

# GET INVOLVED

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## COMMITTEES

### *Your Guide to the Committees of the Nebraska State Bar Association*

#### **Annual Meeting**

Purpose: To assist the President, Executive Council, and Association staff in planning the program of the NSBA Annual Meeting.

#### **Barristers' Ball**

Purpose: Do you want to help organize the premier fundraising event for the Nebraska Lawyers Foundation? If so, volunteer to be a part of the Barristers Ball Committee. We are looking for members that like to fund raise, find interesting auction items and use their creativity to come up with interesting themes and decorations. Proceeds from the Barristers Ball support the Nebraska Lawyers Foundation, whose mission is to serve the public and the legal profession by securing contributions to support programs dedicated to the improvement of the legal profession and the administration of justice like the Minority Justice Committee, the Volunteer Lawyers Project and the Nebraska Lawyers Assistance Program.

#### **Budget & Planning**

Purpose: Assists the House of Delegates and Executive Council in comprehensive, long-range planning for future activities and responsibilities of the NSBA and studies the income and expenses of the NSBA, and prepares and submits to the Executive Council a proposed budget for each fiscal year. It also studies the accounting, bookkeeping, and investment policies employed by the NSBA and advises the Executive Council and House of Delegates of its findings and recommendations. At least once every three years, the Committee shall review the operation and activity of all committees, except itself. The Committee shall perform

such other functions as assigned by the House of Delegates, Executive Council or President.

Membership: Consists of three members appointed by the Executive Council, three members appointed by the House of Delegates, and six members appointed by the President-Elect.

#### **Education**

Purpose: The Committee shall be responsible for the planning, implementation and accreditation of all continuing legal education programs sponsored by the NSBA and its various section and for editorial control and oversight of the production of the Nebraska State Bar Association publications for members.

#### **It's Just Lunch**

Purpose: New this year, help our law student members build their professional networks by meeting a law student interested in your practice area for lunch. Volunteers may also be asked to connect with law students by conducting mock interviews to provide students with constructive feedback.

#### **Legal Services**

The Committee shall be responsible for recommending; reviewing and approving the policies and guidelines regulating volunteer legal services, including private attorney participation, client eligibility for services and program record keeping. The Committee also assists in recruiting private attorneys and other professionals, establishing and maintaining a program of awards and recognition for the

volunteer attorneys and maintaining the funding for legal services. It studies and makes recommendations on the referral of non pro bono cases, including modest means and other special interest panels. The Committee performs other functions as may be assigned by the Executive Council or President.

### **Legislation**

Purpose: The Committee shall monitor legislation proposed before the Nebraska Unicameral and shall advise and make recommendations to the Executive Council and the House of Delegates with regard to matters which are within the legislative policy of the Association. The Committee shall also advise and assist the President with regard to all legislative matters coming before the Association. In carrying out its functions, the Committee may request the assistance of the other Committees and Sections of the Association.

### **Membership Support**

Purpose: Ensures that members are informed of the various services offered by the NSBA and encourages participation by the members in the programs, committees and activities of the NSBA, including, but not limited to, electronic legal research, insurance, member benefit programs and technology. The Committee evaluates members' interests and needs regarding the practice of law and may recommend that additional member services be provided by the Association. It provides new members of the Bar with the opportunity to interact with more experienced colleagues. It also performs other functions assigned by the Executive Council or President.

### **Nebraska Lawyers Assistance Program (NLAP)**

Purpose: Offers help to lawyers, judges and law students troubled by substance abuse problems, stress, depression and other types of disorders, disabilities, illnesses, or injuries which may impair their ability to perform in a competent and professional manner. It also assists the House of Delegates, Executive Council, and Legislative Committee in monitoring laws, regulations, practices and purposed legislation relating to chemical dependency and related issues.

### **Practice & Procedure**

Purpose: The Committee shall monitor, study and evaluate the laws and proposed laws of the State and the rules of court which relate to civil, criminal or juvenile practice and procedure in the courts of this State in order to determine the adequacy of the operation of all rules of practice and procedures. It shall study and make recommendations concerning the betterment of judicial administration in all courts of this State, the improvement of the working conditions and compensation of the members of the judiciary

and the evaluation and promotion of an independent and impartial judiciary. The Committee shall also monitor, study and evaluate the operation of the Nebraska Rules of Evidence (including all proposed changes) in order to determine their adequate operation. The Committee shall make its recommendations concerning policy or for any desirable changes to the House of Delegates and Executive Council.

### **Professional Enhancement**

Purpose: The committee shall study and make recommendations concerning the ethical standards applicable to the members of the NSBA and the rules and regulations for professional responsibility and to ensure that the Nebraska State Bar Association maintains appropriate focus and emphasis on legal profession.

### **Publications**

Purpose: Responsible for editorial control and oversight of the production of the NSBA monthly publications for members and operates as the Editorial Board for the publication. The Committee performs the following duties: (a) recommends, implements and assesses the editorial and advertising policies, (b) establishes an annual plan for publication; (c) reviews on an annual basis the practices and procedures for the Committee and NSBA staff working with the Committee; (d) periodically conducts editors' and authors' workshops; and (e) performs any other duties required to produce a monthly publication for the benefit of NSBA members.

### **Real Estate Practice Guidelines**

Purpose: Studies and makes recommendations to the House of Delegates and Executive Council concerning procedures and practices for the establishment of title to real estate in the State, and the practice of law as it relates to land titles. It proposes rules that will assist in the orderly and efficient transfer of land titles and reviews and proposes changes in existing title examination standards. It performs other functions assigned by the Executive Council or President.

### **Seek Counsel of Professional Expertise (SCOPE)**

Purpose: Connects an attorney who is unfamiliar with a legal area with an experienced, knowledgeable attorney for case specific information. Sign up today, if you would be willing to be contacted as a resource for a particular issue or area of practice.

# GET INVOLVED



Amie C. Martinez of Lincoln will take office as president of the Nebraska State Bar Association at the October Annual Meeting. She will be appointing committees. If you are interested in serving on a committee, she would be pleased to try to assign you to a committee of your choice.

In the lines next to the committees listed below, please list your choices by first, second and third.

Please initial behind any committee(s) you would be willing to serve as chair or vice chair.

**Please return this form to NSBA no later than November 1, 2014**

<input type="checkbox"/> Annual Meeting	<input type="checkbox"/> Legal Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Professional Enhancement
<input type="checkbox"/> Barristers' Ball	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislation	<input type="checkbox"/> Publications
<input type="checkbox"/> Budget & Planning	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate Practice Guidelines
<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> NE Lawyers Assistance Program (NLAP)	<input type="checkbox"/> Seek Counsel of Professional Expertise (SCOPE)
<input type="checkbox"/> It's Just Lunch	<input type="checkbox"/> Practice & Procedure	

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Attorney #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

Complete this form and email to Liz Neeley, lneeley@nebar.com, mail to Nebraska State Bar Association, 635 S 14th St, Lincoln, NE 68508 or fax to (402) 475-7098.