

WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
LAW CLERK BOARD

Public Meeting Minutes
October 4, 2024

Law Clerk Board Members in Attendance

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emily Rose, Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alexa Ritchie |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tracy Finnegan | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Christell Casey |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Myers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sarah Propst |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Meyers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annemarie Weiss |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leone Reinbold | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gary Epperley |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Benjamin Phillabaum | |

Staff and others in attendance for some or all the meeting

Cathy Biestek, Managing Regulatory Counsel. Delina Tesfamichael, Temporary RSD Paralegal, was also in attendance for the morning session.

Public Session

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The August 2, 2024, public meeting minutes were approved.

Outreach and Updates

Cathy updated the Law Clerk Board (Board) on the July 2024 bar exam pass rate for law clerks, the Law Clerk Program signs, staff attendance at NFPA Paralegal Convention for outreach and at Pathways to Legal Diversity Summit. The Board was encouraged to attend the WSBA Regulatory School training on October 28 and was asked for volunteers to attend meeting regarding 3L applications for bar exam and to assist with a CLE regarding the Law Clerk Program.

Expansion Committee – Tutor Survey

Ben provided an update on a recent expansion committee meeting and results were shared with the Board from the survey that was sent to current and past tutors in the law clerk program.

Early Bar Exam Eligibility

Emily shared about her meeting with Washington law school deans and the WSBA on the topic of early bar exam eligibility for 3Ls and 4th year law clerks. The Board expressed concerns and some acknowledged that this could be a good option for some law clerks. Emily will attend the next meeting and share the Board's feedback.



Executive Session

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The August 2, 2024, confidential meeting minutes were approved.

Requests

The Board reviewed four (4) requests for leave of absence.

Applications

The Board approved ten applications for enrollment in the Law Clerk Program beginning when the final confirmation letter is sent.

The Board deferred two applications for enrollment in the Law Clerk Program.

Evaluations

- The Board conducted four (4) first-year evaluations and approved continuation in the program upon successful completion of all remaining first year coursework and book reports.
- The Board conducted six (6) fourth-year evaluations and approved completion of the program upon successful completion of all remaining fourth-year coursework and book reports.

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cathy Biestek, Managing Regulatory Counsel

