



REFERRAL

Spring 2007

LRS Fee Changes for 2007-2008



LRS fees for lawyers have remained unchanged since 1985. Back then Ronald Reagan was president, the Berlin Wall still stood, gas was \$1.20 a gallon, and cell phones the size of cinder blocks were reserved for the very rich.

Times have changed, and starting with the 2007-08 program year, so will the fees for registering for OSB's Lawyer Referral Service. For most lawyers, the annual fee will increase by \$20 to \$25. Rates for new lawyers will actually decrease slightly.

In reviewing LRS fees, the OSB's Public Service Advisory Committee discussed several alternatives, taking into consideration the interests of both lawyers and the public. The committee's final recommendations were reviewed and approved by the Board of Governors.

The new basic fee schedule – effective July 1, 2007 – will be as follows:

1. First-year members of OSB: \$50 per year. This is a reduction from the current rate of \$55 per year.
2. Lawyers admitted for more than one year, but less than three years: \$75 per year. This represents a \$20 annual increase.
3. Lawyers admitted for three years or more: \$100 per year. This is an increase of \$25 per year.
4. The price to be listed on additional referral panels (beyond the basic four that are included in the rates above) will increase from \$25 to \$30.

The client consultation fee will remain \$35. The Board of Governors explored increasing this fee as well. A review of fees for other lawyer referral programs nationwide, however, revealed that OSB was already among the most expensive for clients, while also being one of the most affordable for participating lawyers. The decision to leave the consultation fee at \$35 also promotes the goal of providing the public access to basic legal help at an affordable rate.

The Vanishing Lawyer

If you're going to be away from your office for an extended period (a week or more), please let LRS staff know. That way we can make sure that we don't frustrate your office staff or potential clients by referring people to you while you're gone. Notifying us about your absence will also help preserve your place in the referral rotation while you're away.

Just send an e-mail to:

jbenson@osbar.org or call (503) 620-0222, ext. 408, or (800) 452-8260, ext. 408. Let us know the date you're leaving and the date you want referrals to resume.





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REFERRAL SERVICES

ADMINISTRATOR

Jon Benson, Esq.

LRS CLERKS

Claudia Cerda

Lauren Hicks

Jacki Smith

Chaka Washington

EDITORIAL STAFF

Jon Benson

Kay Pulju

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

www.osbar.org

(503) 620-0222, ext. 408

(800) 452-8260, ext. 408

LEGAL INFORMATION

PAMPHLETS

Free legal information pamphlets, produced and distributed by the Oregon State Bar, cover a variety of general legal topics.

To order pamphlets, call the

Oregon State Bar:

Portland: (503) 620-0222, ext. 350

Elsewhere in Oregon:

(800) 452-8260, ext. 350

Program Spotlight

Lawyer to Lawyer – It's not easy being green

To volunteer as a resource lawyer:

Sharing your knowledge and expertise with a new lawyer can be personally and professionally rewarding. It can also score you a free lunch. Through the "Take Me to Lunch" program (a sub-set of the overall Lawyer to Lawyer program), experienced "resource lawyers" agree to provide advice and guidance, and in exchange the lawyer getting the advice buys lunch. If you can remember what it's like being a new lawyer or being new to a practice area, then you know how valuable it is to speak with an experienced colleague. Please consider sharing your experience through this important program. Registration forms are available on the OSB website under the "Forms Library" or at this link:

www.osbar.org/_docs/forms/ltol.pdf

To get advice from a colleague:

