

WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

Board of Governors

Kyle D. Sciuchetti, President

October 28, 2020

A Message of Gratitude:

People throughout our communities, state, nation, and world have been significantly and irretrievably impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic. We have had to adjust and readjust all aspects of life to prioritize health and safety, and our day to day lives might never look the same again. As legal practitioners, we have faced uncertainty, changes in processes and procedures, and deep anxiety on how to safely and efficiently keep the wheels of justice turning, during a time when many people—especially our vulnerable populations—need access to justice more than ever.

As one of my first acts as WSBA President, I want to officially recognize a group that has not only stood up bravely in the face of so much uncertainty but has reached deeper and risen higher in their humanity to give even more of themselves. This is a group of colleagues and community members who volunteer countless hours of their time and expertise to uphold and uplift the integrity of the legal profession. I am speaking, of course, about our WSBA volunteers.

We have more than 1,000 volunteers who are the backbone of the regulatory and professional services provided by the state bar. They are the boots on the ground, tackling problems and providing resources through entities like the Disciplinary Board, Legislative Review Committee, Client Protection Board, Pro Bono and Public Service Committee, the 29 Sections and, so, so many more. When I first began volunteering with WSBA, I was surprised at how robust this volunteer network is and how proud I was to be a part of an organization filled with people volunteering their time and energy to improve our society, judicial system and the law. As I embark on my term as President, that feeling has evolved into immense gratitude as I have witnessed the enormous difference our volunteers make each and every day.

And I will say again: This is an unprecedented year, and our WSBA volunteers have responded in unprecedented ways. They have transitioned their work and relationships to virtual processes while stepping up to do even more to serve their fellow legal professionals and community members, who have desperately needed new legal resources

and problem-solving during the pandemic. It has been a big lift, but, I am inspired and hopeful for the future because of the work I have seen our volunteers do in furtherance of the WSBA's mission to champion justice.

On behalf of myself and the WSBA Board of Governors, to each and every one of our WSBA volunteers: I want to express our sincere gratitude and recognition of your outstanding and extraordinary commitment to this profession and the people we serve. Thank you. Thank you for adapting to this unprecedented time with grace and a steadfast focus on the work to be done for the betterment of the legal profession. Thank you for your time, which was and is now more so than ever, a precious resource. Thank you for your participation, for showing up with ideas and energy, for joining together, and for engaging in such meaningful pursuits when the need to prioritize elsewhere can be so great.

Thank you.

I am committed to recognizing your contribution to this organization and the public despite any restrictions the Coronavirus pandemic might place upon us. That includes transmitting this letter of thanks through as many channels as possible. This message will be read aloud at the November 2020 Board of Governors meeting, included in the board meeting materials, posted online, and sent to our volunteer community.

With immeasurable gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'K' followed by a horizontal line.

Kyle D. Sciuchetti, President of Washington State Bar Association and on behalf of the Board of Governors