

Utah State Bar[®]



2019–2020

Summary of Operations

Vision of the Utah State Bar

A just legal system that is understood, valued, and accessible to all.

Mission of the Utah State Bar

*Lawyers serving the public and legal profession
with excellence, civility, and integrity.*

Utah State Bar Statement on Diversity and Inclusion

The Bar values engaging all persons fully, including persons of different ages, disabilities, economic status, ethnicities, genders, geographic regions, national origins, sexual orientations, practice settings and areas, races and religions. Inclusion is critical to the success of the Bar, the legal profession and the judicial system.

The Bar shall strive to:

- *Increase members' awareness of implicit and explicit biases and their impact on people, the workplace, and the profession;*
- *Make Bar services and activities open, available, and accessible to all members;*
- *Support the efforts of all members in reaching their highest professional potential;*
 - *Reach out to all members to welcome them to Bar activities, committees, and sections; and*
 - *Promote a culture that values all members of the legal profession and the judicial system.*

Introduction and Grants of Authority

The Utah State Bar operates under authority granted by the Utah Supreme Court through orders which restate the Court's inherent authority under the Utah Constitution to regulate the practice of law. Those orders confirm the specific purposes, duties and responsibilities of the Utah State Bar as:

- **Advancing the administration of justice according to law;**
- **Aiding the courts in carrying on the administration of justice;**
- **Regulating the admission of persons seeking to practice law;**
- **Regulating and disciplining persons practicing law;**
- **Fostering and maintaining integrity, competence and public service among those practicing law;**
- **Representing the Bar before legislative, administrative and judicial bodies;**
- **Preventing the unauthorized practice of law;**
- **Promoting professionalism, competence and excellence in those practicing law through continuing legal education and by other means;**
- **Providing service to the public, to the judicial system and to members of the Bar;**
- **Educating the public about the rule of law and their responsibilities under the law; and**
- **Assisting members of the Bar in improving the quality and efficiency of their practice.**

The Board of Bar Commissioners has been granted all powers necessary and proper to carry out the duties and responsibilities of the Bar and the purposes of the Rules and has all authority not specifically reserved to the Court.

The Bar's internal operations are governed by **By-laws** and through the establishment of a variety of administrative **policies and procedures**. Other rules necessary to regulate and manage the practice of law have been promulgated by the Bar and approved by the Court and have been amended from time to time as needs have changed and demands have increased. These other rules include the **Rules Governing Admission, Rules of Lawyer Discipline and Disability, Rules of Professional Conduct, Rules for Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection, the Law Student Assistance Rule and the Rules of the Utah State Bar Dispute Resolution Committee**. The Court has also established rules governing mandatory continuing legal education. These rules may be found at www.utcourts.gov.



Bar Leadership

The Bar is a 501(c)(6) non-profit Utah corporation governed by a fifteen-member Board of Bar Commissioners, which includes two court-appointed public members, twelve elected lawyers representing the judicial districts, and two elected officers. (Note: The President-elect may also serve as a Commissioner during his/her President-elect year.) The Commission also includes twelve non-voting ex officio members. The Commission hires an Executive Director to carry out the operations of the Bar and the policies of the Commission. The Executive Director employs and supervises the activities of operations staff, which numbers twenty-six full-time and one part-time employee.

During the 2019–2020 year, the Bar Commission included the following:

ELECTED OFFICERS

Herm Olsen, President

Hillyard Anderson & Olsen – Logan

Heather Farnsworth, President-elect

3rd Division – Tooele, Salt Lake, and Summit Counties
Match & Farnsworth – Salt Lake City

ELECTED LAWYERS AND GEOGRAPHIC AREA

Marty Moore, 1st Division

Box Elder, Cache, and Rich Counties
Mayer Hoffman McCann, PC – Logan

Michelle Quist, 3rd Division

Tooele, Salt Lake, and Summit Counties
Kunzler Bean & Adamson – Salt Lake City

John W. Bradley, 2nd Division

Weber, Morgan, and Davis Counties
Attorney General's Office – Ogden

Thomas W. Seiler, 4th Division

Millard, Juab, Utah, and Wasatch Counties
Seiler Anderson Fife & Marshall, LC – Provo

