



WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

Governor Responsibilities

Governors are the fiduciary of WSBA assets. These assets include cash and investments, the organization's good name and the organization's goodwill with members. Assets must be managed under a "good faith/prudent care/best interests" standard. Meeting this standard includes the exercise of sound business principles, attendance at meetings and the exercise of due diligence in making decisions effecting the organization's assets.

The office of governor is a three-year commitment from October through the end of September three years later. Governors may only serve one term.

It is expected that a governor will:

- Participate in the Governor Orientation Program.
- Attend nine BOG meetings per year – generally all day Friday through Saturday morning.
- Be a member of 2-3 (of the 17) BOG committees.
- On a rotating basis with other governors, attend various law-related events such as annual dinners, award events, special events, etc.
- Be a liaison and attend key meetings for 3-5 WSBA sections, standing committees and other boards or commissions as assigned by the president.
- Occasionally represent the WSBA for public speaking and appearances.
- Participate in BOG listserv discussions and issue development, under the listserv etiquette guidelines.
- Using WSBA electronic distribution groups, communicate periodically with constituents.
- Establish contact and maintain relationships with local bar associations in their congressional district.
- Be a WSBA-BOG liaison to a minority or specialty bar association.
- Attend semi-annual section and committee orientation meetings at the WSBA.
- Assist with the recruitment and orientation for a replacement governor and president when in their district.
- Lead table discussions at listening lunches.
- Conduct leadership recruitment and recommend constituents for appointments.
- Appoint standing committee members annually.
- Maintain the confidentiality of information discussed at executive sessions.
- Refrain, as required by the WSBA bylaws, from endorsement of political candidates for offices reserved for lawyers.

Most governors find that they can meet these commitments in about 30 hours a month.

