



## Access to Justice Board Impediments to Access to Justice Committee

### Current Members

Co-Chair, David Lord-Disability Rights Washington  
Co-Chair, vacant  
Howard L. Graham-Attorney at Law  
Hon. Anne L. Ellington-Judge, Court of Appeals Division 1  
Ada Shen-Jaffe-Seattle University School of Law  
Lonnie G. Davis-Washington Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities  
Ann Glynn-Attorney  
Jan Grant-Office of Administrative Hearings  
Desiree S. Hosannah-Office of Administrative Hearings  
Lisa E. Brodoff-Seattle University Peterson Law Clinic  
Deborah Perluss-Northwest Justice Project  
Donald J. Horowitz-Retired Judge  
Shawn M. Murinko-Washington State Department of Transportation  
Joan E. Fairbanks-Justice programs Manager (ATJ/WSBA)  
Guadalupe Cavazos-ATJ/WSBA, Committee Staff Liaison

### MISSION

IDENTIFY AND REMOVE IMPEDIMENTS TO THE JUSTICE SYSTEM, INCLUDING PHYSICAL AND LANGUAGE BARRIERS, INEFFECTUAL AND UNWORKABLE RULES AND PROCEDURES, DISPARATE TREATMENT AND OTHER OBSTACLES THAT MAY SERVE AS BARRIERS TO EQUAL JUSTICE.



### Brief History

*Access to Justice (ATJ) Board:* The ATJ Board was established in 1994 by the Washington State Supreme Court on the recommendation of the Washington State Bar Association Board of Governors. Recognizing that access to the civil justice system is a fundamental right, the ATJ Board works to achieve equal access for persons facing economic and other significant barriers to full and meaningful access to the justice system. The ATJ Board currently oversees twelve standing committees as well as specially-focused committees and task forces, all of which work to achieve the mission established in the Supreme Court's enabling Order, the latest version of which can be found at: <http://www.wsba.org/atj/board/2000order.htm> The ATJ Board is administered by the Washington State Bar Association. For more information see <http://www.wsba.org/atj>.

*Impediments to Access to Justice Committee:* In 1996, the ATJ Board established the Systems Impediments to Access to Justice Committee. To avoid duplication of efforts, in 2000 the ATJ Board consolidated its Status Impediments Committee and Systems Impediments Committee into one standing committee, The Impediments to Access to Justice Committee. The Impediments Committee was and is charged with identifying and developing strategies to overcome legislative, administrative, and judicial rules, practices and procedures and conditions as well as architectural, structural and design situations and conditions that create or act as barriers or that exacerbate existing barriers to civil access to justice for low and moderate income and other vulnerable persons in Washington State. Additionally, the Committee was and is charged with developing new strategies to expand opportunities for low and moderate income and other vulnerable persons in Washington to obtain full and meaningful access to the civil justice system. Throughout its existence, this active and important Committee has had an ongoing evolution as a variety of both existing and developing issues have been and continue to be recognized and addressed. In recent years the Impediments Committee has substantially focused its efforts on addressing barriers to the justice system for people with disabilities.