



## STATE BAR OF WISCONSIN

*Your Practice. Our Purpose.®*

### MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Governors  
From: Larry J. Martin, Executive Director  
Date: June 8, 2022  
Re: Executive Director Report

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I'd like to begin my report by acknowledging the passing of two of our members, Judge John Roemer of Juneau County and Mike Guerin, former president of the State Bar of Wisconsin.

The tragic death of Judge Roemer is a great loss for his family, colleagues, friends and community. In addition, there is strong evidence that it was an attack on our judiciary and democracy itself. Judge Roemer served on the bench with distinction. In his retirement, he volunteered in his community giving of his time, talent and love. Wisconsin's legal community stands as one in condemning any threats or acts of violence against those who serve in our judiciary and we mourn the loss of a good and fair man.

Frank Gimbel, Mike Guerin's longtime law firm partner and friend, described Mike as "the kind of guy who – without bravado, without ego – would make you feel like your problems were the only ones that existed in the world, and that he was going to invest all his clout and talent to help you out." And he did just that throughout his career.

Mike began his legal career as a Milwaukee police officer and a special agent with the Wisconsin Department of Justice. He went on to become a prominent Milwaukee attorney working at what is now Gimbel, Reilly, Guerin & Brown. He served as the president of the Milwaukee Bar Association (2000-01) and president of the State Bar of Wisconsin (2005-06).

Mike Guerin's legacy includes outstanding leadership, skilled trial lawyer, friend and mentor to many, and champion of the legal profession. He's a "lion of the law," as they say, and was a gift to Wisconsin's legal community, his many clients, and to all who knew him. Rest in peace, Mike.

### **Meeting Members Where They Live and Work**

To best serve our members, I believe it is critical that the State Bar get out to regularly meet with our members where they live and work across our great state. That's why I'll be hitting the road again this summer, meeting with new board members, visiting with local bars and stopping in at law firms. Like last summer, I will be taking a three-day tour, this time to northeast

Wisconsin, this August, listening and talking to members, and learning how we can help them. Joining me for the ride will be Director of the Office of Lawyer Regulation Tim Samuelson, along with Law Practice Assistance Manager Christopher Shattuck and WisLAP Manager Julia Persike.

Our 475-mile roundtrip tour includes stops in Sheboygan, Manitowoc, Kewaunee, Door, Marinette, and Shawano Counties. I've also encouraged our State Bar staff to get to know our members by attending bar association events throughout the year. Let us know of your local or specialty bar meeting so we can join you!

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

## RECENT COLUMNS of Interest

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

- **Lawyers are Democracy's First Line of Defense:** Whether by donating to relief organizations, supporting public institutions, protecting voting and other rights, or something else, lawyers play a vital role in defending democracy, in the United States and around the globe (May 2022).
- **Our Future is in Good Hands:** Every Wisconsin lawyer can make the legal profession better. Myron LaRowe and Kristen Hardy are among many who've done so by volunteering as State Bar of Wisconsin leaders. (forthcoming, June 2022)

## UPCOMING EVENTS to Keep on Your Radar

- **Annual Meeting & Conference, June 15-17, Grand Geneva Resort.**
  - Opening Plenary: **Dr. Sharon Meit Abrahams**
  - Luncheon Plenary: **Megan Phelps-Roper**
  - Closing Plenary: **Atty. Paul Clement**
  - Other Featured Speakers: **Laura Coates, Alonzo Kelly**

**Walk-ins Welcome!** 25 additional CLE breakout sessions. Network, relax! Check out the line-up at [amc.wisbar.org](http://amc.wisbar.org)



- **41<sup>st</sup> Annual Family Law Workshop**, August 4-6, Stone Harbor Resort, Sturgeon Bay. Participants will enjoy three half-days of CLE programming. The workshop features trending topics in the family law field, legislative and case law updates, and optional social events. The section awarded 14 scholarships to family law practitioners and law school students to attend the workshop and discounts tuition for section members.
- **Intellectual Property and Technology Academy**, August 11-12, Stone Harbor Resort, Sturgeon Bay

- **Health, Labor, and Employment Law Institute**, August 18-19, Wilderness Resort & Conference Center, Wisconsin Dells. Learn more about the great resignation, the rise of telehealth services, data technology and privacy, workplace speech, and employee privacy. The **Health Law Section** and the **Labor and Employment Law Section** are sponsoring the event



- **Annual Indian Law Section CLE**. August 18-19, Glacier Canyon Lodge at the Wilderness, Wisconsin Dells. Earn up to 11 CLE credits, including one EPR credit. The section awarded two \$1,000 scholarships to law students for the 2022-2023 school year.
- **Upcoming Board of Governors' Meetings**  
Sept. 22-23, (with Joint Leadership Orientation), The Osthoff Resort in Elkhart Lake.

- **Wisconsin Law Foundation Events**

Sept. 29, Fellows of the Wisconsin Law Foundation Reception & Dinner, Wisconsin City Club, Milwaukee

## EDUCATE – Developing Skilled Legal Professionals

### *Professional Development: New and Updated Books*

#### **Professional Development: New and Updated Books**

The Professional Development Team recently released 14 full book revisions and 19 supplemental updates, including codebooks and ***Mental Health Law in Wisconsin: A Guide for Legal and Healthcare Professionals***. We still have a number of supplements, as well as the following revisions, coming in June:

- *Wisconsin Employment Law*
- *Commercial Real Estate Transactions in Wisconsin*
- *Wisconsin Attorney's Desk Reference*

Please take a moment and visit the State Bar of Wisconsin Marketplace ([marketplace.wisbar.org](https://marketplace.wisbar.org)) to learn more about all the books, forms, and other products.