Chrystal Mancuso-Smith, 3rd Division

Tooele, Salt Lake, and Summit Counties
Swenson & Shelley – Salt Lake City

Cara M. Tangaro, 3rd Division

Tooele, Salt Lake, and Summit Counties
Tangaro Law Firm – Salt Lake City

Mark O. Morris, 3rd Division

Tooele, Salt Lake, and Summit Counties
Snell & Wilmer – Salt Lake City

Heather L. Thuet, 3rd Division

Tooele, Salt Lake, and Summit Counties
Christensen & Jensen – Salt Lake City

Mark W. Pugsley, 3rd Division

Tooele, Salt Lake, and Summit Counties
Ray Quinney & Nebeker – Salt Lake City

Kristin "Katie" Woods, 5th Division

Washington, Iron, Beaver, Sanpete, Sevier, Piute,
Wayne, Garfield, and Kane Counties
Attorney at Law – St. George

PUBLIC MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE SUPREME COURT

Steven R. Burt, AIA

Entelen Design-Build – Salt Lake City

Mary Kay Griffin, CPA

CBIZ & Mayer Hoffman McCann, PC – Salt Lake City



EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

H. Dickson Burton, Immediate Past President

Trask Britt, PC – Salt Lake City

Elizabeth Kronk Warner, Dean, S. J. Quinney College of Law – Salt Lake City

D. Gordon Smith, Dean, J. Reuben Clark School of Law – Provo

Robert O. Rice, Judicial Council Representative

Ray Quinney & Nebeker – Salt Lake City

Larissa Lee, Utah Supreme Court Representative

Administrative Office of the Courts – Salt Lake City

Margaret D. Plane, Utah ABA Members' Delegate

Park City Corporation – Park City

Nathan D. Alder, Utah State Bar Delegate to the ABA

Christensen & Jensen, PC – Salt Lake City

Erik A. Christiansen, Utah State Bar Delegate to the ABA

Parsons Behle & Latimer – Salt Lake City

Camila V. Moreno, Young Lawyers Delegate to the ABA

United States District Court – Salt Lake City

Kate Conyers, Women Lawyers of Utah Representative

Conyers & Nix – Salt Lake City

Remington "Jiro" Johnson, Minority Bar Association Representative

Salt Lake Legal Defenders – Salt Lake City

Amy Fowler, LGBT & Allied Lawyers of Utah Representative

Fowler Venable Law, PC – Salt Lake City

Victoria "Tori" Finlinson, Young Lawyers Division Representative

Clyde Snow & Sessions

Candace Gleed, Paralegal Division Representative

Eisenberg Cutt Kendell & Olsen – Salt Lake City

Licensing Statistics

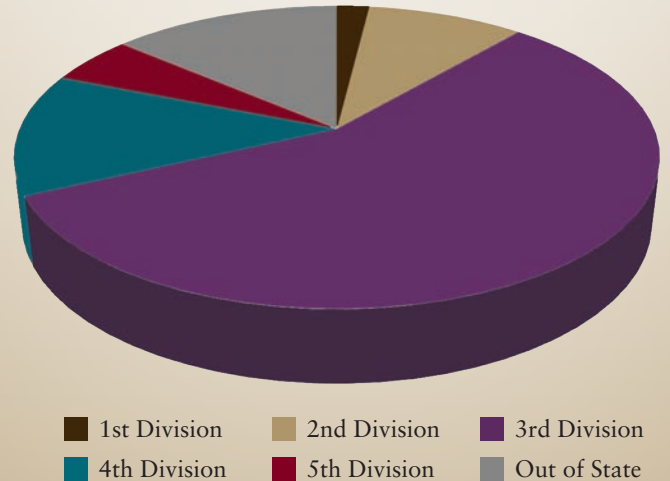
STATUS	2018–2019	2019–2020	Change
Active	8,588	8,705	117
Active under 3 years	965	893	(72)
Active Emeritus	213	232	19
In House Counsel	101	114	13
Foreign Legal Counsel	3	3	—
Licensed Paralegal Practitioner	—	4	4
Military Spouse	—	1	1

Inactive Status Attorneys

Inactive – Full Service	807	823	16
Inactive – No Service	1,934	1,989	55
Inactive Emeritus	296	328	32
Inactive House Counsel	3	11	8
Subtotal – Inactive	3,040	3,151	111
Total Active & Inactive	12,910	13,103	193

Active Attorneys by Region	2018–2019	2019–2020	Change
1st Division (Logan–Brigham)	182	192	10
2nd Division (Davis–Weber)	909	936	27
3rd Division (Salt Lake)	5,647	5,641	(6)
4th Division (Utah)	1,287	1,303	16
5th Division (Southern Utah)	505	516	11
Out of State	1,340	1,364	24
Total Active Attorneys	9,870	9,952	82

ACTIVE ATTORNEYS BY DIVISION: 2019–2020



Bar Programs and Services

REGULATORY SERVICES

Special Admissions

Special admissions include reviewing and processing Military Lawyers, House Counsel, Admission on Motion and Pro Hac Vice applications. During the Fiscal 2019–2020 year, we had the following special admissions applications:

