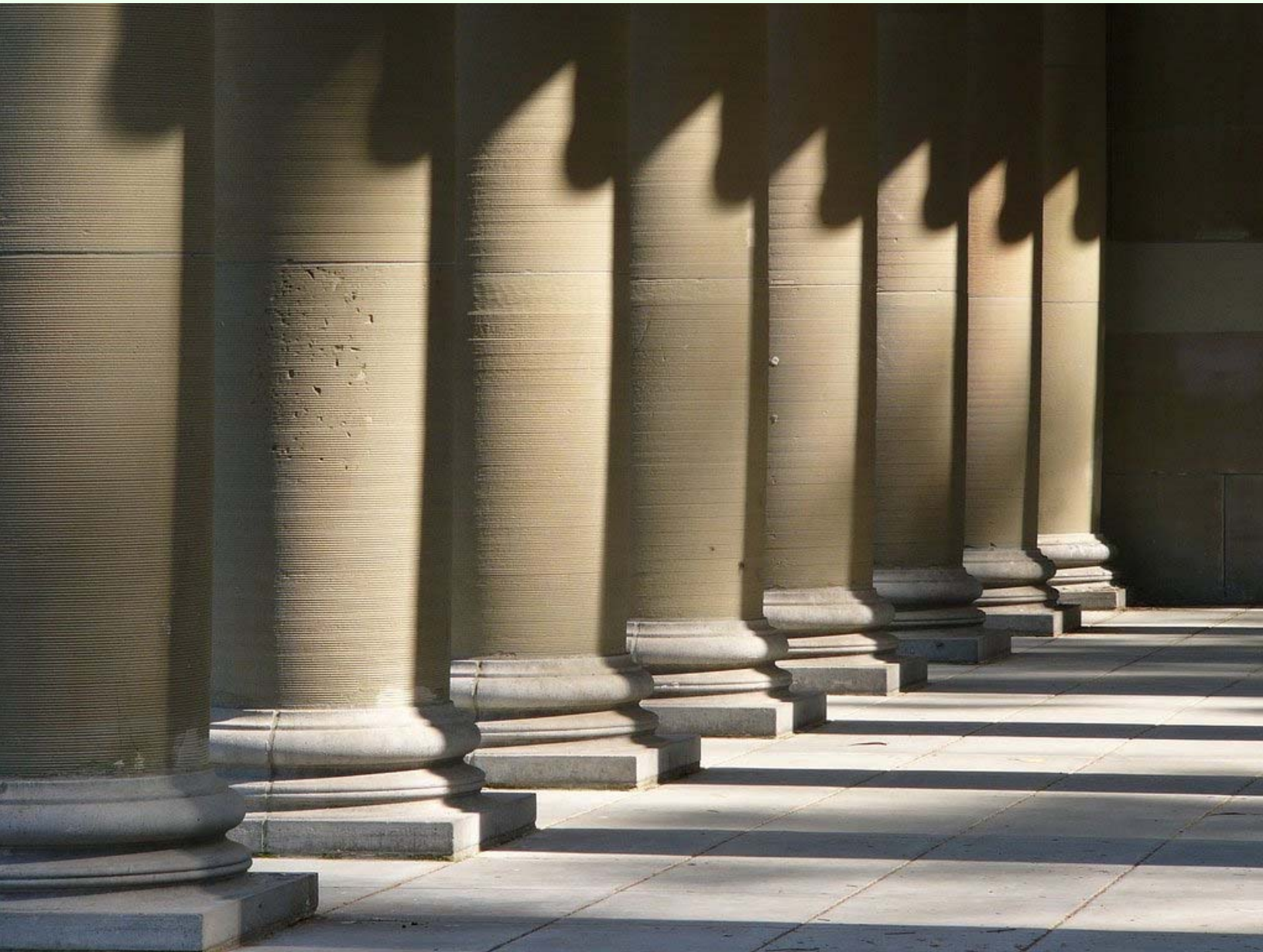


MINNESOTA BOARD OF LEGAL CERTIFICATION

2016 Annual Report



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Who We Are

The Minnesota Board of Legal Certification authorizes legal agencies to certify Minnesota lawyers as specialists in defined fields of law. The Board's purpose is to provide the public with enhanced information about lawyers who specialize in one or more fields of law. The Board seeks to ensure that lawyers identifying themselves as "specialists" have the appropriate knowledge and expertise associated the specialist designation.