#### **Check Out These Limited Time Savings on Codebooks, Books and Videos**

Visit [marketplace.wisbar.org](https://marketplace.wisbar.org) to learn more about these promotions, which last until June 30, 2022:

- Save 10% on 2022 Wisconsin Codebooks
- Save 15% on 15 selected civil litigation and criminal law titles
- Save 15% on *Immigration Consequences of Wisconsin Criminal Offenses*
- Save 15% on *Advising the Evolving Family*



Additionally, you can save 10% by signing up for the State Bar's automatic supplementation service. And you can save 50% on selected Law Office | Videos from the State Bar.

## **Looking for a Few Good Authors**

We are looking for new authors to take over current book projects and 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](mailto:cchapman@wisbar.org).

## ***Professional Development: Seminars***

### **Learn About Cross-Over Issues in Bankruptcy and Divorce on June 28**

Back by popular demand is the [Until Debt Do Us Part](#) seminar, which explores the cross-over issues involved in bankruptcy and divorce. Each process has big implications and getting the timing right can impart significant benefits to clients. The seminar will be a live in-person event in Madison with a concurrent webcast on June 28. Replays will be scheduled for fall.

### **Do You Have Your U-Pass Yet?**

The Seminars Division recently launched the Ultimate Bronze Pass to accompany the Silver and Gold passes. The three-tier Ultimate Pass program provides members with an affordable way to get high quality CLE. Learn more about the [Ultimate Pass program](#) on wisbar.org.

### **Become a PINNACLE Speaker Today!**

If you, or someone you know, is interested in becoming a State Bar of Wisconsin PINNACLE speaker, or if you have suggestions about new CLE for PINNACLE to explore, please contact Seminars Manager Tim Clark at [tclark@wisbar.org](mailto:tclark@wisbar.org)

## ***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.



### **Practice Management**

State Bar Practice411 Law Practice Assistance Manager Christopher Shattuck recently met with members for roundtable law practice management discussions via teleconference and in-person to discuss tips for scaling law practices, pro bono and volunteer opportunities, limiting the sale and tracking of personal data, and incorporating wellness into law firms. Shattuck authored, [“5 Tips for Recovery When a Disaster Strikes Your Firm,”](#) for *InsideTrack* and co-authored, [“Encrypting Your Law Firm,”](#) for *Wisconsin Lawyer*.

**Practice411** partnered with Ethics Counsel, the Solo, Small Firm & General Practice Section of the State Bar of Wisconsin, and PINNACLE, to provide a seminar titled, [Fee Agreement Workshop: Supreme Court Rules and Ethical Recommendations 2022](#). The seminar drew 128 attendees in the initial live webcast.

### ***Providing Ethics Guidance***

The Ethics Program provides guidance regarding Wisconsin’s Rules of Professional Conduct for Attorneys. Ethics counsel delivered 10 presentations, two through PINNACLE, including:

- “Lawyer Civility: Has it Become an Oxymoron?” (Society of Family Lawyers, State Government Lawyers, Wisconsin National Guard Legal Training)
- “The Re-regulation of the Legal Profession” (Nonresident Lawyers Division)
- “Communicating with Represented Persons” and “Migratory Lawyers in Criminal Practice” (State Prosecutors Education and Training)
- “Special Problems in Confidentiality” (Milwaukee Estate Planning Forum)
- PINNACLE Legal Research: “The Search for Clarity in an Attorney’s Duty of Competence in Legal Research” (Wisconsin National Guard Legal Training)

Ethics Counsel also wrote two articles, appearing in *InsideTrack*:

- [“Dilemma: Can an Out-of-State Lawyer Work Remotely in Wisconsin?”](#)

- **“Dilemma: A Pro Se Lawyer and the No Contract Rule”**

Questions? Contact Ethics Counsel Aviva Kaiser, [akaiser@wisbar.org](mailto:akaiser@wisbar.org), or Tim Pierce, [tpierce@wisbar.org](mailto: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.

#### **WisLAP Outreach Events**

- Stress Management presentation at von Briesen and Roper, Milwaukee.
- Department of Justice Statewide Prosecutors Education and Training Conference, Wisconsin Dells (see highlights below).
- Lawyer Wellbeing and Compassion Fatigue Prevention, AMC in Lake Geneva.

**Department of Justice  
Statewide Prosecutors  
Education and Training  
Conference**



WisLAP provided the following presentations at the Department of Justice Statewide Prosecutors Education & Training Conference:

- “Drugs, Mental Health, and Personality Disorders – How behavioral health conditions have the potential to corrode attorney-client interactions and increase prosecutor risk of burnout, apathy and indifference.”
  - “No control? No support? No problem! Strategies to Minimize Prosecutor Burnout and Fatigue.”
  - WisLAP also offered confidential, individual, in-person, 30-minute listening sessions to conference participants. Office hours were offered to promote lawyer wellbeing, address personal stressors, and explore work-life balance concerns.

