Board of Governors
1st Congressional District Governor Position
Candidate Profile

PAUL SPATAFORE
WSBA #: 42139

I am an intellectual property attorney providing intellectual property counseling and portfolio management for clients of varying sizes across multiple fields of technology. Previously, I worked inhouse and for the government. My legal experience has given me a unique perspective on the law, including its evolution, application, and enforcement.

What is your understanding of the role of the WSBA Board of Governors and how do you intend to fulfill the roles and its obligations?

The Board of Governors (BOG) is a policy-making arm of the Washington State Bar Association (WSBA). The BOG also approves the annual WSBA budget. I intend to fulfill these roles and obligations by reviewing and commenting on the budget to ensure proper use and allocation of funds. I have previous experience in budget allocation and incentivizing payment of dues rather than punishing non-payment of dues. As an intellectual property attorney, I plan to aid in drafting policies and amendments for the WSBA and bring a different perspective, based on my legal background, when doing so.

Please share an example of how you’ve demonstrated your understanding and support of the WSBA mission to protect the public and the members of the Washington State Bar Association, to ensure the integrity of the legal profession and to champion justice?

Generally, I protect the members of the public by advocating for and defending their respective intellectual property rights. I advocate on behalf of members of the public before the United States Patent and Trademark Office to obtain intellectual property rights for the members of the public. I have also defended against demand letters in which the opposing party asserted infringement of intellectual property. I have also supported younger lawyers by providing guidance, whether professionally or academically. Supporting the growth of young lawyers is important for the development of the WSBA and the legal field generally.