

Gravis Law

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Executive Committee WSBA Litigation Section

Statement of Interest

To the Executive Committee and Members of the Litigation Section:

My name is Bil Childress. I'm a trial lawyer based in Spokane, and I've practiced in the state and federal courts of Washington, Idaho, and elsewhere since 2012. I am currently a senior attorney at Gravis Law, having spent the first seven years of my career working closely with Bob Dunn and Susan Nelson at Dunn & Black.

I joined the Executive Committee of the Litigation Section almost two years ago, when I volunteered to fill the then-vacant position of Secretary-Treasurer. The Committee appointed me to serve in that capacity for the 2023-24 term. During that time, I also served on the CLE sub-committee and was a co-presenter at the Section's October 2024 CLE. When my term as Secretary-Treasurer ended last fall, the Executive Committee appointed me to fill the vacant Chair-Elect position for 2024-25, which would place me in line to serve a Chair of the Committee for 2025-26.

I want to serve on the Executive Committee of this Section because I know that litigation is demanding and stressful and challenging, professionally and personally. Because our cases and our clients are often, if not always, high-conflict, trial work is inherently difficult. And it is precisely *because* of the nature of our work that we are called to professionalism and to civility. When we work together outside the courtroom and conference room, we become better practitioners. When we get to know each other, when we listen to each other, we become better equipped to serve our clients, to solve their problems, and to resolve their disputes.

I want to continue serving on the Executive Committee because the Litigation Section helps us make the personal and professional connections that are crucial if we are to fulfill our role as advocates and officers of the court, to support and maintain the rule of law, and to litigate without losing our selves.

Thank you,

Bil G. Childress