

WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

WSBA ENTITY ANNUAL REPORT

FY 2021: October 1, 2020 – September 30, 2021

The mission of the Washington State Bar Association is to serve the public and the members of the Bar, to ensure integrity of the legal profession, and to champion justice.

Instructions: In accordance with the WSBA Bylaws, Committees, Other Bar Entities (excluding Regulatory Boards¹), Councils, and Sections must submit an annual report to the Executive Director. The information below should reflect the activities and outcomes from the fiscal year October 1, 2020 – September 30, 2021. Information in the annual report will be provided to the Executive Director and Board of Governors, and may be published for other purposes, such as *Bar News*, volunteer recruitment messaging, and other WSBA activity-based reporting.

It is recommended that completion of the annual report be a collaborative effort with members of your entity, the BOG liaison, and staff liaison.

Submission Deadline is Friday, December 3: please submit by emailing to Sections Program Specialist Carolyn MacGregor carolynm@wsba.org.

Name of Entity:	Alternative Dispute Resolution Section
Chair or Co-Chairs:	Mel Simburg
Staff Liaison: <i>(include name, job title, and department if known)</i>	Carolyn MacGregor
Board of Governors Liaison:	Alec Stephens, Jr.
Purpose of Entity: <i>May be stated in Bylaws, Charter, Court Rule, etc.</i>	
	Promoting Informed Use and Best Practices for ADR in Washington
Strategy to Fulfill Purpose:	
	Our goals: (1) provide resources; (2) educate members of the bar and the public; and (3) address issues relating to the growth and development of alternative dispute resolution services in the State of Washington.
How does the entity’s purpose help further the mission of the WSBA “to serve the public and the members of the Bar, to ensure integrity of the legal profession, and to champion justice”?	
	Educating members of the Bar and the public about ADR serves to bring awareness to nonlitigation methods of resolving disputes. These methods can be more efficient, less expensive, faster, allow party control of the process, provide for the use of experts in the subject matter as decision-makers,

and allow privacy in the dispute resolution process. We also serve members of the Bar by bringing CLE opportunities in ADR subjects and procedures, by holding networking events, and by providing channels to communicate with other Section Members and with other ADR professionals or interested parties. We also monitor legislation and comment on legislation to further ensure the integrity and utility of ADR processes.

2020-2021 Entity Accomplishments:

Toward the end of the 2020 fiscal year, the section organized a Legal Lunchbox WSBA CLE presentation on Online Dispute Resolution that attracted over 2000 attendees. That webinar remains available as a WSBA On Demand offering. Then, through a series of workshops, the section helped attendees get comfortable using Zoom and related videoconferencing tools, with a focus on navigating confidentiality and ethics issues that arise in online practice. As more trainings became available through third parties, the section shifted to providing regular, free online best practices forums in which attendees share experiences and improvised solutions to unexpected calamities, both technological and technically in terms of procedures and documents tailored for online practice. Drawing on relationships with legal and dispute resolution organizations in British Columbia and California, WSBA members now can access free online best practices forums every month. The section provided input on the legislative process reviewing for adoption in Washington the Uniform Family Law Arbitration Act, and held a Q&A online with their Section Members, with two members of the Uniform Law Commission, the Chair and the Reporter of the Drafting Committee. The Executive Committee has collaborated with the three law schools in Washington on involving practitioners with students and law school programs/competitions on ADR. The section participated in the Gonzaga Law School Outreach Event in October 2020. The section has helped the law schools promote their negotiation and ADR competitions and find guest judges for the events. The section sent a survey to Section Members to learn what they value and want most from their Section. The responses have guided the section to provide more learning and networking opportunities. The section has organized a "Happy Hour Northwest" Zoom interactive substantive and networking event that takes place the first Thursday evening of each month. The section has opened up their Listserv to be unmonitored and available to all ADR Section Members to post directly, and are trying to provide more content and discussions on the Listserv. In that regard, the section is regularly circulating on the Listserv information about ADR activities, presentations, and conferences. In January 2021 the section cooperated with the RPPT Section on a forum addressing "Mandatory Eviction Mediation Legislation." The section held their annual Executive Committee Retreat by web conference in September 2021. They focused on (i) their Mission Statement, (2) ExCom Group Dynamics, (3) Communication, and (4) Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. The Retreat resulted in several action items, including planning a facilitated conversation about DEI for January 2022. The University of Washington, their primary partner in the Northwest Dispute Resolution Conference, pulled out of future conferences. The section reorganized the conference approach and in October 2021 held a successful online conference with several partners outside the State of Washington, including participants from British Columbia, entitled "Northwest Collaborative Futures Conference: Deconstructing Artificial Borders." The ADR Section is collaborating on the repeat presentation of a WSBA-CLE presentation on Arbitrator Ethics, which will take place on December 1, 2021. And they are supporting the International Practice Section

on a CLE to take place December 8, 2021 entitled “Tips to Resolving Disputes Cross Border.”

