



WBA



WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION
of the District of Columbia

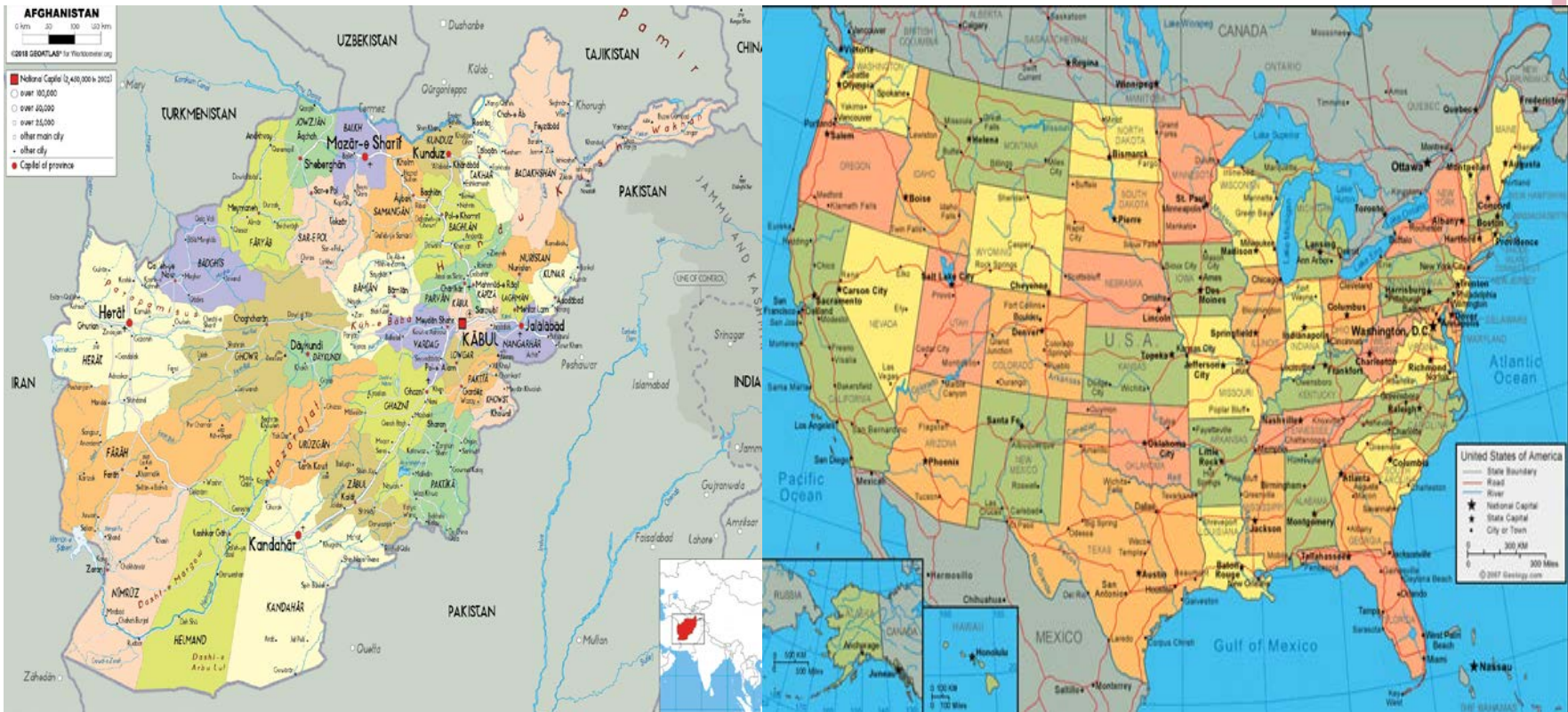
Empowering and Advancing Women Lawyers

**Empowering and Advancing Women Lawyers in the
Nation's Capital and Beyond Since 1917**

Welcome: Our Stories Matter

2022-23 WBA Theme is

“Choosing Courage, Leading Authentically, and Being Well.”



