



STATE BAR OF WISCONSIN

Your Practice. Our Purpose.®

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Governors
From: Larry J. Martin, Executive Director
Date: April 25, 2022
Re: Executive Director Report

Before I tell you about the good work that our organization has been doing the last few months, I wanted to take a moment to talk about the tragedies unfolding in Ukraine and our efforts to provide support. Like you, I have felt a sick feeling of helplessness as millions of adults and children have fled the senseless bombing of homes, schools, hospitals, and neighborhoods.

We have learned from history that lawyers, along with teachers, religious leaders, and local elected officials, often are targeted first when brutal dictators seek to destroy a society to ensure compliance with their own demands. Legal communities are the collective Atticus Finch standing between those in need of defense and senseless mobs and oppressors.



***Larry J. Martin** is the executive director for the State Bar of Wisconsin.*

No matter your area of practice, know that every day, society relies on you to ensure we are all treated equally under the law. You are vital to a stable and free society because you are democracy's first line of defense.

It's why I'm proud of the incredible response we received from our virtual "passing of the hat" that raised more than \$5,000 – smashing our original \$1,000 goal – to help UNICEF provide critically needed supplies and humanitarian effort for Ukrainian children and families.

We reached this significant fundraising goal thanks to staff member Erin Everett, who initiated the fundraiser idea, as well as the generosity of State Bar member leaders, past presidents, Fellows of the Wisconsin Law Foundation, and State Bar staff. A deep appreciation to all involved.

Thank you for your continued support. Stay well and, as always, ever forward!

RECENT COLUMNS of Interest

In case you missed my recent columns in the *Wisconsin Lawyer*[™] magazine:

- **It's Time To Reconnect: 2022 Annual Meeting & Conference:** The State Bar of Wisconsin's 2022 Annual Meeting & Conference provides great opportunities to relax, rejuvenate, and reconnect in person with lawyers and other legal professionals (April 2022).
- **Reader Input Improves State Bar Output:** We strive to better understand your reading preferences, the information you are interested in, and how we can best deliver it. You can help by taking a few minutes to respond to the upcoming Readership Survey (March 2022).

UPCOMING EVENTS to Keep on Your Radar

2022 State Bar Annual Meeting & Conference

June 16-17, Grand Geneva Resort, Lake Geneva

It's Time to Connect. Learn. Relax.

We're rolling into the Annual Meeting & Conference with great excitement! We have a terrific lineup of speakers and special guests (more on that below). And this year we will have another strong bench/bar component: Judge Randy Koschnick, Director of

State Courts, will be paying the tuition costs for Circuit Court Judges, Court of Appeals Judges, and Supreme Court Justices who wish to attend AMC. There will be plenty of opportunities to connect at our expanded conference. Additionally, the Wisconsin Association of Legal Administrators is underwriting the cost of WALA members who register for AMC.



While connecting with fellow lawyers and legal professionals is important, we aim to offer outstanding educational topics and an opportunity for you to recharge your batteries at the beautiful Grand Geneva Resort in Lake Geneva.

Important Dates to Remember:

- May 5: Early, Early Bird Discount expires
- May 16: Discount Room Block at Grand Geneva Resort expires
- May 26: Early Bird Discount Expires

The speakers include:

Opening Plenary: Dr. Sharon Meit Abrahams will be featured in a discussion titled, “If You Build It They Will Come, and Hopefully Stay.” A passionate educator, Dr. Abrahams keeps one equation in mind as she focuses on law firms and legal settings: people + performance + productivity = profitability. [Learn more about Abrahams.](#)



Dr. Sharon Meit Abrahams



Megan Phelps-Roper

Luncheon Plenary: Megan Phelps-Roper will share her message, “Bridging Ideological Divides: Dialogue That Overcomes Hate, Makes Connections, and Changes Minds.” A former member of the Westboro Baptist Church, known for its controversial and ideological views, Megan offers takeaways to help people successfully engage those with opposing viewpoints and beliefs. [Learn more about Phelps-Roper.](#)

Closing Plenary: Atty. Paul Clement. The Closing Plenary will feature U.S. Supreme Court Litigator, Atty. Paul Clement, a Wisconsin native and State Bar of Wisconsin member who also holds the record for having argued the most cases before the Supreme Court since 2000. Clement is a former U.S. Solicitor General and law clerk to the late U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia of the U.S. Supreme Court. [Learn more about Atty. Clement.](#)



Paul Clement

In addition to the plenary speakers, we are pleased to announce the following guest speakers:



Laura Coates

Laura Coates, CNN Anchor and Sr. Legal Analyst, will be sharing her experience in her career, transitioning from a trial lawyer to a national media personality. Sponsors include the Nonresident Lawyers Division, Foley & Lardner, and the Criminal Law Section. [Learn more about Coates.](#)

Alonzo Kelly of Kelly Leadership will present, “Allyship – The Power of Diversity and Inclusion in Your Legal Practice.” Alonzo will share the power of allyship, how it helps build stronger, more unified and diverse legal practices. [Learn more about Kelly.](#)



Alonzo Kelly

This year’s AMC will provide over 25 additional CLE breakout sessions to choose from in a variety of practice areas, health and wellness, and diversity, equity, and inclusion topics. Remember, in addition to what you earn on-site, you can also earn up to 8 CLE credits following the AMC via webinar replays.

Join your bench and bar colleagues from across the state to connect, learn and relax at the largest gathering of the legal profession! You’ll be glad you did.