## **Wanted: WisLAP Peer Support Volunteers**

Are you looking for an opportunity to give back to the Wisconsin legal community? Perhaps you're looking for speaking/networking opportunities? Peer support volunteers are needed throughout the state for virtual and face-to-face opportunities. For more information, please contact Julia at [jpersike@wisbar.org](mailto:jpersike@wisbar.org) or Tamra at [tpaulson@wisbar.org](mailto:tpaulson@wisbar.org).

## **Contact WisLAP Staff**

Questions about WisLAP? Contact WisLAP Manager Julia Persike, PsyD, CSAC, at [jpersike@wisbar.org](mailto:jpersike@wisbar.org), or Tamra Paulson, administrative assistant, [tpaulson@wisbar.org](mailto:tpaulson@wisbar.org).

## ***Sections and Committee Reports***

The **Appellate Section** completed their fourth bi-Annual Best Brief Competition, which recognizes great writers, promotes appellate advocacy, and identifies briefs that can be used for models for appellate lawyers. [A panel of judges selected four winning briefs.](#)

The **Business Law Section** is supporting a Sept. 1 half-day PINNACLE seminar on the Business Law Entity Package (2021 Wisconsin Act 258), enacted April 15, 2022. The section will be partially funding a discount for members to attend the live presentation.

The **Children and the Law Section** is purchasing duffle bags and personal essentials to be distributed to group homes for youths who are aging out of the foster care system. This is the second year the section has funded this type of project.

The **Civil Rights and Liberties Section** funded a scholarship to one section member with five years or less of experience to attend the Annual Meeting and Conference.

The **Environmental Law Section** is examining why younger lawyers are less likely to enter the field, and looking at ways of building the next generation of environmental lawyers.

The **Labor and Employment Law Section** presented a live webcast CLE on May 26, "Walking the Line: Pursuing and Defending Arrest and Conviction Discrimination Claim." This program was discounted for members of the section.



The **Public Interest Law Section (PILS)** funded a needs-based scholarship for a member to attend the Annual Meeting & Conference. In addition, the section hosted their PILS & Possibilities event in April. The event brings section members and law students together for informal networking.

The **Real Property, Probate and Trust Section** continues to offer a \$50 discount to section members for attending the following PINNACLE programs:

- Annual Real Estate Update
- Step by Step Estate Planning I
- Step by Step Estate Planning II
- Annual Commercial Real Estate Update

The **Solo Small Firm and General Practice Section** partially funded the production of the PINNACLE CLE, “Fee Agreement Workshop” which provides information on how to draft ethical fee agreements. Section members attended for free. The section also funded two scholarships to the State Bar Annual Meeting and Conference.

The **Greater Wisconsin Initiative Implementation and Oversight Committee** held their inaugural meeting on April 4. The committee is developing strategies to address the shortage of attorneys and access to justice in rural Wisconsin. The committee is exploring incubator programs, and research funding and grants. Committee members include: Johanna Kirk, Chair; Myron LaRowe, Alan J. Strohschein, Susan VenRooy, Michael Windle, Margart Zickuhr, and Walt Zimmerman.

## **Division Reports**

The **Nonresident Lawyers Division’s** Minnesota Chapter hosted a virtual Ethics and Professional Responsibilities CLE event on May 2. State Bar Ethics Counsel Aviva Kaiser presented along with Atty. Ken Jorgensen and Atty. Jennifer Bovitz. The event drew 30 participants. The chapter is planning to resume in-person networking events in the upcoming summer months.

The **Government Lawyers Division** is presenting a lunchtime webinar free to division members on June 28. Judge Derek Mosley is presenting, “Unconscious Bias-Knowing What You Don’t Know.” State Bar President Cheryl Furstace Daniels will join for an update on the State Bar’s work to petition to allow CLE credit for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion programs.

The **Government Lawyers Division and the Senior Lawyers Division** are offering scholarships to division members to cover AMC registration costs. Information: Karen Beall at [kbeall@wisbar.org](mailto:kbeall@wisbar.org).

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

### ***Advocacy & Access to Justice: Setting the Stage for a Successful Season***

The Wisconsin legislative campaign season is upon us, and this cycle will be one to watch, with legislative retirements at historic highs. This includes two of the twelve current attorney-legislators, potentially bringing the total number of lawyer-legislators down to 10 in the next session. The deadline for registering candidacy for upcoming elections was June 1.

As of the publication of this report, there are 30 incumbents not seeking reelection in the Wisconsin legislature, along with Wisconsin District 3 Congressman Ron Kind. View new 2022 legislative maps, find out if your district has changed, and compare them to previous maps at: <https://maps.legis.wisconsin.gov/>

Retiring legislators include:

#### ***Senate:***

- District 5 – Dale Kooyenga (R-Brookfield)
- District 15 – Janis Ringhand (D-Evansville)
- District 25 – Janet Bewley (D-Mason)
- District 27 – Jon Erpenbach (D-West Point)
- District 23 – Kathy Bernier (R-Chippewa Falls)
- District 19 – Roger Roth (R-Appleton) *Running for Lt. Governor*
- District 29 – Jerry Petrowski (R-Wausau)

#### ***Assembly:***

- District 5 – Jim Steineke (R-Kaukauna)
- District 6 – Gary Tauchen (R-Bonduel)
- District 10 – David Bowen (D-Milwaukee) *Running for Lt. Governor*
- District 13 – Sara Rodriguez (D-Brookfield) *Running for Lt. Governor*
- District 15 – Joe Sanfelippo (R-New Berlin)