	APPLICATIONS	ADMITTED	PENDING	DENIED	WITHDRAWN
Military	1				
House Counsel	29	27	10	0	0
Motion	26	56	22	3	1
UBE Transfers	12	50	31	3	1
Pro Hac Vice	301				

Admissions

Admissions includes the application process, character and fitness file reviews and hearings, Bar exam question drafting and selection, preparation and administration, grading essay exams, and all reciprocal admissions. Committees include the *Admissions Committee* (Steven T. Waterman and Daniel A. Jensen, Co-chairs), *Character and Fitness Committee* (Amy J. Oliver and Andrew M. Morse, Co-chairs), *Bar Examiner Committee* (Tanya N. Lewis and Mark Astling, Co-chairs), and the *Test Accommodation Committee* (Joan M. Andrews, Chair).

JULY 2019 BAR EXAMINATION STATISTICS

228 Bar Examinees | 187 Successful Bar Examinees | Pass Rate for the July 2019 Bar Exam: 82%

Essay Scores 50 Points Possible Average Score: 30.6	Multistate Scores: 200 Points Possible Utah Average: 146.3 National Average: 141.1 (45,334 tested)	Combined Scores Utah Median Score: 292.4 Passing Score: 270
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FEBRUARY 2020 BAR EXAMINATION STATISTICS

79 Bar Examinees | 49 Successful Bar Examinees | Pass Rate for the February 2020 Bar Exam: 62%

Essay Scores 50 Points Possible Average Score: 30.2	Multistate Scores: 200 Points Possible Utah Average: 140.5 National Average: 132.6 (19,122 tested)	Combined Scores Utah Median Score: 280.8 Passing Score: 270
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Professional Conduct Enforcement

The Office of Professional Conduct investigates complaints of unethical conduct; provides ethics education seminars; and either resolves or prosecutes cases before hearing panels, the district courts and the Utah Supreme Court. The administrative oversight of the Office of Professional Conduct is no longer under the Utah State Bar. That administrative oversight is now with an *Oversight Committee* (Judge Diana Hagen, Chair) that reports directly to the Utah Supreme Court. Committees that the Office of Professional Conduct interacts with include the *Ethics and Discipline Committee of the Utah Supreme Court* (Christine Greenwood, Chair); the *Utah Bar's Ethics Advisory Opinion Committee* (John A. Snow, Chair); the *Supreme Court Rules of Professional Conduct Committee* (Simón Cantarero, Chair); and the *Supreme Court Diversion Committee* (Derek J. Williams, Chair). The office has prepared a separate report on its operations, which is available at www.opcutah.org.

Continuing Legal Education

Over the past year, the CLE Department created, administered, and presented 257 events (including 89 luncheons, 54 seminars, and 57 separate online webinars) in more than 70 subject matter areas of practice have been represented in our repertoire of CLE events. Since April 2020, we have conducted all CLE events virtually, with attendance ranging from 50 people up to 500 members at one event. In addition, a total of 1,116 hours of video replays were completed independently by members, online as well. All sections of the Bar, as well as our community partnerships with the S.J. Quinney College of Law, the J. Reuben Clark Law School, and the Administrative Office of the Utah State Courts, have had opportunities to host events with us and contribute to the faculty of our professional development training. Moreover, the CLE Department collaborates regularly with the *CLE Advisory Board* (Jonathan O. Hafen, Chair) for topics and themes to enhance the content and inclusion represented in our training events for the Bar.



General Bar Management and Operations

General Bar management includes annual licensing, maintenance of databases, personnel, financial controls, inventory, equipment, governance organization and support, long range and planning. Bar staff manages policy implementation and operations through various voluntary leadership committees, including: *Bar Commission*, *Bar Commission Executive Committee*, and the *Bar Commission Budget & Finance Committee* (Christine Arthur, CPA, Chair). A copy of the 2019–2020 audit by Tanner, LLC is available at www.utahbar.org/bar-operations/.

"GROUP" SERVICES

Fall Forum, Summer & Spring Conventions



Conventions provide integral educational and networking opportunities for our members and the judiciary to interact in collegial and informal settings. Attorney well-being, sustainability of our industry, and innovation in our practice management are consistent themes for the CLE programming of the Utah State Bar. Professionalism and civility are enhanced between Bar members when a premium is placed on respect and creative ways of gathering to discuss issues facing the Bar, the profession and the judiciary. In the face of a large-scale public health crisis, adhering to all scientific and medical recommendations during the pandemic, social distancing

was enforced by our Bar. With an abundance of caution, and out of sincere concern for the well-being of our community, both the Spring and Summer 2020 Conventions were cancelled. We anticipate hosting the 2020 Fall Forum as a ten-part CLE series in a virtual setting with one-hour breakout sessions and with an online exhibitor hall.