Other Upcoming Events

- **Wisconsin Law Foundation Fellows Recognition Dinners**
May 5, Monona Terrace & Convention Center, Madison
September 29, Wisconsin City Club, Milwaukee
- **Upcoming Board of Governors’ Meetings**
June 15, Grand Geneva Resort & Spa, Lake Geneva
Sept. 22-23, (Joint Leadership Orientation) The Osthoff Resort, Elkhart Lake
Dec. 2, State Bar Center, Madison
- **[41st Annual Family Law Workshop](#)**
Aug. 4-6, Stone Harbor Resort, Sturgeon Bay

EDUCATE – Developing Skilled Legal Professionals

Professional Development: New and Updated Books

The Professional Development Team recently released several book updates, including the following revisions:

- *Intellectual Property Law in Wisconsin* (a guide for non-IP lawyers to use to advise their business clients)
- *Eckhardt’s Workbook for Wisconsin Estate Planners*
- *Collections and Bankruptcy in Wisconsin*
- *Wisconsin Judicial Benchbook Vol. IV: Juvenile*
- *Law of Damages in Wisconsin*
- *Family Law Casenotes and Quotes*
- *Traffic Law and Practice in Wisconsin*
- *The Wisconsin Fair Dealership Law*

Revisions coming soon include:

- *Wisconsin Employment Law*
- *The Wisconsin Public Records and Open Meetings Law*
- *Commercial Real Estate Transactions in Wisconsin*
- *Advising Older Clients and Their Families Vol. 1*
- *Judicial Benchbook Vol. 1: Criminal/Traffic*
- *Wisconsin Attorney’s Desk Reference*, plus additional supplemental updates.

As of this report, over half of the 2022 Codebooks have also been released with the remainder scheduled for April and May.

We continue to regularly update and supplement our current titles. Please take a moment and visit the State Bar of Wisconsin Marketplace (marketplace.wisbar.org) to learn more about all the books, forms, and other products available.

What Supp?

Many members are unfamiliar with our automatic supplementation service, which allows a print book owner to immediately, and without any additional effort, have the update shipped to them, at a 10% reduced price. Working with

Marketing, we developed a “What Supp” autosupp awareness campaign for social media and wisbar.org – as one of the five rotating banner ads. [Visit WisBar's Marketplace to learn more.](#)



Looking for a Few Good Authors

As we begin working on our Fiscal Year 2023 book updates, the attorney-editors are looking for new authors to take over some current book projects and to expand our offerings into new areas of expertise. **If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a State Bar of Wisconsin PINNACLE® author**, or if you have suggestions about new areas for PINNACLE Books to explore, please contact Publications Manager Carol Chapman at cchapman@wisbar.org.

Professional Development: Seminars

New Bronze Pass: Do You Know the Difference Between the PINNACLE Ultimate Passes?

The Seminars Division recently launched the Ultimate Bronze Pass to accompany the Silver and Gold passes. This is a viable lower-priced entry point into the Ultimate Pass experience. Since introduction of the new Bronze Pass, 30 members purchased the new pass with seven quickly shifting their purchase to the Silver level. We expect this new version to expand the overall number of pass holders considerably.

A Quick Glance at the Ultimate Pass Levels

	Ultimate Pass Bronze	Ultimate Pass Silver	Ultimate Pass Gold
PINNACLE In-person Seminars		✓	✓
PINNACLE Webcast Seminars	✓	✓	✓
PINNACLE Audio Seminars	✓	✓	✓
PINNACLE CLE OnDemand Seminars		✓	✓

PINNACLE Course Materials (via CLE OnDemand™)*		✓	✓
PINNACLE National Presenter Series Seminars		✓	✓
50% Off PINNACLE Institute and Conference Tuitions		✓	
Free PINNACLE Institute and Conference Tuition			✓

In the next few months, we are excited to be offering the following seminars:

- [Legacy Planning for the Family Property 2022](#) (webcast)
- [Trial by Science: Cognitive Science and Behavioral Economics in the Courtroom featuring R. Rex Harris](#) (webcast)
- [Wisconsin's New Business Entity Law 2022](#) (webcast)
- Divorce and Bankruptcy (info coming soon!)

Practice411: Supporting the Business of Law

The State Bar’s Law Office Management Assistance Program **Practice411™** helps lawyers improve their efficiency and effectiveness in the delivery of legal services and in implementing systems and controls to reduce risk and improve client relations. It helps



lawyers manage the business aspects of their practices.

State Bar Practice411 Law Practice Assistance Manager Christopher Shattuck met with members for roundtable law practice management discussions via teleconference and in person in February and March to discuss tips for automating law practices, trust account flow charts, best practices for determining whether to hire additional staff, and tips for creating efficient law firm accounting and billing procedures.

The **Practice411** program authored:

- [What's Hot, What's Not: Wisconsin Practice Trends 2022](#), *Wisconsin Lawyer*, February 2022
- [5 Tips to Navigate the Disciplinary Grievance Process](#), *InsideTrack*, Feb. 16, 2022
- [Accept Electronic Payments from Clients? Flow Charts Can Help](#), *InsideTrack*, March 2, 2022

- **Top Takeaways from the 2022 ABA TECHSHOW**, March 16, 2022

Practice411 provided a number of educational sessions, including:

- “Current Trends in Student Loans (Young Lawyers Division Conference)
- “Law Office Management Resources” (Wisconsin Council of Estate Planning Attorneys)
- “New Flow Charts for Properly Processing Electronic Client Payments” (co-presentation with ethics counsel to the Wisconsin Chapter of the Association of Legal Administrators)



*Law Practice Assistance Manager Christopher Shattuck and State Bar of Wisconsin President Cheryl Furstace Daniels **hit the road** on March 17, 2022, for a Douglas County Bar Association event in Superior.*

Providing Ethics Guidance

The State Bar’s Ethics Program provides guidance and help in resolving questions regarding Wisconsin’s Rules of Professional Conduct for Attorneys. Ethics counsel delivered ten presentations recently, including:

- “Ethics, Mental Health and Well-Being in a Post-COVID Environment” (Wisconsin Association of Workers Compensation Attorneys)
- “Selected Issues Facing School Attorneys” (Wisconsin School Attorneys Association)
- “Who Is the Client: An Ethical Challenge for Tribal Attorneys” (36th Annual Coming Together of Peoples)
- “The Tale of Two Ethics Opinions: Does the Ethical Duty of Competency Include Cultural Competency” (Wisconsin Special Education Mediation System)
- “The Ethics of Working in a Hybrid Work Environment” (Young Lawyers Division)

Questions? Contact Ethics Counsel Aviva Kaiser, akaiser@wisbar.org, or Tim Pierce, tpierce@wisbar.org, or call the Ethics Hotline at (800) 254-9154.