- District 19 – Jonathan Brostoff (D-Milwaukee)
- District 27 – Tyler Vorpapel (R-Plymouth)
- District 31 – Amy Loudenbeck (R-Clinton) *Running for Sec. of State*
- District 33 – Cody Horlacher (R-Mukwonago) \***Attorney-legislator**
- District 45 – Mark Spreitzer (D-Beloit) *Running for State Senate*
- District 46 – Gary Hebl (D-Sun Prairie) \***Attorney-legislator**
- District 52 – Jeremy Thiesfeldt (R-Fon du Lac)
- District 54 – Gordon Hintz (D-Oshkosh)
- District 55 – Rachel Cabral-Guevara (R-Appleton) *Running for State Senate*
- District 59 – Tim Ramthun (R-Campbellsport) *Running for Governor*
- District 61 – Samantha Kerkman (R-Salem Lakes) *Won Kenosha County Executive Race*
- District 68 - Jesse James (R-Altoona) *Running for State Senate*
- District 73 – Nick Milroy (D-South Range)
- District 74 – Beth Meyers (D-Bayfield)
- District 79 – Dianne Hesselbein (D-Middleton) *Running for State Senate*
- District 80 – Sody Pope (D-Mt. Horeb)
- District 82 – Ken Skowronski (R-Franklin)
- District 84 – Mike Kuglitsch (R-New Berlin)

The following seats are up for election this year:

### ***Statewide***

- Governor; Lieutenant Governor; Attorney General; Secretary of State; State Treasurer

### ***U.S Congress***

- U.S. Senator; All 8 U.S. Congress Districts. Rep. Ron Kind (D – District 3) is not seeking re-election

### ***State Senate***

- All odd numbered Senate Districts (1,3,5,7,9,11,13,15,17,19,21,23,25,27,29,31,33)

### ***State Assembly***

- All 99 Assembly Districts

### ***Connecting Lawmakers with Lawyers and Judges***

As the number of lawyer-legislators continues its downward trend, it's vital for members of the legal profession—judges, private and state attorneys, prosecutors and



defenders—to engage with their lawmakers as constituents. 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 law. The State Bar facilitated two meetings to foster these relationships.

- On May 25, we held a meeting in La Crosse with the help and support of the La Crosse County Bar Association. In attendance were Rep. Billings (D-La Crosse), Rep. Doyle (D-Onalaska and a State Bar member), and Rep. Oldenburg (R-Viroqua), shared their perspectives on the recent legislative session, challenges and opportunities ahead, and the best ways for members of the State Bar to engage with their offices.
- On June 1, we held a meeting in Appleton, co-hosted by the Outagamie and Winnebago County Bar Associations. In attendance were Sen. Cowles (R-Green Bay), Rep. Tusler (R-Harrison and State Bar member), Rep. Cabral-Guevara (R-Appleton), Rep. Murphy (R-Greenville) and Rep. Snodgrass (D-Appleton). Legislators shared their perspectives on legislation that impacts the legal profession, and members asked questions and discussed topics that concerned their practice, the courts, and issues affecting access to justice.

The State Bar is holding meetings around the state this year, working with local and affinity bars to help prepare attorneys to engage in the upcoming legislative session. If you would like to have a meeting with the Government Relations and Grassroots team and your local bar, law firm, or a group of legal colleagues, contact Grassroots Coordinator Devin Martin at [dmartin@wisbar.org](mailto:dmartin@wisbar.org).

### ***Continuing Our Work on Racial Justice, Diversity & Inclusion***

**Law School Outreach:** Members of the Diversity & Inclusion Oversight Committee (DIOC) are working with affinity bar leaders and with law school student affinity groups from U.W. and Marquette law schools to strengthen the pipeline to the legal profession by collaborating on future outreach events. The committee awarded two scholarships to alumni of the Diversity Clerkship Program for the Annual Meeting and Conference.

**Diversity Clerkship Program:** The Diversity Inclusion Oversight Committee Law Student Outreach Subcommittee met May 3 to discuss modifying the Diversity Clerkship Program (DCP) to allow more students to participate. Additionally, 24 DCP students attended a soft skills workshop moderated by Kristen Hardy and Alex Lodge of the Wisconsin Association of African American Lawyers. Panel members included representatives from the LGBT Bar Association, Asian Bar Association, and Hispanic Lawyers Association. Students felt the workshop was very useful as their summer clerkship is the first time most of them will work in the legal profession.

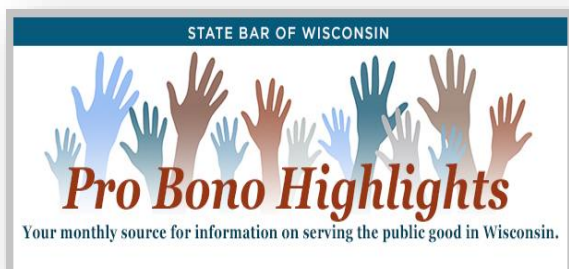
## FACILITATE – Helping the Public Access the Legal System

### *Pro Bono: Connecting the Legal Community with Opportunities*

**Pro Bono Portal** - The State Bar Pro Bono Portal provides an easy way for volunteers to find and connect with pro bono opportunities online. Twenty-seven legal services organizations are signed up to use the website with 71 active volunteer opportunities. A total of 355 volunteer opportunities have been posted since the website launched in November 2020. Pro Bono Program Manager Jeff Brown recently provided an overview and demonstration of the portal for members of the James E. Doyle Inns of Court at their monthly meeting.

