



25,348

Total members including judicial, retired, inactive and in-house counsel

18,656

Total active membership

18,009

Calls handled by Phoenix Resource Center

23,711

Attendance at CLE seminars, including On-Demand programs (live-only attendance was 11,251)

284

Out-of-state active members

A N N U A L R E P O R T

2021

Dear Members:

This year as COVID 19 restrictions eased, our commitment to protecting and serving the public was stronger than ever. We continued working with the Arizona Foundation for Legal Services and Education (Arizona Bar Foundation) to provide a COVID 19 Legal Help Hotline to answer various legal questions from members of the public forged in the wake of business and school shut-downs. We were able to meet again in person and reconnect with coworkers and colleagues, but we have made sure to keep offering virtual options for our members as well. We have carefully considered what things make sense to stay virtual, what should be back in person and what should be available in multiple formats. And we worked hard to provide quality virtual CLE, which is here to stay because we've realized the convenience it offers our members.

As always, we focus on how to best serve all our members, including paraprofessionals and alternative business structures.



Jennifer Rebholz
State Bar of Arizona President

Our lawyer orientation and information sessions underwent changes so that more members know the services and support the Bar provides. We understand that we get better when our members are doing better. It has been a tough few years, but we will take the lessons learned to help us get stronger together.

I want to thank you all for making this such an amazing year. Although there were challenging moments, it has really been my pleasure to serve as your president.


STATE BAR BOARD OF GOVERNORS

PRESIDENT *Jennifer R. Rebholz*
PRESIDENT-ELECT *Jessica S. Sanchez*
VICE PRESIDENT *Benjamin P. Taylor, II*
SECRETARY-TREASURER *Ted A. Schmidt*

District 1
(Apache, Coconino, Mohave,
Navajo Counties)
Eric M. Ruchensky

District 2
(Yavapai County)
Sharon M. Flack

District 3
(Gila, Graham,
Greenlee Counties)
Hector M. Figueroa

District 4
(Cochise County)
D. Christopher Russell

District 5
(Pima, Santa Cruz Counties)
Sandra Bensley
Leticia Marquez

District 6
(Maricopa County)
Diandra D. Benally
Kelsi Taylor Lane
Robert J. McWhirter
John W. Moody
David B. Rosenbaum
Samuel J. Saks

District 7
(La Paz, Yuma Counties)
Jimmie Dee Smith

District 8
(Pinal County)
Denis M. Fitzgibbons

Ex-Officio Members
Dean Marc L. Miller
Dean Douglas Sylvester

Public Members
Robyn M. Austin
Mignonne Hollis
Jonathan F. Martone
Anna C. Thomasson

At-Large Members
David K. Byers
Lori A. Higuera
Doreen N. McPaul

YLD President
Gaya Shanmuganatha

Access to Justice Program and Statistics

- The Public Service Center (PSC) handled 3,000+ calls from the public seeking help for hiring a lawyer or direction to legal resources.
- At the request of The Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs (DEMA) the PSC provided outreach to support wildfire relief in Gila County.
- The PSC participated in Arizona Stand Up for Veterans in October, recruiting 13 attorneys who assisted 100 Veterans with free legal consultations.
- For Law Day, the PSC hosted a virtual legal clinic. 87 people received free legal consultations across eight practice areas.
- The Bar made cash and in-kind contributions to the Foundation for pro bono legal services, their Mock Trial Competition, among other programs and services. The total contribution for 2021 was \$120,074.