Member Benefit Programs

The Utah State Bar has contracted with benefits administrator **Beneplace** to radically expand offerings and services to Bar members at no cost to Bar members. **Beneplace**, in partnership with the Bar, researches and recruits benefits providers and places them in the Utah State Bar benefits catalog <http://www.beneplace.com/utahbar>. Programs range from office supplies, to discounted membership programs, to vacation planning, to legal specific vendors, to ticket offers for sports and recreational opportunities. New vendors and discounts arrive each month with a summary of recent additions being provided online at <http://www.utahbar.org/member-services/>. Utah State Bar member benefits are overseen by the *Member Resource Committee* (Robert L. Jeffs, Chair).



Utah Lawyers Helping Lawyers renders confidential assistance to any Bar member whose professional performance is or may be impaired because of mental illness, emotional distress, substance abuse or any other disabling condition or circumstance. **Blomquist Hale** provides trained counselors for face-to-face help with family problems, stress, depression, anxiety, personal cash management difficulties, elder care challenges, assessment of drug/alcohol dependence, and any other issues impairing work or personal lives. Information about Utah Lawyers Helping Lawyers and Blomquist Hale may be found at: <http://www.utahbar.org/member-services/>.



In the summer of 2018, Utah Supreme Court Justice Paige Petersen and then Bar President Dickson Burton gathered stakeholders from throughout the legal community to form the Utah Task Force on Lawyer & Judge Well-Being. Charged with laying the groundwork for a well-being movement in Utah's legal community, the Task Force issued its report and recommendations in February of 2019. <https://www.utahbar.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Task-Force-Report-2.pdf>. The work of promoting wellbeing is now being directed by the *Wellbeing Committee for the Legal Profession*. (Chairs Justice Paige Petersen and Cara Tangaro and Committee Executive Director Martha Knudson).



Committee Support – Unrelated to Other Programs

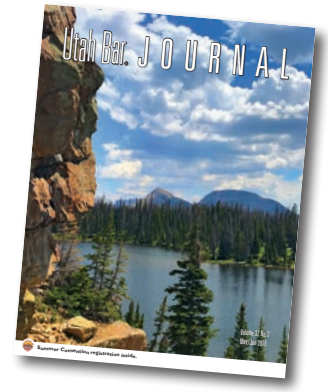
Stand-alone committees have been charged to provide professional leadership and study of designated issues. A current listing of all Bar committees can be found at www.utahbar.org/bar-operations/.

Section & Division Support

Our staff provides support services to 37 Sections and 2 Divisions which are independent and financially self-sustaining. Activities include section meetings and elections, CLE luncheons and annual seminars, social events and charitable endeavors, dues collection, general administrative and financial services, email and newsletter communications, and the maintenance of websites and blogs. A listing of all Bar sections and divisions can be found at <http://www.utahbar.org/about/meet-section-division-chairs/>.

The Utah Bar Journal

The *Utah Bar Journal* provides information on professional issues, law office management, legal education and law related opportunities. The *Utah Bar Journal* was published six times this past year by the *Bar Journal Committee* (Alisha Giles, Chair) and provided to members and subscribers. The *Bar Journal Committee* has 15 members and a bar staff-liaison. The committee was presented Bar Committee of the Year Award at the 2019 Summer Convention. Access to past issues of the *Utah Bar Journal* can be found at www.barjournal.utahbar.org.



Public Outreach

The Bar's Licensed Lawyer referral service continued its unprecedented growth in 2019–20. In the past Bar year, 103,976 unique Licensed Lawyer users viewed 1.4 million pages, (up 66 percent), including 914,963 unique page visits (up 33 percent), with 804,567 searches for Utah attorneys (a 54 percent increase). Licensed Lawyer generated 5,430 referrals (a 44 percent increase). The Bar has committed significant financial resources to the Licensed Lawyer program over the past two years, which has fueled this growth. The number of lawyers actively using the LicensedLawyer.org service reached 1,414.



Utah's **Licensed Paralegal Practitioner Program** was implemented in 2019–20, and the Bar played a significant role in promoting this program to the public, interested students, and keeping Utah attorneys informed about the program and its capabilities. The Bar coordinated media interviews and appearances with practitioners and proponents of this new program, created marketing materials, and executed social media campaigns to lay the foundation for the success of the LPP program.