To become accredited, a legal agency must show that it certifies as specialists only those lawyers who meet these standards:

- Are licensed to practice law and on active status in Minnesota;
- Have "substantial involvement" in the field of law during the three-year period before becoming certified;
- Obtain three or more verified peer recommendations as well as references from other judges and lawyers;
- Pass an examination in the substantive, procedural, and ethical aspects of the field of law; and
- Complete continuing legal education (CLE) courses in the certified specialist's field of law.

The Board reviews each agency's standards and examinations at least once every three years. Members of the Certification Board are appointed by the Minnesota Supreme Court for three year terms.



Patricia Beety, Chair



Emily Eschweiler, Director

Legal Agencies that Certify Lawyers

These five legal agencies certify Minnesota lawyers as specialists:

- American Board of Certification (ABC), Cedar Rapids, IA
- Minnesota State Bar Association (MSBA), Minneapolis, MN
- National Association of Counsel for Children (NACC), Aurora, CO
- National Board of Trial Advocacy (NBTA), Wrentham, MA
- National Elder Law Foundation (NELF), Tucson, AZ

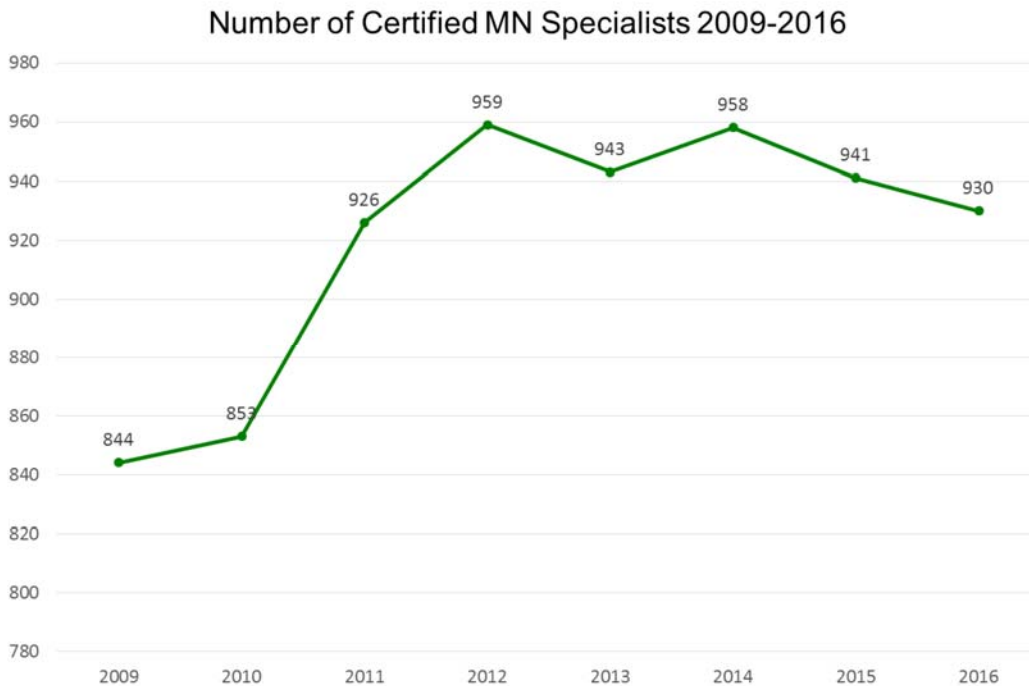


One or more of the legal agencies certify Minnesota lawyers as specialists in these fields of law:

- Business Bankruptcy (ABC)
- Child Welfare Law (NACC)
- Civil Trial Practice (MSBA and NBTA)
- Criminal Law (MSBA and NBTA)
- Consumer Bankruptcy (ABC)
- Creditors' Rights (ABC)
- Elder Law (NELF)
- Family Law (NBTA)
- Labor and Employment Law (MSBA)
- Real Property (MSBA)

Certified Specialists

Each year legal agencies submit annual reports showing the number of Minnesota lawyers certified, recertified, and decertified, as well as how many have applied for their programs. The chart below shows the growth in the number of certified specialists. It also shows that between 2015 and 2016 there was a slight decrease in the number of certified specialists.



