

**M**EMBERS

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**S**TAFF

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## **Opportunity for Service: Washington State Access to Justice Board**

**Mission Statement:** Recognizing that access to the civil justice system is a fundamental right, the Access to Justice Board works to achieve equal access for those facing economic and other significant barriers.<sup>1</sup>

The Access to Justice Board (ATJ Board) has an open position. If you have a demonstrated commitment to equal justice principles, please join us. Appointments are made by the Washington Supreme Court upon nomination of the Washington State Bar Association Board of Governors. The term starts immediately upon being appointed and ends in May of 2018, with eligibility to be reappointed for an additional three-year term. The position may be filled by an attorney or a person who is not an attorney.

We are looking for a strategic thinker who can advocate for the civil legal needs of low-income and disenfranchised clients. Past collaboration or personal/professional experience with legal aid programs, and/or service to low-income and disenfranchised individuals is a plus. We also encourage applications from people who are or have been eligible for civil legal aid services. We especially seek a new board member who has an interest in the use of technology in furthering access to justice and can help us continue our efforts to build collaborative relationships between community-based organizations and the Alliance for Equal Justice.

Service on the ATJ Board requires a substantial time commitment (ten to twenty hours per month by the end of one's term). ATJ Board member responsibilities include:

- Attending 10-12 regular Board meetings (mostly in Seattle),
- Participating in an annual day-long retreat (usually in Seattle),
- Attending the bi-annual Access to Justice Conference (location varies),
- Serving as liaison to at least one Board committee; and,
- Active participation in Board initiatives.

ATJ Board members are reimbursed for eligible travel and mileage expenses.

## How to Apply:

The application deadline is August 3, 2015, 5 pm PST. Please send a résumé and a letter of interest describing your commitment to access to justice, and your commitment, experience, and any contribution you feel you can make relative to the diversity of the Board.<sup>2</sup> You may also include one letter of recommendation. Qualified candidates will be interviewed August 5-6, 2015.

Send to: Bonnie Sterken, Justice Programs Coordinator

by email (preferred): bonnies@wsba.org

or by post: Washington State Bar Association

1325 Fourth Avenue, Suite 600, Seattle WA 98101-2539

You can find out more about the ATJ Board, including meeting schedules and minutes, at <a href="https://www.wsba.org/atj">www.wsba.org/atj</a>.

<sup>1</sup> Read the full Washington Supreme Court order re-authorizing the ATJ Board at http://bit.ly/1vQFmPx.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> We define diversity broadly to include age, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, geographical location, indigenous background, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, social class and veteran status.