The Judicial Division (JD) Committees contribute and assist the initiatives and work of the Judicial Division. To be a member of a JD Committee, you must be a Judicial Division member. Each Judicial Division Conference has additional Committees that address the concerns of their respective members. Conference Committees function much like Division Committees and allow members to learn, network and engage in problem-solving regarding issues facing the courts and the judicial system.

The JD Committees DO NOT have a budget and reimbursement is not provided, unless specified below. Any member in need of reimbursement and any costs related to the work of the Committee must be approved by the JD Chair and the Judicial Division Director.

All JD Committees may be asked to do the following:

- Hold conference calls or email communications about the Committee’s projects
- Work on assignments and requests by the JD Chair and Judicial Division Director
- Update the JD Council via Midyear and Annual Meeting reports in compliance with the “JD Report Form” as approved by JD Council
- Possible in person meeting at Midyear or Annual Meeting
- Organize, budget and implement a CLE program via webinar, stand alone or Midyear/Annual Meeting onsite program
- When asked by the JD Chair write an article on Committee’s work and accomplishment for the JD Record
- Contribute content for the JD Website and Committee page

Committee Chairs are appointed annually by the JD Chair unless specified under the description below of the Committee. There are different types of appointments to the JD Committees. There are automatic appointments by position held within the Conference, appointments by the Chairs of the Conferences, and open enrollment which allows any active JD member to become a Committee member.
Standing Committees

**COMMUNICATIONS**

*Jo Ann Saringer, Staff*

The Communications Committee is responsible for all JD print, and electronic media, establishes standards for publications, publicizes JD programs and initiatives, oversees JD communications content, and maximizes the use of ABA resources for media and public relations.

**Appointments:** Automatic per the JD Bylaws, Chair is appointed by JD Chair, the chairs of each conference shall appoint an individual from each conference to the Communications Committee, preferably the Conference’s Communication committees’ chairs. In addition, each of the Co-Chairs of *The Judges Journal* Editorial Board and the *JD Record* Editorial Board will be members.

**Time:** 5-10 hours

**Expectations:** The Committee will meet regularly by teleconference and report to the JD Council at the Midyear and Annual Meetings. The Committee will be responsible for assisting with content development on the Judicial Division Web site.

**FINANCE AND NON-DUES REVENUE**

*Tori Jo Wible, Staff*

Budgeting and financial planning for the Judicial Division.

**Appointments:** Automatic per the JD Bylaws, chaired by JD Chair-Elect, comprised of Chair-Elect from each Conference.

**Time:** 5-10 hours

**Expectations:** The Committee meets with conference calls and at the Midyear and Annual Meetings to oversee finance and non-dues revenue issues, budget review and requests. (The responsibilities of this Committee may change with Reserve Policy and By-law revisions).

**JD RECORD EDITORIAL BOARD**

*Jo Ann Saringer, Staff*

The Committee edits, prepares and supervises production of the Judicial Division newsletter, *The Judicial Division Record*. The Committee will be responsible for the creation of the publication schedule, the solicitation of articles, the compilation of articles from each of the Conference, editing, proof reading, and distribution.

**Appointments:** JD Chair will appoint a co-chair of this Committee to a two-year staggered term. JD Conference Chairs will appoint one representative.

**Time:** 20-25 hours

**Expectations:** Quarterly solicitation, editing and proof reading of articles, teleconference meetings as needed, meetings at Midyear and Annual.
The Judges’ Journal Editorial Board

Melissa Ladwig, Staff

The Judges’ Journal Editorial Board develops stories for and publishes The Judges’ Journal. The Board ensures that information for the Journal is practical and innovative, providing a dialogue between the bench, bar and greater legal community. The Board evaluates and selects topics and themes on important judicial subjects significant to the work of the Division, its Conferences and Committees.

Appointments: JD Chair will appoint a co-chair of this Committee to a two (2) year staggered term. JD Conference Chairs will appoint one representative. JD Chair, Chair-Elect, Vice-Chair, and regular columnists are ex-officio members of the board.

Time: 40-50 hours

Expectations: The Board will meet via conference call multiple times throughout the Association year, and will be involved in the editing and the solicitation of authors for articles.