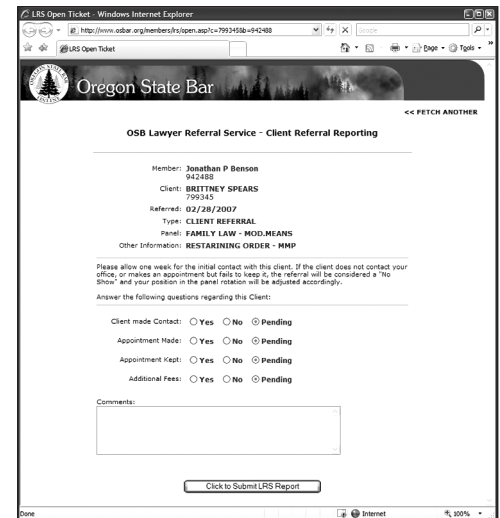
There was a time when new lawyers learned most of the practical aspects of law at the elbow of more experienced lawyers in a firm. This arrangement still exists for some new lawyers, though it is less common than a generation or two ago. One way for new lawyers to bridge the gap from law school to practice is by contacting the Lawyer to Lawyer program. This program offers an easy and informal way for new lawyers to get advice from an experienced "resource lawyer," either by phone or over lunch. All you need to do is call (503) 620-0222, ext. 408, or (800) 452-8260, ext. 408.

Make Your Life Simpler With Electronic Notices

Receiving and managing your referrals electronically is a snap. It not only saves time, but also saves you money on postage and paper. Once you try it you'll never go back to mail or fax notices.

Last year, use of electronic notices by LRS lawyers increased by 31%. Don't want to use your regular e-mail box for LRS? Many lawyers use free mailboxes through gmail or hotmail or have them sent to a receptionist or secretary.

When it's time to report on client contact you won't need to fill out any forms. Just click on the link in your e-mail and it will take you to the screen to the right:



PRACTICE TIPS YOU CAN USE

Practice tips you can use

Check out these resources:

1. Practice management tips:

www.abanet.org/lpm/magazine/home.shtml

Check out this free on-line magazine from the ABA. Useful articles on everything from billing and marketing/rainmaking, to technology reviews and recruiting and retaining excellent support staff.

2. Employment and labor law:

Law Memo (www.lawmemo.com) has a wealth of information on employment and labor law, including reporting and analysis of U.S. Supreme Court cases and EEOC actions. The U.S. Department of Labor's website (www.dol.gov) is a good resource for FLSA, FMLA, OSHA and related topics. The Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) site (www.oregon.gov/BOLI) contains links to statutes, OARs and technical assistance for employers.

3. Casemaker update:

This free online legal research tool is available to all active OSB members. Casemaker was recently expanded and enhanced: it now contains legal libraries for 49 states plus a federal library. To log on, go to the main OSB website, www.osbar.org, and click on the yellow "Member Login" button.

4. Starting your own law practice?

The PLF can provide free advice and assistance in setting up your law practice. Call (503) 639-6911 or (800) 452-1639 and ask to speak with a practice management advisor. You can also find useful advice and articles at MyShingle.com (www.myshingle.com).

5. Oregon legislative session:

The legislature's website has detailed information on potential legislation at www.leg.state.or.us/index.html. You can also track specific legislation of interest to you and your practice on the OSB website at www.osbar.org/pubaffairs/legislation.html.

6. Taxing times:

The IRS website, www.irs.gov, contains special information for the tax professional at: www.irs.gov/tax-pros/index.html. The main site contains tax publications and downloadable forms. For state information, the Oregon Department of Revenue site is www.oregon.gov/DOR/index.shtml.

7. Law-related blogs:

Jack Bog's Blog (bojack.org) is the blog of OSB member, adjunct law professor and citizen gadfly Jack Bogdanski. Read by many Portland area politicians, the blog covers topics including general legal issues, tax law, clergy sex abuse litigation and non-law issues. Jim Calloway's Law Practice Tips Blog (jimcalloway.typepad.com) is another good resource. Although this is not an Oregon site, most of the information on client relations, marketing and law firm management are applicable to lawyers everywhere.

Other practice-specific blogs:

- a. Antitrust: www.antitrustlawblog.com/
- b. Intellectual Property: www.okpatents.com/phosita
- c. Business/Corporate/Securities: Wall Street Journal blog at blogs.wsj.com/law

8. Real Property/Zoning/Measure 37:

The OSB Real Estate and Land Use (RELU) Section has an excellent links page on its website, www.osbrelu.com/internet.html. Additionally, LUBA opinions and orders are available on Casemaker (see number 3 above).

