

OREGON MINORITY LAWYERS ASSOCIATION (OMLA)

Mission

OMLA is a 501(c)(3) organization committed to making the legal community of Oregon a welcoming environment where people of all colors, races, and ethnic backgrounds can excel academically, professionally, and personally.

Initial History

OMLA was incorporated in Oregon on June 13, 1991. In November 1992 the Internal Revenue Service recognized OMLA as an exempt organization - 501(c)(3)'

Year	Chair/Co-Chair	Secretary	Treasurer	Board of Director
Initial Officers	Lynn R. Nakamoto, Co-Chair Jeffrey N. Millner, Co-Chair	Marva Fabian	Susana Alva	Susana Alva Marva Fabian Jeffrey N. Millner Lynn R. Nakamoto H. Adunni Warren
1992 – 1999 Records for this information is incomplete				
1992 - 1999	Kurt Tanden, Co-Chair			Kurt Tanden
2000	Aruna Masih, Co-Chair Kesa Yorozu, Co-Chair	Anastasia Yu Meisner	Ernest Estes	Aruna Masih Ernest Estes Anastasia Yu Meisner Kesa Yorozu
2001	Bill Chin, Co-Chair Aruna Masih, Co-Chair	Anastasia Yu Meisner	Ernest Estes	Bill Chin Ernest Estes Anastasia Yu Meisner Aruna Masih
2002	Bill Chin, Co-Chair/ *Liani Reeves, Co-Chair Aruna Masih, Co-Chair *Finished Chin's Term	Anastasia Yu Meisner	David Giles	Bill Chin, David Giles Aruna Masih, Anastasia Yu Meisner *Liani Reeves, *Finished Chin's Term

Year	Chair/Co-Chair	Secretary	Treasurer	Board of Director
2003	Liani Reeves, Co-Chair Pamela Loh Veljacic, Co-Chair	Anastasia Yu Meisner	David Giles	David Giles Anastasia Yu Meisner Liani Reeves Pamela Loh Veljacic

Organization's Purpose

To promote fair and just treatment of all people under law regardless of race or color through all appropriate means, including advocacy.

To further the professional development and advancement of lawyers and law students who are people of color.

To offer social opportunities for lawyers, law graduates, and law students who are people of color.

To educate its members, the public, and the legal profession about legal issues affecting people of color.

Activities

- OMLA Scholarship Endowment
- OMLA Oregon Bar Exam Prep Course Scholarship
- OMLA Annual Scholarship Fundraiser
- Social Events
- Online Membership Directory
- Amicus Curiae brief with Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in a case involving the use of court interpreters.
- Administrative OSB Litigation Section CLE Grant
- Participant in many statewide committees, task forces, etc., such as the Oregon Supreme Court Task Force on Racial/Ethnic Issues in the Judicial System and the OSB Diversity Section
- Sponsor of Oregon Hate Crimes Conference (2000)
- Sponsor of the OSB Affirmative Action Program event Opportunities for Law in Oregon
- Sponsor of the Convocation on Equality (2001)
- Event Speakers
 - US Senator Ron Wyden
 - US Congressman David Wu
 - Henry "Chip" Lazenby Jr. - Legal Counsel to Governor John Kitzhaber

Norma Paulus – Superintendent of Public Instruction
Jim Francesconi – Member of Portland City Council

- Minority Attorneys in Oregon Directory
- Various continuing legal education programs
- Email Distribution List (includes job, event, and other information)
- Sponsor of a CLE on Attorney Recruitment and Retention (2001)

Membership

Attorney (includes other professionals) Dues: \$30.00

Law Student Dues: \$15

Membership is OMLA is open to all attorneys (including other professionals) and law students who support the mission of the organization.

Contact Information

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P / A / M / History / Oregon State Bar / Oregon Minority Lawyers Association