



LATINA/O BAR ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON

"Representing the Concerns and Goals of Latino Attorneys and the Latino Community"

LBAW ♦ P.O. BOX 21134 ♦ SEATTLE, WA ♦ 98111-3134 ♦ www.lbaw.org

MISSION AND PURPOSE. The purpose of the Latina/o Bar Association of Washington is to represent the concerns and goals of Latino attorneys and Latino people of the State of Washington. To do so, we encourage and promote the active participation of all Latino attorneys throughout the State and seek the involvement of Latino political, governmental, educational and business leaders. Efforts are made to encourage and assist Latino students and to recognize the needs and voice the concerns of Latino people and their communities.

MEMBERSHIP. LBAW's members include judges, solo practitioners, prosecutors, defense attorneys, public sector attorneys, private sector attorneys, in-house legal counsel and law students. Benefits to members include networking opportunities through events and social receptions; paying a discounted rate to join the Hispanic National Bar Association as an HNBA affiliated member; and mentoring opportunities. Membership fees vary depending on the size or type of the employer and membership is free for law students. Mentors for law students are also available through the LBAW Mentorship Program.

LEGAL STAFF COMMITTEE. The Legal Support Staff Committee serves to integrate legal support professionals into the Latina/o Bar Association of Washington by providing them with information regarding programs and committees that will best serve their interests. It works in conjunction with the Membership Committee to increase the number of legal support professionals in the LBAW. Meetings are the second Wednesday of each month. Contact Susana Beltran (susana@lbaw.org) for details.

JUDICIAL EVALUATIONS COMMITTEE. LBAW thoroughly and exhaustively reviews and interviews judicial candidates and provides each with a rating of either Exceptionally Well Qualified; Well Qualified; Qualified; or Not Qualified. For elected candidates, the results of the evaluations may be posted on LBAW's website. And, for those candidates seeking appointment to judicial positions, the results are forwarded to the Governor of Washington within three weeks of the review.

LAW STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS. The Latina/o Bar Association of Washington Scholarship Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation that provides three scholarships to law students from each of the three law schools in the State of Washington. Please visit our website at www.lbaw.org to view the scholarship application.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & SOCIALS. LBAW members regularly receive email notification of current job openings, opportunities to attend CLE events, networking opportunities and community, bar, social and political events. LBAW also hosts monthly happy hours, an annual membership picnic in August and a Latina/o Law Student Potluck in November.

MEETINGS. The Board of Directors meet on the last Thursday of every month. Please visit our website at www.lbaw.org for additional information about meeting times, dates and locations. General inquiries may be directed to CJ Valdez at cjimenezvaldez@lbaw.org

2008 Board of Directors: Ciarelle Jiménez Valdez (President), Nicole McGrath (President-Elect), Javier Garcia, Merkys Gomez, Patricia Lally, Sarah Leyrer, Fé Lopez, Gloria Ochoa, R. Omar Riojas, Stephanie Thorpe and Jesse Valdez

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