Prioritizing the Wellbeing of Wisconsin Lawyers

The **Wisconsin Lawyers Assistance Program (WisLAP)** offers confidential wellbeing support to lawyers, judges, law students, and their families. With trained peer volunteers, structured wellbeing resources, and individualized supportive services, WisLAP aims to promote attorney wellbeing by developing a culture within the Wisconsin legal community that destigmatizes mental illness and substance use disorders and fosters work-life balance.

Wanted: Peer Support Volunteers

Are you looking for an opportunity to give back to the Wisconsin legal community? Professional experience to add to your resume? Speaking/networking opportunities?

Please join WisLAP for our annual **Peer Support Volunteer Training** in late summer or early fall. The training will include a variety of wellbeing topics and helping skill sets. Peer support volunteers are needed throughout the state, including:

- *District 10:* Marinette, Menominee, Oconto, Outagamie, and Shawano counties
- *District 11:* Ashland, Barron, Bayfield, Burnett, Chippewa, Douglas, Iron, Lincoln, Polk, Price, Rusk, Sawyer, Taylor, and Washburn counties
- *District 12:* Grant, Green Iowa, La Fayette, and Rock counties
- *District 16:* Florence; Forest, Landlode, Marathon, Oneida, and Vilas counties

WisLAP Outreach Events

- Young Lawyers Conference (March 2022)
- Jefferson County Bar Association Committee Meeting, UW-Madison Lawyering Skills Class, G. Lane Ware Leadership Academy. Session 3 (April 2022)

NEW at WisLAP: Supportive Outreach Project

Supportive outreach was created to assist State Bar members facing challenges, celebrating milestones and successes, and needing support during setbacks. The following were recognized by WisLAP during March and April:

- two attorneys celebrating completion of monitoring contracts;
- two attorneys honoring sobriety anniversaries;
- one attorney completing another year of successful monitoring; and
- one attorney needing support during a personal stressor.

WisLAP 24-hour Hotline

WisLAP volunteers provide confidential peer support through our Peer Assistance Program. Clients identify a



problem and request to meet with a colleague who has successfully managed a similar problem or can offer support and guidance. To receive a referral to a Peer Assistant, call (800) 543-2625.

Questions about WisLAP? Contact WisLAP Manager Julia Persike at jpersike@wisbar.org, or Tamra Paulson, administrative assistant, tpaulson@wisbar.org.

Sections, Divisions, and Committee Reports

The **Bankruptcy, Insolvency & Creditors' Rights Section** held their 16th Annual BICR Educational/Social Retreat at the American Club in Kohler on Feb. 24-25. The retreat was a huge success with 121 registered guests. Attendees engaged with Wisconsin bankruptcy judges, learned about U.S trustee issues from Region 11 and recent legal developments at the National Case Law Update, in addition to other CLE topics.

The **Business Law Section's** legislative proposal on the business entity package passed the legislature and was recently signed by the governor. This package has been a project of the section for many years. As a result of this success, the section is funding a student intern through Marquette Law School to research and review legislative initiatives happening in other states to develop ideas for future initiatives in Wisconsin.

The section presented a free CLE on legal writing on April 8 and participated in a virtual panel discussion on March 31 with business law students. The panel featured diverse attorneys and students from minority student organizations.

The **Construction and Public Contract Law Section** is hosting an April 27 CLE on possible factors in the June 2021 Miami condominium collapse, including structural materials, and how the industry can move forward. The CLE is discounted for section members and free to law students.

The **Elder Law and Special Needs Section** approved a grant to provide scholarships to families to attend the **Circle of Life Conference** for disabled children and their families. The section also approved a grant to help fund a summer associate to work at Legal Action of Wisconsin.

Environmental Law Section board members participated in a February panel discussion with the Environmental Law Society at Marquette Law School.

The **Family Law Section** is providing five scholarships to attend their May 13 **Guardian ad Litem Training** in an effort to increase the supply of guardians ad litem in rural and underserved areas of Wisconsin. The section also participated in a networking event at Marquette Law School with the Children and Family Law Society on April 7.

The **10th Annual Indian Law Section CLE** is set for Aug. 18-19 at the Wilderness Resort in Wisconsin Dells. [Visit WisBar's Marketplace for more information and to register.](#)

The **Intellectual Property & Technology Law Section** annual IP Academy is Aug. 11-12 at the Stone Harbor Resort in Door County. [Look for details soon on WisBar's Marketplace.](#)

The **Labor and Employment Law Section** restarted their CLE Luncheon series with virtual presentations: *Changes at the National Labor Relations Board* (February) and *Non-COVID Updates in Labor and Employment Law* (March).

The **Government Lawyers Division** (GLD) presented a free lunchtime webinar to division members on April 26. Judge Derek Mosley presented on unconscious bias. He was joined by State Bar President Cheryl Furstace Daniels for an update on the State Bar's work to petition the Wisconsin Supreme Court to allow for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Accessibility CLE programs.

The **Young Lawyers Division** held their 12th Annual Young Lawyers Conference, "Forecasting the Future of Law: A Discussion of Current Practice and the Changes to Come" on March 11 at the Wilderness Resort in the Wisconsin Dells. Seventy-five people attended the post-event reception allowing young lawyers to network with State Bar leadership.

Nineteen sections are sponsoring the **2022 Annual Meeting and Conference (AMC)** to the tune of \$31,000. Sponsorships help defray event expenses, making the AMC more affordable for everyone and giving exposure to the sponsoring group, company, or law firm. Three sections are offering five scholarships for attendees.

Check Out These Scholarships

The following groups are offering a limited number of scholarships to AMC:

- Public Interest Law Section: Contact Christine Casey, ccasey@wisbar.org
- Solo, Small Firm & General Practice Section: [Go to WisBar.org](https://www.wisbar.org) for application
- Government Lawyers Division: Contact Karen Beall, kbeall@wisbar.org
- Senior Lawyers Division: Contact Karen Beall, kbeall@wisbar.org
- Diversity & Inclusion Oversight Committee: Contact Jacque Evans, jevans@wisbar.org

The Family Law Section is providing 15 scholarships to its [41st Annual Family Law Workshop](#) set for Aug. 4-6 at Stone Harbor Resort & Conference Center in Sturgeon Bay. [Applications](#) are due May 2 to Chantel Richardson, crichardson@wisbar.org.