WBA Mission

- Maintaining the honor and integrity of the profession
- Promoting the administration of justice
- Advancing and protect interests of women lawyers
- Promoting mutual improvement of women lawyers



Snapshot

- 105 Years Old
- ~ 750 Members
- 20 Board Members
(Officers & Directors)
- ~ 30 Forums/
Committees
- ~ 60+ Co-Chairs



Ellen Spencer Mussey and Emma M. Gillett



- The WBA was founded in 1917 by 31 visionary women lawyers at a time when women largely could not own property, could not vote, could not serve on juries, and could not join the local bar association.
- WBA Founders Ellen Spencer Mussey and Emma M. Gillett also established the Washington College of Law (now part of American University) after the the law school of Columbia College refused to educate women as lawyers because they “did not have the mentality for law.” WCL was the first law school in the world founded by women.
- On May 17, 1917, Mussey and Gillett convened the group of 31 founding members to create “a Women’s Bar Association of the District of Columbia.”



Women's Bar Association
FOUNDATION
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



- **1981:** Established as WBA's philanthropic arm.
- **Mission:** support nonprofits serving the legal and related needs of women and girls in the DC metropolitan community.
- **Grant Program:** \$75,000
- **Founder's Fellowship:** \$7,500

The WBA Foundation

Serving the legal & related needs of women and girls in the DC Metro Community.





What does the WBA do?

- **Programming and networking events**
- **Social media discussion and engagement**
- **Community service**
- **Candidate endorsement** (judicial appointments, executive roles, DC Bar Officer)
- **Legislation monitoring, statements, and amicus briefs**
- **Recognitions of excellence**
 - Woman Lawyer of the Year Award,
 - Janet Reno Torchbearer Award, and
 - Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award

Membership Benefits

- Networking Opportunities
- Mentors & Mentees
- Connections across the industry
- Members-Only Events

- Programming Events
- Members-Only Career Toolkit
- Members-Only Job Bank
- Cutting-Edge Education

A Built-In Network

Professional & Career Development

Advocacy for Women

Elevation of Other Women

- Advocacy for women in judicial, legislative, regulatory and executive arenas

- Judicial Endorsements, Awards & Recognition





WBA Committees

20+ Years of
Expertise

Advocacy

Amicus

Anti-Racist
Toolkit

Career
Development
& Mentoring

Career Toolkit

Community
Projects

Diversity

Executive &
Judicial
Endorsements

Business, Tax
& Financial
Regulatory

Fireside
Chat/Women
of Color



WBA Committees

Internal Law
Forum

History &
Archiving

Membership

Women in
Public
Service/Politics

Working
Parents

Wellness

WBA Salons

Young Lawyers



WBA Practice Area Forums

Antitrust

Contracts &
Transactions

Law &
Technology

Energy,
Environmental &
Climate Science

Government
Attorneys

Law Student
Leadership

In-House
Counsel

Litigation

Non-Profit
Organizations

Solo & Small
Practice

Healthcare &
Life Sciences



WBA CAREER TOOLKIT

- **1,000+ resources relating to professional development**
- **Multi-media format (videos, books, podcasts, job boards)**
- **Resource Categories:**
 - Career Search
 - Skills Development
 - 25 Practice Areas
 - 9 Employment Sectors
 - Other Leadership Topics:
 - Networking and Mentoring
 - Leadership and Volunteering
 - Combating Gender Bias
 - Lawyer Moms and Working Parents
 - Mental Health & Work-Life Balance
 - Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion
 - And more!
- **Added Benefit: [“WBA Career Conversations”](#)**
 - 10-minute video interviews with experienced leaders

Questions?

Contact us:

- Website: www.wbadc.org
- Phone: 202-639-8880
- Email: admin@wbadc.org

- **Candace Beck**, President of the WBA