Membership

Jo Ann Saringer, Staff

The Membership Committee develops and implements strategies to recruit new members and retain existing members. The Committee develops and maintains relationships with ABA and external entities to embark on membership initiatives and marketing campaigns. The Committee reviews and updates membership materials to ensure that they are current and informative, and adequately reflect the many benefits of Division membership.

Appointments: Chair is appointed by JD Chair, comprised of Membership Chairs of each Conference.

Time: 15-20 hours

Expectations: Committee members will have regular conference calls to review monthly membership totals within the Judicial Division, and will report to JD Council.

Nominating

Tori Jo Wible, Staff

The Committee nominates individuals for Division Vice-Chair, the representative to the ABA Nominating Committee, the judicial member-at-large on the Board of Governors and any other nominations necessary to fill vacancies or unexpired terms of Division Officers. The Committee also recommends to the ABA Board of Governors members for the National Judicial College Board of Trustees.

Appointments: Automatic per the JD Bylaws, Chaired by Immediate Past Chair of JD, comprised of Immediate Past Chairs of each of the 6 Conferences.

Time: 10-15 hours

Expectations: The Committee will review nominations and when needed solicit members for nominations. The Committee will also abide by the JD Diversity Guidelines.

Resolutions Committee

Felice Schur, Staff

The Committee monitors all resolutions being brought to the House of Delegates to inform the Judicial Division Council of any resolutions that will impact the courts or the judiciary,
coordinates the advocacy of resolutions sponsored by the Division, and proposes modifications of resolutions as the Council directs.

**Appointments:** The Resolutions Committee is chaired by the Judicial Division Delegate to the House of Delegates. The Committee consists of the Delegates to the House of each Conference.

**Time:** 10-15 hours

**Expectations:** The Committee meets to discuss proposed resolutions and prepares a report to the Council of the Division prior to the meetings of the Council of the Division that precede the Annual and Midyear Meetings.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY IN THE JUDICIARY (SCDJ) JULIE PEACOCK, STAFF**

The SCDJ implements ABA and Judicial Division diversity initiatives to promote the full and equal participation of minorities in the judiciary and the Judicial Division. The Committee, in partnership with other entities, performs outreach to minorities nationwide and presents programs to educate others on the role of minorities in the judiciary. The Committee also provides guidance to the Division and its Conferences to increase the diversity of Division leadership, membership and presenters.

**Appointments:** JD Chair appoints the SCDJ Chair. Conference Chairs each appoint one member. Five at-large members can be appointed by the Division Chair/SCDJ Chair. Members and members-at-large can serve three, one-year terms and are reimbursed, to the extent of available funds pending approval of the JD Chair and JD Director. JD members interested in SCDJ activities may join as ad-hoc members. Ad-hoc members are non-voting and not reimbursed.

**Time:** 15-20 hours

**Expectations:** The Committee conducts hour long conference calls on an as needed basis. To receive reimbursement members are required to attend a full day of SCDJ events usually held the Wednesday or Thursday of Annual and Midyear Meetings including: two hour meetings, two hour outreach programs with a local school, two hour educational program, and one hour receptions. Additional reimbursement for members and members-at-large is allowed for the extra day.

**STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE TORI JO WIBLE, STAFF**

The Committee serves as the primary planning vehicle for the Judicial Division, responsible for both short-term and long-term goals, as well as programmatic and strategic planning.

**Appointments:** Automatic per the JD Bylaws, chaired by the JD Chair-Elect, with the JD vice-Chair serving as the Committee Vice-Chair. The Chairs-Elect and Vice-Chairs of each of the six JD Conferences comprise the Committee’s membership.

**Time:** 5-10 hours

**Expectations:** The Committee meets with conference calls as needed and in-person three (3) times per year (Annual, Midyear, Spring Planning Meeting) to update and implement the Divisions strategic plans.
**Ad Hoc Committees**

**Amicus Committee**

In an effort to review, evaluate, and make recommendations for the ABA to file an amicus brief in specific appellate cases, the Amicus Committee was created as a joint effort of the Lawyers Conference (LC) and Appellate Judges Conference Counsel of Appellate Lawyers (CAL) in order to promote JD policy. Any amicus brief filed by the ABA has historically contained an express statement that no member of the JD Council participated in the adoption or endorsement of the positions in the brief. Consistent with this approach, the Amicus Committee’s composition excludes JD Council or judge members. The JD does not review or approve any action taken by the Amicus Committee.