ADVOCATE – Advocating for Justice, Clients, the Legal System, and the Profession

Advocacy & Access to Justice: Reviewing the State Bar’s Policy Agenda

The legislature has finished its work in 2021-2022 session. Below is a recap of State Bar legislative priorities. Details are in the **BOG Legislative Report**, but I want to draw your attention to one particular item that is crucial to our access to justice initiatives.

Civil Legal Aid

Wisconsin lags behind other Midwestern states when it comes to state investment in civil legal aid. The pandemic increased the need for aid throughout the state. The State Bar and other civil legal aid stakeholders worked together as one unified voice to advocate for increased funding.

In April 2022, Gov. Evers announced an \$8 million grant to the Wisconsin Trust Account Foundation ([WisTAF](#)) to support low-income residents, one of the largest one-time infusions of money into civil legal aid in Wisconsin history. Using federal COVID-19 relief money, the grant will fund a **new Wisconsin Law Help website** and provide additional funds to civil legal aid providers.

The COVID relief aid follows two failed state budget attempts to substantially increased civil legal aid funding in Wisconsin. The first proposal would have created a new allocation of \$2 million per year administered by the Department of Administration.

The second would have increased the state's investment of federal Temporary Aid to Needy Families funding from \$500,000 per year to \$1 million per year. The final budget passed by the legislature kept civil legal aid funding at \$500,000 per year.

The State Bar will continue its leadership role in the alliance of civil legal aid providers and stakeholders, will document the impact of the one-time grant money, and will work to ensure long-term funding for civil legal aid becomes a permanent feature of Wisconsin's budgets.

Advocacy Network: Setting the Stage for Success

In order to be successful in advancing policies that support the legal profession and expand access to justice, it's vital for members of the legal profession – judges, private and state attorneys, prosecutors and defenders – to engage with their lawmakers as constituents.



To this end, the State Bar is continuing to facilitate advocacy meetings around the state to put those who write the law in touch with those who practice it. Upcoming meetings will be held in La Crosse (May 25), Appleton, and Eau Claire (dates TBA). If you would like to have a meeting with your local lawmakers and your local bar, law firm, or a group of legal colleagues, reach out to Grassroots Coordinator Devin Martin at dmartin@wisbar.org.

Continuing Our Work on Racial Justice, Diversity & Inclusion

Law School Outreach. The Diversity Inclusion & Oversight Committee (DIOC) continues its efforts with the law school student affinity groups from UW-Madison and Marquette University to strengthen the pipeline to the legal profession successfully.

Demographics: The DIOC examined and recommended proposed demographic changes to the membership dues form. These changes were approved by the Executive Committee. The DIOC will present the Diversity and Inclusion Trailblazer Award at AMC in June.

Continuing Legal Education: The DIOC Communication and Education Subcommittee is exploring DEI CLE subject matter that can be offered to membership. The subcommittee also selected

Alonzo Kelly to be an AMC speaker. Kelly is an executive coach, professor, author, radio host, and founder of Kelly Leadership Group.

Diversity Clerkship Program. Twenty-seven students are matched with 26 employers in this year's Diversity Clerkship Program. Several employers are new to the program and there are a variety of opportunities for law students. A record 77 U.W. and Marquette law school students submitted applications to be in the program this year.

FACILITATE – Helping the Public Access the Legal System

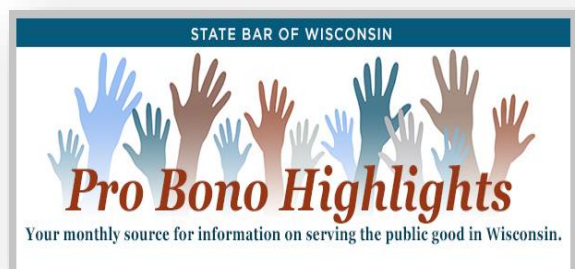
Pro Bono: Connecting the Legal Community with Opportunities

Pro Bono Portal – Twenty-seven legal services organizations are now utilizing the State Bar's Pro Bono portal with 74 active volunteer opportunities. Catholic Charities recently joined the portal and were able to recruit 31 volunteers for Afghan refugees needing legal help. The Pro Bono Portal, powered by software from Paladin, provides an easy way for volunteers to find and connect with pro bono opportunities online. A total of 341 volunteer opportunities have been posted since the website was launched in November 2020.

Small Business Assistance – Twelve lawyers from the Business Law Section and ten law Marquette Law School students assisted 38 small businesses for free with their nonlitigation legal issues between January and March 2022. The Business Law Section launched this virtual legal clinic in 2021 for Wisconsin small business.

Newsletter – April's *Pro Bono Highlights* email newsletter included a call for volunteers to assist Afghans in Wisconsin who need help with their asylum applications, as well as pro bono award recipients.

2022 Wisconsin Equal Justice Conference – Approximately 200 members attended the Wisconsin Equal Justice Conference, held March 10. The event featured sessions on civil legal



aid's pandemic response, eviction defense, marketing & communications, pursuing racial justice, recognizing implicit bias, legal services for Afghan refugees, and rural legal needs. Approximately 200 members attended the program, which was held primarily online. [The Legal Assistance Committee](#) organized the event.

Access to Justice Commission: Expanding Help to the Unrepresented

[Wisconsin Free Legal Answers](#), the Commission sponsored pro bono project, provides an easy to use online legal clinic that is available statewide. The website received 1,407 questions so far in FY22 with volunteers assisting 1,233 clients, or 94% of them. Volunteers have recorded 384 hours of pro bono service so far this fiscal year.

Wisconsin Law Help Website – The Commission will be working with WisTAF to develop and launch an [online legal assistance portal](#) in Wisconsin. The project will be funded by a grant of federal funds recently announced by Gov. Evers. The goal is to provide an easy to use online resource of reliable legal information along with referrals to appropriate legal aid organizations and lawyer referral services.

Pro Bono Honor Society – [293 State Bar members](#) have been inducted into the 2021 Wisconsin Pro Bono Honor Society. These attorneys certified that they provided at least 50 hours of qualifying pro bono legal services last year for low-income clients. The honorees provided over 14,650 hours of pro bono services last year ranging from brief advice to injunction hearings, trials, and appellate representation. They served in local legal clinics, appeared in state and federal courts, and handled matters before state and federal agencies.

