Get Started

Legal Education

Legal News & Trends

Manage Your Practice

Lead the Way

Pay It Forward

# New Member Guide

STATE BAR OF WISCONSIN

*Your Practice. Our Purpose.®*

# Welcome!

## Your Support System, Right from the Start.

Introduction

Lawyers in America's Dairyland have the advantage of comprehensive support from the State Bar of Wisconsin. We exist to help you succeed in law and in life. Your State Bar membership is packed with:

- Hundreds of resources to help you meet the requirements of practicing law in Wisconsin
- Tools to help you build your legal career
- Opportunities to lead, volunteer, and influence the future of the profession
- Support for living a balanced, fulfilling life

**Come explore the many benefits of your State Bar membership!**

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*"The legal profession is the guardian of the dignity and integrity of the nation."*

– Pius Langa

## Mission Statement

We support our members in a dynamic and diverse society in delivering valued professional services, promoting access to justice, and pursuing professional satisfaction.

**Your Practice. Our Purpose®**

## Bar History Highlights

1878 – Wisconsin Bar is organized

1941 – First three practice-specific sections of the Bar are established

1948 – First full-time staffed office is opened

1950 – First annual Tax School CLE program is held; this popular seminar continues to the present day

1956 – Wisconsin Bar is integrated by order of the Wisconsin Supreme Court

1977 – CLE becomes mandatory for all active Wisconsin lawyers under the age of 70

1980 – The State Bar's Lawyer Referral Program and Lawyer Hotline merged to form the Lawyer Referral and Information Service; as a result, the Bar developed the first-of-its-kind computer program to match callers with attorneys

1980 – Residency requirement for admission to practice in the state is eliminated

Today – The State Bar of Wisconsin welcomes you as a new lawyer and member!

## Know the Players

**State Bar of Wisconsin:** is a professional association that provides continuing legal education, networking opportunities, practice management assistance, and other services to its more than 25,000 members. It also provides public services including attorney referrals, public education, and reduced-fee legal assistance for low-income state residents. Visit **wisbar.org** for all your State Bar resources.

**Board of Bar Examiners (BBE):** evaluates the skills, character, and fitness of lawyers and also writes and grades the Wisconsin Bar Examination. The Supreme Court requires the BBE to suspend a lawyer's license if he or she does not comply with continuing legal education requirements. Visit **wicourts.gov/courts/offices/bbe.htm** for more information.

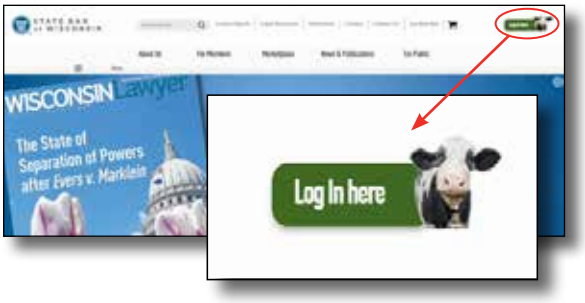
**Office of Lawyer Regulation (OLR):** is an agency of the Wisconsin Supreme Court. It receives grievances relating to lawyer misconduct, conducts investigations, and prosecutes violations of ethics rules. Visit **wicourts.gov/courts/offices/olr.htm**.

The State Bar of Wisconsin's website, **wisbar.org** is an easy way to access the perks of your membership and a large repository of legal news, resources, and tips.

## What Can You Do on WisBar?

Log in to **wisbar.org** to take advantage of everything your membership offers. Logging in grants you access to your personalized portal—*my*StateBar—as well as more comprehensive content included in your exclusive member benefits.

- Get analysis and insight on the latest court decisions affecting your practice
- Sign up for CLE and track your credits
- Build your legal library with State Bar of Wisconsin PINNACLE® Books
- Find tools to market your practice
- Register for conferences and institutes
- Connect with the legal knowledge base by signing up for e-lists
- Find fellow lawyers with Lawyer Search
- Join a division or section, or ask to serve on a committee
- And much more!




## How to Log In

- Go to **wisbar.org**
- Click the "Log In here" button
- The login form requires an email address or member number, and a password. If you were a State Bar of Wisconsin Law Student Associate, you can log in using those credentials.

### Email or Member Number

Log in using the email address in your State Bar profile. If you do not know which email address we have on file for you, go to "Lawyer Search" at the top of the page and look up your name.

Your member I.D. is your State Bar of Wisconsin membership number.

> **NOTE:** If your member number begins with a zero, such as 01020356, enter the number without the leading zero, for example: 1020356.

Get Started

### Password

If you don't yet have a password or don't remember it, click "Forgot Password?"

On the Reset Password page, you will need to enter the email address in your State Bar profile. Once you submit the form, an email message containing instructions for resetting your password will be sent to that address. If you don't receive an email with these instructions, or don't have an email address on file, contact Customer Service at (800) 728-7788 or **service@wisbar.org**.

**TIP: wisbar.org** allows you to log in to WisBar to order a product or register for an event, to access restricted content areas noted with a "lock" symbol, or to access your personal profile/CLE Tracker. Therefore, you will be prompted to re-enter your password periodically as a security precaution.