**Appointments:** The Council of Appellate Lawyer and the Lawyers Conference chairs each appoint a co-chair and 5 committee members, for a total of 12 members.

**Time:** 5-10 hours

**Expectations:** The Amicus Committee’s role is to evaluate pending appellate cases which may impact the judiciary and, when appropriate, present any recommendations to both LC and CAL Executive Committee for approval, and urge the ABA to file an amicus brief in such case, through the ABA Standing Committee on Amicus Curiae Briefs and to assist in the drafting of the brief.

**Courts and Community Relations**

The Courts and Community Relations Committee focuses on cooperation of judges, lawyers, court personnel, local news reporters, police officers and local communities. The Committee emphasizes fairness, elimination of implicit bias, citizen involvement in jury duty and public education about the role of courts and law enforcement in democracy. Public safety, juror rights and responsibilities and freedom of the press are all part of this committee’s educational events and publications.

**Appointments:** The JD Chair appoints the Chair. All other appointments will be via online enrollment.

**Time:** 10-15 hours

**Expectations:** The Committee collaborates with courts, media contacts and community leaders across America to create webinars, articles and public events aimed at educating the judiciary and the public about issues in criminal justice and fair representation in the legal system and the media.
COURT TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
JO ANN SARINGER, STAFF

The Court Technology Committee assists in improving the technological understanding and skills of judges, and the capability of courts to integrate technological advances into courtrooms. It identifies technological weaknesses and strengths so that it can develop cost efficient strategies for technological improvements. The Committee's work is especially challenging because of the wide disparity in technological resources available to judges, as well as the diverse understanding of hardware and software technology by judges.

Appointments: JD Chair appoints Chair of this Committee. If a Conference has a Technology Committee, the Chair of that committee will serve as a member. Other members can be appointed by Conference Chairs, and also join via online enrollment.

Time: 5-10 hours

Expectations: The committee will meet as needed by teleconference, members will work independently on such projects as the committee determines, and reports will be made to the JD Council at the Midyear and Annual Meetings.

ETHICS AND PROFESSIONALISM
FELICE SCHUR, STAFF

The Ethics and Professionalism Committee examines and reviews issues of judicial ethics and responsibility. The Committee identifies and establishes relationships with other American Bar Association entities that undertake issues and projects concerning judicial ethics. The Committee may propose programs and CJE activities on judicial ethics and professionalism. The Committee reports to and advises the Division regarding ethics issues and their potential impact on the judiciary.

Appointments: JD Chair appoints Chair of this Committee. If a Conference has an Ethics Committee, the Chair of that committee will serve as a member. Other members can be appointed by Conference Chairs, and also join via online enrollment.

Time: 5-10 hours

Expectations: The Committee maintains the Judicial Division website updates on ongoing activities affecting judicial ethics, and also conducts teleconferences when needed to discuss programs.

FIGHTING IMPLICIT BIAS
FELICE SCHUR, STAFF

The Fighting Implicit Bias Committee is focused on promulgating the initiatives of the Enterprise Fund Grant awarded to publish a book on fighting implicit bias in the justice system. Continuing the efforts of the Task Force on Perceptions of Justice, the Joint Committee works on promoting fairness and improving the administration of justice by bringing judges, courts, lawyers, and academia, and community groups together on a national scale to advance citizen understanding and support for the justice system on the one hand and better administration of justice for all on the other.

Appointments: The JD Chair appoints the Chair. Other members can be appointed by Conference Chairs and can also join via online enrollment.

Time: 20-25 hours
**Expectations:** Implicit bias training through use of the book *Enhancing Justice: Reducing Bias* and awareness and educational focus targeting judges, lawyers, and the general public.

