



WSAMA News

Volume 2007, No. 1

February 2007

2007 Spring Conference Edition

Where: Hilton Hotel in Vancouver, Washington

When: April 25-27, 2007

Hotel Room Block Cut-Off: March 23, 2007

Hotel Reservation Number: 1-800-Hiltons or (360) 993-4500

Conference Registration

The spring WSAMA conference will be held at Hilton Hotel in Vancouver, Washington on April 25-27, 2007. This is a new convention center and hotel with outstanding facilities for our convention. It is located near the river and near numerous restaurant and other amenities.

The materials needed to register for this conference are available on the WSAMA Web site at www.wsama.org:

- Preliminary Agenda
- WSAMA Conference Registration Form
- Optional Golf Scramble Form
- New Municipal Attorney Seminar Agenda

Hotel Registration

Conference attendees should make their own hotel reservations directly with the Hilton Hotel at either 1-800-Hiltons or (360) 993-4500.

The room rate for this conference is \$109 plus tax for single or double occupancy. Be sure to indicate that you are in the WSAMA conference group to obtain the special conference rate.

This rate is only guaranteed until **March 23**, so please make your room reservations early! The hotel will honor the same guest room rate for those who arrive early or stay over the weekend following the conference.

Program Highlights

We will meet in the usual all-day Thursday and one-half day Friday format for the main program. We have requested 9.75 hours of CLE credits total – this includes 1.0 hour of ethics credits. If you attend the New Municipal Attorney Seminar on Wednesday afternoon, there will be an additional four hours of CLE credits.

The program will cover most of the principle areas of municipal law – there will be updates on criminal law and personnel law and a review of significant legislative enactments from the 2007 session that affect local governments.

The program will also cover in more detail a variety of other topics, including commercial speech regulation, stormwater permits, traffic impact fees, religion and use of public facilities, municipal budget basics, and what a municipal attorney needs to know about the changing face of municipal courts.

There will be a concurrent criminal law session on Thursday afternoon. The format for this session primarily will be a comprehensive trial workshop focused on an illustrative DUI case. The trial workshop will include a segment on understanding the trial process and trying a case effectively and also understanding and utilizing the appellate and writ process.

Criminal Justice reimbursement will be available for up to \$50 for those who travel at least 50 miles to attend the conference and stay overnight in a commercial facility.

See the preliminary agenda for the full list of topics and speakers!

New Municipal Attorney Seminar

The New Municipal Attorney Seminar will be held on Wednesday afternoon, April 25, from one to five p.m., preceding the main conference. While the seminar is

primarily for newer municipal attorneys, it is open to any WSAMA member who wishes to attend.

This seminar will provide a very brief overview of the principal subjects of municipal law, with an emphasis on providing direction to resources where additional information may be obtained, since it is impossible to cover all these topics in any depth in such a short time period.

The cost of the New Municipal Attorney Seminar is \$25 and attendees will receive four CLE credits. Please mark the WSAMA registration form if you plan to attend so we have some idea of attendance. If there are municipal attorneys in your office who desire to attend just this portion of the conference, mark that on the registration form and send it back to MRSC with the \$25 registration fee.

Enclosed is a separate agenda for this portion of the program. A manual for new attorneys will be distributed to seminar attendees, with additional written information on each topic.

Social Highlights!

This year marks the **50 year anniversary of WSAMA!**

There will be the usual welcome reception on Wednesday evening. On Thursday evening, there will be an extra celebration in honor of the 50 year anniversary. Past presidents have been invited to attend the reception so this will be a chance to visit with prior friends. Also, there will be a buffet dinner and hosted bar with entertainment. This should be a fun and memorable event.

We want to thank our sponsors whose generous contributions have made this reception possible: *Kenyon Disend; Foster Pepper; Ogden Murphy Wallace; K&L Preston Gates Ellis; Keating Bucklin & McCormack and Karen Willie/Queen Anne Arbitration and Mediation Services.*

The golf scramble will be held on Friday afternoon at the Colwood National Golf Club. The rate for the eighteen hole scramble is \$37, which includes golf cart.

There will be a luncheon on Thursday and the usual continental breakfast Thursday morning and full breakfast Friday morning.

WSAMA Board Applications

There will be at least one vacancy on the WSAMA board of directors, beginning in May 2007. The term of office is two years. The primary function of the board is to help plan the spring and fall WSAMA conferences. Serving on the board does require the ability to attend four board meetings a year – an all-day meeting in early February, an all-day meeting in July, and two lunch meetings following the spring and fall conferences. Reimbursement for necessary travel expenses is provided by WSAMA for the February and July board meetings.

The WSAMA board is very interested in having a board that represents all the WSAMA members. At the January 2001 board meeting, a Resolution on Diversity was adopted to embody the commitment of the board to provide an opportunity for all WSAMA members to participate in the activities of the organization through association with WSAMA board programs, committees, and board membership.

If you are interested in being considered for membership on the WSAMA board, send your name and the city you represent to Donita Knutson or Patrick Mason, at the address listed at the end of the newsletter.

Conference Questions???

If you have any questions about the spring conference at the Hilton Hotel in Vancouver, Washington, contact either **Donita Knutson** or **Patrick Mason** at the Municipal Research and Services Center:

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50 Years

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