**Small Business Assistance** – In April, 12 lawyers from the Business Law Section and six Marquette Law School students assisted six small business owners for free with their non-litigation legal issues. The Business Law Section launched this virtual legal clinic in 2021 for Wisconsin small businesses.

**Newsletter** – May's *Pro Bono Highlights* email newsletter included an update on the approved Supreme Court petition that allows attorneys to request CLE credit for pro bono appointments from tribal courts. Additional coverage includes the return of in-person clinics to the Wills for Heroes program and recognition of Atty. Kristine Rasmussen for her outstanding work on behalf of people seeking asylum and citizenship.



**Wills for Heroes** – Approximately 50 volunteers participated in a refresher training on May 10. The goal of the training was to reacquaint volunteers with the program and to introduce them to the virtual clinic option that was developed during the pandemic. Expanded use of the virtual clinic model will allow the program to serve more first responders who live outside of urban areas and give more volunteers the tools that they need to serve their local first responder agencies. In-person clinics are now being scheduled for fall 2022. Volunteers assisted 124 first responders and their spouses or domestic partners in FY22.

### ***Access to Justice Commission: Expanding Help to the Unrepresented***

The Commission held its annual meeting with the Wisconsin Supreme Court on May 18 and shared the following updates.

**Priorities** – The Commission is focused on four priorities. Each of these priorities has an associated committee charged with recommending actions to the Commission.

- Improving communications & outreach to stakeholders;
- Expand the uses of technology to improve access to justice;
- Investigating and proposing system reforms to improve access;
- Expanding funding for civil legal aid services.

**Student practice rule impact** – In March 2021, the court adopted the Commission’s rule petition and revised the student practice rule in Ch. 50 to make it easier for law students to engage in supervised practice. Since that change, there has been a net increase of 119 law students certified under this rule: 88 from U.W. and 31 from Marquette. Most of these students are now involved in legal activities to serve Wisconsin residents.

**Pro Bono Honor Society** – The Commission is pleased to announce that **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.

**Wisconsin Free Legal Answers** - This Commission-sponsored pro bono project continues to provide an easy to use online legal clinic that is available statewide. The website has received 1,645 questions so far in FY22 and volunteers have responded to 94% of them, assisting 1,436 clients. Volunteers have recorded 458 hours of pro bono service in this fiscal year. Questions are received from all over the state. The most common areas for questions in 2022 are: Family (32%), Housing (14%), Debts (11%), Employment (7%), and Probate (6%). We receive about 150 questions a month and have received over 7,300 since the service launched in late 2015.

County	Attorneys
Milwaukee County	133
Dane County	107
Waukesha County	17
Other	9
Ozaukee County	8
Eau Claire County	7
Brown County	6
Marathon County	6
Outagamie County	6
Rock County	4
All other counties	58

*Attorneys, by county, participating in Wisconsin Free Legal Answers.*

**Civil Legal Aid Funding** – Gov. Tony Evers recently announced the allocation of \$8 million in funding for civil legal aid services in Wisconsin using federal pandemic relief funds provided to Wisconsin under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The Governor also awarded a separate grant to assist organizations providing legal services to Afghan refugees in Wisconsin. The funding will be administered by WisTAF.

**Wisconsin Law Help Website** – The Commission will be working with WisTAF and other stakeholders to develop and launch an **online legal assistance portal** in Wisconsin. The project will be funded in part by a \$124,000 grant of federal ARPA funds as announced by Gov. Evers. The project is inspired by similar law help websites that exist in most states, including **Illinois**, **Ohio**, **Michigan**, and **Minnesota**. 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. The Commission continues to support an effort by Wisconsin Judicare to obtain additional funding to add more features to the basic site through the Technology Improvement Grant program offered through the federal Legal Services Corporation.

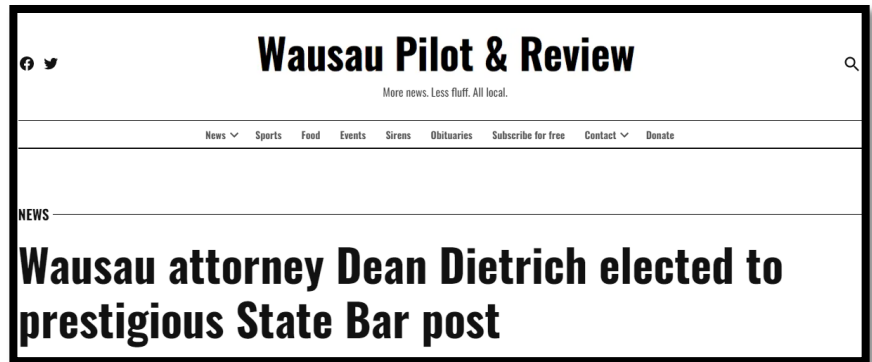
***Fee Arbitration: Helping Resolve Disputes***

The State Bar’s **Fee Arbitration Program** is a confidential and inexpensive way for clients and lawyers to resolve fee disputes. The program processes roughly 67 cases per year. There are 48 open cases, including 19 cases that are 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.