Fee Arbitration: Helping Resolve Disputes

The State Bar's [Fee Arbitration Program](#) is a confidential and inexpensive way for clients and lawyers to resolve fee disputes. The program processes about 67 cases per year. There are 45 open cases with 21 cases in arbitration. Arbitration hearings continue to be held around the state in person and via videoconference.

Increasing Awareness through the Media

The State Bar’s media outreach and response team provides information, corrects inaccurate reporting, connects the media with lawyers as experts, and serves as a trusted resource to journalists while highlighting the critical role and expertise lawyers play in society.

Recently, the State Bar struck a partnership between the **Lawyer Referral and Information Service** and the Wisconsin Newspaper Association (WNA) to produce a new column called “Know Your Legal Rights.” The columns are written by panel members to address common legal questions that members of the public face on a daily basis, such as child custody during the holidays, contingency fees in personal injury cases, and lemon laws. The stories are made available by the WNA to its membership for republication at no cost twice a month, beginning in April. Stories may be published in print, on the web, or both.

Below is a sample of recent news coverage:

- **‘State Bar offers legal advice for small businesses’** (*DeForest Times Tribune*, Atty. Patricia Lane)
- **‘Know Your Legal Rights: Determining child custody in Wisconsin’** (*Sun Prairie Star*, Atty. AnnMarie Sylla)
- **‘Planning for Healthcare Needs’** (Wisconsin Public Radio, Atty. Ben Adams)
- **‘Man Passes Wisconsin Bar exam, sworn in as younger brother looks on’** (WISC-Madison)
- **Know Your Legal Rights: ‘If I become incapacitated, who makes healthcare decisions?’** (*Watertown Daily Times*, Atty. Pamela Flores)
- **‘One man saved by being on a ventilator and preaches importance of making legal healthcare decisions in advance’** (WBAY-Green Bay, Atty. Ben Adams and Mike Wiltse)
- **‘Brookfield Central captures state mock trial title, heading to nationals’** (*Waukesha Freeman*)
- **‘Advance Directives: Plan your end-of-life healthcare decisions before it’s too late’** (WEAU-Wausau, Atty. Ben Adams and Mike Wiltse)
- **‘Planning for a difficult decision: Saturday is National Healthcare Decisions Day’** (WKBT-La Crosse, Atty. Ben Adams and Mike Wiltse)

Brookfield Central captures state mock trial title, heading to nationals



Brookfield Central students won the Wisconsin State Bar Mock Trial State Championship. Front row (L-R): Jana Gharia, Gwala Steier, Alissa Sneed and Max Hsu (on the floor). Back row (L-R): Teacher/Coach Jan Vajal, Captain Aubrey Prudlow, then Kim and Captain Cynthia Lu.

Brookfield Central students won the Wisconsin State Bar Mock Trial State Championship Front row (L-R): Jana Gharia, Gwala Steier, Alissa Sneed and Max Hsu (on the floor). Back row (L-R): Teacher/Coach Jan Vajal, Captain Aubrey Prudlow, then Kim and Captain Cynthia Lu.

Lottery
Wednesday, March 9
WISCONSIN
1-8-8
0-6-4
Magnums 10-3-16-25-28-5
Supp-Cash 10-20-01-02-04-06
Supp-Cash Double: 10-20-01-02-04-06
Powerball 9-22-39-49
Power Play 2
Pick 4 1-0-10-16-25

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- **'Wisconsin couple advocates for advance directives on Healthcare Decisions Day'** (WMTV Madison, Mike Wiltse)
- **'Healthy man nearly dies from COVID-19, urges people to sign legal document for healthcare decisions'** (WKOW-Madison, Mike Wiltse)
- **'Diverse lawyers for a diverse clientele: Head of Wisconsin State Bar pushes for racial equality'** (Wisconsin State Journal/Madison.com, Cheryl Daniels)
- **'If I become incapacitated, who makes healthcare decisions for me?'** (Watertown Daily Times, Atty. Pamela Flores)

LRIS: Connecting Attorneys to Clients

The **Lawyer Referral and Information Service (LRIS)** connects attorneys with clients who are carefully prescreened for legal issue, geographic location, and ability to pay. LRIS is seeing a substantial uptick in the number of callers to date compared to last year at this time.



LRIS has handled more than 22,000 calls this fiscal year compared to 16,000 calls a year ago. Caller wait time has been reduced from 3 minutes, 5 seconds, to 1 minute, 44 seconds. Additionally, LRIS is consistently generating more revenue than budgeted for the past couple of years, with predicted revenue budgets exceeding \$30,000 each fiscal year.

The reason? The State Bar added a third LRIS specialist and bilingual staff so the team is able to handle more than 600 calls a week. Two specialists and one customer service representative speak Spanish. Additionally, the online referral service now translates to Spanish.

In April, the State Bar began a four-month LRIS advertising campaign on 30 buses in Milwaukee that will run through July. Additionally, residents in Waukesha, Pewaukee, and Brookfield communities will see four wrapped buses from March through May. A special telephone number, 1-877-wislaw1, will help track campaign results.

Advancing the Wisconsin Law Foundation's Mission

Thanks to a generous pledge by Law Foundation Board member attorney Kevin Lyons and his wife, Roseann Lyons, all donations from individuals who have not contributed to the Wisconsin Law Foundation since July 1, 2018, will be



matched for a cumulative dollar total of up to \$25,000. **We are more than two-thirds of the way to goal!** Donations through June 30, 2022, will have twice the impact!

With just a couple of months to go, help us reach our goal. Please consider making a donation to your Wisconsin Law Foundation today! Visit wisbar.org/wlfdonate.

Large Gathering Expected for May Fellows Dinner

Forty-four new Wisconsin Law Foundation Fellows will be honored in front of more than 200 attendees at the Fellows Recognition Dinner on May 5 at the Monona Terrace & Convention Center in Madison. The 44 new Fellows represent 20 from the Class of 2020 and 24 from the Class of 2021. The 2020 and 2021 events were canceled due to the pandemic.

Joseph W. Boucher, Neider & Boucher SC, and Steven R. Sorenson, von Briesen & Roper SC, will also be honored as the 2020 and 2021 recipients of the Charles L. Goldberg Distinguished Service Award. It is presented annually to one lawyer in recognition of lifetime service in the public interest.

