

Press Release



STATE BAR OF WISCONSIN

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Stevens Point attorney elected president-elect of the State Bar of Wisconsin

MADISON, Wis. (April 30, 2025)—Wisconsin attorney Stephen W. Sawyer was elected April 28 as the next president-elect of the State Bar of Wisconsin, beginning July 1, 2025. He will assume the role of president in July 2026.

Sawyer, of Sawyer Law LLC in Stevens Point, said he is honored to serve the State Bar.

"I am very honored and humbled to have been elected to serve the State Bar of Wisconsin as an officer," Sawyer said.

Over the next three years — as president-elect, president, and immediate past president — Sawyer said he will focus on three key issues: the shortage of lawyers in rural areas, the need for increased public funding for legal services, and promoting respect for the legal system.

"There are many areas of our state where lawyers are retiring at rates that far surpass the rate at which new lawyers are entering practice," Sawyer said. "I believe that new approaches must be explored and robust efforts must be made toward finding effective incentives for new and existing lawyers to establish practices in smaller communities."

Sawyer also emphasized the need for greater state investment in legal representation for indigent individuals.

"Our lobbying efforts in Madison need to be redoubled in order to impress upon our legislators that the judicial branch of government is of critical importance to peace in our society and order in our communities," he said.

Finally, Sawyer noted the importance of restoring public trust in the legal system.

"I believe that educational initiatives to teach students in our classrooms across the state about the role of law in society and the ideals upon which the system is founded are crucial to laying the groundwork for decades of future legislative priorities," he said.

ABOUT THE STATE BAR OF WISCONSIN

The State Bar of Wisconsin is the integrated professional association, created by the Wisconsin Supreme Court, for attorneys who hold a Wisconsin law license. With more than 25,000 members, the State Bar aids the courts in improving the administration of justice, provides continuing legal education for its members to help them maintain their expertise, and assists Wisconsin lawyers in carrying out community service initiatives to educate the public about the legal system and the value of lawyers. For more information, visit wisbar.org.

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Photo attached:

Sawyer_Stephen

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