## *my*StateBar: The Members Only Section

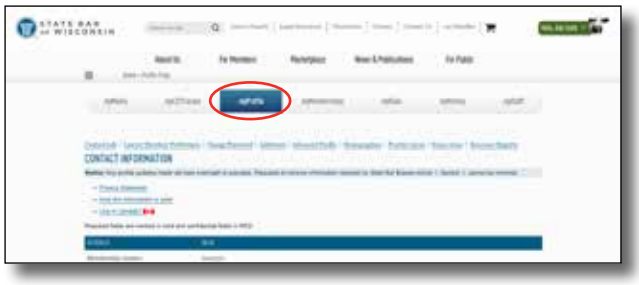
### How to Access *my*StateBar

- Log in to **wisbar.org**
- In the upper right-hand corner of the home page, click on *my*StateBar

## *my*StateBar Features

### *my*Profile

Tell us a little about yourself. This section helps the State Bar maintain accurate information about members. Plus, your profile information is what people see when they search for you using wisbar's Lawyer Search feature – so keep your profile page current. Your *my*Profile page includes sections for:




- Personal and business contact information
- Alternate names
- Areas of practice and focus areas
- Changing your password
- Degrees and memberships
- Short bio
- Social media and blog URLs
- Adding a profile picture

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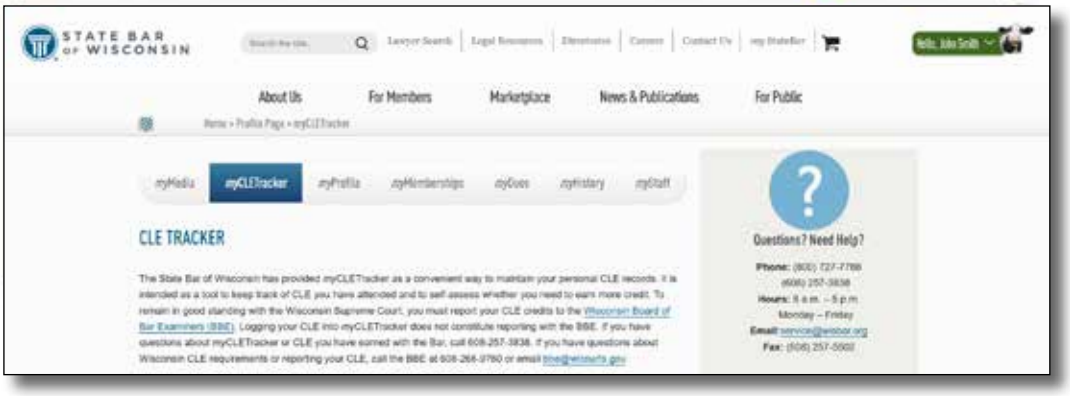
**Visit wisbar.org to start exploring.**




## *my*StateBar Features (continued)

### *my*CLETracker

With *my*CLETracker, it's easy to view your approved and pending CLE credits earned from the State Bar of Wisconsin. You can also enter credits from other providers. Note: *my*CLETracker is not a reporting mechanism—you'll still need to report your CLE credits to the BBE. (See page 7 for more on continuing legal education requirements.)

### *my*Memberships

View your membership in State Bar divisions, sections, and committees. Manage your e-list subscriptions and preferences. Plus, sign up to receive enewsletters.

### *my*Media

Download or access electronic products, including:

- CLE webcasts and CLE OnDemand™ seminars
- CLE course materials
- Books Unbound® titles
- Fillable forms banks

### *my*History

Keep track of your State Bar activities, including:

- Meeting attendance
- Product orders placed

You can also access articles you've saved on WisBar here.

### *my*Staff

Much of the content you'll find on WisBar is only accessible to State Bar members. But what if your paralegal or legal assistant needs access, too? Use this section to grant or revoke access to WisBar content for your support staff.

### *my*Dues

Renew your State Bar Dues, pay your Supreme Court Assessment, and complete your Trust Account Certificate through our convenient online portal. Initial admission payments must be submitted by mail. Annual renewals can be processed through the State Bar Dues online payment system.

## Wisconsin CLE Requirements

The BBE monitors lawyer compliance with SCR Chapter 31, the rule outlining continuing legal education attendance and reporting requirements for Wisconsin-licensed lawyers.

### How many credits do I need?

As a Wisconsin lawyer, you need 30 continuing legal education (CLE) credits every two calendar years. Three of those 30 need to be in approved coursework in the area of legal ethics and professional responsibility (EPR).

Lawyers have the option to earn a maximum of six credits on subjects designed to enhance a lawyer's awareness and understanding (LAU) of substance abuse/dependence disorders, mental illness, stress management, and work/life balance relating to the practice of law.

Lawyers may obtain another six credits on the subject of law practice management (LPM) which may include topics such as client communications, trust accounting, record keeping, applications of technology, and other subjects essential to the practice of law. Courses or portions of courses dealing primarily with profit enhancement or marketing of services will be denied credit [see SCR 31.02].

### How do I report?

All attorneys will be required to electronically file their CLE report using the CLE reporting website at **clereporting.wicourts.gov/session/new**.

It's very important that you keep track of the courses you take (what, when, where, the sponsor's name, and the number of CLE/EPR hours attended).

Legal Education

### When do I report?

Your reporting year is determined by your year of admission to practice law in Wisconsin (e.g., if you were admitted in an odd-numbered year, instructions on reporting CLE will be sent by the BBE in the fall of every odd-numbered year).

Keep in mind that the CLE reporting deadline is different from the CLE attendance deadline. Check the BBE website for the correct attendance and reporting dates for your year of admission.

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## Wisconsin CLE Requirements (continued)

### What CLE courses qualify?

The BBE determines which courses qualify to satisfy the CLE/EPR requirements. All CLE seminars that list an amount of CLE credits have either been approved for that credit amount or have credit applications pending before the Board of Bar Examiners.

Never assume courses have been approved for Wisconsin credit. Check the BBE website for a listing of approved CLE courses at **wicourts.gov/services/attorney/coursesearch.htm**. Attorneys may also earn CLE credit for teaching, publishing legal writing, and pro bono work.

For more on CLE requirements, visit **wicourts.gov/services/attorney/cle.htm**. Note that noncompliance with the mandatory CLE requirements can result in suspension of your license.

# An Abundance of CLE

Stay on top of your game with a wide range of timely, practical seminars from the state's largest provider of continuing legal education—State Bar of Wisconsin PINNACLE®. As a member, you enjoy discounted seminar tuition on all formats, whether you prefer in-person, webcast, or CLE OnDemand options. PINNACLE brings you Wisconsin's best CLE selection at the best value.