The Fellows program recognizes members of the State Bar of Wisconsin who have demonstrated outstanding legal ability and devotion to the welfare of their community, state, and nation, as well as to the advancement of the legal profession. The Fellows Recognition Dinner is supported through the generosity of the State Bar of Wisconsin's Senior Lawyers Division, with additional support given by DeWitt LLP and Steinhilber Swanson LLP.

Foundation Supports Annual Meeting & Conference

Thanks to the ongoing generosity of our donors, the Law Foundation is providing \$9,900 in support for scholarships and programming for this June's Annual Meeting & Conference (AMC). This includes:

- \$1,500 toward graduates of the State Bar's Diversity Clerkship program who are attorneys in their first five years of practice.

- \$6,400 for O’Melia scholarships toward current and past participants in the State Bar’s G. Lane Ware Leadership Academy and Leadership Summit.
- \$2,000 to help sponsor a presentation by Alonzo Kelly of Kelly Leadership Group, Green Bay. Kelly is speaking on *“Allyship – The Power of Diversity and Inclusion in Your Legal Practice.”*

Brookfield Central Captures State Mock Trial Title, Heading to Nationals

Brookfield Central High School won the 2022 Wisconsin High School Mock Trial State Championship besting Madison West High School March 8 in the finals round. The Lancers, one of 85 mock trial teams this year, emerged from an 11-team semifinal round to make the finals, and now advances to the virtual National High School Mock Trial Championship, set for May 5-7.

Volunteer for mock trial at wisbar.org/mocktrial. Wisconsin High School Mock Trial is sponsored by the Wisconsin Law Foundation and supported by your generous contributions. [Read more about the competition via WisBar’s InsideTrack.](#)

INNOVATE – Planning Together for the Future

Empowering Lawyer Leaders

- **G. Lane Ware Leadership Academy:** Session 3 was held in-person April 8 and 9 with the following distinguished speakers:
 - **“Addressing Sensitive Topics”** (The Hon. Pedro Colòn, Milwaukee County Circuit Court, and The Hon. Everett Mitchell, Dane County Circuit Court)
 - **“Daily Communication That Get Results,”** (Christina Plum, adjunct professor, U.W. Law School, and chief staff attorney, Wisconsin Court of Appeals)
 - **“Tune In and Turn Difficult Conversations into Successful Interactions”** (Julia Persike, WisLAP program manager)
- **Leadership Summit:** The Leadership Summit was held April 9 at the State Bar Center. The program identifies the next generation of leaders.

- **G. Lane Ware Keynote Address.** Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Ann Walsh Bradley was the featured speaker. State Bar President Cheryl Daniels and incoming president Margaret Hickey, along with both president-elect candidates John Danner and Dean Dietrich, attended. Steve Kruger, chair of the Leadership Development Committee, Shanna Yonke, Raeann Kramer, T.R. Williams, and Jose Castro, president-elect of the Young Lawyers Division, also participate in the event.
- **The Ready. Set. Practice Mentoring Program:** The Young Lawyer’s Division Outstanding Mentor Award this year was presented to Alyssa Johnson, who previously participated as a mentee and has been a mentor with the program for three years. As a mentor, her mentees shared their gratitude for the opportunity to work with Alyssa, and acknowledged her commitment to helping them grow as young professionals.



*Alyssa Johnson, YLD
Outstanding Mentor*

New Member Benefits Designed to Fit Your Work and Lifestyle

The Insurance & Member Benefits Committee continues exploring and reviewing products and services beneficial to State Bar members. The newest offerings:

- **Member Discount Travel Plan:** The program provides discounts on hotels, car rentals, and entertainment such as Florida Disney parks, New York Broadway tickets, and sporting events with an average savings ranging from 10-20%. Visit the [Travel Discount Program](#) to save on your next trip via your State Bar membership.
- **BobaGuard:** Built with solo and small firm legal professionals in mind, BobaGuard offers a simple way to protect your practice and your clients’ sensitive data from dangerous hackers. Visit [BobaGuard](#) for more information.
- **eNotaryLog:** A Remote Online Notarization service and eSignature platform designed to simplify the digital signing process while maintaining an exceptional level of security around the transaction. [eNotaryLog](#) is an approved technology provider for remote online notarization maintained by the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions.

Watch for information about the State Bar’s benefit programs in the May issue of *Wisconsin Lawyer*. Questions? Contact Annette Ashley, aashley@wisbar.org.

Member Insurance Plan

The group health plan for law firms continues to increase with more law firms joining. Remember, law firms can enroll in the group health plan at any time throughout the year, not just during open-enrollment time in November. To request your quote, please contact the following representatives at Professional Insurance Programs:

Christine Nadolski
Team Lead – Benefits
cnadolski@profinsprog.com
P: 414.755.4172

