

WASHINGTON STATE B A R A S S O C I A T I O N

2020 SECTION ANNUAL REPORT

January 1 - December 31, 2020

Deadline: Friday, December 4, 2020

| | | |
|---|---|-------------|
| Name of the Section: | Antitrust, Consumer Protection, & Unfair Business Practices | |
| Chair: | Eric Weiss and Danica Noble | |
| Section Information: <i>*To be completed by WSBA Staff*</i> | Membership Size: <i>(As of December 1, 2020)</i> | 202 |
| | Staff Lead: | Eleen Trang |
| | FY21 BOG Liaison: | Tom McBride |
| | FY20 revenue (\$): <i>As of September 30, 2020</i> | \$5,634.07 |
| | FY20 direct expenses (\$): <i>(As of September 30, 2020; does not include the Per-Member-Charge)</i> | \$2,191.21 |
| Purpose: <i>(Usually stated in the Section's Bylaws)</i> | To encourage interest, quality, and comradery in the practice of antitrust, consumer protection, and unfair business practices law in the State of Washington. | |
| 2020 Accomplishments and Work in Progress: | <p>Our Section has had three major accomplishments in 2020.</p> <p>First, we continue to produce mini-CLEs on varied topics with guest speakers and member-produced content. This year's mini-CLEs included: Hear from the Enforcers (FTC and WA AG's Office); Modern Mentoring: Unlocking Value for Everyone; and Meet the Directors of the Federal Trade Commission's Bureau of Competition. We are planning a mini-CLE for February on Telling the Future: Antitrust and the New Administration.</p> <p>Second, the section hosted its annual Antitrust Law Day in coordination with Seattle University and University of Washington</p> | |

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| | <p>law schools. Like past years, the event was well-attended, even as a virtual event.</p> <p>Third, one of our executive members published a post in the WSBA’s blog The Side Bar introducing a new consumer fraud reporting tool used to identify enforcement and education opportunities by many law enforcement agencies.</p> <p>Finally, the Section awarded five \$500 grants. The grants were awarded to students from Washington’s three law schools. To apply, students submitted a brief essay describing why the practice of antitrust or, alternatively, the practice of consumer protection law is important. A trio of law professors selected the winners for each essay topic for each school. The Section intends to publish the winning essays in a newsletter to the Section.</p> <p>We hope to make this an annual Section activity and are in the progress of designing the process for year 2 of the grant program.</p> | |
| <p>Please quantify your section’s current member benefits:</p> <p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$3000 Scholarships, donations, grants awarded; • 4 mini-CLEs produced | <p>Quantity</p> | <p>Member Benefit</p> |
| | <p>\$2500</p> | <p>Scholarships, donations, grants awarded (\$ amount)</p> |
| | <p>1-2</p> | <p>Law school outreach events/benefits hosted</p> |
| | | <p>Legislative bills reviewed/drafted</p> |
| | <p>1</p> | <p>Newsletters/publications produced</p> |
| | <p>3</p> | <p>Mini-CLEs produced</p> |
| | | <p>Co-sponsored half-day, full-day and/or multi-day CLE seminars with WSBA</p> |
| | | <p>Co-sponsored half-day, full-day and/or multi-day CLE seminars with non-WSBA entity</p> |
| | <p>1</p> | <p>Receptions/forums hosted or co-hosted</p> |
| | <p>5</p> | <p>Recognitions/Awards given</p> |
| | <p>1</p> | <p>New Lawyer Outreach events/benefits</p> |
| | | <p>Other (please describe):</p> |
| <p>Looking Ahead: Goals & Priorities for 2021 (Top 5)</p> | <p>1</p> | <p>To standardize our grant program offered to students at law schools in Washington interested in antitrust and consumer protection law.</p> |

| | | |
|--|----------|---|
| | 2 | Continue to produce and deliver quality continuing legal education. |
| | 3 | Improve our Section communication and offerings in a more virtual environment. |
| | 4 | Increase the diversity of representatives on the executive committee and in leadership. |
| | 5 | Recruit new members. |

Please report how this section is addressing diversity:

(Are you using any of the tools provided by WSBA and if so, how? Have you sought out training or consultation from the Diversity Specialist? 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 section done to promote equitable conditions for members from historically underrepresented backgrounds to enter, stay, thrive, and eventually lead the profession?)

In February, we hosted a mini-CLE on working with and mentoring (both formally and informally) law students and young lawyers in the antitrust and consumer protection world. The CLE was followed by a networking event. Prior to putting this together, two section executive committee members attended a diversity and inclusion program for legal intern supervisors at the University of Washington. We incorporated best practices learned at that program into the CLE. We consulted EEOC representatives for input and suggestions on the program.

In addition, the executive committee regularly welcomes visitors to its meetings, and the executive committee is given opportunities to add to the agenda before the meetings, during the meetings, and after the meetings. Contributions are widely solicited.

Finally, to promote interest in our section and in antitrust and consumer protection generally, we have long-standing events at law schools that expose students to these practice areas and make practitioners available for questions. Our executive committee members also meet with interested students and legal professionals who want to learn more about antitrust and consumer protection.

We would be happy to learn how the Diversity Specialist could assist in our efforts.

Please report how this section is addressing professionalism:

(Does the section’s work promote respect and civility within the legal community? Does it seek to improve relationships between and among lawyers, judges, staff and clients? Does it raise awareness about the causes and/or consequences of unprofessional behavior?)

The Section offers networking opportunities. We also encourage our members to propose ideas for CLEs or events that are meaningful to them and always aim to host one ethics-themed CLE each year. We co-sponsor events with other sections and invite a range of speakers. Finally, our executive committee members serve as volunteer judges on the moot court/mock trials at local law schools.

Please report how this section is integrating new and young lawyers into its work:

(How have you brought new and young lawyers into your decision making process? Has the section supported new and young lawyers by (for example) helping to find and prepare them for employment, assisting with debt management, building community, and providing leadership opportunities?)

We always try to recruit a young lawyer liaison and engage them in our process with meaningful work and opportunities to develop programs in which they are interested. Our new young lawyer liaison, Paula, is very engaged and has many ideas for how to increase engagement of other young lawyers. In addition, our newest executive committee members include young lawyers. Our Section has also been a part of Antitrust Day for more than a decade. This event brings practitioners of competition law in front of law students at Seattle University and University of Washington. Finally, in the past we have hosted a pizza reception and networking event following our Consumer Protection Law Half –Day at Perkins Coie with participation with many law students as well and we hope to reintroduce that practice when health and safety permit.

Please describe your Executive Committee’s relationship with WSBA staff and the Board of Governors.

For example:

- *Quality of WSBA staff support/services provided to Section Executive Committee*
- *Involvement with Board of Governors, including assigned BOG liaison*
- *Ideas you have on ways WSBA can continue to strengthen/support services to sections.*

Our WSBA staff liaison Eleen Trang and other WSBA representatives have been responsive and helpful. Our interactions with the BOG have been minimal.

The Section continues to believe that WSBA staff could improve attendance at mini-CLEs or other programming by providing reminders (automated or otherwise) to those who have registered 24-48 hours before the event. Another idea is sending registration confirmations as calendar invites.



Note: Annual Reports will be provided to the WSBA Executive Director and Board of Governors and will be posted on your section's webpage. We encourage you to share the Annual Report with your BOG liaison and section membership.

Reports are scheduled to be included in the January 2021 BOG Meeting Materials.

Return by December 4, 2020 to eleent@wsba.org