

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is the Georgia Diversity Program?

Established in 1993 by State Bar Past President Charles T. Lester, Jr., and the Honorable Marvin Arrington, the mission of the State Bar of Georgia Diversity Program (GDP) is to promote inclusion of all members of the State Bar of Georgia regardless of race, nationality, sex, religion or sexual preference. The Program achieves its mission by:

- Providing forums to discuss recent diversity developments in the legal profession;
- Presenting annual continuing legal education programs on diversity trends, strategies, policies and initiatives which corporate legal departments and law firms are successfully implementing;
- Furnishing resources on diversity issues and strategies to promote diversity in the legal workforce;
- Presenting an annual business development symposium that is designed to (1) promote inclusion of women and minorities on outside counsel teams that serve corporate clients, (2) create opportunities for women and diverse counsel to develop relationships with in-house counsel, and (3) provide majority and minority-owned law firms opportunities to hear from corporate in-house counsel on how corporations measure diversity initiatives of firms when selecting outside counsel;
- Presenting an annual judicial and summer associates reception to confirm to our pipeline candidates the State Bar of Georgia's commitment to diversity in the profession, and providing new attorneys an extra incentive to become members of the State Bar of Georgia.
- High School Pipeline Project that introduces law firms to talented minority students in the Georgia's high schools of Georgia who have expressed an interest in attending law school after college.

The program includes both majority and minority owned law firms, sole practitioners, and corporations.

### How Do I Join?

By paying annual dues, which is the primary funding source for the Georgia Diversity Program. Funding is also generated by events throughout the year.

#### Annual Dues for Firms and Corporations

- Corporations/law firms with more than 25 attorneys: \$1,700
- Law firms with 11-25 attorneys: \$450
- Law firms with 2-10 attorneys: \$350
- Solo practitioners: \$160

### What Are the Responsibilities of the Members?

The members are expected to donate their time, talents and resources to ensure the success of the program's planned activities throughout each Bar year.

### What is the Georgia Diversity Program Committee?

It is the program's oversight committee. It meets every other month, and members take turns hosting the meetings. You can find the committee's roster and a schedule of the meetings on this site.

Contact Rebecca Christian Smith, GDP Executive Director, at 404-822-3856 or [gadiversityprogram@gmail.com](mailto:gadiversityprogram@gmail.com).