The cancellation of conventions and public events due to COVID-19 concerns brought significant changes to public outreach programs. Law Day 2020 was conducted online, and other public outreach programs were modified to virtual status or cancelled.

Significant public interest was generated by the Utah Supreme Court's regulatory reform "sandbox" and the decision by the Court to allow diploma privilege for graduates of select law schools. Bar leaders and staff conducted interviews with the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Bloomberg Law*, the *Wall Street Journal*, Law.com, ABA *Journal*, *USA Today* and many other national publications regarding these topics. The Utah State Bar is now recognized as a national leader in supporting efforts to improve access to justice through legal regulation reform.

New Lawyer Training Program

Utah's New Lawyer Training Program ("NLTP") is the Bar's award-winning mentoring program, which is required for all newly admitted attorneys who have less than two years of practice experience. The Bar's Committee on New Lawyer Training ("**NLTP Committee**") is currently co-chaired by **Rebecca Long Okura** and **Laura Rasmussen**, who have both been dedicated members of the committee since its inception in 2009.

2,500
new lawyers have completed the NLTP
since the program's inception in 2009.

Over the past decade, nearly 2,500 new attorneys have completed the NLTP. During their 12-month mentoring term, new lawyers meet with their mentors 10 times, for at least two hours each time, to discuss the new lawyer's legal work, professional development, and adjustment to the practice of law. The mentoring plan also requires that mentors and new lawyers examine the Rules of

Professional Conduct as a means of more effectively teaching and fostering professionalism, ethics, and civility.

In 2020, the NLTP implemented a web platform for the NLTP, an exciting feature of which is the introduction of a searchable database of Utah's NLTP-approved mentors. This has made the daunting task of finding the right

mentor much easier for the new lawyers, especially considering that there are more than 1,000 mentors on the list. The NLTP Committee recognizes that the program's success is due, in no small part, to the caliber of our mentors and extends its sincere thanks to all of Utah's NLTP mentors for helping us to maintain the NLTP's position as one of the top legal mentoring programs in the country.

By volunteering to help new lawyers start their practice with all the tools they will need to succeed, mentors are making a much-needed investment in the future of the legal profession. The Bar and the NLTP Committee are dedicated to making sure their investments pay off.



Licensed Paralegal Practitioner Program

In 2019, the Utah bar issued 4 licenses pursuant to the Licensed Paralegal Practitioner program (Julie Emery, Chair). The state's first class of LPPs, after having satisfied the education, experience, and testing requirements set forth in the Rules Governing LPPs, now regularly accept clients in the area of family law. The public can find LPPs by clicking on the "Licensed Paralegal Practitioner" icon on the homepage of the Bar's referral service: licensedlawyer.org. The Bar looks forward to the expansion of the LPP program, as ever-increasing volumes of candidates are seeking to qualify for upcoming administrations of the licensing exam.



An LPP can become licensed, in a limited capacity, in the following areas: family law, debt collection, and landlord-tenant matters. After an LPP is licensed to practice, they will not be able to appear in court as a representative, but they will be able to enter into a contractual relationship with clients, assist with completion of court-approved forms, and provide legal advice for the issues within the scope of their license. An LPP will not be required to be supervised by an attorney or work for a law office; they will be able to start their own firms or even partner with an attorney, subject to the LPP rules of ethics and professional responsibility.

The Bar administered the first LPP licensing exam in August of 2019. The LPP licensing exam will reoccur twice yearly – on the last Tuesday of March and August respectively – and the Bar will administer the exam for 9 candidates on August 25, 2020. The licensing exam will take place over the course of two days for candidates seeking licensure in all three practice areas and one day for those taking 1–2 of the practice areas.

PUBLIC SERVICES

Access to Justice Programs

In Fiscal Year 2019–2020 the Bar continued to expand and support its access to justice initiatives.

Following the outbreak of COVID-19, the *Pro Bono Commission*, co-chaired by Judge Michelle Christiansen Forster and Judge Royal Hansen, approved the creation of the new Virtual Legal Clinic. The Virtual Clinic allows clients to meet with attorneys via Zoom, phone, or email to receive brief legal advice. The program is designed to be flexible so that attorneys may assist clients whenever they have a spare moment. The program attracted more than 50 volunteer attorneys who provided brief advice to 389 clients in its first five months of operation.



UTAH STATE BAR

Virtual Legal Clinic

50+ volunteer attorneys
assisted **389** clients
in just the first five months!

The in-person Tuesday Night Bar program provided brief legal advice to 370 clients this year. The program was paused following the COVID-19 outbreak and plans are now underway to restore the program in a new, virtual format. The renewed program will coexist with the Virtual Legal Clinic, thus allowing clients to meet with attorneys both on Tuesday evenings and throughout the week.

