



DANE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Serving our Members. Serving our Community.

2010 Committee Selection Process

It's that time of year again when we encourage the membership to join a committee!

First, please note that you DO need to sign up for a committee each year, even if you served on that committee the previous year.

A link to our committee sign-up process appears below following the list of DCBA committees, and again at the bottom of this email message. **Please respond by Wednesday, June 9.**

If you would consider serving on more than one committee, please indicate your 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices.

Choose from the following committees: (a brief description of each committee is listed below)

- Special Committee for Pro Bono Celebration (*new this year – see description below*)
- Special Committee on DCBA Web Presence (*new this year – see description below*)
- Case Mediation
- Courthouse
- Delivery of Legal Services
- Program
- Membership & Special Events
- History & Memorials
- Judicial Selection
- Finance
- Long-Range Planning
- Law for the Public
- Public Relations & Newsletter

To sign up, follow this link: <http://members.dcba.net/civicrm/profile/create?gid=10&reset=1>

Here is some information on each committee:

Special Committee for Pro Bono Celebration: A Committee for Pro Bono Celebration will plan and conduct events on one day (or more) in the week of October 24 to 30, 2010 to celebrate and call public attention to successful programs of pro bono legal services in Dane County. The events will be designed to draw attendance by: (1) agencies, programs and individual attorneys engaged in and supporting pro bono legal services in Dane County; (2) attorneys interested in learning about specific opportunities to effectively provide their service in pro bono programs; (3) clients in need of pro bono services, lawyer referral and advice and information to address immediate legal needs; (4) public officials willing to express support for pro bono legal services; and (5) news media. The Pro Bono Celebration will be aligned with the American Bar Association's second annual National Pro Bono Celebration: <http://www.probono.net/celebrateprobono>

[Note: *The timing of the Pro Bono events in October will require some committee work -- light work! – during this summer. Several attorneys have volunteered to begin work soon on this project. There is*

room for more. Law students and attorneys with experience and/or affinity for pro bono work are especially encouraged to join this committee.]

Special Committee on DCBA Web Presence: A Committee on DCBA Web Presence will be formed to review how DCBA presents itself and performs functions on its website and social media sites (e.g., public education and web links to information the courts, the legal system and local agencies engaged in delivery of legal services; display of DCBA event information; DCBA member and committee communications; professional networking; lawyer referral; promotion of DCBA membership, etc.) and recommend and carry out improvements, both short-term and long-term.

Case Mediation: The Committee evaluates and conveys information about dispute resolution alternatives to the public, the courts and the bar, and promotes alternative dispute resolution through publications, training and educational programs, and case mediation programs as defined and authorized by the Board.

Courthouse: The Committee serves as the liaison between the judiciary and the bar. The Committee sponsors social programs to maintain the collegiality between the bench and the bar, and educational programs, emphasizing courthouse functions, to promote the public awareness of the legal system.

Delivery of Legal Services: The Committee encourages and promotes access to legal representation and services by persons who are unable to access the legal system because of the lack of financial resources or other barriers beyond their control; promotes the establishment and efficient maintenance of programs which encourage and aid the furnishing of pro bono legal services by members of the Association; assists members and organizations who furnish legal services to low income and disadvantaged persons and to organizations described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code which cannot reasonably afford legal services; recognizes members who furnish pro bono legal services; and takes such other actions as will aid the Association and its members in their obligation to further pro bono legal services.

Finance: Chaired by the Association Treasurer, the finance Committee annually submits a proposed budget to the Board of Directors, based on advice solicited from the committee chairs and officers. The Finance Committee also advises the Board of Directors regarding any proposals to modify dues.

History and Memorials: The Committee preserves the history of the Association and the practice of law in Dane County; promotes interest in the history of the Association and the practice of law in Dane County; and honors deceased members of the judiciary and bar in Dane County.

Judicial Selection: The Judicial Selection Committee assists in the selection of competent and properly qualified candidates for judicial office in Dane County, for the Court of Appeals of Wisconsin for the Fourth District, for the Wisconsin Supreme Court, and for the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin. Prior to each contested judicial election, the Committee conducts a poll of the members of the Association as to the qualification of each candidate who has filed for election, and reports the results of the poll to the Board of Directors for dissemination to the electorate.

Law for the Public: The Committee conveys information about the law to the public; improves the availability and accessibility of legal information and resources; and in carrying out these functions, generates good will toward the Association and the legal profession.

Long Range Planning: The Committee advises and assists the Board of Directors and other entities within or affiliated with this Association in planning programs, projects and activities which are ongoing or which require more than one year to develop and implement.

Membership: The Committee reviews, creates, and implements programs, subject to Board oversight, designed to retain and attract active membership in the Association.

Program: The Committee annually plans and offers a series of speakers addressing current, relevant legal issues for members of the Association, to advance their professional knowledge and to help them comply with

educational requirements for continued membership in the bar as determined by the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

Public Relations and Newsletter: The Committee shall serve as a resource and provide general oversight of public relations conducted on behalf of the Association; have primary editorial direction of the content and publication of the newsletter and electronic media; and work with the Association's coordinators, providing input and assistance, when necessary.

Special Events: The Committee plans the annual Association summer outing, and other social events as directed by the Board, for the purpose of maintaining cordial relations among members of the Association.

Sign up now at this location: <http://members.dcba.net/civicrm/profile/create?gid=10&reset=1>