Below is a sample of recent headlines:

- **Opinion | Law Day: “Toward a more perfect union,”** *CAP Times*, (Also featured in *Wausau Pilot and Review*, *Watertown Daily Times*, *Door County Pulse*, *HGN News*, and *Sun Prairie Star*), by State Bar president Cheryl Daniels
- **“Wausau attorney Dean Dietrich elected to prestigious State Bar post,”** *Wausau Pilot & Review* (Also featured in *wispolitics.com* and *thewheelerreport.com*)
- **‘Know your legal rights: Are there rules governing drones?’** *Watertown Daily Times*, Story by LRIS panel member Ryan Sieb (Also featured in *Wausau Pilot & Review*, *6parknews.com/Wisconsin* and *investidollar*)
- **“Vacation season: Understanding laws on short-term rentals,”** *The Northwoods River News* (Paywall) and the *Wausau Pilot & Review*, Story by LRIS panel member Adam Vanderheyden
- **“Judge Todd Bjerke: Healthy lawyers are better lawyers,”** *La Crosse Tribune* (Paywall); *Sun Prairie Star*, *Watertown Daily Times*, *Wausau Pilot & Review*



## ***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.

***Up, Up, and Away!***

### **LRIS by the Numbers**

<b>23,000</b>	<b>The total number of calls to the LRIS Hotline (FY to Date)</b>
<b>7,000</b>	<b>Caller increase to LRIS hotline compared to the same time last year</b>
<b>600</b>	<b>Number of callers per week</b>
<b>1:34</b>	<b>The average wait time to speak to an LRIS Specialist (down 2:29)</b>
<b>30,000</b>	<b>Number of revenue dollars exceeding budget</b>
<b>40</b>	<b>The number of wrapped busses in Milwaukee touting the LRIS phone number</b>

### ***Advancing the Wisconsin Law Foundation's Mission***

***We are almost there! Only about \$4,000 away from meeting our \$25,000 goal: Donate and Double Your Impact Before June 30!***

There is still time to double your donation in support of the Wisconsin Law Foundation. Your support, now more than ever, is critical to our ability to fund important programs and services across Wisconsin.

Thanks to a generous pledge by Law Foundation Board member attorney Kevin Lyons and his wife, Roseann Lyons, every donation from new and lapsed donors this year, through June 30, 2022 will be matched for a cumulative dollar total of up to \$25,000.

Double your impact and help us reach our goal. Please consider making a donation to your Wisconsin Law Foundation today! Visit [wisbar.org/wlfdonate](http://wisbar.org/wlfdonate).



### ***Fellows to Gather in Milwaukee this Fall to Honor 2022 Class***

The Annual Wisconsin Law Foundation Fellows Recognition Dinner will be held Thursday, September 29, 2022, at the Wisconsin City Club in Milwaukee. The Fellows will honor new inductees and present the Charles L. Goldberg Distinguished Service Award, given annually to one lawyer in recognition of lifetime service in the public interest.



The Fellows program recognizes State Bar members who have demonstrated outstanding legal ability and devotion to the wellbeing of their community, state, and nation, as well as to the advancement of the legal profession. Opportunity to join the Fellows is limited to 2.5% of the State Bar's total membership and is extended, by nomination, to only to a limited number of Wisconsin lawyers each year.

## **INNOVATE – Planning Together for the Future**

### ***Online Payment Portal Now ADA Compliant***

The State Bar's Information Systems Team recently updated our payment portal for Supreme Court assessments and State Bar dues, making it ADA compliant.

If you utilize an online screen reader and wish to provide feedback about the update, please contact Laura Hsu, web designer, at [lhsu@wisbar.org](mailto:lhsu@wisbar.org), or by phone at (608) 250-6047.

### ***Empowering Lawyer-Leaders***

**Leadership Development Committee:** After another successful year of leadership programming, the committee is gearing up for the next wave of leaders after the new fiscal year begins July 1.

**Leadership Summit Subcommittee:** The group gathered to debrief following the April 9 Summit held at the State Bar Center with 24 participants. Almost all returned their volunteer interest form and are eagerly awaiting for a volunteer service assignment. We will be circulating a call for

nominations in November, giving you an opportunity to identify new lawyers you would recommend for engagement opportunities for next year's Leadership Summit.

**Leadership Academy Subcommittee:** The G. Lane Ware Leadership Academy completed another successful year in April. About half of the participants also expressed interested in greater engagement in the State Bar by returning volunteer interest forms. Those attending provided extremely positive feedback that the experience has left them with more developed leadership skills and in a position to more confidently use those skills such as this:

*"The Ware Leadership Academy was an exceptional growth experience for me professionally and personally. I witnessed the growth of my classmates from the start to end. The quality of the atmosphere, the quality of the instruction, and the quality of the learning/discussions, all were beyond any seminar I had ever attended previously. You will 'graduate' from the academy a different lawyer, a different person – with new skills and insights to put into use. Strongest positive recommendation."*

G. Lane Ware Leadership Academy participant, Class of 2021-22

Applications will be accepted from Aug. 1 to Sept. 12, 2022. Visit the [Academy webpage](#) for more information. To recommend someone for the Academy, contact Professionalism & Engagement Director Annette Ashley at [aashley@wisbar.org](mailto:aashley@wisbar.org) or by phone at (608) 250-6133.

The 2022-23 Leadership Academy dates for next year include:

- Session 1: Fri., Nov. 4 (8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.) & Sat. Nov. 5, 2022 (8:30 a.m.-noon)
- Session 2: Fri., Jan. 20 (8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.) & Sat. Jan. 21, 2023 (8:30 am-noon)
- Session 3: Fri., April 21 (8:30 am- 5 p.m.) & Sat. April 22, 2023 (8:30 am-1:30 p.m.)