The Bar's weekly Landlord-Tenant Pro Se Calendar and Debt Collection Po Se Calendar also adapted to a new virtual model. The Landlord-Tenant Calendar provided 398 clients with limited-scope representation on the day of their occupancy hearings. The Debt Collection Calendar provided representation to 388 defendants. These programs were supported by numerous volunteer attorneys who donated their time to be of service. They were also supported by the new Staff Attorney position funded in partnership with the Utah Bar Foundation.

388

*defendants were provided
volunteer representation
through the Debt Collection
Calendar*

In anticipation of a sharp increase in demand for legal services, the Access to Justice Office requested and received a one-time grant of \$50,000 from the Utah Bar Foundation and Salt Lake County to fund an additional short-term staff attorney and intake specialist. These positions will serve clients in the Salt Lake County area who have been negatively impacted by COVID-19.

467

*cases were placed with
attorneys this past year
through the Modest
Means program!*

The Bar's Modest Means program, which allows clients to receive reduced rate legal help, continued to serve Utahns throughout the state. The program placed 467 cases with attorneys who agreed to serve clients at the rate of \$50–75 per hour. This work was supported and guided by the *Modest Means Committee*, co-chaired by **Judge Su Chon** and **Judge David Williams**. The Bar's Access to

Justice Office staff also assisted Utah Legal Services in placing 402 pro bono cases with attorneys across the state.

The *Access to Justice Commission*, co-chaired by **Justice Christine M. Durham** (Ret.) and **Amy F. Sorenson**, approved the creation of UtahLegalHelp.org, a new public-facing website that helps Utah residents find legal resources to meet their needs. The website lists clinics and no-cost or reduced-rate legal services throughout the state. It also provides links to the Utah Courts Self-Help Center, LicensedLawyer.org, and the Bar's Modest Means program for reduced rate legal services. The website attracts approximately 1,500 visitors per month.



The Access to Justice Commission also held its second annual Access to Justice Summit, partnering with agencies such as 2-1-1, the S.J. Quinney College of Law, and the Utah Courts Self-Help Center. The Summit's theme focused on the intersection between legal help and social services and how members of each industry can better collaborate to serve clients. The event drew 87 participants and was supported by \$6,000 in grants from the Utah Bar Foundation and private donors.

Following the release of the Utah Justice Gap Report, commissioned by the Utah Bar Foundation, the Access to Justice Commission voted to focus its efforts on the issue of debt collection for the coming year.

As the Access to Justice office continues to grow, it remains committed to providing severely needed legal services to clients who are otherwise unable to find representation. It also continues to study systemic issues in need of attention and improvement.

Fund for Client Protection

The *Fund for Client Protection Committee* (Stephen W. Farr, Chair) has 11 attorney members, and 1 bar-staff liaison. There were 17 claims made to the Utah State Bar Fund for Client Protection against 9 attorneys during the 2019–2020 fiscal year totaling \$54,840. Of these claims, 15 were approved for awards totaling \$30,705. The rules to the Fund for Client Protection are housed on the courts website at https://www.utcourts.gov/resources/rules/ucja/index.htm#Chapter_14.

17 claims made to the Fund in 2019–20	15 claims were approved
Total claims made \$54,840	Claims approved \$30,705

Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee

During the 2019–2020 fiscal year, the *Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee* (Maribeth LeHoux, Committee Chair) and staff received twenty-five (25) new complaints. Eight (8) Complaints were against attorneys licensed in Utah or other jurisdictions and were transferred to OPC. the Committee is actively investigating twelve (12) matters.

One complaint was handled by the Attorney General's office with formal legal action in the District Court.

Young Lawyers Division



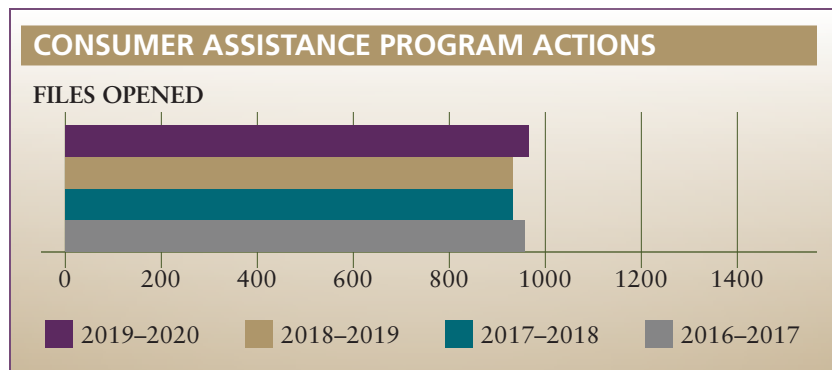
The Young Lawyers produce video mentoring on their web site, promote Law Day activities, and provide numerous service projects, including Wills for Heroes. Their web site is <http://younglawyers.utahbar.org/>.

