



Serving the Public. Serving the Profession.

MISSION

The mission of the Louisiana State Bar Association is to assist and serve its members in the practice of law, assure access to and aid in the administration of justice, assist the Supreme Court in the regulation of the practice of law, uphold the honor of the courts and the profession, promote the professional competence of attorneys, increase public understanding of and respect for the law, and encourage collegiality among its members.

GOALS

Goal 1: The LSBA ensures that Louisiana lawyers meet and maintain the highest standards of competency and technical skill.

- The State Bar supports continuing legal education by providing quality and innovative educational programming to its members.
 - Anticipate and identify continuing education needs for all Louisiana lawyers and develop the highest quality and affordable programs that are innovative and accessible.
 - Ensure availability of affordable, quality CLE programming in all areas of the state, with specific emphasis on expanding programming areas to include Southwest, Central and North Louisiana, through collaboration with local and specialty bar associations.
 - Ensure that CLE programs are designed to better prepare Louisiana lawyers to deliver the highest level of service to the public.
- The State Bar uses state-of-the-art technology to deliver effective and efficient programs, services and communications to its members.
 - Assess and employ social media (Facebook and/or Linked In) technology where appropriate to enhance communications and delivery of services.

- Assess practice management tools that will serve as reliable and cost-effective resources for all attorneys.
 - Assist lawyers in exploring and developing successful models of law practice that serve consumers and enhance the economics of practice.
- The State Bar helps lawyers successfully address change that affects personal and professional well-being.
 - Develop and implement free CLE programs that assist unemployed and underemployed lawyers.
 - Develop and implement programs that assist lawyers who change area(s) of practice.
 - Assist lawyers leaving the practice of law, whether voluntarily or involuntarily.

Goal 2: The LSBA ensures that Louisiana lawyers exhibit the highest level of ethical conduct.

- The State Bar creates opportunities to engage attorneys early in their careers and continuously throughout their careers to reinforce ethical standards.
 - Continue and expand the LSBA's collaboration with law schools on programs for students.
 - Engage and assist newly admitted lawyers.
 - Create opportunities for effective mentoring.
 - Develop early intervention programs for at-risk lawyers.
- The State Bar plays a meaningful role in the lawyer discipline system within the structure as defined by the Louisiana Supreme Court.
 - Educate members on the Rules of Professional Conduct and provide resources to ensure compliance.
 - Administer alternatives to discipline programs.
 - Provide information to members who are faced with navigating the lawyer discipline system.
 - Work collaboratively with all stakeholders to ensure a fair and impartial system of lawyer discipline in Louisiana.
 - Monitor work of ABA Commission on Ethics 20/20 and conduct a thorough review of any proposals submitted at the conclusion of its work (expected to be at ABA Annual Meeting in August 2012).

Goal 3: The LSBA provides the foundation for a supportive and collegial community of legal professionals.

- The State Bar collaborates with law-related and community organizations from all sectors to enhance diversity and inclusion within, and improvement of, the legal profession and the provision of legal services.
 - Solicit input from all members regarding formulation of Bar policies and goals.
 - Facilitate and support diversity in all areas to ensure that the legal profession reflects the community it serves.

- The State Bar ensures meaningful participation by all members of the Association, with targeted outreach to members north of I-10 who have historically felt disenfranchised.
 - Ensure a presence in north Louisiana through programming and regular visits by leadership and staff.
 - Collaborate with local and specialty bar associations on programs and/or projects which will benefit members and all sponsoring bars.

- The State Bar promotes professionalism through engagement with future and current Louisiana lawyers to raise member expectations regarding attorney conduct.
 - Continue collaboration with Louisiana law schools to encourage early education and modeling of professionalism as a central part of legal education.
 - Implement additional program for 2L and 3L students to feature informal off-campus meetings between a lawyer, a judge and a few students.
 - Collaborate with law schools to implement and/or expand skills courses to better prepare graduates who go into solo practice.
 - Integrate professionalism into continuing legal education and other activities, and support improved programming to satisfy the annual mandatory professionalism hour.

