

**WEDNESDAY APRIL 23**

**WSAMA Bootcamp Registration**

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

**Introduction**

**Time** 1:00 – 1:15 PM **Location:** Rialto A

**Speakers** Debra Casparian, WSAMA President

**City and Town Governance 101: Municipal Authority, Separation of Powers, and the Role of the City Attorney**

**Time** 1:15 – 2:00 PM **Location:** Rialto A **CLE Credits:** 0.75

**Speakers** Bob Sterbank, Foster Garvey

**Description** This presentation covers the basics of city and town forms of government, the separation of powers that accompanies them, and the city attorney’s role in navigating the nuances of typical separation of powers disputes among elected and appointed municipal officers.

**Civil Enforcement of Municipal Codes**

**Time** 2:00 – 2:30 PM **Location:** Rialto A **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:** Rialto A **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:** Rialto A

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

**Time** 3:30 – 4:15 PM **Location:** Rialto A **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:** Rialto A **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** The 2025 legislative session has been a very active one, with the Association of Washington Cities tracking 600 bills that impact city authority and operations. With only a few days remaining before *sine die*, this presentation will cover those bills passed by the Legislature to date, key bills that did not advance but may return next session, and any bills that hang in the balance. In addition, learn about the role of the WSAMA Legislative Committee.

### BREAK

**Time** 10:00 – 10:15 AM **Location:** Rialto Pre-function

#### 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** If you have kids, or just happen to be a really cool adult, you know what "Sus" means (suspect or suspicious: <https://www.urbandictionary.com/define.php?term=sus>). And if you practice municipal law, you know The Sus. They are the person who is suspicious of everything and everyone. They don't listen to you, don't follow advice, and think whatever

the rules are, they don't apply to them. They might be under the impression that they are your client, not the municipality. And they sure take up a lot of your time. This session will address The Sus, including the confluence of statutory and municipal ethics requirements and ethics requirements for lawyers under the RPCs (whether applied to you, your client if they are a lawyer, or both). And your kids will be so impressed with everything you learn.

## 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** A discussion about how municipalities can better protect themselves in connection with public works projects: additional insureds and contractual indemnification provisions.

### 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 – 3:00 PM **Location:** Rialto AB **CLE Credits:** 0.75

**Speakers** Jared Van Kirk and Matt Kelly, Foster Garvey

**Description** This presentation will cover the legal standards governing religious expression and accommodation in public sector workplaces. It will identify risks that arise when employee expression involves religious beliefs and viewpoints and examine scenarios to illustrate how employers can address these risks and religious accommodation requests while remaining compliant with the law and aligned with organizational policies.

## BREAK

**Time** 3:00 – 3:15 PM **Location:** Rialto Pre-function

### HR Head Scratchers

**Time** 3:15 – 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** Join this lively and interactive session as our panel of employment lawyers tackles complex employee challenges facing public sector employers. We will focus on legal issues and best practices for topics including hiring, workplace policies, employee discipline, wage and hour and DEI, offering practical strategies that will leave you better prepared to maintain a positive and compliant workplace.

### 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** A candid discussion among colleagues about managing your city council and your city council meetings.

## RECEPTION

**Time** 5:30 – 7:00 PM **Location:** Owens Ballroom

**CRIMINAL SESSION – THURSDAY APRIL 24**

*Moderator: Brie Hopkins, City of Bellevue*

**Infractions**

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

**Use of Photographs in Out-of-Court Identifications: Refresher and Discussion of Best Practices.**

<b>Time</b>	2:15 – 3:15 PM	<b>Location:</b>	Rialto C	<b>CLE Credits:</b>	1.0
<b>Speakers</b>	Matt Sharp, Lacey Law Group				
<b>Description</b>	This presentation focuses on the use of photographs for witness identifications during law enforcement investigations. <i>State v. Derri</i> , 199 Wn.2d 658 (2022) added a layer to the issue, leaving a substantial gray area. This presentation offers a refresher on the boundaries of “impermissibly suggestive” photograph identification procedures and some suggested best practices.				