JOINT "GROUP" & PUBLIC SERVICES

Consumer Assistance Program

Through the informal process of the Consumer Assistance Program (CAP), the Utah State Bar offers support to both consumers and attorneys who request assistance in their communication with each other. CAP eases the load for the Office of Professional Conduct (OPC) by dealing with minor complaints submitted by consumers whose concerns usually include wanting timely return calls from their attorneys, routine updates about their cases, regular billing statements, and copies of their client files. The CAP attorney strives to facilitate communication between consumers and their lawyers so that minor issues can be resolved before they escalate into potential disciplinary matters.

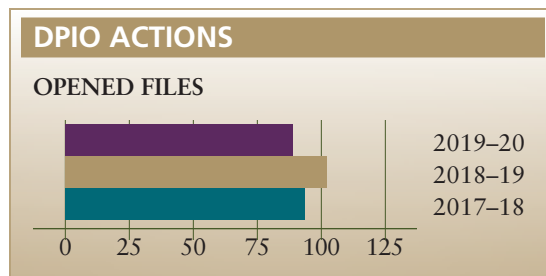
Most often the CAP attorney also offers guidance to consumers to help them understand what they may and may not reasonably expect from their counsel and the legal process. Additionally, many consumers need information about other Utah State Bar services such as Fee Dispute Resolution, Licensed Lawyers, Modest Means, Access to Justice, Tuesday Night Bar, Fund for Client Protection, Judicial Conduct Commission and Unauthorized Practice of Law.



During the 2019–2020 fiscal year, the CAP attorney opened 972 files and handled 1,279 phone conferences and in-person meetings. Attorneys were contacted in 205 matters (21%). In 307 matters (32%) the CAP attorney discussed with the consumers all of their concerns but was not able to provide assistance to them. Explaining the reasons for this was extremely helpful to the consumers.

Disciplinary Process Information Office

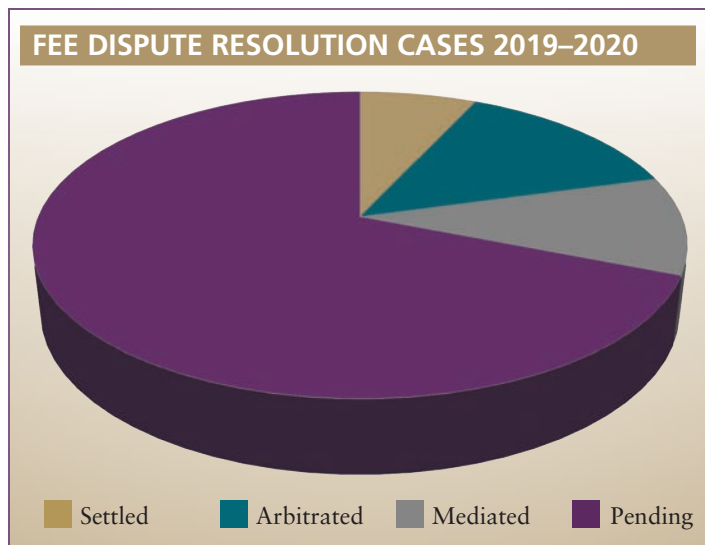
The Disciplinary Process Information Office (DPIO) is designed to assist those attorneys who find themselves the subject of Bar complaints. The DPIO attorney explains and answers questions about the complaint process. She refers attorneys to the appropriate procedural rules at various stages of the process and provides additional information that pertains to individual matters.



During the 2019–2020 fiscal year, the DPIO attorney opened 90 files and handled 96 phone conferences.

Fee Dispute Resolution Program

In the last fiscal year, the *Fee Dispute Resolution Committee* (Sheleigh Harding, Chair) prepared and conducted hearings with a volunteer lawyer or panels of volunteer lawyers, judges and lay people to resolve disputes about legal fees in a process through which parties voluntarily agree to be bound. The committee presently has 14 lawyers, 8 lay-people and 1 bar-staff liaison. Last year, the committee opened 29 cases, settled 2, arbitrated 4, and 3 cases were mediated. A link to more information may be found at <http://www.utahbar.org/public-services/fee-dispute-resolution-program>.