**Enjoy special members-only pricing!**

PINNACLE is committed to delivering high-quality programs designed to meet the evolving needs of Wisconsin practitioners. From emerging legal trends to everyday practice tips, you'll find the CLE that fits your schedule and your practice.

Attend a seminar in person or via webcast and enjoy 90 days of free access to the recording. Revisit the content as many times as you'd like to reinforce what you've learned and catch anything you missed.

### CLE on your schedule

Get CLE wherever and whenever you want it—24/7. Access select programs anytime, anywhere with CLE OnDemand, and fulfill up to 15 credits per reporting period. Note that EPR credits cannot be earned via CLE OnDemand.

# Institutes and Conferences

Institutes and conferences typically include plenary speakers, multiple breakout sessions, networking and social events, and an expo area. They offer specialized, in-depth educational programming focused on select substantive law, tech tips, the latest trends, and best practices.

### Wisconsin Solo & Small Firm Conference (WSSFC)

Designed to meet the unique needs of solo and small firm practitioners, the *Wisconsin Solo & Small Firm Conference* brings together the broad-spectrum educational sessions and networking events these lawyers need to succeed. As one of our most popular annual events, it's an unmatched opportunity for you to learn, network, and have a little fun. Join us this fall at the Kalahari Resort in the Wisconsin Dells! **October 22-24, 2026**

### Annual Meeting & Conference (AMC)

The *Annual Meeting & Conference* is the highlight of the year for many State Bar of Wisconsin members. It's packed with receptions, celebrations, and luncheons for networking and socializing. Plus, you can earn CLE credits from sessions featuring nationally acclaimed presenters. If you want to mingle with the movers and shakers in Wisconsin's legal profession, don't miss the *2027 Annual Meeting & Conference in Milwaukee*—**June 9-11, 2027.**

# State Bar Insider Info for Saving Money on CLE

### Budget Your CLE Costs with PINNACLE Ultimate Pass

#### Ultimate Pass Gold

PINNACLE Ultimate Pass™ Gold gives you unlimited access to PINNACLE CLE seminars and events for one full year, including:

- Live, webcast, and CLE OnDemand seminars
- National Presenter Series programs
- *Annual Meeting & Conference*
- *Wisconsin Solo & Small Firm Conference*
- *Forensic Justice Institute*

Plus, get unlimited access to all seminar course materials. It's the perfect way to explore new practice areas. Ultimate Pass Gold provides all of these benefits for one easy-to-budget annual fee.

#### Ultimate Pass Silver

The Ultimate Pass Silver gives you unlimited access for one year to live, webcast, and OnDemand PINNACLE CLE seminars and National Presenter Series programs, plus 50% off tuition to:

- *Annual Meeting & Conference*
- *Wisconsin Solo & Small Firm Conference*
- *Forensic Justice Institute*

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Visit marketplace.wisbar.org for more education resources.

## Ultimate Pass Bronze

The Ultimate Pass Bronze gives you unlimited access for one year to PINNACLE-produced webcast and audio seminars. (Excludes National Presenter Series programs.)

## Ultimate Pass Corporate

Have more than one attorney in your firm? The Ultimate Pass Corporate option allows firms to enjoy all the benefits of Ultimate Pass Gold at a lower per attorney price.

It puts a predictable cap on continuing legal education costs, and it makes receipt-tracking and reimbursements for CLE a thing of the past. It also helps firms expand into new areas of practice—without spending more on CLE.

### Convenient Payment Plan Options

The State Bar offers convenient payment plans on several of its annual subscription products, including Ultimate Pass Gold, Ultimate Pass Silver, Books Unbound, and the complete Fillable Forms Library.

## Passbook Certificates

Control your CLE costs with specially priced Passbook Certificates. Certificates are good for all PINNACLE and CLE OnDemand seminars, and are a great, flexible option for firms.

- Each Passbook Certificate is good for one PINNACLE or CLE OnDemand seminar
- Available in books of three or ten
- Good for two years from the date of purchase
- Fully transferable—can be used by anyone in your organization

ULTIMATE PASS

### Easy to budget

With one annual fee, you'll always know your CLE costs.

### Big savings

Purchase an Ultimate Pass and save hundreds annually on CLE.

### Convenient

Fit education into your schedule on your terms. Attend a live seminar, catch a webcast replay, or choose an OnDemand recording.

### Keep up-to-date

Stay current on the latest developments in your key practice areas, or expand your offerings by learning a new area of practice.

**wisbar.org/ultimatepass**

## Enjoy Special New Member Pricing

State Bar of Wisconsin PINNACLE is offering special pricing for new members on our most helpful products and services. Just log in to your *my*StateBar account on **wisbar.org** to reveal your special new member pricing.

| 50% OFF | 50% OFF | 50% OFF | FREE |
|---|---|---|---|
| Your First CLE Program as a New Member* | Your First Ultimate Pass Gold Subscription* | Your First Print Book* Purchase | 12 Months of Access to Books Unbound** |

*Discount expires 365 days after member's State Bar of Wisconsin admission date. Special pricing available for online purchases and registrations only.

**Free Books Unbound access expires twelve months after member's State Bar of Wisconsin admission date.

Ultimate Pass structure and pricing is subject to change without notice.

## PINNACLE Books

From arbitration to worker's compensation and everything in between, State Bar of Wisconsin PINNACLE books deliver content Wisconsin attorneys have trusted and relied on for decades. Many titles include access to electronic forms. Update your legal library with books covering such topics as:

- Appellate practice
- Business organization and litigation
- Civil litigation and torts
- Creditor/debtor
- Criminal law
- Elder
- Employment law
- Estate planning and probate
- Family law and divorce
- General practice
- Guardian ad litem
- Real estate
- Traffic
- And more

View all available PINNACLE book titles at **wisbar.org/books**.

