For example:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>\$3000 Scholarships, donations, grants awarded;</i> • <i>4 mini-CLEs produced</i> 	
	Co-sponsored half-day, full-day and/or multi-day CLE seminars with WSBA
	Co-sponsored half-day, full-day and/or multi-day CLE seminars with <i>non</i> -WSBA entity.
	Receptions/forums hosted or co-hosted
\$600 in scholarships given to JLS members	\$ amount given through donations/scholarships/grants.
	Newsletters/publications produced
3 mini-CLEs produced	Mini-CLEs produced

Sections

	New Lawyer Outreach events/benefits	
	Recognitions/Awards given	
Warm hand-off list	Other (please describe): Warm hand-off list created and maintained by Young Lawyer Liaison	
SECTION DATA <i>To Be Completed by WSBA Sections Team</i>		
Section Membership Information:	142	Membership Size: <i>(As of September 30, 2024)</i>
	\$6,085	FY24 Revenue (\$): For Sections Only: <i>As of September 30, 2024</i>
	\$9,624 \$1,100	Budgeted and Direct Expenses: <i>Does not include the Per-Member-Charge. For Direct Expenses, draft estimate as of December 3, 2024.</i>
Section Executive Committee Information:	17	Size of Executive Committee: <i>(include and specify voting and non-voting positions)</i>
	13	Number of Vacancies for FY25: <i>The number of positions with terms beginning October 1, 2024 (FY25).</i>
	10	Number of Applicants for FY25: <i>Applications submitted in the Spring-Summer of 2024 for terms beginning October 1, 2024 (FY25)</i>

ⁱ Supreme Court Boards (Access to Justice Board, Disciplinary Board, LLLT Board, Limited Practice Board, MCLE Board and Practice of Law Board) provide annual reports to WSBA to support its responsibility under [GR 12.3](#), to provide oversight and monitor compliance with applicable rules and orders. Boards have the option to use the WSBA template or to share their annual reports to the Washington Supreme Court.