Law & Justice Center Operations



The Utah State Bar owns and operates the 33,000 square foot building known as the Utah Law & Justice Center. The Center provides low cost meeting room space and, in pro bono cases, no cost meeting room space. Services by the Center staff include organization of events, audio-visual rental, catering, low cost leases, tenant support, interior and exterior grounds maintenance and security. During the 2019–2020 fiscal year, the building rented space for over 384 meetings. The number of meetings is significantly down from previous years due to closing the building in March 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Groups using the meeting space included the Bar Commission, Bar Committees, Bar Section Continuing Legal Education luncheons and seminars, mediations, arbitrations, charitable and non-profit entities, educational organizations, public interest groups, and association trainings.

Public Education, Services and Special Projects

The Bar Commission regularly provides public education projects including participation with the American Bar Association, makes appointments to Utah State Boards and Committees, helps to fund the Law Related Education Project, and sponsors the Law Day Celebration with the *Law Day Committee* (Young Lawyers Division), among other projects.

Governmental Relations

The Bar hires a legislative representative and supports the activities of the *Governmental Relations Committee* (Jaqualin Friend Peterson and Sarah E. Bouley, Co-chairs) which makes recommendations for action on bills and provides assistance to legislators with specific questions on legislation.

2019-2020 Section Leadership

Mark Glick, Chair
Antitrust Section

Zaven Sargsian, Chair
Cyberlaw Section

Joseph Brubaker, Chair
International Law Section

Joshua Davidson, Chair
Appellate Practice Section

David Hunter, Chair
Dispute Resolution Section

Dixie Jackson, Chair
Juvenile Law Section

Nicholas Frandsen, Chair
Banking & Finance Section

Joel Wright, Chair
Education Law Section

Jeff Holdsworth, Chair
Labor & Employment Section

Mark Rose, Chair
Bankruptcy Section

David Parkinson, Chair
Elder Law Section

Ben Lear, Chair
Legal Entrepreneur Law Section

Rustin Diehl, Chair
Business Law Section

Derek Julio, Chair
Entertainment Law

Matthew Bell, Chair
Limited Scope Section

Hannah Follender, Chair
Cannabis Law Section

Steve Bloch, Chair
Environmental Law Section

Jen Tomchak, Chair
Litigation Section

Brock Best, Chair
Collection Law Section

Robert "Rust" Tippet, Chair
Estate Planning Law Section

J. Ed Christiansen, Chair
Military Law Section

Sharon M. Bertelsen, Chair
Communications Law Section

Bryant McConkie, Chair
Family Law Section

Blake Voorhees, Chair
Non-Profit Law Section

John Richards, Chair
Community Association Law Section

Brennan Moss, Chair
Franchise Law Section

Dan Dansie, Chair
Real Property Law Section

Leah Farrell, Chair
Constitutional Law Section

Lannie Chapman, Chair
Government & Administrative Section

Maria Windham, Chair
Securities Law Section

Garrett Walker, Chair
Construction Law Section

Jeff Enquest, Chair
Health Law Section

Clayton Simms, Chair
Small Firm Section

Jeff Holman, Chair
Corporate Counsel Section

Heather Carter-Jenkins, Chair
Indian Law Section

Peter Smyth, Chair
Tax Law Section

Tegan Troutner, Chair
Criminal Law Section

Michael Erickson, Chair
Intellectual Property Section

2019-2020 Division Leadership

Victoria "Tori" Finlinson, President
Young Lawyer Division

Sarah Stronk Baldwin, President
Paralegal Division

2019-2020 Awards

Judge of the Year
Hon. John L. Baxter



Lawyer of the Year
Paul C. Burke



Committee of the Year
Utah Bar Journal Committee

Section of the Year
Litigation Section

Community Member
Det. Gregory L. Smith



Professionalism Award
Hon. Evelyn J. Smith



Dorathy Merrill Brothers Award
for the Advancement of Women
in the Legal Profession
Jenifer L. Tomchak



Raymond S. Uno Award
for the Advancement of Minorities
in the Legal Profession
Melinda K. Bowen



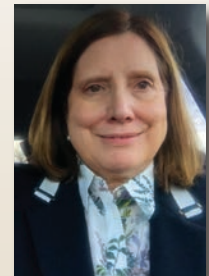
Pro Bono Lawyer of the Year
Brian M. Rothschild & George R. Sutton



Outstanding Mentor Award
Brady Brammer and Kyle V. Leishman



Charlotte L. Miller
Mentoring Award
Kathleen McConkie



James B. Lee
Mentoring Award
Walter A. Romney, Jr.



Paul T. Moxley
Mentoring Award
Susan Peterson