## Books Unbound

Books Unbound® Online. Onpoint. Unlimited.

Books Unbound is State Bar of Wisconsin PINNACLE's exclusive online library, giving you 24/7 access to the same trusted treatises, practice guides, and system books that Wisconsin attorneys and judges have relied on for decades. With tools to help you work smarter from day one, Books Unbound offers a fast, user-friendly interface with secure access, powerful search tools, expanded note-taking features, and one-click access to vLex Fastcase and other primary law sources. Books Unbound Library Collections give you access to multiple titles in a specific practice area at a lower cost than buying them individually—a more affordable way to build your legal library. Explore your options at **booksunbound.wisbar.org**.

## Online Forms

Fillable Forms Bank

Get the legal form or checklist you need with State Bar of Wisconsin PINNACLE's Fillable Forms Bank. Access more than 1,300 forms and documents from affidavits to summonses. Easily modify any form to fit your needs. Every form is reviewed and updated regularly to ensure it complies with all required statutory specifications. The Fillable Forms Bank is organized into eight practice-specific sections, including:

- Appellate practice
- Business law
- Civil litigation
- Criminal law
- Elder law
- Estate planning/probate
- Family law
- Real estate

You can also subscribe to the entire library. Payment plans are available for full library subscriptions. Visit **wisbar.org/forms**.

**Visit marketplace.wisbar.org for more education resources.**

# Be In the Know

From breaking news and court analysis to insights from thought-leaders – the State Bar of Wisconsin is your ultimate resource for legal news and trends. Our award-winning publications will help keep you informed on the issues impacting your practice.

News & Trends

## Government Relations

The State Bar's Government Relations (GR) program connects State Bar members with state government officials—including legislators, executive and judicial branch agencies and their staff—to improve the administration of justice and the delivery of legal services in Wisconsin. The GR team is the lobbying arm of the State Bar and some of its practice sections. It is also responsible for tracking Supreme Court Rules and fostering effective communication and relations with the judicial branch. The "Advocacy Network" is the grassroots arm of the GR program. It aims to help State Bar members become successful legislative advocates. More information and the online action center can be found at **wisbar.org/GovRelations**. The GR program also provides updates about developments inside the Capitol dome through its monthly enewsletter, *Rotunda Report*.

## Publications

### *Wisconsin Lawyer* Magazine

As the State Bar's flagship publication, *Wisconsin Lawyer*™ magazine delivers the insights, stories, and knowledge attorneys rely on to excel in their practice and lead the profession.

This member benefit is delivered to your door and available online at **wisbar.org/wl**.

### *WisBar InsideTrack*

Stay up-to-date on Wisconsin legal developments and State Bar news with *WisBar InsideTrack*™, an electronic publication delivered weekly to your email.

Find it online at **wisbar.org/insidetrack**.

### *CaseLaw Express*

Keep pace with Wisconsin Supreme Court and Court of Appeals decisions with this weekly email update.

Subscribe at **wisbar.org/caselaw**.

### *Rotunda Report*

Understand legislative, judicial, and administrative developments that affect the legal profession and the justice system with this enewsletter — included in your membership.

Subscribe today at **wisbar.org/rotundareport**.

## Blogs

Access an array of blogs focused on specific practice areas and topics. Visit **wisbar.org/blog**.

## WisLawNOW

Do you have a law blog? Join our community of Wisconsin legal bloggers! This syndicated network helps legal bloggers reach a wider audience. A twice monthly email highlights top picks of recent content from the site.

Learn more at **wislawnow.com**.

WisLawNOW
A Community of Wisconsin Legal Bloggers

## Social Media

Connect with Wisconsin's legal community! Join the conversation and follow us on Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, or wherever you connect.

Visit **wisbar.org/social**.

## RSS Feeds

Have our legal news and publications sent directly to you. Subscribe to our RSS feeds.
Visit **wisbar.org/rss**.

## Contribute to State Bar Publications

Raise your profile, advance your career, and share your expertise with other legal professionals by writing or speaking for the State Bar.

Visit **wisbar.org/contribute**.

**Visit wisbar.org/publications to find these resources.**

# Research Tools to Rock Your World

From people, to places, to things, find what you need fast with the outstanding research tools and resources available to State Bar members.

## Start your legal research with the State Bar.

Have a question? Can't find the right form? Need a citation? Go to the **Legal Resources** tab on WisBar to search within vLex Fastcase and find quick links to the following resources:

- Wisconsin Circuit Court access (CCAP)
- Wisconsin Circuit Court forms
- Wisconsin Circuit Court rules
- Wisconsin Court of Appeals opinions
- Wisconsin Court of Appeals forms
- Wisconsin Court of Appeals case access
- Wisconsin Supreme Court opinions and dispositional orders
- Wisconsin Supreme Court case access
- Wisconsin Administrative Code
- Wisconsin Statutes and Annotations
- Wisconsin court and agency forms
- Federal resources

To access the Legal Research page, click **"Legal Resources"** in top navigation or click **"For Members"** and select **"Legal Resources"** from the drop-down menu.

*"Looking to keep legal research costs affordable? Take some time and become familiar with Fastcase. It's a benefit provided to State Bar members and it's just what you'll need for case law research. Your Fastcase benefit alone is worth what you pay in membership dues."*

Member, State Bar Board of Governors

## vLex Fastcase®

Experience the power and ease of vLex Fastcase, the next-generation online legal research system. Your membership entitles you to unlimited access to a comprehensive 50-state and federal case law database, and Wisconsin jury instructions.

Access vLex Fastcase through the Legal Research page on **wisbar.org**. You can find free online demonstrations and answers to frequently asked questions at **support.vLex.com**.

**Search your way.** Whether you want to search using natural language, keywords, or look up a citation, vLex Fastcase gives you options.