**AMC Scholarships:** Thanks to funds provided by the Wisconsin Law Foundation, 11 Leadership Summit and Leadership Academy participants from the past year who have committed to taking on a volunteer service position in the State Bar will receive a scholarship to attend the AMC.

**Ready. Set. Practice Mentoring Program:** This has been a very successful year for the group matching 35 mentor/mentee pairs, and working to provide 12 law students with lawyers as resources in learning more about areas of practice and preparing to enter the legal profession. Applications to participate in the program are accepted from Sept. 1 to Oct. 15. Interested in assisting as a mentor? Know of someone who would benefit from the program? Use the Mentor and Mentee Application forms found on the [Mentoring Program website](#).

**Insurance & Member Benefits Committee.** Both the Insurance Team and the Non-Insurance Team have added more products and services to the variety of items available to State Bar members. See May's insert in the *Wisconsin Lawyer* magazine for a comprehensive list of all of the products and services available at your fingertips.

**Insurance Team:** The Insurance Team is well aware that a cyberattack occurs every 20 seconds, which means your risk in becoming a victim of cybercrime is greater than experiencing a loss due to fire or flood. As a result, they have identified, reviewed and approved the following:



- Comprehensive cybersecurity insurance through HSB, AM Best A++ (Superior) rated, and part of the Munich Re family of global companies. HSB allows members to apply quickly and conveniently via an on-line portal. Included is comprehensive coverage for six types of cyberattacks: data breach, fraud, identity theft, computer attack, system failure, and cyber liability. For more information [visit HSB](#).

## 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](mailto:cnadolski@profinsprog.com)  
P: 414.755.4172

Wendy C. Block  
Benefits Account Manager  
[wblock@profinsprog.com](mailto: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 April 15 – May 22, 2022 (compared to period prior)



**State Bar of Wisconsin**  
Published by Agorapulse · April 30 at 10:07 AM

The U.W. Lawyering Skills Program provides hands-on experience for 2L and 3L law students. Director Ryan Poe-Gavinski shares how the program is win-win for students and the profession.

#younglawyer #lawstudent #lawpractice #wisconsinlawyer #wisconsinlaw #wisbar University of Wisconsin-Madison

WISBAR.ORG  
UW's Lawyering Skills Program Helps Students Learn 'Real-World' Skills

**State Bar of Wisconsin**  
Published by Peter Kraemer · May 6 at 1:06 PM

What a night! 🎉 Congratulations to the Classes of 2020 & 2021 New Fellows of the Wisconsin Law Foundation, and to the 2020 & 2021 recipients of the Law Foundation's Goldberg Service Award! 🌟 It was a night of celebration and speeches – and the first gathering for Fellows since 2019!

#wisconsinlawyer #wisconsinlaw #wisbar

**State Bar of Wisconsin**  
Published by Agorapulse · April 17

"Ralph was a true leader, someone to be admired and to be inspired by. He was strong and respected, and he was deeply respected. Having the risk of discussing I received my share. But I got lucky. Connected family, friends, and colleagues over through the State and across the country. Really inspired conversations and things. I am forever grateful for those who were with that bond and are grateful to the colleagues who supported me and my practice through my journey."

Wisconsin had a stellar lawyer assistance program. The Wisconsin Lawyer Assistance Program's (WLAAP) caring, skilled, and trained assistance, working in strict confidence, have helped many Wisconsin lawyers seeking assistance for alcohol, drug, and behavioral health problems, even when serious mental illnesses. WLAAP still helps on several fronts: personal, family, friends, or colleagues. WLAAP solutions can help, heal, and save."

Ralph Cagle is former president of the State Bar.

**State Bar of Wisconsin**  
Published by Agorapulse · April 17

I volunteer with the State Bar in order to educate the public, especially high school students, about the law.

Howard Tolkan  
Milwaukee, WI

volunteer at wisbar.org/getinvolved

"Why do you volunteer through the State Bar?"  
"I volunteer with the State Bar in order to educate the public, especially high school students, about the law, the legal and court process and the important role of attorney and judge. This experience has enabled me and so many students to gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of our court system by participating in the State Bar High School Mock Trial program. I am qualified to teach these students not only the rules of procedure and the reality process and civility of trying a case in criminal court."

Early in the legal career (1988-1995) I served as general counsel and partner for young attorneys in both large and mid-sized law firms. I have been and continue to be an active member of the State Bar and its various committees and subcommittees.

Continued to State Bar · 17 · 17 · 17

# Twitter

Posts and metrics from April 15 – May 22, 2022 (compared to period prior)



**State Bar of Wisconsin** @StateBarofWI

Wellness tip: Gratitude Challenge. Give a shoutout to someone you've been meaning to thank. Air high fives accepted. 🙌🙌

#lawyerwellness #WellbeingWeekInLaw  
#lawyerwellbeing #wislap #wisconsinlawyer  
#wisconsinlaw #wisbar



**State Bar of Wisconsin** @StateBarofWI

Congratulations! We can't wait to welcome you to the profession! 🎓🎉

**University of Wisconsin Law School** @WisconsinLaw - May 13

Congratulations Class of 2022. We can't wait to hear and read about the great things you will achieve. We'll miss you, and we are honored to have been a part of your journey. #UWLawGrad #UWGrad #OnWisconsin #UWLaw

**State Bar of Wisconsin** @StateBarofWI

Is your law practice accessible? Why making accessible content is a crucial act.