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**FORENSIC SCIENCE**

**Tori Jo Wible, Staff**

Works to review the status of forensic science in the criminal justice system and to implement the findings of the 2009 National Academy of the Sciences Report on Strengthening Forensic Science, share new practices with members of the forensic science and criminal justice communities through hearings, symposium, and outreach work, and to make policy recommendations on improving the administration of justice through the strengthening of forensic science in the criminal justice system.

**Appointments:** The JD Chair appoints the Chair. All other appointments will be via online enrollment.

**Time:** 15-20 hours

**Expectations:** Participate on conference calls and planning calls for hearings and symposium, communicate with members of the forensic science community to determine the status of and how to improve forensic science in the criminal courtroom, and collaborate with related ABA divisions and sections to draft and present policy recommendations in forensic science in the criminal justice system.

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**JOHN MARSHALL AWARD**

**Kris Berliant, Staff**

The John Marshall Award Committee selects a person to receive the John Marshall Award. The award is given to a person who has shown outstanding merit and made a national impact in either the area of judicial independence, judicial system reform or public awareness about the justice system. The recipient must have demonstrated efforts that resulted in extraordinary impact on the administration of justice. The Committee must solicit applicants and come to a consensus on the recipient.

**Appointments:** The Chair is appointed by the JD Chair. There are five members of the committee, the chair, two additional members appointed by the JD Chair and two members appointed by the Chair of the Standing Committee on the American Judicial System.

**Time:** 10-15 hours

**Expectations:** Committee members will have regular calls to set up the solicitation of nominations and to select the recipient prior to May each year.
**Joint Committee on Mediation and ADR**  
**Jill Charles, Staff**  
The Joint Committee on Mediation and Alternative Dispute Resolution is comprised of members of the Judicial Division and the Section of Dispute Resolution. The Committee develops ADR programs, including the Mediation for Judges Program, and gathers and evaluates information concerning the use of ADR. The Committee works with other entities within and outside the ABA in highlighting ADR issues promoting ADR education.  
**Appointments:** The JD and Section of Dispute Resolution rotate the Chair of this Committee per association year. All other appointments will be via online enrollment.  
**Time:** 15-20 hours  
**Expectations:** The Committee will have approximately six teleconference calls per year. The Chair of this Committee, along with program speakers are required to be onsite in the involvement of training.

**Judicial Clerkship Program**  
**Jill Charles, Staff**  
The Judicial Clerkship Program Committee, in conjunction with the ABA Council for Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Educational Pipeline and with support from LexisNexis®, organizes the Judicial Clerkship Program. The two and one-half day program brings judges and minority law students together through structured legal research and networking activities at the ABA Midyear Meeting or other Judicial Division program. The students, under the direction of the judges, research an issue and draft a legal opinion or memorandum. The Committee provides timely information on the Judicial Division website to enhance the participation of judges and students, and to inform Division members of opportunities to assist in promoting the goals of this program.  
**Appointments:** The JD Chair appoints the Chair and/or Co-Chairs of this Committee in consultation with the past JCP Chairs. The Chair and Co-Chair’s terms are at the discretion of the JD Chair but usually do not exceed three years. The Co-Chair usually succeeds the Chair. The Chair and Co-Chair do not receive reimbursement. The Chair and Co-Chair work closely with the JD Diversity Manager and staff and members of the ABA Council for Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Educational Pipeline. Conference Chairs appoint members to JCP Committee. Participation on the JCP Committee is by appointment only, and is not available for open enrollment online.  
**Time:** 25-30 hours  
**Expectations:** Conference calls, approximately one hour, are held on an as needed basis; email communication is regular from October through January and responses are required; recruitment of ABA and non-ABA judges for the program and participation in JCP held at each Midyear Meeting is required.
**JUDICIAL OUTREACH NETWORK**  
**Felice Schur, Staff**

The Judicial Outreach Network Committee acts as a resource to provide Judges for the programs of other ABA entities, and for initiatives hosted by organizations outside of the ABA. The Committee also encourages national outreach activities for judges by providing materials to be used as tools and resources.

**Appointments:** JD Chair appoints Chair of this Committee. Other members are appointed by the Chairs of each Conference and any JD members may join via online enrollment.

**Time:** 5-10 hours

**Expectations:** Participate on conference calls and attend meetings during Midyear and Annual, when request for a judge to participate on a panel is made, committee members must act to help locate a judge within their Conference who is willing to participate.