**Filter your search results by jurisdiction.** Narrow the number of cases you see by running a search and then choosing a jurisdiction filter option.

**Seminal cases are included.** Thanks to a vLex Fastcase tool called Forecite, when you perform a keyword search on vLex Fastcase, Forecite goes the extra mile and identifies seminal cases that can be easily missed by ordinary keyword searches.

**Citations are simple.** Just highlight the appropriate text, click "Copy Citation," and get a Bluebook-friendly cite.

**Visit wisbar.org/research to find these resources.**

Your practice is our purpose. In other words, we're here to help you succeed with a wide array of tools, resources, and support to help you manage every aspect of your practice.

# Lawyer Like a Boss: Practice Management Resources

## Practice411 Law Office Management Assistance Program

If you're looking for guidance on managing the business aspects of your law practice, we've got the 411 – the **Practice411™**, that is. This State Bar program is here to help you make smart choices about everything relating to the day-to-day operations of your practice with individualized assistance on topics such as:

- Financial planning
- Business development
- Setting up a law firm
- Personnel
- Trust accounts
- Marketing
- Operations management
- Technology and software

Whether you work in the public, private, or non-profit sectors, Practice411 can help improve your office's effectiveness and your quality of life. Visit **wisbar.org/practice411** for more information.

## Ethics Hotline

Facing an ethical conundrum? As a State Bar member, you have access to guidance and help in resolving questions about Wisconsin's Rules of Professional Conduct for Attorneys. Call our free Ethics Hotline at (800) 254-9154 or visit **wisbar.org/ethics** to contact an experienced ethics lawyer.

Manage Your Practice

## Wisconsin Lawyers Assistance Program (WisLAP)

The Lawyers Assistance Program offers confidential well-being support to lawyers, judges, and law students. WisLAP staff are available for phone and in-person consultations, mental health training, and well-being presentations. Additionally, WisLAP trained volunteers are available for individualized peer-to-peer support upon request.

The Lawyers Assistance Program aims to develop a culture within the Wisconsin legal community that fosters work-life balance and destigmatizes mental illness and substance use disorders. WisLAP services are free and available to everyone in the legal community.

For more information or to set up a consultation, email WisLAP staff at callwislap@wisbar.org or call (800) 543-2625.

## Wisconsin eCourts System

Visit the Wisconsin Court System's online eCourts webpage for easy access to a variety of services, including:

- Court fees and fines payment
- Forms
- Juror services
- Circuit and appellate court eFiling
- CLE reporting

Visit **wicourts.gov/ecourts**.

# Put Your Name in Lights: Marketing Tools

## Consumer Handbooks

Written by lawyers, consumer handbooks explain the basics of probate, health care decisions, and guardianship while highlighting your firm as THE source to turn to for legal assistance. They make great leave-behinds, content for your website, and talking points when working with new clients. Visit **wisbar.org/consumerhandbooks**.

## Lawyer Referral Service

Build your client base with high-quality, prescreened referrals from our Lawyer Referral Service (LRS). LRS is an important public service that connects consumers with legal resources to match their needs.

LRS
LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE

Each year, LRS referral specialists field nearly 40,000 contacts from Wisconsin citizens. When you join LRS, you choose the areas of practice and geographic locations in which you'd like to receive client referrals. It's a great way to grow your business into new practice areas and geographies. Visit **wisbar.org/lrs**.

**Visit wisbar.org/formembers for helpful practice management tools.**

# Get Paid: Payment Processing Tools

## LawPay

LawPay Electronic Billing Service lets you securely accept credit card payments online via your website or by email. Compliant with all ABA and state client fund management requirements, LawPay automatically separates payments into your trust and operating accounts. Streamline your collections process and increase your cash flow with LawPay. State Bar members save up to 25% off credit card processing fees when they purchase this helpful service.

## Fee Arbitration Program

Fee disagreements with clients can be stressful, time-consuming, and costly. The State Bar's Fee Arbitration Program gives you the option to resolve fee conflicts in a private hearing before a panel of trained arbitrators. Preserve your privacy, avoid undue publicity, and save time and money with the confidential, low-cost Fee Arbitration Program.

# Stay Organized: Practice Management Software Solutions

## Clio

Clio is a comprehensive, easy-to-use, cloud-based law practice management software. From intake to invoice, find the tools you need to manage cases, clients, documents, bills, appointments, time-tracking, reporting, and accounting. State Bar members enjoy a 10% lifetime discount on Clio plus unlimited access to live customer support and training.

## CosmoLex

Run your practice better. With legal & business accounting and practice management tools, we make it easy to practice more and manage less. Get a 10% lifetime discount as a State Bar of Wisconsin Member.

## Identillect

User-friendly email security encryption that ensures total security and control over your sensitive email communications, both outbound and when recipients respond. State Bar members receive a 20% discount.

## MyCase

Manage cases with ease using MyCase practice management software. MyCase lets you work anywhere, from any device with a secure portal. Accept online payments, track time, and even generate firm reports. As a State Bar member, you get a 30-day free trial plus a 10% lifetime discount on MyCase.

## Nextpoint

A turnkey solution for ediscovery, deposition transcript management, and beyond.

## Practice Panther

Practice Panther is an easy-to-use case management solution designed to aid communication, document management, trust accounting and billing.

## Rocket Matter

Built for today's busiest firms, Rocket Matter makes it easy to manage your firm's matters, get invoices out quickly, and get paid on time. State Bar of Wisconsin members are eligible for a 10% lifetime discount.

## Smokeball

Boost your firm's productivity + profitability with Smokeball. State Bar of Wisconsin members get 10% off!

## Tabs3

Discover a simple integrated suite of desktop or cloud-based products from billing and practice management to trust accounting.

## TimeSolv

Increase your billable hours with simple time & billing software. TimeSolv is ranked #1 legal billing software for usability.

