

WEDNESDAY APRIL 23

WSAMA Bootcamp Registration

Time 12:00 – 1:00 PM **Location:** Rialto Pre-function

Introduction

Time 1:00 – 1:15 PM **Location:**
Speakers Debra Casparian, WSAMA President

City and Town Governance 101

Time 1:15 – 2:00 PM **Location:** **CLE Credits:** 0.75
Speakers Bob Sterbank, Foster Garvey
Description

Civil Enforcement of Municipal Codes

Time 2:00 – 2:30 PM **Location:** **CLE Credits:** 0.5
Speakers Stephanie Dikeakos, Assistant City Attorney, Director of Civil Enforcement Section, City of Seattle
Description Cities often receive complaints about junk storage, vacant/derelict buildings, Environmentally Critical Areas violations, construction without the proper permits and many more nuisance conditions. This presentation will provide an overview of the civil enforcement tools available to cities in responding to citizen complaints. It will also provide guidance on effective investigations and using the legal process to gain compliance.

Basic Duties, Liabilities and Immunities of Municipal Officers and Torts Overview

Time 2:30 – 3:15 PM **Location:** **CLE Credits:** 0.75
Speakers Dan Lloyd, Assistant City Attorney, City of Vancouver and Robin Aronson, Risk Services Manager, WCIA
Description Regardless of whether one first chairs a civil trial or operates exclusively as in-house counsel, there are some fundamental precepts of tort law that every municipal lawyer must know. This presentation will outline the basics of Washington's tort claim procedure, break down the nuances of tort law vis-à-vis government liability, and discuss the essentials of knowing when and how public employees and entities are indemnified.

BREAK

Time 3:15 – 3:30 PM **Location:**

Open Government Laws: Public Records Act and Open Public Meetings Act

Time 3:30 – 4:15 PM **Location:** **CLE Credits:** 0.75
Speakers Tony Beattie, Senior Deputy City Attorney, City of Spokane Valley
Description Is that a meeting? Is that a record? Do I have to disclose that? Come learn the basics of the PRA and OPMA, and get an update on recent legislation, and caselaw that affect our clients.

The Ten Essentials: Practical Aspects of Serving as a City Attorney

Time 4:15 – 5:00 PM **Location:** **CLE Credits:** 0.75
Speakers Sara Watkins, City of Yakima
Description Whether you are a new attorney just starting your municipal law journey, or a seasoned practitioner attending your 50th WSAMA conference, we have all found ourselves in situations where we need more than our municipal code book or the RCWs to navigate through an issue. This presentation will discuss practical tips for finding success as a municipal attorney.

BOARD MEETING

Time 5:00 – 6:00 PM **Location:** Sentinel

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Time 5:00 – 7:00 PM **Location:** Rialto Pre-function

WELCOME RECEPTION

Time 6:00 – 7:00 PM **Location:** Owens Ballroom

THURSDAY APRIL 24

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Time 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM **Location:** Rialto Pre-function

BREAKFAST

Time 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM **Location:** Owens Ballroom

JOINT SESSION - THURSDAY APRIL 24

Moderator: Alexandra Kenyon, Kenyon Disend

Welcome by WSAMA President Debra Casparian

Time 8:00 – 8:30 AM **Location:** Rialto AB

Speakers Debra Casparian, WSAMA President

First Amendment Auditors

Time 8:30 – 9:15 AM **Location:** Rialto AB **CLE Credits:** 0.75

Speakers Charlotte Archer, Inslee Best

Description This presentation addresses the growing trend of First Amendment auditors—individuals who film public employees during their work to expose alleged corruption, often without evidence of wrongdoing. While these auditors claim to uphold transparency, their tactics frequently involve aggression, rudeness, and a disregard for public agency rules, sometimes even trespassing on restricted areas. The session will explore the legal challenges public agencies face in dealing with these auditors, including balancing constitutional rights with protecting employees' safety and maintaining a professional work environment. Key strategies for safeguarding your employees will be discussed, such as establishing clear policies on public interactions, training staff on handling confrontational situations, setting boundaries, and understanding legal rights in situations involving filming and trespassing.