- The State Bar supports the mental and physical well-being of its members to enhance the effective delivery of legal services to the public.
 - Provide education and training opportunities that address wellness.
 - Work with Bar-sponsored insurance programs to provide wellness tools for individual members and legal organizations.
 - Assess national health care trends to identify opportunities to provide member services with a special emphasis on solo and small firm

practitioners.

- Promote and support the Lawyers Assistance Program, Inc. which helps Louisiana lawyers navigate issues of addiction, mental illness and stress.

- The State Bar earns the trust of its members and the public through transparency of processes and access to reliable information.
 - Enhance relationships with local and specialty bar associations.
 - Engage members from all practice areas and facilitate maximum participation in Bar activities, with special emphasis on encouraging young lawyer participation in leadership.
 - Develop and implement a strategic communications plan to provide effective lines of communication with all stakeholders, with special emphasis on communicating the Bar's relevance to its members and the public.
 - Recognize and communicate to the public significant community contributions made by Louisiana lawyers.

- The State Bar provides quality service to its members to ensure organizational relevance and to enhance the professional rewards acquired by working collectively to improve the legal system in Louisiana.
 - Enhance support to LSBA committees, divisions and sections.
 - Expand member benefits, with special emphasis on programs that benefit lawyers in the day-to-day practice of law.
 - Lessen the burden of member's compliance and participation by:
 - Providing for ability to electronically handle all transactions with Association.
 - Identifying and correcting any internal process inefficiencies.
 - Creating a master calendar of events and educational opportunities.
 - Simplifying and streamlining member communications while acknowledging generational differences and their impact on communications methods.
 - Utilizing technology to make meaningful participation easily available to all members, no matter their geographic location or employment situation, with emphasis on implementation of videoconferencing capabilities.
 - Ensure viability, availability and affordability of insurance programs offered to members.
 - Promote and support the State Bar's Law Office Management Assistance Program.

Goal 4: The LSBA ensures that Louisiana citizens have equal access to legal services of the highest quality and to a legal system that affords prompt and fair resolution.

- The State Bar aggressively pursues new and innovative solutions to address the gap in legal services provided to under-served Louisiana citizens.
 - Promote, support and reward pro bono services.
 - Encourage and facilitate volunteerism by new lawyers, with emphasis on those who may be unemployed.
 - Examine legal services needs of underserved Louisiana citizens; develop and implement a plan to improve service to those individuals.
 - Integrate *pro bono* and modest means opportunities to increase access to the legal system by the public.
 - Continue efforts to secure state and national funding for Legal Services Programs.

- The State Bar protects the public by supporting an effective system of lawyer discipline and by providing consumer information designed to assist in understanding the legal system and available services.
 - Provide a clearinghouse for consumer information designed to help navigate the legal system.
 - Make readily available to the public information on the practice status of Louisiana attorneys.
 - Support a timely and equitable system for resolving complaints about lawyers.
 - Support stakeholders' efforts to protect vulnerable children and families by developing programs and related activities.
 - Continue to encourage lawyers' pro bono service to increase access to justice for all Louisiana citizens.

Goal 5: The LSBA demonstrates excellence in every area: policy and planning, operations, programs and resource management.

- The State Bar maximizes efficient use of resources to supports its mission.
 - Maintain sound and accountable fiscal systems.
 - Conduct periodic cost-saving analyses of programs and services.
 - Ensure long-term financial viability of LSBA.
 - Support volunteer leaders in engagement of members to serve all members effectively.

- Conduct cost/benefit analysis of existing programs, in the context of how these programs support the Association's overall mission *and* how many members are being served.
- Ensure all resources are being used to maximize benefit to the members, profession and public at large.
- Maximize existing and identify new sources of non-dues revenue.

- Sustain and improve community relevance.
 - Develop and maintain community relationships and partnerships.
 - Ensure ability to continue operations in times of disaster and/or crisis.
 - Serve as a model of diversity and inclusion.

**APPROVED BY BOARD OF GOVERNORS
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