# Financial Planning

## 401(k) Retirement Savings

Solo or small-firm practitioners can have difficulty finding retirement plans with no out-of-pocket expenses, professional fiduciary services, a broad range of investment options, and full-service administration. 401(k) plans through ABA Retirement Funds offer all that and more. Whether you're interested in an individual plan or need an overall plan for your entire firm, ABA Retirement Funds specializes in creating and managing unique 401(k) plans to fit your needs.

**Visit wisbar.org/formembers for helpful practice management tools.**

# Handy Office Help: Save on Supplies and Services

## Office Depot Partner Advantage™ Program

State Bar members get special pricing at all Office Depot locations and online. Save big on all kinds of supplies for your law office, including:

- Digital print services
- Paper
- Furniture
- Technology
- More than 25,000 office products

## Lenovo Savings Program

Lenovo

Whether for the home or the office, save up to 30% off the everyday public web price of Lenovo products and services including Lenovo laptops, tablets, desktops, all-in-ones, workstations, servers and accessories, and award-winning ThinkPad laptops and innovative multimode YOGA tablets.

## Dell Computer Discounts

State Bar members can take advantage of exclusive offers on business-class products, consumer-class products or electronics and accessories.

DELL

## Classified Ads

In need of office space or furniture? Need to find legal service providers? Check out our classified ads with sections for:

- Attorney Referral
- Professional Services & Experts
- Career Opportunities
- For Sale or Rent/Wanted
- Court Reporters
- Abstract Title

Classified ads are listed in each issue of Wisconsin Lawyer magazine and also appear online at **wisbar.org**. State Bar members can place classified ads at discounted rates.

## Car Rental Discounts

Put the pedal to the metal. Get special discounts on car rentals through Avis and Budget. But these discounts aren't just for business rentals – use them for personal rentals, too!

AVIS®

Budget®

## Verizon

Get exclusive savings on a variety of Verizon Wireless services for business. Plus, you can also share Verizon discounts with your employees.

# Practice Law Knowing You Are Protected: Insurance Programs

## Professional Liability Insurance

Protect your firm from malpractice claims with professional liability insurance through Wisconsin Lawyers Mutual Insurance Company (WILMIC). Created by lawyers, for lawyers, WILMIC has been providing the services Wisconsin lawyers need for more than 30 years. Discover the reassurance that comes from professional liability insurance with superior claims administration.

## Dental Insurance

Keep on smiling with special member savings on dental insurance plans through Delta Dental of Wisconsin. Whether you choose the nation's largest dental network as part of the Premier Plan or the low fees of the PPO Plan, all Delta Dental insurance plans offer appealing benefits, including:

- Attractive rates
- CheckUp Plus benefit that excludes benefits paid for diagnostic and preventive care from the individual annual benefit maximum for the plan
- Orthodontic benefits to dependents up to age 18
- Option for dependents to stay on the plan until age 26

## Vision Plan

State Bar of Wisconsin members enjoy big savings on vision benefits through the EyeMed Vision Plan. Two different plans offer varying rate and co-pay levels so you can choose the right option for your budget. Get access to the biggest nationwide network of vision specialists at an economical price through EyeMed Vision.

## Other Available Coverage

Protect yourself, your family, and your business with insurance and benefit plans through the State Bar of Wisconsin. As a member, you can take advantage of discounts on coverage for everything from cars to casualties. Many of these plans are open to your staff as well:

- Group health plan
- Auto
- Home
- Life
- Pet Insurance
- Long-term care and disability
- Group accidental death and dismemberment

# Marketing

## Constant Contact:

Get the right tools and advice to send great-looking client emails with the power to drive more business, setup a website, or leverage socials and search features to get new clients.

## Morphic

Create on-brand, professional websites in just minutes.

## NOMOS

Access a full service digital marketing agency to help you build your online and real time presence through customized marketing programs.

## Omnizant:

Not just a website development shop or an SEO company; Omnizant is a full-service digital marketing agency for law firms. Omnizant focuses assessing your growth goals and providing you with a comprehensive plan, that will help you grow your practice. Since 2006, we've worked with 2,000 law firms across the country specializing in just about every area of law, including:

- Website development
- Logo design
- Branded visibility
- Search engine optimization (SEO)
- Pay-Per-Click (PPC) campaign development and management
- Video production and marketing
- Social media marketing

## LexBlog:

LexBlog is a responsive legal blogging network with a custom domain, and a SEO-enabled theme that makes being found online easy. With more than 25,000 bloggers nationwide, it offers a ready-made solution that provides ongoing platform updates that keep your blog modern, secure, and highly performing.

The network now includes State Bar of Wisconsin member content on WislawNOW. Your content will be included on LexBlog.com and promoted on the front page and social media channels, and is also included in Fastcase's comprehensive law library.

State Bar of Wisconsin members receive a "LexBlog 20" blog at no cost for six months, and then $39.99/month thereafter with no setup fee. That's nearly $240 in savings!

**Visit wisbar.org/formembers for more discounted products & services.**

# Leaders Wanted

Take an active role in your State Bar to develop leadership experience, bond with colleagues, raise your professional profile, and make a lasting impact on Wisconsin's legal community.

## Sections and Divisions

Strengthen your ties within Wisconsin's legal community by joining State Bar sections and divisions. You'll engage with like-minded professionals, build meaningful relationships, and gain insights from others in your area(s) of practice.

## Divisions

### Young Lawyers Division

If you are under age 36 or in your first five years of practice following Bar admission, you are automatically a member of this exciting division! The Young Lawyers Division (YLD) provides leadership, development, and networking opportunities and equips you to contribute to the community, local bar associations, and the State Bar.