**PLANTING THE SEED FOR A JUDICIAL CAREER PATH**  
**Kris Berliant, Staff**

This Committee, working closely with the Young Lawyers Division, is charged with the planning, development and implementation of a program to connect young lawyers interested in becoming a judge with seasoned judges who can provide guidance and perspective on the path to the bench.

**Appointments:** The JD Chair appoints the Chair. Other members can join via online enrollment.

**Time:** 10-15 hours

**Expectations:** Participate on conference calls and attend program during Annual. Network and coordinate with the Young Lawyers Division members to increase attendance at programming.

**PRO BONO WEEK**  
**Tori Jo Wible, Staff**

This Committee is charged with planning activities for judges to partake in surrounding Pro Bono Week, which takes place each October.

**Appointments:** The JD Chair appoints the Chair. Other members can join via online enrollment.

**Time:** 10-15 hours

**Expectations:** Participate on conference calls and encourage involvement in National Pro Bono Week activities. Track activities and report back to Judicial Division.

**PROGRAM COMMITTEE**  
**Kris Berliant, Staff**

The Program Committee sets the content and scope of the Division’s Midyear and Annual Meeting programming, webinars and co-sponsorship requests.

**Appointments:** JD Chair appoints one JD program Chair. Program/Education Chairs from each Conference comprise the membership of the committee.

**Time:** 15-20 hours

**Expectations:** The Committee oversees the following:

- Encourages, reviews, and selects quality programs for the Midyear and Annual Meetings as well as webinars
- Assures the use of diverse faculty and panel
Cooperates with Division and ABA staff to utilize ABA resources to bring the selected programs to successful fruition

Ensures that Division programs do not conflict or overlap with other JD/Conference programs and activities

Encourages, reviews and selects quality programs for webinar production

Encourages, reviews and selects quality programs to be sponsored or co-sponsored with outside entities.

**RULE OF LAW AND INTERNATIONAL COURTS**

**JILL CHARLES, STAFF**

Works to promote the rule of law domestically and around the world, connects Judges with opportunities to experience judicial systems in other countries, locates judges willing to review and comment on legislation, constitutional provisions and legal documents from emerging nations attempting to formulate plans to achieve democracy, as well as those willing to travel abroad to assist with the organization of foreign legal systems, helps to provide hospitality to visiting international judges.

**Appointments:** The JD Chair appoints the Chair. All other appointments will be via online enrollment.

**Time:** 10-15 hours

**Expectations:** Collaborate with ABA Rule of Law Initiative, ABA Section of International Law, United Nations Development Programme, National Judicial College, and other entities to achieve mission. Responsible for growing the JD International Associate Member program.

**TRIBAL COURTS COUNCIL**

**JULIE PEACOCK, STAFF**

The Tribal Courts Council is devoted to the recommendation and enhancement of American Indian Tribal Courts and the Judges thereof. The Council examines modern day legal issues affecting Tribal Nations and explores additional contributions in the area of peacemaker mediation in both civil and criminal settings while addressing the issue of American Indians and Tribal Nations as a neglected minority. The Council offers educational programs and publishes issues and matters of interest to Tribal, State and Federal judges and lawyers. The Council works in collaboration with Tribal, State and Federal judges and lawyers to improve the administration of justice in their related courts of the United States.

**Appointments:** The Chair is appointed by the JD Chair. The Chair may serve an unlimited number of one year terms and is not reimbursed. Conferences do not appoint members to the Tribal Courts Council. JD members interested in TCC activities may join as members-at-large. Members-at-large are not reimbursed.

**Time:** 10-15 hours

**Expectations:** Conference calls are held on an as needed basis and usually last an hour; two hour business meetings are held at each Midyear and Annual Meeting and two hour educational programs occur every one-two years.
## JD Committees-at-a-Glance

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<td>Conference Chairs appoint a rep, co-chairs of <em>JD Record</em> and <em>The Judges’ Journal</em> are also members.</td>
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<td>Members appointed by Nominating Committee, non-voting members can join via online open enrollment</td>
<td>Julie Peacock</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Committee Staff Contacts
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