



CWBA COMMITTEES 2022-2023

Through the work of its committees, the CWBA is committed to advancing women in the legal profession and promoting the welfare of all women. By joining a CWBA committee and participating in this rewarding work, you will find leadership opportunities and a network for business development and camaraderie. The following are brief descriptions of CWBA Committees and Committee Co-Chairs.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

The Convention Committee plans the CWBA's Annual Convention. Committee duties include selecting the site for the Convention, negotiating the contract for the site and selecting a keynote speaker. The committee also plans the Convention theme, identifies and contacts speakers for Convention programs, solicits sponsors, and coordinates Convention entertainment.

Co-Chairs: *Kendria Pearson and Sally Roller*

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION COMMITTEE

In order to carry out CWBA's core values of diversity and inclusion, the Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee works to foster a shared culture at the CWBA that promotes the goals of accepting, respecting and valuing differences that include attributes such as age, race, gender, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender expression, sexual identity, ability, language, family and economic circumstances, geography, and cultural backgrounds. Among other initiatives, the Committee works to ensure CWBA has cutting edge policies and procedures to help check blind spots and implicit biases, assists with recruiting and retention of diverse members, plans training for our Board and membership, and partners with other Committees and outside organizations to ensure we are inclusive in all aspects of our work.

Co-Chairs: *Jenipher Jones and Azra Taslimi*

HISTORY COMMITTEE

This committee documents the history of Colorado's women lawyers, and maintains and updates the history files of the CWBA.

Co-Chairs: *Laura Ratcliffe and Rhoda Pilmer*

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

The Judicial Committee assists qualified women on a statewide basis to apply for judicial positions and for openings on judicial nominating commissions and seeks to prevent discrimination against women in the courtroom. It considers requests for endorsement from all nominees for state judicial openings and provides information to the Governor on "short list" candidates. The committee also is responsible for planning the CWBA's Annual Judicial Reception. Regular meetings are not held, however the need is ongoing (and large) for ongoing due diligence volunteers for judicial openings.

Co-Chairs: *Laura Cramer-Babycz, Andrea Bronson, and Mikayla Shearer*

LEGAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

The Legal Services Committee oversees projects to help members perform public service and pro bono work and to increase access to justice. Representative projects include partnerships with local nonprofits to provide valuable legal training; and, a partnership with the Colorado Lawyers Committee and the Denver Bar Association to provide attorneys and Spanish interpreters at Legal Nights at Centro San Juan Diego. Finally, this committee typically hosts an annual fundraiser for a legal nonprofit.

Co-Chairs: *Deborah Yim and Dawn Gould*

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Membership Committee is the recruiting coordinator, welcome wagon, and social chair of the CWBA! The committee hosts four networking and social events throughout the year, including the annual Membership Appreciation event each Spring. The committee also works to promote greater awareness of the CWBA within the legal community and throughout the state to ensure that each new member feels welcome and empowered to get more involved in the organization.

Co-Chairs: *Hannah Seigel Proff and Sylvia Geiger*

MENTORSHIP COMMITTEE

The Mentorship Committee manages CWBA Lift, our mentoring program. The committee also works with our law student liaisons to CU and DU Law to increase ties between women attorneys and law students and keep women in the organization through the transition from law school to practice; supports a series of discussion gatherings on gender bias in the law; and does outreach to seasoned attorney members including legacy leaders and recently retired members to involve them in mentoring.

Co-Chairs: *Whitney Travis Kelly and Karin Williamson*

PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE

The Professional Advancement Committee works to advance women in the legal profession, and to promote career advancement and recognition for CWBA members. It informs women of and helps them obtain appointments to state and local boards and commissions; nominates CWBA members for various awards; and presents the CWBA's annual Mary Lathrop Award to a woman trailblazer who has substantially impacted the Colorado legal profession.

Co-Chairs: *Christine Washburn and Hon. Colleen Clark*

PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

The Programs Committee develops and facilitates educational, professional and community programs, to support substantive growth and learning, reflection, and connection among our members and the broader legal community. These programs include CLEs and other topical programs such as our award-winning "Storming" series ("Storming The Bench," "Storming the Ballot," and "Storming the Board"); the annual Moms Luncheon; and the annual Holiday Party and Nonprofit Benefit.

Co-Chairs: *Hon. Rebekah Watada and Natalie Petrucci*

PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE

The Public Policy Committee works to promote and protect the interests of women and children. The committee monitors national, state and local legislation; case law; administrative and constitutional developments; and the print and broadcast media as they affect the legal profession and the judiciary and the interests of women and families. It coordinates with the CWBA's lobbyists; makes recommendations to the CWBA Board of Directors regarding whether the CWBA should support or oppose legislation; and organizes an advocacy network of CWBA members who contact legislators, write letters, testify before legislative committees, and draft legislation. The committee also coordinates the amicus activities of the CWBA.

Co-Chairs: *Meagan Moodie, Ellen Trachman, and Ariana Busby*

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Through the CWBA's newsletter [The Advocate](#), the CWBA's website, our award-winning blog [The 1891](#), and social media (Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter), the Publications Committee works to inform members of CWBA activities and projects, spur debate and member activity on issues of special concern to women lawyers and women generally, and recognize the achievements and contributions of women lawyers.

Co-Chairs: *Justine Pierce and Chelsea Augelli*