Benefits and activities include:

- Legal education seminars
- Career assistance
- Public service projects
- Networking opportunities
- Leadership experience

The best part? **Membership is absolutely FREE!**

Lead the Way

### Young Lawyers Conference

This annual spring program, hosted by the YLD, is a don't-miss event for the young lawyers of Wisconsin. The conference offers opportunities to earn CLE, create long-lasting relationships, and provides valuable and unique information about the challenges and rewards of being a new lawyer. Kick off your career with this popular event and learn from judges, experienced practitioners, and your peers.

*Continued on next page*

## Sections and Divisions (continued)

### Government Lawyers Division

The Government Lawyers Division (GLD) is open to any voting member of the State Bar receiving a salary from a government unit. It promotes, enriches, and supports the professional needs, interests, and expertise of public sector attorneys. GLD members can enjoy:

- Professional growth through special CLE courses
- Support from the quarterly member newsletter, email list, and other resources
- Opportunities for involvement in committees, specialty councils, and special events

### Nonresident Lawyers Division

The Nonresident Lawyers Division (NRLD) helps nonresident members maintain their ties with Wisconsin. Members practicing outside of Wisconsin automatically belong to this complimentary group and join a growing number of NRLD chapters across the country. The NRLD promotes communication, networking, and business opportunities among nonresident State Bar members. It also gives nonresident members the chance to participate in the State Bar's governance and policy development. Benefits are available to both active and inactive members.

### Senior Lawyers Division

The Senior Lawyers Division (SLD) offers activities and content specifically designed for the needs and interests of senior lawyers. This division also provides opportunities for senior lawyers to stay connected with the State Bar as well as opportunities to assist young lawyers. All State Bar members 60 years or older are eligible for SLD membership.

**Visit wisbar.org/groups to get started on the path to leadership.**

## Join a State Bar Section and Start Making Connections Today!

All sections offer complimentary membership for your first year as a newly admitted attorney. Continued membership comes at a low annual cost—just $20 to $44.

The Elder Law, Family Law, Intellectual Property Law & Litigation Sections offer two years of free membership to attorneys.

Although each section offers its own unique benefits, in general, sections:

- Publish newsletters/blogs covering current trends and topics
- Sponsor CLE programs that Section members can attend for a reduced fee
- Influence state and federal policy
- Host networking events
- Coordinate valuable services and projects for section members and the public

Joining is easy! Choose from 24 area-specific sections:

- Administrative & Local Government Law
- Appellate Practice
- Bankruptcy, Insolvency and Creditors Rights'
- Business Law
- Children & the Law
- Civil Rights & Liberties
- Construction & Public Contract Law
- Criminal Law
- Dispute Resolution
- Elder Law and Special Needs
- Environmental Law
- Family Law
- Health Law
- Indian Law
- Intellectual Property & Technology Law
- International Practice
- Labor & Employment Law
- Litigation
- Public Interest Law
- Public Utilities
- Real Property, Probate & Trust Law
- Solo/Small Firm & General Practice
- Sports & Entertainment Law
- Taxation Law

**Learn more by visiting wisbar.org/groups**

# Volunteer

Whether you're looking to make new friends and contacts, learn new skills, or pursue a passion, volunteering within the State Bar of Wisconsin can help you fulfill personal and professional goals. To learn more and get involved, visit **wisbar.org → About Us → Leadership**.

## Board of Governors

The Board of Governors (BOG) oversees the operations of the State Bar of Wisconsin and helps guide its direction. Serving on the BOG is a unique opportunity to influence the profession and advocate for meaningful change.

Governors uphold the Bar's mission by promoting attorney competence, ethical practice, and access to justice. They work to ensure Wisconsin lawyers meet high professional standards and that all citizens have access to quality legal services and fair outcomes.

Consider running for a two-year term and make your voice heard.

## Committees

The State Bar depends on you to make it an effective organization. Committee service is a great way to get involved. We have more than 25 standing and special committees dedicated to a variety of key issues. From leadership development to legal assistance, you're bound to find a committee that piques your interests.

## Local, Affinity, and Specialty Bars

Looking to narrow the focus of your involvement? Check out the list of local, affinity, and specialty bar associations the State Bar supports at **wisbar.org/bars**.

By working together on special projects, newsletters, programs, and other initiatives, these partnerships strengthen the legal profession as a whole.

## Contribute to State Bar Publications

Raise your profile, advance your career, and share your expertise with other legal professionals by writing or speaking for the State Bar. From an in-depth feature article in *Wisconsin Lawyer* magazine to sharing a reflection from your legal experience, there are so many ways to contribute!

Visit **wisbar.org/contribute**.

**Benefits of Writing**

- You may qualify for CLE credit
- Bylined articles are a proven way to establish your reputation as having expertise in a particular area of law
- Increase your visibility among target audiences
- Build relationships with contacts at publications read by your target audience

## Become a PINNACLE CLE Presenter

Using the skill and expertise of volunteer lawyers, PINNACLE presents 90+ unique programs annually. PINNACLE seminars address new legislation and developments in case law, practice management, litigation, negotiation, cutting-edge technology, and in-depth coverage of substantive areas of law.

Have an idea for a CLE seminar? Want to become a presenter?

Email **cle@wisbar.org**.

# Training and Support

Your State Bar can help you lay the foundation for a successful legal career with top-notch leadership training and mentorship programs.

## G. Lane Ware Leadership Academy

Take your leadership skills to the next level. The Leadership Academy is a comprehensive training program specifically designed to empower lawyers like you with the skills, strategies, and resources to become an effective leader in your career, community, local and state bar associations, and the profession itself.

**wisbar.org/leadershipacademy**

## Leadership Summit

Each year, twenty-four young lawyers nominated by State Bar leaders statewide attend the State Bar of Wisconsin Leadership Summit. The program brings together State Bar leaders (past and present) and provides the next generation of leaders the chance to explore State Bar involvement opportunities, gain insight from experienced State Bar leaders, and helps new attorneys find their niche.

Find more information about the nomination process at **wisbar.org/ls**.