JANUARY 1, 2006 - DECEMBER 31, 2006 REFERRAL BY LOCATION

Location	Referrals	No Shows	Net Referrals	LRS Members
Albany	1,035	409	626	14
Aloha	109	58	51	4
Ashland	307	54	253	5
Astoria	101	33	68	1
Baker	107	29	78	3
Beaverton	3,216	1,341	1,875	66
Bend	1,916	769	1,147	36
Brookings	170	78	92	5
Canby	66	26	40	4
Coos Bay	823	394	429	9
Cottage Grove	15	8	7	1
Corvallis	1,040	397	644	18
Dallas	87	37	50	4
Enterprise	4	0	4	1
Eugene	4,690	1,901	2,789	92
Forest Grove	22	8	14	3
Gladstone	23	8	15	2
Gresham	1,641	692	949	26
Grants Pass	1,156	467	689	16
Hermiston	13	0	13	3
Hillsboro	2,121	739	1,382	59
Hood River	270	74	196	6

Location	Referrals	No Shows	Net Referrals	LRS Members
Klamath Falls	524	224	300	10
La Grande	225	77	148	4
Lake Oswego	746	251	495	56
Lincoln City	172	59	113	6
McMinnville	598	255	343	8
Medford	2,832	962	1,870	31
Milton/Freewater	2	0	2	1
Milwaukie	963	336	628	11
Molalla	12	4	8	1
Monmouth	1	0	1	1
Newberg	143	35	108	5
Newport	424	149	275	14
Ontario	357	114	244	6
Oregon City	2,278	891	1,388	31
Pendleton	683	140	544	6
Portland DT	8,309	3,250	5,060	291
Portland NE	2,390	857	1,533	50
Portland N	426	175	251	9
Portland NW	131	28	103	14
Portland SE	3,384	1,314	2,070	49
Portland SW	932	337	595	53
Redmond	362	51	311	3

Location	Referrals	No Shows	Net Referrals	LRS Members
Roseburg	873	290	583	9
Salem	5,410	2,216	3,195	101
Seaside	126	32	94	3
Sisters	2	0	2	1
Springfield	228	66	162	6
St. Helens	189	70	119	1
The Dalles	268	82	186	11
Tigard	887	300	587	24
Tillamook	158	56	102	5
Tualatin	300	104	196	6
Vancouver	2	2	0	5
West Linn	155	54	101	13
Wilsonville	106	33	73	5
Woodburn	154	91	63	5
Total	53,685	20,427	33,265	1,233

JAN 06 – DEC 06 REFERRALS BY PANEL

Panel	Referrals	No Shows	Net Referrals	LRS Members
Administrative Law	2,435	883	1,552	181
Bankruptcy	982	388	594	110
Business/Corporate	1,090	417	673	434
Consumer	3,202	1,173	2,029	120
Criminal	4,091	1,514	2,578	358
Criminal Modest Means	155	40	115	106
Debtor/Creditor	2,781	1,021	1,760	145
Family Law	10,560	4,233	6,329	516
Family Law Modest Means	1,170	240	930	140
General Litigation	10,414	4,236	6,179	644
Intellectual Property	375	130	245	71
Labor & Employment	4,538	1,624	2,914	182
Labor & Employment (Employer Only)	54	15	39	10
Real Estate	6,781	2,731	4,052	479
Real Estate Modest Means	35	12	23	50
Tax Law	411	144	267	57
Estate Planning	2,371	944	1,428	528
Worker's Compensation	1,430	385	1,045	91
International Law	697	282	415	59
Military Law	113	15	98	115
Total	53,685	20,427	33,265	1,233



Oregon State Bar
5200 SW Meadows Road
Lake Oswego, OR 97035

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