

2007-2008 CDWBA COMMITTEE DESCRIPTIONS

AWARDS: This committee is responsible for informing members about awards being presented by local, state, and national bar associations and other entities. The committee submits nominations on behalf of the CDWBA for consideration by the American Bar Association, Women's Bar Association of the State of New York, New York State Bar Association and other local community organizations, as well as awards presented by the CDWBA. The Committee's work involves identifying potential recipients and submitting the necessary forms. The awards given focus attention and recognition on our members.

BREAST CANCER: This committee is the Chapter's liaison to the Judges and Lawyers Breast Cancer Alert ("JALBCA"), the Breast Health Partnerships for Albany, Rensselaer and Schenectady Counties, and "To Life". The committee works with those groups to plan educational activities for the membership and the community in connection with the national October Breast Cancer Alert and other events throughout the year that feature topics related to breast cancer. Most importantly, the committee also provides information and support to members affected by the disease.

BY-LAWS: This committee is responsible for reviewing the Chapter's by-laws and proposing amendments where appropriate or when directed to do so by the Board.

CLASSROOM PROJECT: This committee coordinates with teachers of area elementary, middle, and high schools to place CDWBA members in a variety of classrooms. In this way, students hear members speak on what it is like to be a lawyer, about areas of

practice and the kinds of community service lawyers partake in. Substantive areas of the law are also addressed. The committee coordinates an event for Take Our Children to Work Day.

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION:

This committee organizes and presents a variety of CLEs throughout the year on a wide range of topics of interest to the legal community, and coordinates with WBASNY as an accredited CLE Provider to obtain and properly administer mandatory CLE credit for them.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: This committee serves as a forum to provide education to the membership about current information in the field of domestic violence, to work with the Legislative Committee to review legislation that would have an impact on victims of domestic violence, and to promote awareness about domestic violence among the membership and the public. It also provides a place for members who practice in the area of domestic violence representation to keep up to date on current issues and to share information.

DIVERSITY AND GENDER

FAIRNESS: This Committee will focus on issues affecting the availability of career opportunities and the attainment of professional success and personal satisfaction for women in the legal profession., and will work to increase the diversity of the CDWBA membership, leadership, and committees and to encourage minority women to enter the legal profession. The committee will examine whether, how and why gender affects the quality and nature of an individual's experience in the

legal system. The committee will also serve as the liaison between CDWBA and OCA gender fairness committees whose work affects the Capital Region.

FINANCIAL PLANNING: This committee prepares an annual budget each fiscal year. The budget contains the expected expenses and income for the coming year and includes suggestions for fund raising activities. The committee consults with all committees to determine the financial needs of the organization. The CDWBA Treasurer generally chairs this committee.

JUDICIAL RECEPTION: This committee plans an annual reception held each March to honor the Judges from the Court of Appeals, the Appellate Division, as well as local members of the Judiciary. The committee convenes from late October to March.

JUDICIAL SCREENING: This committee interviews and rates candidates for Supreme Court in the Third and Fourth Judicial Districts, and County level judgeships (Family, Surrogate and County Court) for Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga and Schenectady counties. The committee begins its work in late September, after the party nominating conventions and concludes by late October. The committee rates the candidates based on information obtained from a candidate questionnaire about their education and experience, a one (1) hour in-person interview, references provided by the candidates and any information obtained from the CDWBA membership and the legal community at large.

JUDICIAL TASK FORCE: This committee investigates the status of women in the Capital

District Judiciary and explores avenues to increase the number of woman appointed and elected to the bench. The Committee receives and analyzes reported incidents of inequitable treatment in the courts based on gender and determines appropriate actions or makes referrals in furtherance of our mission to promote fairness in the courts.

LAW DAY: This committee coordinates the Chapter's participation in the annual Law Day (May 1) events. In the past, the Chapter has worked with the Albany County Bar Association to staff a free legal clinic in the Capital District. The committee may plan additional programs for Law Day, as well.