Legislative Round Up

Time 9:15 – 10:00 AM **Location:** Rialto AB **CLE Credits:** 0.75

Speakers Shannon McClelland, AWC and Joe Beck, City of Puyallup

Description

BREAK

Time 10:00 – 10:15 AM **Location:**

Criminal Law Update

Time 10:15 – 11:00 AM **Location:** Rialto AB **CLE Credits:** 0.75

Speakers Lacey Offutt, City of Everett

Description

Ethics: The Sus Among Us

Time 11:00 – 12:00 PM **Location:** Rialto AB **CLE Credits:** 1.0

Speakers Matt Segal and Jessica Skelton, Pacifica Law Group

Description

LUNCH

Time 12:00 – 1:30 PM **Location:** Owens Ballroom

CIVIL SESSION – THURSDAY APRIL 24

Moderator: Samantha Dole, City of Kent

Insurance and Liability Limitation Provisions in Procurement

Time	1:30 – 2:00 PM	Location:	Rialto AB	CLE Credits:	0.5
Speakers	Jay Donovan, Foster Garvey				
Description					

Seattle v. Monsanto: How the City of Seattle used a public nuisance claim to achieve a \$160 million settlement with Monsanto.

Time	2:00 – 2:30 PM	Location:	Rialto AB	CLE Credits:	0.5
Speakers	Laura Wishik, City of Seattle				
Description	Seattle Assistant City Attorney Laura Wishik will provide an overview of public nuisance and then dig into how the City of Seattle case against Monsanto succeeded in achieving a \$160 million settlement, including the obstacles, lessons learned and some war stories.				

Religious Expressions in the Public Workplace

Time	2:30 – 3:15 PM	Location:	Rialto AB	CLE Credits:	0.75
Speakers	Jared Van Kirk and Matt Kelly, Foster Garvey				
Description					

BREAK

Time	3:15 – 3:30 PM	Location:	
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HR Head Scratchers

Time	3:30 – 4:15 PM	Location:	Rialto AB	CLE Credits:	0.75
Speakers	Diana Shukis and Steve Peltin, Foster Garvey; Danielle Marchant, Davis Arneil Law Firm				
Description					

How to Manage Your Council Meetings

Time	4:15 – 5:00 PM	Location:	Rialto AB	CLE Credits:	0.75
Speakers	Kim Adams Pratt and David Linehan, Madrona Law Group				
Description					

RECEPTION

Time	5:30 – 7:00 PM	Location:	Owens Ballroom
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CRIMINAL SESSION – THURSDAY APRIL 24

Moderator: Brie Hopkins, City of Bellevue

Infractions

Time	1:30 – 2:15 PM	Location:	Rialto C	CLE Credits:	0.75
Speakers	Angelina Petrosyan, City of Bellevue				
Description					

Defendant Identification Issues/Procedures

Time	2:15 – 3:15 PM	Location:	Rialto C	CLE Credits:	1.0
Speakers	Matt Sharp, Lacey Law Group				
Description					

BREAK

Time	3:15 – 3:30 PM	Location:	
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Rule 9 Internships

Time	3:30 – 4:00 PM	Location:	Rialto C	CLE Credits:	0.5
Speakers	Lorie Han, City of Seattle				
Description					

Good Cause Extensions for Forensic Evaluations of Defendants that Extend Beyond Mandated Timeframes & Forensic Navigator Utilization in a Criminal Proceeding

Time	4:00 – 5:00 PM	Location:	Rialto C	CLE Credits:	1.0
Speakers	DSHS/Western State: Rusty Horton, Compliance Reporting Specialist and Solomon Wyatt, Forensic Navigator Program Administrator				
Description	Now stretching more than 10 years, Trueblood et al. v. Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) et al. found that the State took too long to provide competency evaluation and restoration services, which enable criminal defendants to assist in their own defense. After failure to comply with the judgment, contempt findings and fines were imposed leading to a Contempt Settlement Agreement in 2018. The Forensic Navigator program was created as part of the settlement agreement and is now implemented in three phased regions covering 16 counties. This session discusses the navigator program, the services provided by navigators, and how to utilize navigators in a criminal proceeding. In more recent Trueblood proceedings, the federal court mandated substantial changes to the Good Cause Extension process for competency evaluations that experience delays beyond the mandated timeframes for completion. This presentation also details the Good Cause Exception process, discusses recent changes, and discusses how to use the process.				

