

AJS

STRATEGIC PLAN 2023-2028

Our Mission

The American Judicature Society (“AJS”) is an independent, non-partisan membership organization working to protect the integrity of the American justice system. Its mission is to secure and promote an independent and qualified judiciary, the rule of law, and a fair system of justice.



AMERICAN JUDICATURE SOCIETY

Advocating for a fair system of justice

	OBJECTIVES	BENCHMARKS
<p>Goal 1</p> <p>Further the administration of a fair system of justice in Hawai'i.</p> <p>AJS's highest calling is to identify and address urgent and enduring needs in support of a fair system of justice. This includes dual commitments to the rule of law and to an independent and qualified judiciary.</p>	<p>A. Review current AJS standing committees and establish different or new committees as appropriate, such that the organization promotes: (1) the understanding of an independent and qualified judiciary; (2) the understanding of the rule of law; and (3) civic education and engagement in support of a fair system of justice.</p>	<p>AJS Board Chair name:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Name an appropriate committee to recommend revisions to committee structure (if any). 2. AJS Board Chair, with input from the Executive Committee, review and modify (if needed).
	<p>B. Committees develop and implement their plans of work, including Committee charters.</p>	<p>Committees:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop plans of work. 2. Assess existing partnerships, if any, and establish partnership/s with other organizations, as appropriate. 3. Promote focus of committee (e.g., independent and qualified judiciary) via a report, presentation, website posting, or other means) which: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Assess achievement of Committee objectives. b. Present annual achievement report to AJS Board of Directors.
<p>Goal 2</p> <p>Reinforce confidence in a merit-based judicial system while exploring a nationwide best practices model.</p>	<p>A. Establish new AJS standing committees on: (1) model practices/policies; and (2) legislative/media commentary.</p>	<p>Model Practices/Policies and Legislative/Media Commentary Committees established.</p>
	<p>B. Provide timely legislative and public commentary on Hawai'i and other relevant issues, consistent with AJS's mission.</p>	<p>Legislative/Media Commentary committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a commentary approval process (standard and expedited). 2. Finalize Board resolution on approved commentary during the calendar year. 3. Monitor noteworthy legislation and provide report to membership for awareness. 4. Establish protocol for timely response to issues within scope of charter.
	<p>C. Evaluate models for merit-based judicial systems, including Hawai'i.</p>	<p>Model Practices/Policies Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Catalog AJS's resources. 2. Document merit-based judicial systems, including Hawaii's. 3. Affiliate with partners, if appropriate.

Goal 3	OBJECTIVES	BENCHMARKS
<p>Establish a thriving and sustaining foundation for the AJS.</p> <p>(Continued on next page.)</p>	<p>A. Establish a leadership succession and governance plan.</p>	<p>AJS Board Chair, with input from the Executive Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a leadership succession and governance plan that includes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Identification of AJS Executive Committee members, terms of office (if appropriate), and selection process. b. Identification of number, terms of office (if appropriate), and selection process for AJS Board of Directors. c. Appropriate attention to multi-year, serial appointments and other strategies to support succession. d. Strategies to recruit new members to AJS to ensure generational continuity. 2. Submit succession and governance plan to AJS Board of Directors for approval. 3. Determine whether nominating committee should be formed to identify future AJS directors and ensure diversity.
	<p>B. Develop and implement AJS informational campaign.</p>	<p>Communications Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop informational campaign on why AJS matters. 2. Utilize the media and AJS members to educate the public re: the importance of AJS and its mission. 3. Oversee implementation of the plan. 4. Present annual report on goal achievement to the AJS Board of Directors.
	<p>C. Establish a standing committee on advancement/fundraising.</p>	<p>Advancement/fundraising committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop and implement plan of work which includes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Regularly-scheduled fundraising campaign. b. Regularly scheduled awards event. c. Metrics to track progress of work.
	<p>D. Utilize technology to promote operational efficiency and reduce</p>	<p>Executive Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Examine and adopt technology to achieve operational efficiencies.

	OBJECTIVES	BENCHMARKS
<p>Goal 3 (cont.)</p> <p>Establish a thriving and sustaining foundation for the AJS.</p>	<p>E. Implement and monitor the strategic plan.</p>	<p>Individual/committee appointed by Board Chair:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monitor implementation of the strategic plan. 2. Provide annual update on progress to AJS Board of Directors. <p>Individual/committee appointed by Board Chair:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Revise charter, by-laws, and other governing documents to reflect changes in AJS organization. <p>Executive director:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update AJS website and other means of communication to reflect changes in AJS organization.
	<p>F. Explore national expansion, with the understanding that a strong Hawai'i-based organizational infrastructure must be built first.</p>	<p>Executive Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Present national expansion plan (if appropriate) to AJS Board of Directors for approval.

The AJS Strategic Plan 2023-2028 was adopted by the AJS Board of Directors on December 7, 2023. It serves as the basis of a living document which will be reviewed annually. Although the goals will remain the same, additions and revisions may be made to the objectives and benchmarks as conditions change. The actions identified in the document will be implemented over the course of the five years of the strategic plan.