**BREAK**

<b>Time</b>	3:15 – 3:30 PM	<b>Location:</b>	Rialto Pre-function
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**Rule 9 Internships**

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

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

<b>Time</b>	4:00 – 5:00 PM	<b>Location:</b>	Rialto C	<b>CLE Credits:</b>	1.0
<b>Speakers</b>	DSHS/Western State: Rusty Horton, Compliance Reporting Specialist and Solomon Wyatt, Forensic Navigator Program Administrator				
<b>Description</b>	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**

<b>Time</b>	5:30 – 7:00 PM	<b>Location:</b>	Owens Ballroom
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**FRIDAY – APRIL 25**

**CONFERENCE REGISTRATION**

<b>Time</b>	7:00 AM – 12:00 PM	<b>Location:</b>	Rialto Pre-function
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**BREAKFAST**

<b>Time</b>	7:30 AM – 8:30 AM	<b>Location:</b>	Owens Ballroom
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**Annual Member Meeting**

<b>Time</b>	8:00 AM – 8:30 AM	<b>Location:</b>	Rialto AB
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**CIVIL SESSION – FRIDAY APRIL 25**

*Moderator: Philip Sanchez, City of Bellevue*

**Your Rights and Remedies in Construction Disputes; A Guide for Owners**

<b>Time</b>	8:30 – 9:15 AM	<b>Location:</b>	Rialto AB	<b>CLE Credits:</b>	0.75
<b>Speakers</b>	Kellen Patterson and Jonathan Schirmer, Ballard Spahr				
<b>Description</b>	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**

<b>Time</b>	9:15 – 9:45 AM	<b>Location:</b>	Rialto AB	<b>CLE Credits:</b>	0.5
<b>Speakers</b>	Dan Lloyd, City of Vancouver				
<b>Description</b>	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**

<b>Time</b>	9:45 – 10:00 AM	<b>Location:</b>	Rialto Pre-function
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**Utility Tax After the Renton Decision**

<b>Time</b>	10:00 – 10:30 AM	<b>Location:</b>	Rialto AB	<b>CLE Credits:</b>	0.5
<b>Speakers</b>	Kari Sand, Ogden Murphy Wallace				
<b>Description</b>	This presentation focuses on key takeaways from the City of Renton’s successful defense of its telephone utility tax assessment against TracFone Wireless, Inc., the nation’s largest prepaid wireless service provider, starting at the administrative hearing level through Division I of the Washington Court of Appeals.				

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

<b>Time</b>	10:30 – 11:30 AM	<b>Location:</b>	Rialto AB	<b>CLE Credits:</b>	1.0
<b>Speakers</b>	Paul Lawrence and Sarah Mack, Pacifica Law Group; Kerala Cowart, City of Seattle				
<b>Description</b>	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.				

**Regulating Pole Attachments in “Your” Right-of-Way: Why It’s Not As Simple As It Looks**

<b>Time</b>	11:30 – 12:00 PM	<b>Location:</b>	Rialto AB	<b>CLE Credits:</b>	0.5
<b>Speakers</b>	Bob Sterbank, Foster Garvey & Kinnon W. Williams, Foster Garvey				
<b>Description</b>	Kinnon W. Williams and Bob C. Sterbank will explore the intricacies of overlapping federal, state and municipal regulation of attachments to power, mobile telephone and other poles and structures located within city streets and rights-of-way. While you may think of your city’s streets as quintessential public property under your city control, regulation of pole attachments is never as simple it might seem.				

**Golf Tee Time – Suncadia Resort**

<b>Time</b>	1:00 PM	<b>Location:</b>	
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**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** This session examines "expired vial" defense challenges, tox hot topics, and the finer litigation points surrounding these challenges.

**BREAK**

**Time** 10:00 – 10:15 AM **Location:**

**Evaluating the Strength of Evidence in Drug Cases and Using Toxicology Evidence Wisely**

**Time** 10:15 – 11:15 PM **Location:** Rialto C **CLE Credits:** 1.0  
**Speakers** TSRP Michelle Rutherford, Snohomish County Prosecutor's Office & Bradley Lane, City of Seattle  
**Description** This session will demonstrate a framework for analysis of an affected by case and review common issues through case examples and discussion of the relationship between toxicology evidence and investigator observations.

**DRE Testimony in Marijuana DUI Cases**

**Time** 11:15 – 12:00 PM **Location:** Rialto C **CLE Credits:** 0.75  
**Speakers** Officer Jon Huber, Seattle Police Department & Bradley Lane, City of Seattle  
**Description**

**Golf Tee Time – Suncadia Resort**

**Time** 1:00 PM **Location:**