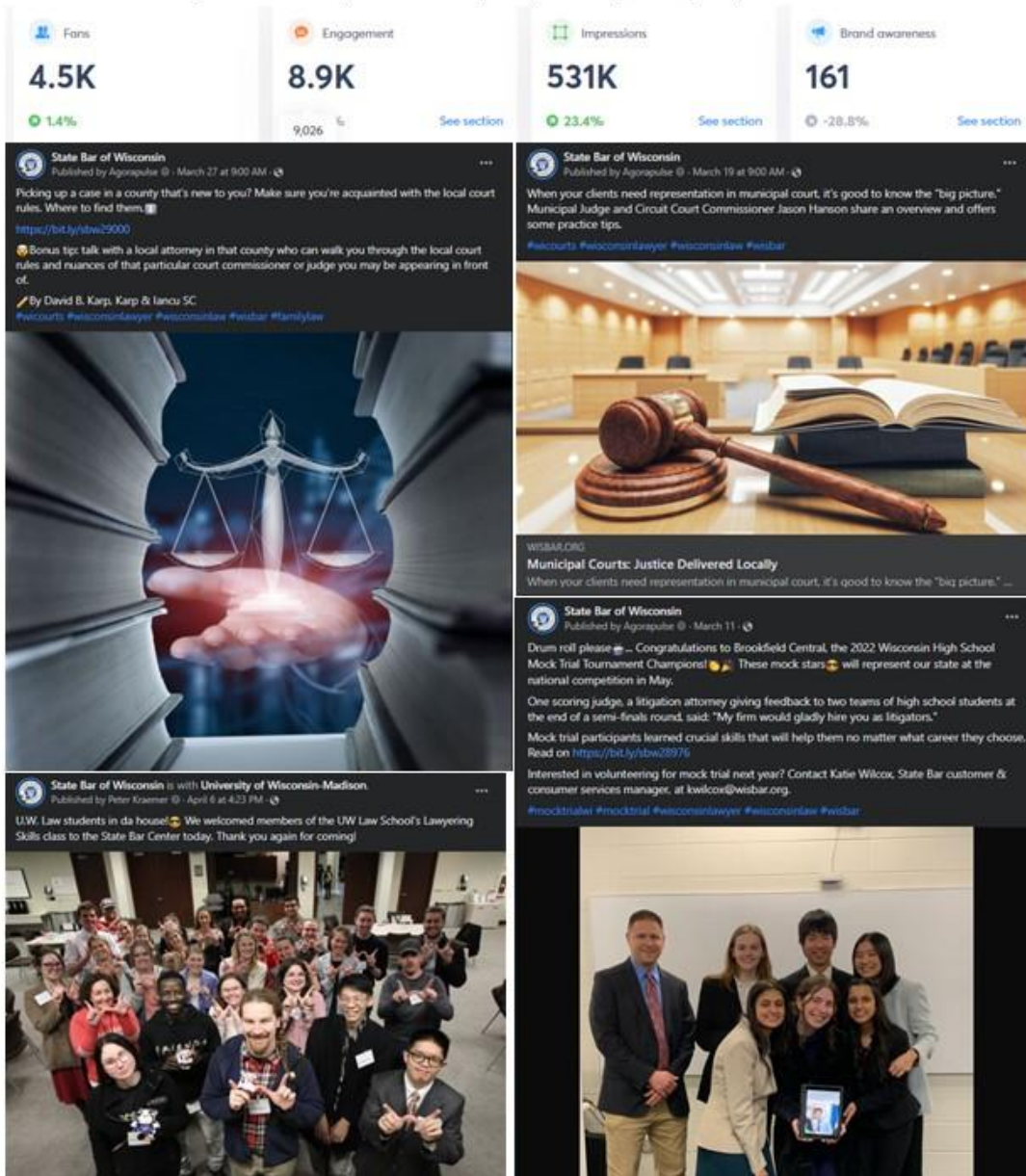
Wendy C. Block
Benefits Account Manager
wblock@profinsprog.com
P: 414.755.4185

Social Media: A Look at Top Content

Increasingly, our members engage with the State Bar and each other through our social media channels. Join the conversation; connect with us on Facebook, Twitter (@statebarofwi), LinkedIn, and Instagram (@statebarofwi). Here are some recent metrics and examples that demonstrate how social media plays a role in advancing our mission.

Facebook

Posts and metrics from Feb. 3 – April 14, 2022 (compared to period prior)



Twitter

Posts and metrics from Nov. 18, 2021 – Feb. 3, 2022



State Bar of Wisconsin @StateBarofWI

Welcome back! Almost two years to the day the State Bar Center closed due to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, we officially reopened our doors to staff who have been working from home ever since. All were met with treats and smiles. It's great to be back again!



State Bar of Wisconsin @StateBarofWI

Cryptocurrency and blockchains: What they are, how they work, and how they're funded.

By Jeffrey M. Glazer @jmglaizer @WisconsinLaw Law & Entrepreneurship Clinic
[#legaltech](#) [#lawpractice](#) [#wisconsinlawyer](#) [#wisconsinlaw](#) [#blockchain](#) [#crypto](#)



wisbar.org
 Cryptocurrency and Blockchains: Smart Contracts – Part 1
 In Part 1, Jeff Glazer demystifies and explains cryptocurrency and blockchains: what they are, how they work, and how they're funded. In Part 2, he'll explore ...

State Bar of Wisconsin @StateBarofWI

"Bring your authentic self to work!" Sounds great, right? It doesn't bode well for professionals of color...

Jennifer Johnson shares how microaggressions make it difficult for Black women to feel comfortable bringing their authentic selves to work.



wisbar.org
 Tip of the Month: Check Your Assumptions When I "Bring My Authentic Self to ...
 The idea to "bring your authentic self to work" can be problematic for professionals of color, writes Jennifer Johnson. In this Tip of the Month, Johnso...

State Bar of Wisconsin @StateBarofWI

Let's hear it for these amazing (& award-winning) attorneys! 🎉👏👏

- 👏 Kevin Smith (Outstanding #YoungLawyer Award)
- 👏 Alyssa Johnson (YLD Outstanding Mentor)
- 👏 Katja Kunzke (Special Service Award, for her yrs of service helping new lawyers thru @wilmicinsurance)

[#sbwylc](#) [#wisbar](#)



3:42 PM · Mar 11, 2022 · Twitter Web App

LinkedIn

Posts and metrics from Nov. 18, 2021 – Feb. 3, 2022



State Bar of Wisconsin
4,812 followers

Gov. Tony Evers has announced the appointment of **Ashley Morse** to the Rock County Circuit Court – Branch 4.

Morse has worked for the Wisconsin State Public Defender's Office since 2010, and has been based in Janesville since 2014, representing indigent clients as an assistant state public defender in a variety of criminal and civil proceedings. In addition, she has served on the Rock County Trauma Task Force, the Rock County Youth Justice Racial Disparities Committee, and has coached the Turner High School Mock Trial Team.

Morse appeared in the July 2020 issue of Wisconsin Lawyer magazine alongside several other legal professionals to share perspectives on what this moment in American racial, social, and legal justice reform mean to the legal community. <https://lnkd.in/gkTKdZzj>.

#wisconsinlawyer #wisconsinlaw #wisbar #wicourts



State Bar of Wisconsin
4,812 followers

Legal Action of Wisconsin, Inc.'s Eviction Defense Project, which has helped thousands of tenants facing eviction, is a model for the country, according to a national report. It calls the project a blueprint "for volunteer legal services intended to help tenants access free legal services, whether it be for representation in court or sealing eviction filings from their tenant record."

