



WSAMA News

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2003 Fall Conference Edition

Where: Red Lion Hotel at the Park in Spokane

When: October 1-3, 2003

Hotel Room Block Cut-Off – September 5

Conference and Hotel Registration

The fall WSAMA conference will return to The Red Lion Hotel at the Park in Spokane. We have met at this hotel a number of times in the past and it has an excellent location right across the river from Riverfront Park. However, ownership for this hotel has changed a number of times, so some may remember it as Cavanaugh's Inn at the Park and last time we met there in 2000 it was West Coast Grand Hotel at the Park.

The materials needed to register for this conference are enclosed:

- Preliminary Agenda
- WSAMA Conference Registration Form
- Optional Golf Scramble Form
- Hotel brochure, including map and toll-free registration number

Each conference attendee should make your own hotel reservations directly with the hotel at the following toll-free number: 1-800-733-5466 (1-800-Red Lion). A map to the hotel is included on the brochure.

The room rate for this conference will be \$105 a night for single/double occupancy. This rate is guaranteed until September 5, so please make your room reservations early. Also be sure to identify yourself as an attendee at the WSAMA conference to obtain the reduced room rate.

Program Highlights

We will return to our usual all-day Thursday and one-half day Friday format for this conference. Personnel law issues will be

featured, including how to deal with off-duty misconduct of employees and officers, scope of duty to represent employees or officers involved in misconduct on the job, and an extensive personnel law update covering FLSA issues, new state personnel law legislation, and a case law update.

In addition, most of the major areas of municipal law will be highlighted with updates in tort law, criminal law, public works, land use, and utility law. Most attendees will qualify for 1.75 hours of ethics.

We will have the usual concurrent criminal track on Thursday afternoon. Presentations will be made on competency restoration rights, prosecution discovery rights and obligations, and, a speaker from the Washington Toxicology Laboratory will talk on effectively utilizing the state toxicologist's office in DUI prosecutions.

There were a number of comments on the evaluation forms from the spring conference requesting an ethics roundtable focused on ethics for prosecutors. So there will be a 45 minute ethics roundtable for prosecutors on Thursday morning.

Also, instead of our usual morning and afternoon roundtables, it was decided to just have a morning session of roundtables for this conference. This will allow for additional topics at the concurrent sessions.

We have requested 9.75 hours of total CLE credits for this conference, which will include 1.75 hours of ethics for most attendees. The Washington State Bar Association has changed the method they use to compute CLE hours and so we no longer receive credit for break time. This is the reason that the number of CLE credits for this conference is not as great as for past conferences even though our time in session is the same.

Social Highlights!

There will be a welcome reception on Wednesday evening and also a reception Thursday evening for attendees. The Thursday reception will be held at the newly-renovated Davenport Hotel in downtown Spokane. This historic hotel has



underground a \$30 million renovation and just reopened in September 2002. Buses will be available to shuttle attendees to and from the reception, which will be held in one of the renovated ballrooms of the Davenport.

We want to thank our sponsors who make our receptions possible: Kenyon Disend; Foster Pepper & Shefelman; Ogden Murphy Wallace; and Preston Gates & Ellis. Also, we particularly welcome a new sponsor for this conference, Paine, Hamblen, Coffin Brooke & Miller of Spokane.

There will also be a lunch on Thursday in the panoramic Skyline Ballroom of the Red Lion Hotel. The featured luncheon speaker will be a retired Spokane County Superior Court Judge, the Honorable Mike Donahue. Judge Donahue is a very entertaining speaker and will provide a light and humorous talk.

In addition, there will be the usual continental breakfast on Thursday and a FULL course breakfast on Friday morning.

WSAMA Conference Papers on the Web

The WSAMA papers for the last five years have been scanned into electronic format and posted on the Web in a searchable format. This portion of the WSAMA Website will be password protected. All future papers will be added to the Web site to create a comprehensive database of municipal law topics for use by all WSAMA members.

We are still testing the database and making sure the password protection is secure. However, it is very close to being ready for use by WSAMA members. We will be mailing instructions to use this database along with the password in the near future. Remember, however, this mailing will be limited to WSAMA members who are current with their dues, so be sure and renew your WSAMA membership to have access to this database of papers.

Tom Kingen

It was with great sadness that we learned of the sudden death of Tom Kingen, City Attorney of Pullman. Tom has been an active member of WSAMA for many years and city attorney of Pullman since 1997. He suffered a fatal heart attack while on a bicycle trip in Canada. Tom was 56 years old.

Tom has been active in local government law in Spokane since 1979 after earning a law degree from Gonzaga University. He served as counsel for the Spokane Transit Authority since its inception. Tom worked for a time as the chief trial counsel for the city of Spokane and also worked in the Spokane offices of Preston Gates & Ellis and Perkins Coie.

Tom has made a number of presentations at WSAMA conferences and has been an invaluable resource on local government issues for many years. He will be greatly missed. Contributions can be sent to Gonzaga Preparatory School, 1224 E. Euclid, Spokane, WA 99207.

Conference Questions???

If you have any questions about the fall conference in Spokane, contact either Donita Mowers or Patrick Mason at the Municipal Research and Services Center:

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Have a fabulous summer everyone!

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