



WSAMA News

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August 2009

2009 Fall Conference Edition

Where

Davenport Hotel in Spokane, Washington

When

October 14-16, 2009

Hotel Room Block Cut-Off

September 16, 2009

Hotel Reservation Number

(800) 899-1482 or (509) 455-8888

Conference Registration

The fall WSAMA conference will be held at the Davenport Hotel in Spokane, Washington. This is one of the premier hotel facilities in the state and was a very popular location for the WSAMA conference in 2006.

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 Training Topic Areas

Hotel Registration

Conference attendees should make their own hotel reservations directly with the Davenport Hotel at (800) 899-1482. The hotel is offering a complimentary upgrade to their deluxe room at \$155 a night for single/double occupancy. Be sure to identify yourself as a WSAMA conference attendee to be eligible for the conference rates.

This rate is guaranteed until **September 16, 2009**, so please make your room reservations early! The hotel will honor the same conference room rate for those who arrive early or stay over the weekend (on a space-available basis).

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 4.0 hours of CLE credits.

The program will cover most of the principle areas of municipal law – there will be presentations related to criminal law, tort law, personnel law, land use law, and public works and contracting.

In addition, there will be presentations relating to public records law, because that has become such a significant concern to most cities and towns. These presentations will cover electronic records and Web 2.0 issues, as well as an update on recent case law developments. This will be followed by an open government roundtable. So there will be a major segment of the program devoted to public records and open meetings.

The program will also cover in more detail a variety of other topics, including police liability issues, termination options for employees, land use conditions that may be placed on development, tips on jury selection, sidewalk liability, and more.

There will be a concurrent criminal law session on Thursday afternoon. One focus of this session will be a BAC refresher and preview of new breath test instruments. Additional topics will include considerations when prosecuting combat veterans and laying the foundation for non-testimonial evidence.

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, October 14, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 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 \$50 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 \$50 registration fee.

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

Social Highlights!

There will be a Welcome Reception on Wednesday night from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

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 GordonDerr.**

The golf scramble will be held on Friday afternoon at the Downriver Golf Course in Spokane. The rate for the eighteen hole scramble is \$43, which includes golf cart.

There will be a luncheon on Thursday. There will also be a hosted reception Thursday night so members can socialize and network. In addition, the conference registration includes a continental breakfast Thursday morning and a full breakfast Friday morning.

WCIA Conference Credit

The Washington Cities Insurance Authority (WCIA) has approved this conference for Compact Credit for their members.

Conference Questions???

If you have any questions about the fall conference at Davenport Hotel, contact either **Donita Knutson** or **Patrick Mason** at the Municipal Research and Services Center:

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