Looking Ahead: 2021-2022 Top Goals & Priorities:

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| 1 | Outreach to Section Members and beyond our Section. |
| 2 | Integrate DEI into our outreach, in addition to age and geographic diversity. |
| 3 | Improve communications by addressing our website and Listserv uses and potential changes. |
| 4 | Continue cooperation with other organizations to present a major Northwest Dispute Resolution Conference annually and other ADR CLEs and networking opportunities. |
| 5 | Click or tap here to enter text. |

Please report how this entity is addressing diversity, equity, and inclusion:

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 committee/board done to promote equitable conditions for members from historically underrepresented backgrounds to enter, stay, thrive, and eventually lead the profession? Other?

We have scheduled a facilitated conversation on DEI for our Executive Committee, to take place in January 2022.

Please describe the relationship with WSBA staff and the Board of Governors.

For example:

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

We have enjoyed close communications with and great support from our WSBA staff liaison and other WSBA personnel. They have helped us accomplish our projects and helped us negotiate WSBA filings and permissions. Our new BOG liaison has attended his first ExCom meeting, which was not the case for previous BOB liaisons. We have learned that the earlier we involve WSBA staff in our planning processes the better. Our staff liaison does attend our monthly meetings when she can.

SECTIONS ONLY: Please quantify your section’s 2020-2021 member benefits:

For example:

- *\$3000 Scholarships, donations, grants awarded;*
- *4 mini-CLEs produced*

We post content and blogs on our website. We are expanding use of our listserv.

Newsletters/publications produced

Monthly “Happy Hour” web conferences.

Mini-CLEs produced

	We are cooperating on one half-day and one 1.5-hour CLE to take place in December 2021.	Co-sponsored half-day, full-day and/or multi-day CLE seminars with WSBA
	In October 2021 we held a two-day CLE with multiple sponsoring organizations.	Co-sponsored half-day, full-day and/or multi-day CLE seminars with <i>non</i> -WSBA entity
	Two forums in January 2021 with the RPPT Section on The Eviction Moratorium and Pending Legislation.	Receptions/forums hosted or co-hosted
	Click or tap here to enter text.	Recognitions/Awards given
	We have cooperated with the law schools on events and ADR competitions.	New Lawyer Outreach events/benefits
	Click or tap here to enter text.	Other (please describe):

**Entity Detail & Demographics Report:
To Be Completed by WSBA Staff**

Size of Entity:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Membership Size: (for Sections Only) <i>(As of September 30, 2021)</i>	Click or tap here to enter text.
Number of Applicants for FY22 <i>(October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022)</i>	Click or tap here to enter text.
How many current volunteer position vacancies for this entity?	Click or tap here to enter text.
FY21 Revenue (\$): For Sections Only: <i>As of September 30, 2021</i>	Click or tap here to enter text.

Direct Expenses:

As of September 30, 2021. For Sections, this does not include the Per-Member-Charge.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Indirect Expenses:

Click or tap here to enter text.

FY21 Demographics:

The WSBA promotes diversity, equality, and cultural competence in the courts, legal profession, and the bar, and is committed to ensuring that its committees, boards, and panels reflect the diversity of its membership.

Aside from the factors marked (*), demographic information was provided voluntarily and individuals had the option to not respond to any or all of the factors below.

Disability:	Yes:	No:	No Response:	
Ethnicity:	American Indian/Native American/Alaskan Native:	Asian:	Black/African-American/African Descent:	Hispanic/Latinx:
	Middle-Eastern Descent:	Multi-Racial/Biracial:	Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian:	White/European Descent:
	Not Listed:	No response:		
Gender:	Female:	Male:	Non-Binary:	Transgender:
	Two-spirit:	Not Listed:	No Response:	
Geographic*:	District 1:	District 2:	District 3:	District 4:
	District 5:	District 6:	District 7S:	District 7N:
	District 8:	District 9:	District 10:	Other:
New/Young Lawyer*:	Yes:	No:		
Sexual Orientation:	Asexual:	Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Pansexual, or Queer:	Heterosexual:	Two-spirit:
	Not Listed:	No Response:		

ⁱ The Access to Justice Board (not regulatory, but applicable to the distinction herein) and Regulatory Boards (Disciplinary Board, LLLT Board, Limited Practice Board, MCLE Board and Practice of Law Board) are not required by Bylaws or Court Rule submit an annual report to WSBA. However, as part of the administration of monitoring of Regulatory Boards, the Boards listed herein typically provide an annual report to the Court and WSBA should be provided this same report an annual basis.