RECEPTION

Time	5:30 – 7:00 PM	Location:	Owens Ballroom
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FRIDAY – APRIL 25

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Time	7:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Location:	Rialto Pre-function
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BREAKFAST

Time	7:30 AM – 8:30 AM	Location:	Owens Ballroom
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CIVIL SESSION – FRIDAY APRIL 25

Moderator:

Your Rights and Remedies in Construction Disputes; a Guide for Owners

Time	8:30 – 9:15 AM	Location:	Rialto AB	CLE Credits:	0.75
Speakers	Kellen Patterson and Jonathan Schirmer, Ballard Spahr				
Description	This presentation will provide a high level overview of critical issues for public owners to consider in the planning, procurement, and completion of construction projects. We will cover construction delivery methods and the associated risks and benefits, as well as key contract clauses for agreements with designers, consultants, and contractors. In addition, we will discuss critical owner defenses in the context of both change claims and litigation, with an eye toward how best to preserve those defenses in the planning and contracting phase.				

Tort Law Update

Time	9:15 – 9:45 AM	Location:	Rialto AB	CLE Credits:	0.5
Speakers	Dan Lloyd, City of Vancouver				
Description	Tort law remains the complex creature it was during our first year of law school. This session will focus primarily on cases from the Washington Supreme Court and Washington Court of Appeals and how they impact the municipalities represented by WSAMA Members.				

BREAK

Time 9:45 – 10:00 AM **Location:**

Utility Tax After the Renton Decision

Time 10:00 – 10:30 AM **Location:** Rialto AB **CLE Credits:** 0.5

Speakers Kari Sand, Ogden Murphy Wallace and Adrian Winder, Foster Garvey

Description

Cities Under Siege: Understanding the Federal Impact on Cities and Other Local Agencies

Time 10:30 – 11:30 AM **Location:** Rialto AB **CLE Credits:** 1.0

Speakers Paul Lawrence and Sarah Mack, Pacifica Law Group; Kerala Cowart, City of Seattle

Description This presentation will explore the evolving landscape of executive orders and policy shifts under the current federal administration, with a particular focus on immigration enforcement and federal funding. The presenters will examine how these changes are reshaping the relationship between the federal government and local authorities, and the practical challenges faced by cities and other local governments in responding to new directives. Panelists will provide an analysis of the current state of the law and the real-world impacts already being felt by Washington cities, offering valuable insights into how local governments are navigating these complex issues. Attendees will leave with a clearer understanding of the legal, economic, and social consequences of current federal policies, as well as strategies for adapting to the shifting political and regulatory environment.

Pole Attachments and Other Utility Issues

Time 11:30 – 12:00 PM **Location:** Rialto AB **CLE Credits:** 0.5

Speakers Bob Sterbank, Foster Garvey

Description

Golf Tee Time – Suncadia Resort

Time 1:00 PM **Location:**

Description

CRIMINAL SESSION – FRIDAY APRIL 25

Moderator: Michele Walker, City of Kent

Expired Vial Litigation in the Wake of *Kanta* and *Leer*

Time 8:30 – 10:00 AM **Location:** Rialto C **CLE Credits:** 1.5

Speakers Bradley Lane, City of Seattle

Description

BREAK

Time 10:00 – 10:15 AM **Location:**

Advanced Toxicology Analytical Approaches to Establishing Intoxication

Time 10:15 – 11:15 PM **Location:** Rialto C **CLE Credits:** 1.0

Speakers Bradley Lane, City of Seattle

Description

DRE Testimony in Marijuana DUI Cases

Time 11:15 – 12:00 PM **Location:** Rialto C **CLE Credits:** 0.75

Speakers Bradley Lane, City of Seattle

Description

Golf Tee Time – Suncadia Resort

Time 1:00 PM **Location:**

Description



April 23–25
Suncadia Resort, Cle Elum, WA