

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:	LGBTQ+ Law Section
Chair or Co-Chairs:	Adriena Clifton
Staff Liaison: (include name, job title, and department if known)	Carolyn MacGregor, Sections Program Specialist, Advancement Department
Board of Governors Liaison:	Brent Williams-Ruth
Purpose: <i>May be stated in Bylaws, Charter, Court Rule, etc.</i>	
<p>The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Law Section strives to support understanding among WSBA members of the legal needs of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender residents of Washington, assist LGBT residents and those who represent them, better understand how their legal needs can be met, support research, education and collaboration by section members on issues of sexual orientation and gender identification. Promote the study of LGBT law and report on changing law and regulations as they affect LGBT people and communities, assist in legislative work and act as a liaison between the WSBA its Board of Governors, LGBT Organizations, and the public.</p>	
Strategy to Fulfill Purpose:	
<p>The Section fulfills this purpose through direct community engagement opportunities, including social and networking opportunities for members. The Section also provides at least</p>	

<p>one CLE for WSBA members each year. The Section has also worked with other community-focused organizations to promote collaboration on social and networking events, as well as mentorship programs and events.</p>	
<p>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"?</p>	
<p>The Section's involvement in research and presentation on changing areas of LGBTQ+-specific law promotes continuing knowledge development/sharing and community-specific competence within the legal community – thereby promoting ethical and professional practice, which has an immediate effect on justice for the community and community members as litigants, educators, counsel, judges, and members of the profession generally. The Section further promotes respect and civility within the legal community and between judges, lawyers, staff, and clients. The Section's educational programming includes discussions of best practices to ensure we are meeting the needs of all LGBTQ+ Washingtonians, including addressing implicit and explicit bias and homophobic and transphobic behavior and language in the courtroom. In addition, at our annual meeting each year we strive to discuss issues of professionalism that members may have come in contact with over the past year, ensuring that we are consistently serving our members' needs and addressing membership concerns. We also devote a significant portion of our educational programming to address respectful and inclusive language that further promotes the overall integrity and inclusivity of the profession.</p>	
<p>Top 2023 -2024 Section Accomplishments:</p>	
<p>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.</p>	
1	Host one half-day CLE and two lunch-hour/mini CLEs.
2	Co-host either a CLE or social event with another Section and/or community organization.
3	Develop a collaborative mentorship program for law students and/or new attorneys.
<p>Looking Ahead: <i>Please share any long-term goals and/or priorities that your entity aims to address.</i></p>	
1	Continue to establish relationships with colleges and universities throughout Washington State.

2	Continue to focus on engaging and serving members in all parts of Washington State.
3	Forge connections with QLaw.
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 is focused on serving lawyers and legal professionals who serve the LGBTQ+ community, which in itself is a very diverse community comprising individuals and families from various racial, ethnic, religious, national origin, gender, and socioeconomic backgrounds. Our efforts over the past year continued to focus on better serving Section members outside the Seattle area, as well as those in Seattle. We continue to encourage members of the WSBA of all backgrounds to consider joining our section, as well as our section's Executive Committee!</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>The Section appreciates the ongoing, strong relationship with the WSBA staff and Staff Liaison and Board of Governors/BOG Liaison as well as their helpful guidance. The monthly Section meetings have included informative updates on broader issues facing the WSBA, as well as the potential impact of these issues on the Section membership, as well as the legal profession within Washington and have helped to ensure that Section members are aware of opportunities to get involved. We look forward to further working with both of our BOG Liaisons and the WSBA staff and Staff Liaison over the coming year.</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
	\$ amount given through donations/scholarships/grants.
	Newsletters/publications produced

Sections

	Mini-CLEs produced		
	New Lawyer Outreach events/benefits		
	Recognitions/Awards given		
	Other (please describe):		
SECTION DATA <i>To Be Completed by WSBA Sections Team</i>			
Section Membership Information:	113		Membership Size: <i>(As of September 30, 2024)</i>
	\$4,102		FY24 Revenue (\$): For Sections Only: <i>As of September 30, 2024</i>
	\$6,050	\$0	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:	10		Size of Executive Committee: <i>(include and specify voting and non-voting positions)</i>
	10		Number of Vacancies for FY25: <i>The number of positions with terms beginning October 1, 2024 (FY25).</i>
	5		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.