

2006 SURVEY

Number of women licensed to practice in Hawaii: approx.
Number of responses: 60 completed questionnaires

In 2007, HWL members received an e-mail survey designed to get to know the membership better and help shape the events of the organization. Sixty HWL members responded to the survey and provided information helpful to the Board to better serve the members' needs.

HWL's membership is fairly diverse with over 55% of its members practicing attorneys for over 11 years and the remaining 45% practicing less than 10 years or are law students or currently inactive.

Approximately 42% of HWL members work in private firms. However, they are also well represented in government and the judiciary. The remainder of the membership work in public interest firms and non-profits, are in-house counsel, are pursuing non-legal careers, are students or in academia and are solo practitioners.

The majority of members are also litigators, followed by those who have an administrative and regulatory practice, and then by those in ADR (Alternative Dispute Resolution), business law and real estate practice. Over one fifth of our membership also practices in labor and employment law and in tort trial and insurance practice.

Our members have been with HWL for differing lengths of time, 18% for more than 20 years, 22% for 11 to 20 years, 25% for 5 to 10 years, and 45% for less than 5 years.

Most members found out about the organization through friends or through their firm and there is still a good contingent of members who first found HWL through law school and have continued on as members.

Our members join HWL for a variety of reasons, but the most important reason is for networking and professional development. Our work with HWLF on the Mother's Day Basket community service project is still one of the most popular and professional development brown bags were still at the top of most HWL members' list of programs.

There is also some interest in a mentoring program with 61% stating a willingness to participate in a program. Most are interested in being mentors. Many also shared ideas for future community projects and programs and the Board will take those thoughts and suggestions into consideration.