

WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
LAW CLERK BOARD

Public Minutes
December 1, 2023

Law Clerk Board Members in Attendance

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emily Mowrey, Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> Alexa Ritchie |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tracy Finnegan | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Christell Casey |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Michelle Myers | <input type="checkbox"/> Paul Drutman |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Meyers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annemarie Weiss |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leone Reinbold | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gary Epperley |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Benjamin Phillabaum | |

Staff and others in attendance for some or all the meeting

Cathy Biestek, Managing Regulatory Counsel; Anne Trent, RSD Paralegal; and Katherine Skinner, Law Clerk Program Lead, Alma Zuniga and Zaida Rivera were also in attendance.

Public Session

Introductions

The Law Clerk Board (Board) began the meeting with introductions to welcome public members Alma and Zaida.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The October 6, 2023, public meeting minutes were approved.

Outreach and Updates

Katherine provided outreach updates, which included a bar news article authored by Christell Casey and Ben Phillabaum. Katherine attended three community colleges (Highline, South Puget Sound and Spokane), presenting to various classes on the Law Clerk Program.

Alma and Zaida provided information on the Northwest Justice Projects and the Heritage University Pipeline. Alma noted a few statistics that would be helpful to know in order to assist with further outreach. Katherine will work with Alma and Zaida to initiate further outreach efforts.

Draft Comment Re WBLTF Proposal

Katherine gave an overview on the recently established Program expansion committee (Gary, Annemarie and Ben), noting that they met to review and discuss the Washington Bar Licensure Task Force's proposal for the future of WA state bar admissions. Katherine provided the Board with a draft comment based on



the expansion committee's discussion. The Board approved the comment to send to the Board of Governors for approval to submit the comment.

Executive Session

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The October 6, 2023, confidential meeting minutes were approved.

Law Clerk Review

A Board member brought concerns to the Board that a law clerk may need to repeat a month due to an exam not being administered. The Board asked for Katherine to email the law clerk, attaching the APR 6 Rules and Regulations, making a note that the Board reviewed their situation during the Board meeting. If the Board does not see the advice is taken, they will bring it up again at a future meeting.

Requests

The Board approved two leave requests

The Board approved one request to add two books to the jurisprudence reading list:

- "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks" and "To Kill a Mockingbird"

The Board approved one fourth year proposal

- Employment Law

The Board deferred on fourth year proposal, requesting more detail and information

- Advanced Criminal Trial, Criminal Appeals, Forensic/Junk Science

Applications

The Board approved nine applications for enrollment in the Law Clerk Program beginning when the final confirmation letter is sent:

Evaluations

- The Board conducted two first-year evaluations and approved continuation in the program upon successful completion of all remaining first year coursework and book reports.
- The Board conducted four fourth-year evaluations and approved completion of the program upon successful completion of all remaining fourth-year coursework and book reports.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katherine Skinner, Law Clerk Program Lead