By Hamza Jaka @HamzaAJaka @GKWW  
#wisconsinlawyer #wisconsinlaw #wisbar #disability  
#specialneeds



wisbar.org  
Accessible Content Broadens Your Client Base and Improves the Way You Work  
While lawyers are making strides in how they accommodate individual clients, our systemic practices can reveal gaps in knowledge about accessibility. Hamz...

**State Bar of Wisconsin** @StateBarofWI

Thrilled to announce that Ukrainian-born opera singer Anya Nakonechna will be performing at the 2022 Annual Meeting & Conference on Thursday, June 16! 🎵

Register [amc.wisbar.org](https://amc.wisbar.org)

#sbwamc #wisconsinlawyer #wisconsinlaw #wisbar @anya\_nko

**AP The Associated Press** @AP - May 9

Anya Nakonechna, an opera student at the Lviv National Musical Academy, was in the U.S. for winter break when the war in Ukraine broke out.

Now, she spends her time raising awareness and educating people about Ukrainian's plight.

ANYA NAKONECHNA  
LVIV NATIONAL MUSICAL ACADEMY STUDENT

# LinkedIn

Posts and metrics from April 15 – May 22, 2022 (compared to period prior)



# Instagram

Posts and metrics from April 15 – May 22, 2022 (compared to period prior)



statebarofwi What a night! 🥳  
Congratulations to the Classes of 2020 & 2021 New Fellows of the Wisconsin Law Foundation, and to the 2020 & 2021 recipients of the Law Foundation's Goldberg Service Award! 🏆👏 It was a night of celebration and speeches – and the first gathering for Fellows since 2019!  
Full photo album on our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/StateBarofWI/](http://www.facebook.com/StateBarofWI/)  
#wisconsinlawyer #wisconsinlaw #wisbar  
2w



statebarofwi "No one can pour from an empty cup." How do you take time for yourself? 🤔  
"Taking time for yourself makes you more resilient in your work and in your personal life. By taking care of yourself, you allow the best version of you to show up for the things and people that you care about."

[View Insights](#)

👍🗨️📌  
Liked by atty\_emil and 17 others



statebarofwi Can't get over how cute this photo is, 🥰 from the recent bar admissions ceremony. A truly proud moment for family and friends. Congratulations again and welcome to the profession! 🏆👏  
👉How did you feel to be sworn in as an attorney? Share a photo or story from [your.swarline.in/](http://your.swarline.in/)

[View Insights](#)

👍🗨️📌  
Liked by mtfmke and 17 others  
APRIL 17



# 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

Thanks to each of these great lawyers and leaders for their support of the Wisconsin Law Foundation!  
[@WAALawyers](#) [@StateBarofWI](#) [@AttyKris](#)  
[@MakdaFess](#) [@Practice411](#)

[Wisconsin Association of African-American Lawyers](#) @WAALaw... - May 6  
Looking sharp everyone! WAAL President Amber Raffet August, Past Presidents Celia Jackson, Kristen Hardy, Makda Fessahaye, and WAAL Members T.R. Williams, Natasha Torry, and Saveon Grenell at the Wisconsin Fellows Dinner for the Wisconsin Law Foundation.



Larry J. Martin @LarryJMartinED - Apr 23

Greatly looking forward to working with Dean, Anna and Sarah.  
[@StateBarofWI](#) is in good hands!  
[@Practice411](#) [@SBWRotundaRpt](#)

[State Bar of Wisconsin](#) @StateBarofWI - Apr 22  
Congratulations to Dean Dietrich, newly elected president-elect of the State Bar! Anna Muñoz was elected secretary & Sarah Zylstra was elected Judicial Council representative.

[#wisconsinlawyer](#) [#wisconsinlaw](#) [#wisbar](#)  
[Show this thread](#)



Larry J. Martin @LarryJMartinED - Apr 29

Thanks Gov. Thompson for joining us [@StateBarofWI](#) Bd of Gov's mtg today. We are honored & proud to count you a member & friend of the State Bar. On Wisconsin!  
[#wisconsinlawyer](#)  
[#wisconsinlaw](#)  
[#wisbar](#)  
[@WisconsinLaw](#)  
[@UWMadison](#) [@UWSysstem](#) [@Practice411](#) [@SBWRotundaRpt](#)  
[@TommyThompsonWI](#)

[State Bar of Wisconsin](#) @StateBarofWI - Apr 29  
Photos from today's Board of Governors meeting. We were thrilled to welcome former Wisconsin Gov. Tommy Thompson, who offered remarks to open the meeting. Write up of the Board's actions will be published Monday.

[#wisconsinlawyer](#) [#wisconsinlaw](#) [#wisbar](#)



Larry J. Martin @LarryJMartinED - Apr 26

See you in [@StateBarofWI](#) AMC in Lake Geneva this June!

[State Bar of Wisconsin](#) @StateBarofWI - Apr 21  
I don't know about you, but I am Zoomed out. I need human interaction. That's why I am so excited that we are coming together again in person for the State Bar's 2022 Annual Meeting & Conference.

[@LarryJMartinED](#) [#wisconsinlawyer](#) [#wisbar](#) [#sbwamc](#)  
[wisbar.org/NewsPublicatio...](#)