Certified Minnesota Specialists by Specialty

| | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2016 | 2016 |
|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| ABC Consumer Bankruptcy | 5 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| ABC Business Bankruptcy | 7 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 5 |
| ABC Creditors' Rights | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| MSBA Civil Trial Practice | 297 | 297 | 291 | 292 | 281 |
| MSBA Criminal Law | 46 | 52 | 55 | 59 | 63 |
| MSBA Labor & Employment Law | 101 | 99 | 116 | 115 | 117 |
| MSBA Real Property | 362 | 353 | 361 | 343 | 341 |
| NACC Child Welfare Law | - | - | - | 0 | 0 |
| NBTA Family Law Trial Advocacy | 3 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 12 |
| NBTA Civil Trial Practice | 120 | 111 | 109 | 103 | 95 |
| NBTA Criminal Law | 11 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| NELF Elder Law | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Total | 959 | 943 | 958 | 941 | 930 |

Certification Board revenue comes from:

- Agency application fees: \$1,000
- Agency annual fees: \$250 per specialty field
- Lawyer annual fee: \$45
- Initial lawyer certification fee: \$100

Revenue: Calendar Years 2013-2016

| | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Agency Application Fees | \$0 | \$1,000 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Agency Recertification Fees (fee reduced to \$0 in 2013) | \$900 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Annual Agency Fees | \$3,000 | \$2,750 | \$2,500 | \$2,750 |
| Annual Lawyer Fees | \$42,480 | \$39,870 | \$38,835 | \$39,825 |
| New Lawyer Fees | \$1,700 | \$5,100 | \$1,200 | \$3,100 |
| Total | \$48,080 | \$48,720 | \$42,535 | \$45,675 |

Expenses: Calendar Years 2013-2016

| | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Salaries | \$33,462 | \$29,679 | \$27,803 | \$31,517 |
| Rent | \$4,716 | \$5,733 | \$5,390 | \$5,441 |
| Other (supplies, equipment, etc.) | \$7,547 | \$6,195 | \$10,752 | \$9,146 |
| Total | \$45,725 | \$41,607 | \$43,945 | \$46,104 |

Board Members and Staff

The Board is made up of 12 members and a chairperson. Members are appointed by the Minnesota Supreme Court and may serve two 3-year terms.

- 3 public members
- 3 lawyers nominated by the Minnesota State Bar Association
- 6 lawyers nominated by the Supreme Court

2016 Board Members

- M. William O'Brien, Chair, Miller O'Brien Jensen, Minneapolis
- Charles H. Andresen, Hanft Fride, P.A., Duluth
- Patricia Beety, League of Minnesota Cities, St. Paul
- Howard Bolter, Bolter Law LLC, Minneapolis
- V. John Ella, Trepanier MacGillis Battina, P.A., Minneapolis
- Justice Ericson Lindell, Winthrop and Weinstine, Minneapolis
- Marc J Manderscheid, Briggs and Morgan, Minneapolis
- Todd V. Peterson, Todd Peterson Law, Sauk Rapids
- Raj Pillai, Public Member, Minneapolis
- Lawrence Rocheford, Jardine, Logan & O'Brien, P.L.L.P., Lake Elmo
- Ralph Scorpio, Public Member, St. Paul
- Aimee Zweber, Public Member, Minneapolis

2016 Board Staff

- Margaret Fuller Corneille, Director
- Emily Eschweiler, Assistant Director and Counsel
- A.J. Dordel, Staff Attorney
- Kirsten Hedin, Office Administrator - Finance and Technology

Contact Us

180 E 5th Street
Suite 950
St. Paul, MN 55101

(651) 297-1857

www.blc.mn.gov