

**AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION
JUDICIAL DIVISION
STANDING COMMITTEE ON MINORITIES IN THE JUDICIARY**

Mission: To promote full and equal participation by minorities in the judiciary and the ABA Judicial Division.

I. Purpose

The Standing Committee was created by the Judicial Division to actively implement Division programs and projects that focus on the realization of ABA Goal IX – To promote full and equal participation in the legal profession by minorities, women and persons with disabilities.

II. Goals

The goals are of the Committee are as follows:

(1) increase minority judge membership in the Association and Division; (2) promote active involvement and participation of minority judges in the Association and Division; (3) promote the appointment of more minorities to state and federal courts; (4) Increase minority participation in continuing judicial education programs. (5) Promote equal opportunity in the hiring and promotion of court personnel (administrative); (6) Promote equal opportunity in the employment of judicial law clerks; and (7) Promote fair treatment of minority lawyers and litigants in the judicial system.

III. Membership

The Standing Committee shall have 12 members. A Chair shall be appointed by the Division Chair. Each Conference Chair shall appoint one member. Five at-large members shall be appointed by the Division Chair in consultation with the Standing Committee Chair.

IV. Officers

Standing Committee membership shall elect by majority vote a Vice-Chair and Secretary. The Vice-Chair and Secretary shall serve one-year terms. The Vice-Chair shall assist the Chairperson with Committee duties and have powers as may be designed by the Committee Chair. The Secretary shall keep a true record of the proceedings (i.e., minutes of all meetings of the Committee).

V. Terms of Office

Members and Members-at-Large shall serve a one-year term and may be subject to reappointment up to three, one-year terms. Vacancies shall be filled by appointment of the Conference or Division Chair entitled to make the appointment.

VI. Liaisons

The Division Chair shall appoint a liaison to the ABA Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Profession. The Division liaison to the ABA Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Profession shall also be a liaison to the Standing Committee. Liaisons appointed by the Judicial Division shall serve one year terms, subject to reappointment not to exceed three years.

The National Association for Law Placement (NALP) may appoint a liaison to the Standing Committee.

The Chairs of the Judicial Councils representing the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA); Native American Bar Association (NABA); National Asian and Pacific American Bar Association (NAPBA), and National Bar Association (NBA) or their designated representative may serve as liaisons to the Standing Committee. Upon request from these organizations, Standing Committee members may serve as liaisons to these bar associations and/or their Judicial Councils.

Liaisons shall not have voting privileges, but are encouraged to actively participate with the Standing Committee in discussions and programs during meetings of the Standing Committee and the sponsoring entities.

VII. Duties and Responsibilities

Meetings

The Standing Committee shall hold business meetings twice a year in conjunction with the Judicial Division Midyear and Annual meetings. These meetings shall provide opportunities to promote and implement Division wide Goal IX activities. The Standing Committee may hold other meetings at such time and place as it considers appropriate, budget permitting.

Reports from/to Sponsoring Entities

Liaisons to sponsoring entities will report on current and planned activities of the Standing Committee and will report on current and planned activities of the sponsoring entities to the Standing Committee at meetings of each group.

Report to Judicial Division

A written report of Standing Committee activities shall be submitted to the Division Council at Midyear and Annual meetings. An annual report on the progress of the Division in implementing ABA Goal IX shall be presented at the Midyear meeting.

Activities

To carry out its mandate, the Standing Committee may sponsor independent and joint programs at the ABA annual and midyear meetings. It may also jointly sponsor and promote programs with other organizations that have common goals and objectives. It may sponsor and participate in projects and other activities with other ABA and non-ABA entities. Members of the Standing Committee shall be encouraged to make presentations or speak at gatherings where appropriate to promote the work of the Standing Committee, Judicial Division and ABA.

Reimbursement of Expenses

Standing Committee members must attend the Midyear meeting, Annual meeting and outreach programs in their entirety in order to be reimbursed for travel expenses.