Want to help? Attorneys (or law students) interested in volunteering with the Eviction Defense Project, contact Raphael Ramos at rfr@legalaction.org.

Quick shout out to: The project includes a pro-bono collaboration with Quarles & Brady LLP, the Legal Aid Society of Milwaukee, Marquette University Law School, the Milwaukee Justice Center, von Briesen & Roper, s.c., and the Milwaukee County Court.

#accessjustice #landlordtenant #eviction #probono #wisconsinlawyer #wisconsinlaw



Eviction Defense Project receives national recognition for helping residents facing eviction

State Bar of Wisconsin
4,812 followers

The life and work of Vel Phillips leaves a legacy that has forever reshaped the civil and legal landscape in Wisconsin. We remember her this Black History Month. <https://bit.ly/sbw26321>

#blackhistorymonth #wisconsinlawyer #wisconsinlaw #wisconsinhistory Wisconsin Association of African-American Lawyers

Vel Phillips: Life & Legacy

- First African-American woman to graduate from U.W. Law School, 1951
- First African-American and woman elected to Milwaukee Common Council, 1956-71
- Proposed and campaigned to outlaw housing discrimination in Milwaukee, 1962-68
- First African-American to serve in Wisconsin's judiciary, 1971
- First female judge in Milwaukee County, 1971
- First African-American and woman elected to a statewide constitutional office as Secretary of State, 1978

State Bar of Wisconsin
4,812 followers

Congratulations to Marquette University Law School student Jada Davis! She was recently crowned Miss Milwaukee and is the first Black woman selected for the title. Self-named "The Dancing Lawyer," Davis plans to pursue a practice in entertainment law. She is also a law clerk and former dance instructor for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee. Way to go! 🎉

#lawstudent #younglawyer #mulaw #wisconsinlawyer #wisconsinlaw #wisbar



Miss Milwaukee: Jada Davis, 1st Black woman selected as winner of title

Instagram

Posts and metrics from Nov. 18, 2021 – Feb. 3, 2022

Followers	Engagement	Impressions	Brand awareness
1.5K	886	45K	12
2.8%	103.2%	123.8%	-20%

[See section](#) [See section](#) [See section](#)



statebarofwi Thrilled to host these leading lawyers in-person today at the State Bar Center! 🏢 As participants of the 2021-22 G. Lane Ware Leadership Academy, these attorneys are putting in the work to develop their skills, and learn the strategies and resources needed to become effective leaders in their careers.

[View Insights](#)

👍🗨️📌

👤👤👤 Liked by feliciaowenmke and 21 others

6 DAYS AGO



Black History Month is one of my favorite times of the year. I look forward to speaking with primary school students. Most have never met a Black attorney. Being a role model is rewarding and gives me hope.

Atty. Roy B. Evans
Milwaukee

statebarofwi

statebarofwi Roy Evans on why Black History Month is one of his favorite times of the year. <https://bit.ly/18w2K26>

#blackhistorymonth #blacklawyer #diversityinlaw #wisconsinlawyer #wisconsinlaw

Like

[View Insights](#)

👍🗨️📌

👤👤👤 Liked by feliciaowenmke and 32 others

FEBRUARY 1

[Add a comment...](#)



statebarofwi

statebarofwi Pro Bono Volunteer Spotlight: Casey Beronilla. A student at Marquette University Law School. Casey shares why she donates her time to the Small Business Assistance Project:

"I got involved, because I wanted to know more about the challenges small businesses face in today's climate. It's also a good way to give back to the community. Through this project, I sometimes get the opportunity to help small businesses in rural areas who often have less access to legal help. Clients often have very basic questions but sometimes they are more complicated."

[View Insights](#)

👍🗨️📌

👤👤👤 Liked by feliciaowenmke and 23 others

MARCH 1

Larry is on Twitter!

Larry Martin is actively engaging with members and thought-leaders on Twitter (@LarryJMartinED). Connect with him! A selection of his recent tweets are below.

Larry J. Martin
@LarryJMartinED

This is going to be our best @StateBarofWI AMC yet. Join us this June in Lake Geneva!

State Bar of Wisconsin @StateBarofWI · Feb 22

Connect, learn, and relax at the State Bar's Annual Meeting & Conference! Kick off your summer with informative #CLE sessions and network with hundreds of Wisconsin legal professionals, all in a friendly atmosphere. Join us! amc.wisbar.org

#wisconsinlawyer #sbwamc

Larry J. Martin
@LarryJMartinED

Great to be in the Dells today for @StateBarofWI Young Lawyers Conference. Good to be back meeting in person!
@Practice411 @mulaw @WisconsinLaw @marghick_hickey

Practice411 @Practice411 · Mar 11

@StateBarofWI President-elect @marghick_hickey discusses the importance of utilizing practice resources at the 12th Annual Young Lawyers Conference. @LarryJMartinED @Emil_Esq

Larry J. Martin
@LarryJMartinED

Celebrating #InternationalWomensDay with @StateBarofWI officers that inspire & lead us. @Practice411 @WAALawyers @mulaw @WisconsinLaw @NABE_News @ABADiversity @ABAesq



Larry J. Martin @LarryJMartinED · Feb 24

Happy to have hosted a delegation from the Bar Council of the Maldives (BCM), created in 2019, visiting @StateBarofWI today to learn about our organization's structure, programs, and initiatives. @ABARuleofLaw @MVBarCouncil; @NABE_News @ABABarServices

Larry J. Martin
@LarryJMartinED

The BCM is visiting the U.S. to learn primarily about bar exam administration in Wisconsin and Illinois. The Maldives, an archipelago nation, will administer its first-ever bar exam this year. @statebarofwi @ABARuleofLaw @MVBarCouncil; @NABE_News @ABABarServices



Larry J. Martin @LarryJMartinED · Mar 30

Please join @StateBarofWI staff & member leaders in contributing to @UNICEF refugee relief efforts in Ukraine. We are only \$80 away from raising \$5K! Help us reach our goal - click on this link to give: unicefusa.org/stories/unicef...

#Ukraine @ABAesq @doocandieco @NABE_News