LEGISLATIVE: This committee reviews proposed legislation pertaining to women's issues and New York legal practice, makes recommendations concerning such legislation to the Board, and reports its position to the CDWBA Board and the WBASNY Legislative Committee. The committee begins meeting in November and usually concludes with the end of the legislative session. The meetings are scheduled to coordinate with the four WBASNY Legislative Committee meetings in September, November, January, and March and, sometimes, April or May. This committee has long played an integral part in establishing the legislative agenda of (WBASNY) and has played a vital role in developing positions on important legislation under consideration by both Congress and the New York State Legislature.

MEMBERSHIP: This committee explores avenues to increase CDWBA membership to enhance the Association's presence in the legal community. Some of its traditional activities include organizing the annual membership party in December of

each year, and sponsoring panel discussions and other events at Albany Law School, including a networking reception for law students. The committee will lead the CDWBA membership recruitment drive.

NEWSLETTER: This committee consists of the newsletter editor and contributing committee chairs and members, and is the "lifeline" of the Organization. The Chapter's monthly newsletter includes notices of Chapter and local events, articles on legal or career topics submitted by members, a job announcement column, feature articles and various advertisements. Because a primary goal of the Newsletter is to familiarize the CDWBA membership with the organization's diverse committees and keep members informed as to what other members are doing, articles, information and ideas are always welcome.

PRO BONO/LEGAL PROJECT LIAISON: The Legal Project, Inc. is the pro bono arm of the CDWBA. It works closely with the Project to recruit Chapter members for the various services provided by the Project to those in need of pro bono or low-cost legal services in a variety of areas, including domestic violence. The Project also works to help overcome any impediments faced by members who would like to provide pro bono services but do not currently do so.

PROGRAMMING: This committee arranges a variety of programs throughout the year, including luncheons, dinners, and other events designed to provide members with opportunities to network, learn about each other's work, and just have fun together. Program arrangements are coordinated with other Chapter committees as appropriate. This Committee's work highlights

what can be offered to current and potential members.

SOLE PRACTITIONERS/ SMALL FIRMS: This committee will plan programs of interest to, and provide networking opportunities for, lawyers who practice solo or in small law firms in the Capital District.

TECHNOLOGY/INTERNET: This committee coordinates development and maintenance of our Chapter's web-site on the Internet, and also recommends ways to use the Net to interface with members. No computer experience necessary.

WOMEN IN GOVERNMENT: This newly recognized committee promotes the interests and opportunities of women attorneys in government through the sharing of practical and professional information with an emphasis on growing our membership and building a professional network. Members of this committee organize relevant, timely informational events for government attorneys, and intend to contribute regular topical submissions to the monthly newsletter.

WORKING MOTHERS: This committee will undertake projects to address the special issues that affect parents working in the legal field. This committee is also responsible for advertising for nominations and ultimately making a recommendation to the Awards Committee for the recipient of CDWBA's Carol Knox Family Friendly Employer Award.

MEMBERSHIP INTEREST FORM FOR PARTICIPATION ON A
2007-2008 CDWBA COMMITTEE

The CDWBA Committees consist of Senior and Junior Co-Chairs and several CDWBA members at large. We try to rotate the Co-Chairs annually with the Junior Chair becoming the Senior Chair after one to two years. Senior Chairs may continue to serve on the Committee as advisors to elevated Junior Chairs and as member/participants.

For an overview of CDWBA Committees, please review the committee descriptions included in our Summer 2007 newsletter which can also be accessed through our website at www.cdwba.org. Please feel free to call or email Linda Clark, President (434-2163 or lclark@hiscockbarclay.com) for a more in-depth description or if you have any questions concerning the work of these committees. If you are interested in being a member of a committee for 2007-2008, please complete this form and return to: Ava Charne, CDWBA, PO Box 3747, Albany, NY 12203 no later than August 15, 2007.

Committees:

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| Awards | Law Day |
| Breast Cancer | Legislative |
| By-Laws | Membership |
| Classroom Project | Mentoring |
| Continuing Legal Education | Newsletter |
| Diversity and Gender Fairness | Nominations |
| Domestic Violence | Pro Bono /Legal Project Inc. |
| Financial Planning | Programming |
| Internet/Technology | Public Relations |
| Judicial Reception | Sole Practitioner/Small Firms |
| Judicial Screening | Women in Government |
| Judicial Task Force | Working Mothers |

Name: _____ Daytime Phone: _____
Email: _____

Committee Choices: _____

____ I am willing to work on more than one committee.