Competency

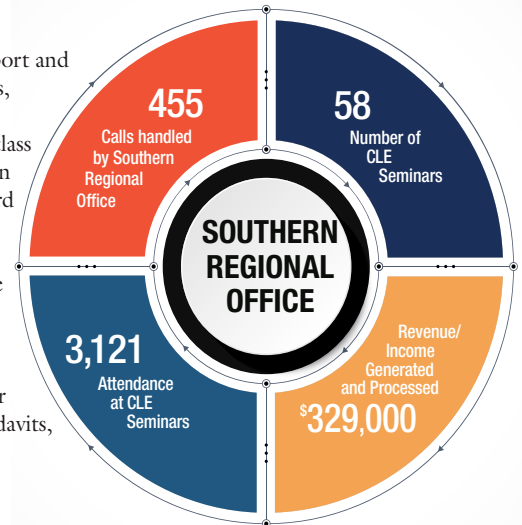
- Practice 2.0, the Bar's free, confidential practice management advice program, provided in-depth virtual consultations to 76 members, provided advice on practice management, legal technology and best practices through 1,216 advice-line calls, and provided advice on trust accounting and related issues through 355 calls to the trusts account hotline.
- The State Bar's Continuing Legal Education Department continued to lead the way in education and training with 153 new live seminars.
- AZCLE® helped members navigate pandemic-related challenges by providing educational topics including stress management, post-COVID resiliency, eviction actions, vaccines and the workplace, and federal and state Covid assistance programs.
- The State Bar's 2021 CLE catalog offered 381 hours of live seminars, including 138 hours of ethics training.
- AZCLE® partnered with organizations including Arizona Pro Bono Network, Arizona Cannabis Bar Association, Tribal In-House Counsel Association, American Planning Association, Arizona Chapter, Sandra Day O'Connor Institute For American Democracy, Arizona Supreme Court Commission on Diversity, Equality and Justice, Arizona Women Lawyers Association, and the Arizona Chapter of the American Academy Matrimonial Lawyers.
- 823 professionals volunteered to act as faculty and share their expertise for the various CLE programs the Bar has to offer.
- The State Bar's Publication department issued updated editions of three treatises; Arizona Land Use Law, Arizona Securities Law, and the Arizona DUI Trial Notebook.

Ethics

- The Ethics Hotline is accessible to members every day, free of charge — an invaluable resource to lawyers needing outside ethics advice, including solo and small-firm practitioners. In 2021 the Ethics Hotline received 1,798 calls; 749 were routed to Practice 2.0 or the Trust Account Hotline (a concerted effort was made to help members calling the hotline by providing better screening and optimal use of other hotlines) and 1,049 calls were handled by the Ethics Hotline. Trending topics included confidentiality, terminating representation and conflicts.
- In-house attorneys provided the ethics component in more than 13 CLE seminars, providing ample CLE options for members to comply with MCLE requirements.
- Providing greater accessibility, the Ethics Advisory Group began publishing its Best Practices series on azbar.org

Professionalism

- The State Bar’s Member Assistance program staff and peer support volunteers provided support and resources to members struggling with substance use disorder, mental health challenges, stress, depression and anxiety.
- The Bar Leadership Institute helps develop future leaders in the legal community. The 2021 class of 16 graduates completed 2 community service projects designed to support the Bar’s mission to serve and protect the public. Graduates continue to serve through participation in the Board of Governors, judiciary, legislature and other community organizations.
- Engaged over 6,900 members by supporting 30 Sections, organized around substantive practice areas, the Young Lawyers Division which has approximately 3,986 members, and the Senior Lawyers Division, with approximately 5,963 members. State Bar Sections produce hundreds of hours of continuing education, provide networking and engagement opportunities and provide a forum for the ongoing discussion of law.
- The Arizona Supreme Court requires the State Bar to ensure that all members have met their mandatory continuing legal education requirement. In 2021, Bar staff processed 17,966 affidavits, with more than 90% of members filing on time—avoiding late fees



