

RULE OF LAW AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

# TOOL KIT



SCAN TO ACCESS  
THE WSBA'S  
RULE OF LAW  
AMBASSADOR  
WEBPAGE

The Rule of Law Ambassador Program provides guidance and resources for legal professionals to champion and defend legal institutions in our constitutional democracy. Here are three steps you can take now to help rebuild trust in the U.S. Constitution and Rule of Law:



## STEP ONE

**Make sure you're versed in the U.S. Constitution, the rule of law, and the functions of our democracy.**

The Washington Supreme Court calls on the WSBA, in GR 12.2, to "maintain and foster programs of public information and education about the law and the legal system."



**American Bar Association**  
**What is the Rule of Law?**



**WSBA CLE**  
**"Rule of Law and Constitutional Crises for Lawyer Ambassadors"**

Presented May 6, 2025, live; register or watch the recorded version of this free CLE at [www.wsba.org/ambassadors](http://www.wsba.org/ambassadors).



## STEP TWO

**Prepare to connect rather than correct when dispelling misinformation about the legal system.**

Lawyers have a unique and solemn obligation, as stated in the preamble to their Rules of Professional Conduct: "A lawyer should further the public's understanding of and confidence in the rule of law and the justice system because legal institutions in a constitutional democracy depend on popular participation and support to maintain their authority."



**Divided Community Project**  
**Speaking Out to Strengthen the Guardrails of Democracy**



**Guidance from UW's Information School**  
**"To Combat Misinformation, Start with Connection not Correction"**



## STEP THREE

**Demonstrate a non-partisan commitment to civil discourse about democracy in your community.**

The same laws apply to everyone, and everyone is treated equally under the law; government power is bound by law; and human rights are guaranteed to all. This is the promise of the rule of law in our constitutional democracy, and what we strive for in Washington.



**Divided Community Project, Moritz College of Law**  
**Key themes for speaking out**



**Ted Talk by Stephen J. Cox, Republican governor of Utah**  
**"How to Disagree with Respect, not Hate"**

**This list is for accessible, daily actions. It is just the start of an evolving, dynamic tool kit.**

If you're ready to go further, both the WSBA and American Bar Association are here to support our Ambassadors. Please reach out if you'd like to brainstorm about a step you're ready to take. You can request presentation templates, a speaker for a community or civic presentation, guidance for writing op-eds, and more. > [ambassadors@wsba.org](mailto:ambassadors@wsba.org)

# Oath of Attorney

I, \_\_\_\_\_ do solemnly declare:

- **I am** fully subject to the laws of the State of Washington and the laws of the United States and will abide by the same.
  - **I will** support the constitution of the State of Washington and the constitution of the United States.
  - **I will** abide by the Rules of Professional Conduct approved by the Supreme Court of the State of Washington.
  - **I will** maintain the respect due to the courts of justice and judicial officers.
  - **I will** not counsel, or maintain any suit, or proceeding, which shall appear to me to be unjust or any defense except as I believe to be honestly debatable under the law, unless it is in defense of a person charged with a public offense. I will employ for the purpose of maintaining the causes confided to me only those means consistent with truth and honor. I will never seek to mislead the judge or jury by any artifice or false statement.
  - **I will** maintain the confidence and preserve inviolate the secrets of my client, and will accept no compensation in connection with the business of my client unless this compensation is from or with the knowledge and approval of the client or with the approval of the court.
  - **I will** abstain from all offensive personalities, and advance no fact prejudicial to the honor or reputation of a party or witness unless required by the justice of the cause with which I am charged.
  - **I will** never reject, from any consideration personal to myself, the cause of the defenseless or oppressed, or delay unjustly the cause of any person.
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