



The Bar Association of Baltimore City 2017-2018 Committee Interest Form

Membership in the BABC can be a meaningful and valuable contribution to the legal profession and the administration of justice in Baltimore City. Membership connects lawyers with each other, judges and the community; it also assists lawyers with legal practice issues. Membership also brings you the opportunity to participate in one or more of BABC's committees. Please consider joining in the Association's committee work by indicating your committee preference.

Name _____

Firm/Org _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Telephone _____

Fax _____

Please check here if this is updated contact information.

Email to: info@baltimorebar.org

Fax to: 410-685-3420

Mail to: The Bar Association of Baltimore City
111 N. Calvert Street, Suite 627
Baltimore, MD 21202

Questions, email info@baltimorebar.org,
or call 410-539-5936 x 100 (Kathy Sanzone) or
x 101 (Patty DeGuilmi).

Please indicate below the committees on which you are interested in serving in order of preference (1, 2, 3...).

Yes _____ No _____.

If yes, maximum number of committee appointments you will accept. _____

- _____ Alternative Dispute Resolution
- _____ Bench-Bar
- _____ Budget & Finance
- _____ Business Law
- _____ Business Litigation
- _____ Continuing Legal Education
- _____ Communications and News Journal
- _____ Criminal Law
- _____ Diversity
- _____ Estates and Trusts
- _____ Events
- _____ Family Law
- _____ Federal Practice
- _____ Fee Dispute Resolution
- _____ Government and Public Interest Lawyers
- _____ Health Law
- _____ Health & Well Being
- _____ Historical
- _____ Judicial Selections
- _____ Law and the Arts
- _____ Lawyer Referral and Information Service
- _____ Legislation
- _____ Long Range Planning
- _____ Membership
- _____ Non-Dues Revenue
- _____ Personal Injury Litigation
- _____ Pro Bono and Access to Legal Services
- _____ Professional Ethics
- _____ Public Service
- _____ Senior Legal Services
- _____ Solo/Small Office Practitioner
- _____ Sponsorship
- _____ Technology
- _____ Veterans Outreach
- _____ Workers' Compensation

See committee descriptions on second page. Thank you for your interest in serving!

STANDING COMMITTEES

Standing Committees are permanent committees of the Association. The creation or elimination of Standing Committees may only take place via a bylaw amendment. The Chairs of the Standing Committees are voting members of the Association's Executive Council.

Alternative Dispute Resolution - Promotes professional and public awareness of alternatives to judicial dispute resolution.

Bench-Bar - Maintains a dialogue between lawyers and judges in order to plan, promote, and implement the effective administration of justice in the courts. This Committee also has an active District Court Subcommittee.

Budget and Finance - Assists the Association's Executive Director and its Treasurer in the budgeting process, establishing policy concerning the finances of the Association, and plans for the financial stability of the Association.

Continuing Legal Education - Has responsibility for planning legal educational programming.

Communication and News Journal - The primary responsibility of this committee is the publication of the BABC's news journal, The Baltimore Barrister.

Events - Has responsibility for planning the social events for the Association.

Judicial Selections - Reviews and evaluates candidates for appointment to judicial vacancies and submits its recommendations to the Governor of Maryland, the Appellate Courts Nominating Commission and the Trial Courts Nominating Commission. Membership on this committee is limited.

Lawyer Referral and Information Service (LRIS) - Evaluates the policies, administration, publicity and effectiveness of the LRIS to insure that the public is well served and that the LRIS is beneficial to our members.

Legislation - Takes an active part in the legislative process through the review of pending legislation; the submission to the Association's Executive Council for approval to take action on bills which most directly affect our members; and presentation of testimony and/or position papers to the members of the General Assembly when appropriate.

Long Range Planning - Reviews and evaluates the effectiveness and feasibility of the Association's present programs and makes recommendations for future Association projects pursuant to its development of a strategic plan.

Membership - Works to increase the Association's membership as well as to identify benefits and services which the Association may provide to its members.

Pro Bono and Access to Legal Services - Implements and promotes an active commitment to insure that all persons have access to the legal system and access to justice.

Professional Ethics - Prepares advisory opinions for our members, evaluates proposed changes to the Maryland Rules of Professional Conduct and operates the Ethics Hotline.

Technology - Has responsibility for keeping members informed about technological development and upcoming trends, and assisting Bar headquarters in maintaining the Association's website and in updating its technological needs.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The President of the BABC appoints such special committees deemed necessary to conduct the business of the Association and to serve the needs of the members and the public.

Law and the Arts – A city is often defined through its arts community. This special community will explore how the legal profession can help support the arts. This committee will work to help promote and support local artists, promote our diverse and energetic theater scene, and provide legal training opportunities and incorporate both the law and arts through courses like "Acting for Lawyers," etc.

Diversity - Promotes and supports diversity in the legal profession and the Association with respect to race, gender, religion, national origin and sexual orientation.

Fee Dispute Resolution - Has responsibility for assisting clients and attorneys who seek assistance through the Association's voluntary Fee Dispute Resolution program.

Government and Public Interest Lawyers - Addresses the special professional and career development needs of lawyers who work for federal, state, local government, or public interest law firms.

Health & Well Being - Health and wellness is a key component for any profession. The stress and pressures that members of the legal community face are particularly destabilizing. This community will help promote wellness, while providing awareness and education to our membership as it pertains to physical and mental health and ensuring that we provide a supportive network in which those colleagues that need some support know where they can confidentially receive it.

Historical - Develops and maintains historical records of the Association, provides support for the Museum of Baltimore Legal History, and organizes the Annual Memorial Ceremony to pay tribute to members of the Baltimore Bar who passed away during the preceding year.

Non-Dues Revenue - Explores revenue sources, other than membership dues and sponsorship opportunities to bolster the good works and goals of the Association.

Paralegals – Presents programs and discusses issues that relate to the paralegal profession and the utilization of paralegals within the law office environment.

Senior Legal Services - Works in an advisory capacity with BABC's Senior Legal Services program, which provides pro bono legal services to low income Baltimore City residents age 60+. Plans an annual Law Day for Seniors and ensures implementation of the program's strategic plan to include outreach, education, and fundraising support.

Solo/Small Office Practitioner - Goals are to share information and pool resources in assisting its members to learn more about the business of law; to identify specific management and marketing techniques designed for the small firm and individual practices; and to create a network of small firm attorneys practicing in every specialty and area of the law.

Sponsorship - Develops levels and benefits for the Association's corporate and law firm sponsorship program and secures the Association's sponsors.

Veterans Outreach – The sacrifices our Veterans make is immeasurable. This committee is dedicated to finding ways in which the Baltimore Legal Community can help address the legal issues some of our veterans face, while also being conduits for providing information and educational opportunities to those in the legal profession that want to help veterans through pro bono opportunities or other programs to be developed by the committee.

SUBSTANTIVE LAW COMMITTEES

The President of the BABC appoints such substantive law committees deemed necessary to conduct the business of the Association, Substantive law committees provide a forum for networking with attorneys in same practice areas, provide educational opportunities, and review legislation that affects the practice of law in substantive areas.

Business Law
Family Law
Workers' Compensation

Business Litigation
Federal Practice

Criminal Law
Health Law

Estates and Trusts
Personal Injury Litigation