**Visit wisbar.org/formembers for more information.**

## Ready. Set. Practice.

READY. SET. PRACTICE.

As a State Bar member, you never have to go it alone. The **Ready. Set. Practice.** mentoring program connects new lawyers—or those exploring a new practice area—with experienced attorneys who have six or more years in the field. Gain insight, get answers to ethical and procedural questions, grow your confidence, and build valuable professional connections. **Wisbar.org/readysetpractice**

## Greater Wisconsin Initiative

The State Bar's **Greater Wisconsin Initiative** encourages attorneys to consider practicing in Greater Wisconsin. We're here to help you learn if rural practice is right for you and provide you with the resources you need to get started. Wisconsin's rural population tops 1.6 million. With many lawyers approaching retirement age, more and more nonurban communities are at risk of losing access to legal services. Why? As attorneys retire, there aren't always other lawyers around to take their place.

Some areas of Wisconsin are already experiencing the consequences of lawyer shortages. More than 60 percent of Wisconsin lawyers are located in the state's three urban counties. On the other hand, a number of nonurban counties have fewer than 10 lawyers each. Many more counties have fewer than 20 lawyers.

What happens when a rural area no longer has a lawyer? Vital legal needs go unmet and access to justice is jeopardized. What does this mean for you as a new lawyer? Opportunities abound all over Wisconsin to establish your practice!

Visit **wisbar.org/GWI** and see what practicing in rural and smaller communities can offer.

State Bar of Wisconsin RURAL CLERKSHIP PROGRAM

## Rural Clerkship Program

The State Bar's **Rural Clerkship Program** exposes students to the benefits of practicing law in rural Wisconsin by connecting students with employers offering a limited-term, full-time, paid summer employment opportunity. Employment typically lasts eight weeks, starting after the end of the spring semester.

Students (1L and 2L) from Wisconsin and Minnesota law schools who are in good standing and interested in rural practice are eligible for the program. Student clerks gain practical legal experience, and participating employers obtain valuable legal support.

## Rural Practice Development Program

The State Bar of Wisconsin's **Rural Practice Development Program** is an initiative designed to help bridge the gap in legal services in rural communities throughout the state. This program presents a unique opportunity for attorneys to relocate to underserved rural communities, establish or join a practice, immerse themselves in local life, and receive a financial stipend of $10,000.

STATE BAR OF WISCONSIN Rural Practice Development Program

The State Bar offers countless ways to give back—whether by mentoring, volunteering, or sharing your expertise. Use your unique skills to make a difference in the profession and the community. Getting involved is easy.

## Wisconsin Law Foundation

WISCONSIN LAW FOUNDATION
Charitable Arm of the State Bar of Wisconsin

As the State Bar's charitable arm, the Wisconsin Law Foundation promotes public understanding of the law. It also works to improve the administration of justice and other law- related public services by funding innovative and creative programs that improve the vision of the American justice system, including:

- Programs focused on developing the next generation of legal leaders
- The Wisconsin High School Mock Trial Program
- New diversity initiatives, speakers, and programs
- Scholarships that help new lawyers reduce debt and establish practices in underserved areas
- Teen Court programs across the state

None of this is possible without contributions from State Bar members like you. To learn more and donate go to **wisbar.org/wlf**.

# Public Education

## Wisconsin High School Mock Trial Program

Wisconsin High School MOCK TRIAL TOURNAMENT

Since its creation in 1983, the Wisconsin High School Mock Trial Program has brought our legal system to life for thousands of students. Using facts and case materials developed by Wisconsin attorneys, students gain a deeper understanding of the court system as they develop their arguments and build their cases.

Every year, hundreds of judges and attorneys are needed to judge mock trials as part of the Wisconsin High School Mock Trial Tournament. Visit **wisbar.org/mocktrial** to learn how you can get involved.

## Pro Bono

PRO BONO
A Call to Serve

For too many Wisconsin residents, equal justice under the law is out of reach because they cannot afford the professional legal help they need. Wisconsin lawyers are uniquely qualified to help close this justice gap by offering their services pro bono.

Pro bono service strengthens your existing skills, exposes you to new areas of law, and helps you network with other professionals. The State Bar supports members who do pro bono work with:

- Pro Bono Initiative grants to develop or expand pro bono legal assistance projects
- Free liability insurance
- Expense reimbursement
- Online pro bono opportunities guide

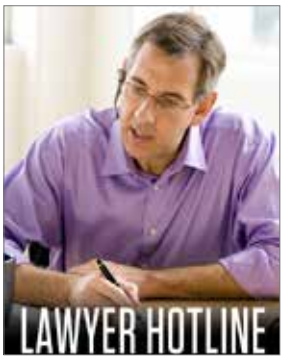
**wisbar.org/probono**

Pay It Forward

## Modest Means Referral Service

State Bar members who volunteer to join the Modest Means Panel agree to provide services at reduced cost to moderate income clients who have been screened by our Lawyer Referral Service (LRS). By accepting reduced fees, you can help ensure there is legal assistance available to people who need alternative payment options. Email LRISresponse@wisbar.org to volunteer or get more information.

**wisbar.org/modestmeans**




## Lawyer Hotline

Can you spare two hours? Then volunteer to answer basic legal questions as part of the Lawyer Hotline. The Lawyer Hotline is an option for people who have simple questions about a legal issue having to do with landlord-tenant law, small claims court, wills, and the like.

Callers receive a scheduled time when a Hotline volunteer will call them back to discuss their question. Volunteers then meet at the State Bar Center or other location for two hours to return calls.

**Email LRISresponse@wisbar.org to volunteer.**

## Visit wisbar.org/memberbenefits for more information.

Your journey as a Wisconsin lawyer has just begun.

We'll be with you every step of the way!

STATE BAR OF WISCONSIN
*Your Practice. Our Purpose.®*

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