



WSAMA News

Volume 2012, No. 2

August 2012

2012 Fall Conference

Venue

Davenport Hotel, Spokane, Washington

Dates

October 17-19, 2012

Room Block Closing Date

September 19, 2012

Reservation Number

(800) 899-1482



What's Inside

Conference Registration 2

Hotel Registration 2

Program Highlights 2

New Municipal Attorney Seminar

Social Highlights 3

WCIA Conference Credit 3

Legal Notes 3

Welcome New Sponsor 3

Questions 4

Conference Registration

The fall WSAMA conference will be held at the Davenport Hotel in Spokane, Washington. We last met at the Davenport Hotel in fall 2009 and it was a very popular location with our members.

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

-  Preliminary Agenda
-  WSAMA Conference Registration Form
-  Optional Golf Scramble Form

Hotel Registration

Conference attendees should make their own hotel reservations directly with the Davenport Hotel at 1-800-899-1482. The hotel is offering us an excellent room rate for this conference: \$159 for deluxe rooms for single or double occupancy in the historic hotel and \$139 for deluxe rooms in the Tower. The Tower is the newer addition to the hotel and it is located just across the street from the historic hotel and main conference center. Be sure and identify yourself as a WSAMA conference attendee to obtain this conference room rate.

There is free WiFi access in all guest rooms. Note there is an additional parking fee of \$15 a day.

This rate is guaranteed until **September 19, 2012** so please make your room reservations early! The hotel will honor the same conference room rate for those who arrive up to three days early or stay over three days after the conference (on a space-available basis).

The Davenport Hotel is a beautiful conference and hotel facility located right in downtown Spokane near numerous quality restaurants.

Check their website for more information:

www.thedavenporthotel.com

Driving directions are as follows:

If you are traveling eastbound, take I-90 East to the Lincoln Street exit (number 280a). Turn North (left) on Lincoln. If you are traveling westbound, take I-90 west to the Lincoln Street exit and proceed North on Lincoln. Turn East (right) on First Avenue (approx. 3 blocks). Self-parking is available in our garage on the southwest corner of First Avenue and Post. For valet parking, turn North (left) on Post for the main hotel or turn South (right) for the tower.

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 up to 1.0 total hour of ethics credits.

We will utilize the format we tried for the first time at the spring 2011 conference, which means there will be separate civil and criminal law sessions for both Thursday afternoon and Friday morning. This will allow prosecutors to receive over six hours of specialized training on criminal law topics.

The program will cover many of the principal areas of municipal law. There will be presentations related to criminal law, tort law, finance, public works, and land use law.

There will be a comprehensive panel to review issues related to the newly adopted Standards for Indigent Defense, including discussion of case weighting, expected legislative response to the rules, possible legal challenges, and indigent defense contract issues. Also there will be an update on medical marijuana. In addition, at the civil session, there be a primer on parliamentary rules; report from the Office of the State Auditor; nuts and bolts session on utility collections; SEPA update; advice on avoiding procedural pitfalls in employee discipline; recent developments in construction contracting; and more.

There will be concurrent criminal law sessions on Thursday afternoon and Friday morning. Topic on the criminal law program will include: immigration law for prosecutors; DUI laws after August 1, 2012 changes; Community Supervision – impact on local

government justice resources; and de-mystifying vacation, expungement and sealing of records.

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

There will **NOT** be a new municipal attorney seminar this fall. The new municipal attorney seminar will be held in conjunction with the spring 2013 conference.

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 our receptions possible:

Kenyon Disend

Foster Pepper

Ogden Murphy Wallace

K&L Gates

Inslee, Best, Doezie & Ryder

Keating, Bucklin & McCormack

Van Ness Feldman GordonDerr

Lighthouse Law Group

Lane Powell

Law Offices of Susan Elizabeth Drummond

Weed, Graafstra and Benson

Pacifica Law Group

The golf scramble will be held on Friday afternoon at the Indian Canyon Golf course. The rate for the 18-hole scramble is \$43, including golf cart.

There will be a luncheon on Thursday and there will

also be a hosted reception Thursday night so members can socialize and network. In addition, the conference registration fee 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.

Legal Notes

Paper Copy or USB Flash Drive

We will still be making conference materials available to attendees in either electronic format on a flash drive or in paper copy, if materials are desired.

All conference materials that we receive before the conference will be posted and the members notified that the papers are available to download and bring to the conference. Conference attendees will be given the option of registering with a lower conference registration fee and receive no additional materials at check in. In the alternative, conference attendees can select and pay an additional fee for either the conference materials loaded on a flash drive, paper copies bound in Legal Notes, or both.

All the conference papers will be posted on the WSA-MA website within two weeks of the conclusion of the conference and are available to all members.

Welcome New Sponsor

The private law firms that sponsor WSAMA conferences help us keep our registration fees to a minimum for attendance at our conference. We appreciate all of the firms that contribute to our conferences.

We want to especially welcome a new sponsor, Lane Powell. Lane Powell is a multi-specialty law firm that has been serving the Pacific Northwest for more than 135 years. The firm's practice includes assisting many Washington cities, counties, PUD's, transit

agencies, ports and state agencies on a wide range of legal issues including construction, environmental, infrastructure projects, employment, tax and special investigations from our offices in Seattle, Tacoma, Olympia and Portland. To learn more about our practice, visit www.lanepowell.com.

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Questions

If you have any questions about the spring conference at Skamania Lodge, contact either **Donita Knutson** (dknutson@mrsc.org) or **Patrick Mason** (pmason@mrsc.org) at MRSC, (206) 625-1300.