

WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

WSBA ENTITY ANNUAL REPORT FORM

FY 2023: October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023

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 FY2023 (October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023). 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 the staff liaison.

Submission Deadline is Friday, October 13: please submit by emailing barleaders@wsba.org or requesting that your staff liaison submit the report internally.

Name of Entity:	LGBTQ+ Law Section
Entity Size: <i>Total Number of Entity/Section Executive Committee Positions</i>	12
Chair or Co-Chairs:	Sean Dong
Staff Liaison: <i>Include name, job title, and department if known</i>	Carolyn MacGregor, WSBA Sections Program Specialist
Board of Governors Liaison(s):	Brent Williams-Ruth
Purpose of Entity: <i>May be stated in Bylaws, Charter, Court Rule, etc.</i>	
The purpose of the Section is to: Help members better serve their lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+)clients; improve understanding by members of the Bar of the legal needs of LGBTQ+ individuals in the State of Washington, which are often different from, and in addition to, those faced by the population at large; support the efforts of Section members to achieve the highest standards of competence, professionalism and ethics in their practices; assist LGBTQ+ residents of Washington state, and those who represent them, to better understand how their legal needs can be met; promote the study of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, and gender identification law,	

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and report on laws, decisions, and governmental regulations as they may affect the rights, responsibilities, and needs of LGBTQ+; provide a cooperative structure through which research and publications in the field of sexual orientation and gender identification issues can serve the needs of all members of the Section and Bar; provide a cooperative structure through which members of the Bar who are interested in sexual orientation and gender identification legal issues can work together to better understand the issues in the field and to develop and implement effective problem-solving approaches; act as a liaison between the Bar, its Board of Governors, state and national LGBTQ+ organizations and committees of other state bars and other organizations dedicated to serving the needs of the LGBTQ+ community; take action to raise the visibility of LGBTQ+ people and to increase the knowledge and awareness of legal issues facing the LGBTQ+ community; assist the efforts of the executive committee in any work undertaken with the Legislature, within the scope of General Rule 12, to enact and improve laws affecting members of the LGBTQ+ community and to assist the Judiciary in the administration of justice as it pertains to the LGBTQ+ community; take on tasks as requested by the executive committee and membership of the section to implement section goals and policies.

Strategy to Fulfill Purpose:

The Section focuses on providing educational and community-building opportunities to Section and WSBA by hosting CLEs and networking events.

How does the entity’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 helps to ensure that LGBTQ+ members of the bar and law students have a supportive network of colleagues who can serve as a resource to help them better serve the public. The Section also helps to enhance knowledge of LGBTQ+ legal issues among members of the WSBA generally so that they can better serve the LGBTQ+ community.

2022-2023 Entity Accomplishments:

This year the Section updated its bylaws to be more inclusive and facilitate participation by inactive members of the bar, who provide valuable perspectives and leadership. The Section also hosted a half-day CLE focused on current and forthcoming LGBTQ+ legal issues that provided attendees with information that will help them better serve their clients.

Looking Ahead: 2023-2024 Top Goals & Priorities:

1	Collaborating with QLaw, the LGBTQ+ Bar Association of Washington to host networking event for LGBTQ+ law students and professionals.
2	Recruiting members to the Executive Board, such as the Young Lawyer Liaison
3	Hosting a CLE regarding LGBTQ+ legal issues
4	Hosting new lawyer outreach event
5	Collaborating with other sections on events

Please describe how this entity is addressing diversity, equity, and inclusion:

How have you elicited input from a variety of perspectives in your 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 the profession? Other?

The Section strives to be as inclusive as possible. This year, the Section amended its bylaws to change its name from the “LGBT Law Section” to the “LGBTQ+ Law Section.” This purpose of this change was to better reflect the diversity of identities held by Section members and WSBA members more generally. The amended bylaws also allow for inactive members of the bar to participate in leadership roles so that members with different experiences and perspectives and who are at different places in their careers can contribute more fully to the Section going forward.

Please share feedback regarding the support and engagement provided by WSBA.

For example:

- *Quality of WSBA staff support/services, including technology solutions*
- *Involvement with Board of Governors, including assigned BOG liaison(s)*
- *Ideas you have for ways WSBA can continue to strengthen/support your entity.*

Carolyn and Brett have both been incredible resources for the Section and have consistently provided the Executive Committee with invaluable support and guidance. Carolyn’s guidance and patience helped to get the Section’s bylaw amendment across the finish line and she always made sure that the Executive Committee was informed and prepared with respect to next steps. The staff who assisted with planning and coordinating our CLE were also incredibly helpful.

SECTIONS ONLY: Please quantify your section’s 2022-2023 member benefits:

For example:

- *\$3000 Scholarships, donations, grants awarded;*
- *4 mini-CLEs produced*

0	Newsletters/publications produced
0	Mini-CLEs produced
1	Co-sponsored half-day, full-day and/or multi-day CLE seminars with WSBA
0	Co-sponsored half-day, full-day and/or multi-day CLE seminars with <i>non</i> -WSBA entity
0	Receptions/forums hosted or co-hosted
0	Scholarships, Donations, & Grants
0	New Lawyer Outreach events/benefits

	0	Other (please describe): Click or tap here to enter text.
SECTIONS ONLY: Please quantify your section's 2022-2023 legislative activity.	0	Bills Reviewed
	0	Bills tracked
	0	Comments proposed
	0	Bills proposed/drafted
Entity Detail Report: To Be Completed by WSBA Staff		
Number of Entity Members/Section Executive Committee Members:	9	
Number of Section Members: <i>As of September 1, 2023. Note: The Section Membership year runs on the calendar year.</i>	122	
Number of Applicants for FY24 Positions: <i>October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024</i>	1	
Do you have vacant positions for the coming year, FY24?	Yes - 2	
FY23 Budgeted Direct Expenses: <i>As of September 30, 2023. For Sections, this does not include the Per-Member-Charge.</i>	\$7,312	
FY23 Total Direct Expenses: <i>Draft estimate as of Dec. 1, 2023 For Sections, this does not include the Per-Member-Charge.</i>	\$1,941	

¹ 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.