

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:	<i>Elder Law Section</i>	
Chair:	<i>Miriam J. Ayoub</i>	
Section Information: <i>*To be completed by WSBA Staff*</i>	Membership Size: <i>(As of December 1, 2020)</i>	653
	Staff Lead:	Eleen Trang
	BOG Liaison:	Sunitha Anjilvel
	FY20 revenue (\$): <i>As of September 30, 2020</i>	\$23,201.16
	FY20 direct expenses (\$): <i>(As of September 30, 2020; does not include the Per-Member-Charge)</i>	\$16,401.43
Purpose: <i>(Usually stated in the Section's Bylaws)</i>	<p><i>The purpose of the Section is to:</i></p> <p><i>Improve understanding by members of the Bar of the legal needs that are faced by older adults in the State of Washington, which are often different from and in addition to those faced by the population at large;</i></p> <p><i>Provide a cooperative structure through which members of the Bar who are interested in Elder Law issues can work together to better understand the issues in the field and effective problem-solving approaches;</i></p> <p><i>Assist the older adults of Washington State, and those who represent the elderly, to better understand how their legal needs can be met;</i></p> <p><i>Strengthen the ability by members of the Bar to more effectively identify the legal needs of the elderly. Provide information to and facilitate coordination with those agencies of government that provide services to the elderly in the State of Washington;</i></p>	

	<p><i>Act as a liaison between the Bar, its Board of Governors, and other organizations dedicated to serving the needs of the elderly;</i></p> <p><i>Provide a cooperative structure through which research and publications in the field of Elder Law can serve the needs of all members of the Section and Bar.</i></p> <p><i>Elder Law Section Bylaws 2.0</i></p>	
<p>2020 Accomplishments and Work in Progress:</p>	<p><i>The Elder Law Section continues to support a summer internship in Elder Law. The intern is selected each year on a rotating schedule from each of Washington State’s three law schools. The scholar is hosted at Northwest Justice Project, where the intern spends the summer serving low-income older adults on a pro bono bases. The internship is in honor of Peter Greenfield, who devoted his life to the service of seniors and critical legal and policy issues in the elder law field.</i></p> <p><i>The Elder Law Section raises funds for the summer internship in Elder Law by hosting an annual fundraiser. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Section did not hold a fundraiser in 2020. Fortunately, the fundraiser has been so successful in the past that the Section has raised enough money for internships for the next two years. The Section hopes to host a fundraiser in 2021; however, this will be dependent on the state of the pandemic.</i></p> <p><i>In addition, the Section provides an annual donation (\$15,000) to the WSBA Legal Foundation of Washington to be used solely for the benefit of Northwest Justice Project (formerly this donation was made to Columbia Legal Services) for the production of Medicaid Bulletins.</i></p> <p><i>The Elder Law Section collaborates and shares legal information through its listserv. The listserv participants are very active and engaged and have created a community of practitioners across the state.</i></p> <p><i>The Executive Committee of the Elder Law Section continues to be highly engaged in the legislative process concerning elder law issues. The Executive Committee meets on a monthly basis with an annual all-day retreat. Meetings have continued virtually during the pandemic.</i></p>	
	<p>Quantity</p>	<p>Member Benefit</p>
	<p>\$15,000+</p>	<p>Scholarships, donations, grants awarded (\$ amount)</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 	Unknown at this time *dependent on covid*	Law school outreach events/benefits hosted
	Many	Legislative bills reviewed/drafted
	0	Newsletters/publications produced
	0	Mini-CLEs produced
	2	Co-sponsored half-day, full-day and/or multi-day CLE seminars with WSBA
	0	Co-sponsored half-day, full-day and/or multi-day CLE seminars with non-WSBA entity
	Unknown at this time *dependent on covid*	Receptions/forums hosted or co-hosted
	0	Recognitions/Awards given
	Unknown at this time *dependent on covid*	New Lawyer Outreach events/benefits
		Other (please describe):
<p>Looking Ahead: Goals & Priorities for 2021 (Top 5)</p>	1	<i>Continue to monitor legislation affecting elder law.</i>
	2	<i>Co-sponsor two one-day CLE programs with the WSBA.</i>
	3	<i>Continue to promote and support the Peter Greenfield Internship program with Columbia Legal Services and the state's three law schools.</i>
	4	<i>Continue to support members through list serve and website updates.</i>

	5	<i>Provide social, mentoring and networking opportunities for members.</i>
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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?)

The Section is working with the WSBA and internally to increase diversity on the Executive Committee, within the Elder Law Section, and at the CLEs we co-sponsor.

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 Elder Law Section prides itself on its collegiality among members. Our section continues to encourage civility, collegiality, and professionalism. Our section has an active listserv where participants treat each other with respect and civility and generally cultivate a culture of collaboration. In addition, the Section’s legislative engagement and CLE programs promote and improve relationships between and among lawyers, legislators, judges, professors and others in the community.

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?)

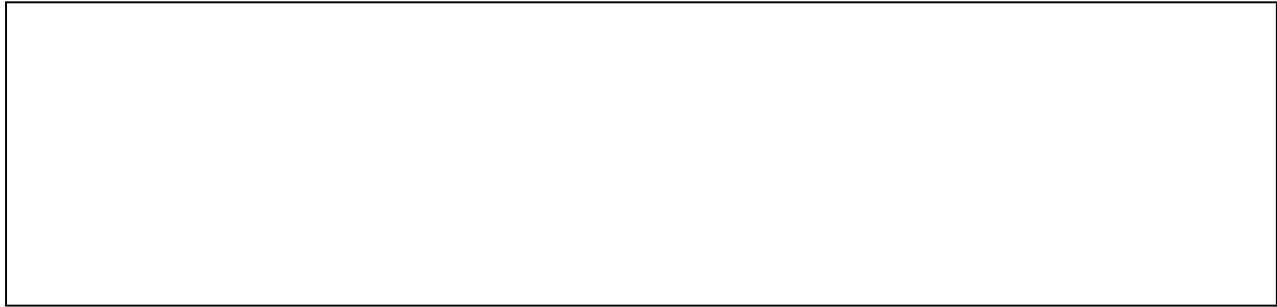
The Elder Law Section has a Mentorship and Outreach committee that is tasked with reaching out to new and young lawyers. In the past, our Section hosted numerous events that included mentorship opportunities for new and young lawyers. The Section plans to continue to host events that benefit new and young attorneys once it is safe to do so. Further, the Elder Law Section has a Young Lawyer Liaison who is involved in all of the Executive Committees communications and meetings. Finally, the Section sponsors a summer intern in Elder Law every year with the goal of encouraging new lawyers interested in the field to make connections and gain experience.

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.*

The Elder Law Section has a fantastic working relationship with the WSBA and its staff. We are very fortunate to work with Eleen Trang, who is an incredibly helpful and responsive resource to our Section. Through our annual fundraiser, we have also worked with Laura Sanford at the Law Foundation who goes above and beyond to ensure that our event runs smoothly.



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