

Annual Report 2012- 2013

(October 1, 2012 – September 30, 2013)

Section:Administrative LawSubmitted by:Heidi Ann WachterSection position:Section ChairDate submitted:10/15/13

1. Section highlights and accomplishments in 2012-2013.

The Administrative Law Section accomplishes its work through four standing committees, staffed mostly by board members and officers, but also by section members. The standing committees are: Legislative; CLE; Newsletter; and Publications.

Legislative Committee - **Richard Potter, Chair:** For the 2013 session the Committee regularly reviewed and referred legislative proposals including both House and Senate companion bills.

CLE Committee – Dawn Reitan, Chair: The Section's CLE Committee organized one mini-CLE preceding the Section's Annual Business meeting. This event was organized by Kristal Wiitala, Rebecca Glasgow and Marjorie Gray. The topic was HIPPA related disclosure considerations and resulted in approximately fifty attendees. The CLE committee is in need of a Chair for the 2013-2014 year due to Dawn Reitan being named Section Chair.

Newsletter Committee – Merrilee Harrell and Katy Hatfield, Co-Chairs: Under the continued leadership of Editor Merrilee Harrell, the Newsletter Committee has not only kept up its rigorous schedule and regularly publishing newsletters but also successfully transitioned the Chair position for the 2013-2014 year. The newsletter remains focused on Administrative Law with a comprehensive list of case summaries on administrative law decisions in the Washington Courts of Appeals, Supreme Court and Federal decisions.

Publications Committee – John Gray, Chair: Jeff Litwak serves as the Update Editor-in-Chief of the Washington Administrative Law Practice Manual

published by Lexis-Nexis. Ramsey Ramerman and Eric Stahl serve as co-editors of The Public Records Act Deskbook, published by the WSBA. Many hours of work were contributed by the many volunteer authors and senior editors to put out the increasingly recognized and quoted legal authority in this every-changing area.

Homan Award: The 2012 Frank Homan Award was presented to Alan Copsey at the Annual Section meeting. The section hosted a reception following the award presentation. The Frank Homan Award is given annually to an individual who has demonstrated contribution to the improvement or application of administrative law.

2. Section priorities, including new goals, for upcoming membership year.

Fiscal planning: The Section remains committed to good fiscal planning in light of section financial changes. Membership remains strong despite a recent section dues increase.

Website: Trustee Jim Robenalt kept the site updated.

Board meetings: The board met several times telephonically and once in person in addition to the Annual Retreat. The June meeting was a hard-working retreat where the Board networked, reviewed its accomplishments and planned for future events. Retreat Chair Suzanne Mager and event planner extraordinaire Margie Gray continue to deliver an excellent event and plans for another successful retreat are underway.

Annual meeting: Our Annual Meeting was held in conjunction with a mini-CLE and presentation of the Frank Homan Award. This was one of our best attended Annual Meetings.

3. Current and new benefits for section membership.

We continue to focus on committee service, events, and publications in provided high value benefits for members.

4. Section community involvement and special financial designations.

Janell Stewart oversaw the section's public service grants program and one public service grant was distributed. One \$2000 scholarship was awarded to a law student working pro bono in the area of Administrative Law. We received many applications and selected the winner based on her dedication to public service through administrative law. The winner, Jocelyn Whitely, wrote an article about her summer experience for our Fall 2013 newsletter and her biography was featured alongside the article.

5. Section activities supporting the WSBA Guiding Principles

The section is committed to providing networking and continuing education opportunities to members and those interested in administrative law. Board members attended Open Section Night and discussed the section with interested members of the Young Lawyers Division.

Our Board is engaged and committed and remains committed to our various activities and goals.

This board is committed to diversity – that is, all lawyers are welcome as section members and to participate fully in the section. We plan to continue efforts to support and mentor young lawyers and to promote diversity in the legal profession. Our grant program demonstrates our commitment to public service and access to justice.

Any member is encouraged to contact any officer or board member to convey ideas on how the section can improve and deliver benefits to section members. All members are welcome to volunteer for any of the section's committees

6. Section relationship with WSBA staff and the Board of Governors.

WSBA staff continues to support the section and has been very flexible with our changing CLE plans.