

The Organized Bar

The organized Bar provides members with a powerful resource for professional development. We encourage you to join the organized Bar of your choice. Be an active member, and take advantage of all the resources to which your membership entitles you.

More Activities & Events

- Referral programs for members including Lawyer Referral Service, Adoption Project referrals, Pro Bono / Conflict program
- *Washington County Reports*, weekly legal journal
- Public Image Project activities such as regional tv/radio media campaign, "Lawyers on Ladders" Habitat for Humanity workday, "Law Suits Wanted" City Mission clothing drive
- Nationally-recognized Public Education efforts such as Classic Law Film Series, Law Day, People's Law School, Stepping Out Program for H.S. Seniors, hosting of district PBA-YLD Mock Trial Competitions, Courthouse Tours, Speakers Bureau
- Professional networking and social activities include annual Bar Picnic & Steak Fry, Holiday Bar Banquet, golf outings, Happy Hours at the Bar Office, family nights at the ballpark

Information current as of
August 1, 2007

Washington County Bar Association
119 South College Street
Washington, PA 15301
724.225.6710
washbar@washcobar.org

Washington County Bar Association

**Practical Support
for Members
Since 1892**

***Association
Membership***



119 South College Street
Washington, PA 15301
724.225.6710
washbar@washcobar.org

History & Purpose

The Washington County Bar Association is comprised of 335 attorneys and judges. Nearly 25% of our members are women, 25% are members of the Young Lawyers Division, and 85% maintain a principal office in Washington County.

Incorporated in 1892, the Bar Association is committed to maintaining the honor and dignity of the profession of law, cultivating social relations among its members, and increasing our usefulness in promoting the due administration of justice. We are a “Small Bar with a Big Agenda” and have a statewide and national reputation for leadership and excellence.



**Call for your
membership
application
724.225.6710**

Bar Association Office

Any member may use the conference rooms at the Bar office for depositions and/or client meetings at no charge. At your “office away from your office” you have access to a comfortable Lawyers’ Lounge, wireless internet, and a dedicated computer workstation, as well as a fax, phone and copier services.

The Bar office is located in downtown Washington in a historic home built in 1850. The facility is owned by the Washington County Bar Foundation, our charitable organization established in 1989. *Please note that the Bar office is not currently handicapped accessible; arrangements can be made for members to utilize all benefits and services.*

Membership

Membership in the Association is open to members of the legal profession who have been admitted to practice by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. Prospective members must complete an application for membership (there is no application fee, and dues are not payable until after admission). The application must be approved by the Executive Committee. Attendance is required at the Association meeting at which your membership is being voted upon by the members. We offer four types membership:

Regular Applicant maintains principal office for the practice of law in Washington County. We have a “unit county” relationship with the PA Bar Association (PBA), and all Regular members must also be a member of the PBA (and vice versa). PBA unit-county membership benefits include special discounts of up to \$150 on PBI CLE courses, early receipt of PBI discount coupons, a \$20 discount coupon toward PBA products and services, free web-based legal research through PBA’s InCite program and a 10% discount on PBA dues with early payment.

Associate Applicant does not maintain a principal office in Washington County. Associate members are entitled to all rights and privileges of regular membership except the right to vote, hold office and as otherwise limited by the Bylaws. Associate members are not required to join the PBA.

Honorary Members are all former active members who are judges of the Washington County Court of Common Pleas or judges of record having jurisdiction in Washington County and all such judges who have retired and are not in the practice of law.

Senior Members are active members in good standing who have been members of the Association for at least 25 years and who retire from the practice of law and desire to continue membership in the Association.

Professional Networking

The Association holds eight business meetings per year. Meetings are usually held on the fourth Monday of the month and include a meal at no charge to members. Typically, an accredited CLE program is offered. We offer a full calendar of networking and social activities, as well as opportunities to become involved with charitable community projects and public education efforts.

Continuing Legal Education (CLE)

An accredited CLE provider, WCBA offers quality, affordable CLE courses throughout the year at Bench-Bar conferences, section and Association meetings. Currently, members pay only \$25/credit — the average cost across the state is \$48/credit. In 2006, the Bar Association offered a total of 47 CLEs to a total of 968 attendees. In collaboration with the Bench, the Association hosts an all-day Bench-Bar Conference in town in the winter and a “weekend getaway” Bench-Bar conference for members and families in the summer.

Committees & Practice Area Sections

The Association has 18 standing committees and a number of special & sub-committees. Members are surveyed each fall regarding committee preferences and are encouraged to become involved in at least one committee. There are currently four practice area sections: Family Law, Criminal Law, Estate Planning and Administration, and Juvenile Law. Dues for each section are \$5 per year. All sections meet at least quarterly and elect officers annually.

Young Lawyers Division (YLD)

Members of the YLD are attorneys who are under 36 years of age and/or have practiced less than five years (whichever occurs later). The YLD President and Vice-President serve as full voting members of the Bar Association board. YLD members can opt-in to our Mentoring Program, which provides a free meal once per month for a full calendar year to foster the mentoring relationship. Our YLD is one of the most active in the state. The Division organizes the Winter Bench Bar, several social activities (including the annual YLD vs. Senior Bar Softball Challenge) and an annual fundraiser for the Bar Foundation.