

**Charge:** The Rhode Island Bar Association affirms its commitment to raise awareness and understanding among our members and others of the vital role diversity plays. In furtherance of this commitment, the Task Force will identify ways to advance inclusion and diverse perspectives in the activities, services and educational programs of the Rhode Island Bar Association so that all members have the opportunity to fully participate and succeed in the profession. In addition, the Task Force will propose steps to advance Association leadership opportunities to attorneys of diverse backgrounds as well as promote interest in the practice of law to diverse populations.

# RI BAR ASSOCIATION DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION TASK FORCE TIMELINE

## JUNE 12, 2020

Equal Justice Statement Announcing Diversity and Inclusion Task Force and soliciting interest emailed to membership

## AUGUST 25, 2020

First meeting of Diversity and Inclusion Task Force (TF) with Chairperson Linda Rekas Sloan ([see DI Task Force minutes Aug 2020](#))

## SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

Second TF meeting- survey discussion continues ([see DI Task Force minutes Sept 2020](#))

## OCTOBER 9, 2020

Joint letter from Chairperson Rekas Sloan and President D'Addario to Chief Justice Suttell requesting participation in TF from court

## NOVEMBER 19, 2020

Third Task Force meeting ([see DI Task Force Meeting Nov 2020](#))

## JANUARY 26, 2021

Chairperson Rekas Sloan updates the HOD on TF progress. Notes in process of condensing survey data and announces TF subcommittees ([see hod012621](#))

## FEBRUARY 25, 2021

Fifth meeting of TF; subcommittees officially established ([see DI Task Force Meeting Feb 2021](#))

## JUNE 11, 2020

Executive Committee (EC) approved Equal Justice Statement and establishment of the Diversity and Inclusion Task Force ([see exc061120](#))

## JULY 7, 2020

President D'Addario reports on Diversity and Inclusion Task Force to House of Delegates (HOD) ([see hod07082020](#))

## SEPTEMBER 29, 2020

Chairperson Rekas Sloan gives update to HOD on Task Force and announces plan for diversity survey ([see hod092920](#))

## OCTOBER 6, 2020

Diversity and Inclusion survey emailed to members

## OCTOBER 27, 2020

At the EC meeting President D'Addario encourages sending a reminder email to members for survey; reminder emailed on 10/29/20 ([see exc102720](#))

## JANUARY 4, 2021

Fourth Task Force meeting ([see DI Task Force Meeting Jan 2021](#))

## FEBRUARY-JUNE

TF subcommittees meet 15 times to draft recommendations

## JULY 7, 2021

TF meets to review subcommittees' recommendations ([see DI Task Force July 2021](#))

## AUGUST 24, 2021

EC votes to send Report of Recommendations to Task Force on RIBA Governance & Structure Chairperson Armando Batastini for evaluation of possible Keller issues ([see exc082421](#))

## OCTOBER 6, 2021

Chairperson Rekas Sloan shares survey summary and condensed data with the Court's committee

## NOVEMBER 11, 2021

Projo reporter reaches out for comment on survey results; Bar President issues statement; Projo runs story  
November 14, 2021

## JANUARY 25, 2022

EC reviews three remaining and further modified recommendations; approved as modified  
([see exc012522](#))

## JANUARY 28, 2022

EC votes to approve final version of DEI Agenda modeled after TF recommendations

## APRIL 27, 2021

At HOD meeting members given update on TF; informed of progress, process for recommendations to EC, DEI newsletter ([see hod042721](#))

## AUGUST 4, 2021

Task Force approves final version of Report of Recommendations to be submitted to EC

## OCTOBER 4, 2021

EC votes to share survey summary and condensed data with members and the Supreme Court  
([see exc102621](#))

## NOVEMBER 8, 2021

Survey results released to RIBA members

## DECEMBER 7, 2021

Special meeting of the EC held to continue review of Task Force Report of Recommendations; all but four items approved as modified ([see exc120721](#))

## JANUARY 25, 2022

President Laing gives update on Report of Recommendations at HOD meeting; HOD requests further information related to TF and recommendations ([see hod012522](#))