Notable Highlights

- The Social Justice Working Group oversaw the creation of a Board and membership demographic report, revised demographic questions on member dashboard, collaborated with community organizations, including Collaborative Bar, ASU’s Center for Race and Democracy on programming and outreach.
- AZCLE® provided 15.75 hours of free CLE to lawyers who work for legal aid organizations in Arizona.
- AZCLE® partnered with the Arizona Pro Bono Network and the Senior Lawyer Division to offer Providing Pro Bono Service Under Rule 38 with a total of 56 attendees. The seminar highlighted a rule change allowing retired attorneys to provide pro bono legal services.
- AZCLE® offered a 5-part CLE series on Accommodating Parents in Child Welfare Proceedings, including parents with physical, sensory, psychological, and/or intellectual disabilities. The final program in the series covered dispute resolution options for accommodations.
- AZCLE® offered 6 virtual Professionalism courses and 560 members attended.
- The Young Lawyers Division began to update its disaster response plan, providing guidance to lawyers who wish to help those impacted by natural and other disasters, with completion scheduled for 2022.
- The Senior Lawyers Division continues to focus its attention on keeping retired lawyers engaged with the Bar and its mission of serving the public through pro bono opportunities, as well as assisting lawyers transitioning out of the active practice of law. The Division holds virtual drop-in sessions on topics of interest to senior lawyers including planning for life after law.
- The Client Protection Fund put money back into the hands of consumers who lost funds because of dishonest lawyers. In 2021, 36 clients received a total of \$197,568.



STATE BAR ANNUAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

AWARD OF APPRECIATION	<i>Christine Groninger</i>
AWARD OF SPECIAL MERIT	<i>Anne C. Ronan</i>
DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION LEADERSHIP AWARD	<i>Hon. (Ret.) Carol Scott Berry</i>
HON. JOHN R. STICHT EXCELLENCE IN DISABILITIES ACCESSIBILITY AWARD	<i>Kacie Nickel</i>
JAMES A. WALSH OUTSTANDING JURIST AWARD	<i>Hon. Joseph C. Kreamer</i>
MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD	<i>Mark I. Harrison (posthumously)</i>
MICHAEL C. CUDAHY CRIMINAL JUSTICE AWARD	<i>Kent Paul Volkmer</i>
OUTSTANDING IN-HOUSE COUNSEL OF THE YEAR AWARD	<i>Mark N. Rogers</i>
SHARON A. FULLMER LEGAL AID ATTORNEY OF THE YEAR AWARD	<i>Jamie Balson</i>
TOM KARAS CRIMINAL JUSTICE AWARD	<i>Richard D. Coffinger</i>
PRESIDENT’S AWARD	<i>Lonnie J. Williams, Jr.</i>



2021

Financial Information

How the State Bar serves the public on your behalf...

The Conservatorship Program

The State Bar maintains the Conservatorship Program to protect clients of attorneys who have died, been disbarred or abandoned their practice without an adequate succession plan. The program takes possession of client files for safekeeping and return, and it assumes responsibility of IOLTA funds to ensure proper disbursement. In 2021, the program wound down seven law practices, returned \$39,547.54 in IOLTA funds, and properly safeguarded 1,444 client files. It cost the State Bar \$231,857 or an average of \$160.57 per client to operate, including storage fees, contract labor for moving/retrieval services, and other overhead expenses.

The Fee Arbitration Program

The State Bar of Arizona's Fee Arbitration Program is a proven valuable resource for attorneys and consumers. This is a free and voluntary service that allows Bar members and their clients to reach an agreement when fees over \$500 are the primary issue. The program is staffed by one fulltime employee and a 70-member volunteer group, with each member working independently on a specific case. The program received 129 petitions in 2021. The total cost of the Fee Arbitration Program, including overhead, was \$193,400.

What does it cost the State Bar to....

Publish Arizona Attorney Magazine

Arizona Attorney magazine is published 11 times per year by the State Bar of Arizona. It has long been considered one of the Bar's most valuable member benefits with its award-winning legal content and design. In 2021, it cost \$784,348 to produce the magazine—including overhead. Advertising revenue totaled \$1,201,345, resulting in \$416,997 in revenue for the Bar.

Bar's Income in 2021
\$18,000,458*

Bar's expenses in 2021
\$15,428,204*

*The Bar has a reserve policy which requires that at the end of each year, any surpluses shall be added to reserve accounts to pay for capital improvements, avoid increases to annual member fees in a future year(s), and provide needed cash resources for unexpected emergency needs.

