

## Washington State Bar Association

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### Joseph E. Shorin III Receives Washington State Bar Association Local Hero Award

*Joseph E. Shorin III commended for his compassion and dedication to public service*

OLYMPIA, WA [March 7, 2019] — The Washington State Bar Association (WSBA) has named Joseph E. Shorin III as the most recent recipient of the Local Hero Award, in recognition of his compassion, commitment to helping others, and invaluable mentoring to his colleagues at the Washington Attorney General’s Office (AGO).

The Local Hero Award is given to those who have made noteworthy contributions to their communities. **WSBA President Bill Pickett will present the award at a luncheon on Thursday, March 7, at Hotel RL in Olympia, Wash.** Shorin was nominated by the Thurston County Bar Association.

In a heartfelt praise of the impact Shorin has had on her life and the lives of many others, Legal Administrative Assistant Hang Nguyen-Le, wrote, “Compassion has driven Joe to become involved with the community and public on a great scale; his work through various pro bono groups, community outreach programs, and dedication to public service through his work with the AGO—all of these have contributed to positively changing the course of many people’s lives.”

Currently division chief with the AGO Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Division, Shorin has been with the AGO since 1990 and had lasting impact on his coworkers, his community, and AGO processes. Shorin was instrumental in the AGO’s work on eDiscovery issues and took his expertise to serve as an advanced discovery trainer for the National Association of Attorneys General. He is a lauded mentor who, as Nguyen-Le described, “insists that others succeed.” He is a frequent speaker at CLEs and has been a supervisor in three different divisions at the AGO where he’s worked on notable cases like the cleanup of the Hanford site and the *U.S. v. Washington* culverts case.

Shorin also serves as vice president of operations for the Panza Board of Directors, which oversees the Olympia Quixote Village of 30 “tiny houses” that provide a safe and supportive environment for people to transition out of chronic homelessness. He’s helped secure funding for Panza to build additional support communities and led other charitable campaigns, even holding fundraisers from his own home. Shorin has served on local boards such as the Thurston County Volunteer Legal Clinic, the Cooper Point Association, the Thurston County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, the Olympia Unitarian Universalist Congregation, the Washington State Bar Foundation’s Loan Repayment Assistance Advisory Committee, and the NOVA School.

“In all that Joe does, his concern and empathy for people is evident,” Deputy Attorney General Kristen Mitchell and Senior Assistant Attorney General Laura Watson wrote in a joint statement of support. “Those of us lucky to work with him at the Attorney General’s Office are grateful for his generous spirit and high standards of service.”

#### **About the Washington State Bar Association**

The WSBA operates under the delegated authority of the Washington Supreme Court to license the state’s nearly 40,000 lawyers and other legal professionals. In furtherance of its obligation to protect and serve the public, the WSBA both regulates lawyers and other legal professionals and serves its members as a professional association — all without public funding. The WSBA’s mission is to serve the public and the members of the Bar, to ensure the integrity of the legal profession, and to champion justice. For more information, visit [www.wsba.org](http://www.wsba.org).

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