



Washington State Association of Municipal Attorneys

WEDNESDAY APRIL 22ND

BOARD MEETING

Time 4:00 – 5:00 PM **Location:** Burrard Suite

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Time 5:00 – 7:00 PM **Location:** Waterfront Foyer

WEDNESDAY EVENING BOAT CRUISE

Time 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM **Location:** Bayshore West Marina located in downtown Coal Harbour

THURSDAY APRIL 23RD

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Time 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM **Location:** Waterfront Foyer

BREAKFAST

Time 7:00 AM – 8:00 AM **Location:** Mackenzie Ballroom

JOINT SESSION - THURSDAY APRIL 23RD

Moderator:

Welcome by WSAMA President

Time 8:00 – 8:30 AM **Location:** Waterfront Ballroom

Speakers

A Judge’s Take on Dispositive Motions

Time 8:30 – 9:30 AM **Location:** Waterfront Ballroom **CLE Credits:** 1.0 ETHICS

Speakers King Co. Superior Court Judge Mike Ryan & Roger Wynne, City of Seattle

Description Join King County Superior Court Judge Michael Ryan and his former Seattle City Attorney’s Office colleague Roger Wynne to explore four aspects of dispositive motions practice: preliminaries, briefing, oral argument, and sanctions motions. And don’t let them dictate the show; ask the questions you’ve wanted to ask a judge, but have been reluctant to pose in court.

Legislative Update

Time 9:30 – 10:00 AM **Location:** Waterfront Ballroom **CLE Credits:** 0.5

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

Description

BREAK

Time 10:00 – 10:15 AM **Location:**

Criminal Law Update

Time 10:45 – 11:15 AM **Location:** Waterfront Ballroom **CLE Credits:** 0.5

Speakers Bradley Lane, TSRP, City of Seattle

Description

Public Defense Case Loads: Complying with Court Rules and Keeping the System Running

Time 11:15 – 12:00 PM **Location:** Waterfront Ballroom **CLE Credits:** 0.75

Speakers Anita Khandelwal and Scott Ferron, Pacifica Law Group

Description

ETHICS: The Distinction Between Work Product and Attorney-Client Privilege in a Government Setting

Time 11:15 – 12:00 PM **Location:** Waterfront Ballroom **CLE Credits:** 0.75 ETHICS

Speakers Kerala Cowart and Ghazal Sharifi, City of Seattle

Description



Washington State Association of Municipal Attorneys

LUNCH

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

CIVIL SESSION – THURSDAY APRIL 23RD

Moderator:

ETHICS - When Decorum Breaks Down: Ethical Lawyering Amid Hostility and Misinformation

Time 1:30 – 2:15 PM **Location:** Waterfront Ballroom **CLE Credits:** 0.75 ETHICS

Speakers Charli Archer, Inslee Best

Description

Protecting Privacy in the Public Sphere

Time 2:15 – 3:00 PM **Location:** Waterfront Ballroom **CLE Credits:** 0.75

Speakers Judge Matthew J. Segal (ret.) and Ellie Chapman, Pacifica Law Group

Description

Public Works Construction Bid Protests for Public Agencies: Tips and Tricks on How to Avoid, Defend, and Win Bid Protests

Time 3:00–3:30 PM **Location:** Waterfront Ballroom **CLE Credits:** 0.5

Speakers Kellen Patterson and Jonathan Schirmer, Ballard Spahr

Description

BREAK

Time 3:30 – 3:45 PM **Location:**

Crafting Skills for Drafting Bills: How to Issue Spot in Ordinances

Time 3:45-4:30 PM **Location:** Waterfront Ballroom **CLE Credits:** 0.75

Speakers Brandon Isleib, City of Seattle

Description Dotting I's, crossing T's, and minding P's and Q's doesn't matter until you know whether those letters belong in the first place. This session covers the likely places issues will come up in drafting legislation, whether starting from scratch or from laws outside your municipality, as well as how those issues can appear when applying state law.

Social Media and the First Amendment

Time 4:30 – 5:00 PM **Location:** Waterfront Ballroom **CLE Credits:** 0.5

Speakers Kyla S. Bond, Kitsap County

Description This session focuses on the operational side of First Amendment compliance. Drawing from real policy development and moderator training materials, it examines how agencies can structure resolution-backed social media policies, draft defensible public disclaimers, classify prohibited content categories, and implement documented moderation procedures that preserve limited public forum status.

Topics include public forum classification and the consequences of inconsistent enforcement; viewpoint neutrality and the distinction between offensive speech and removable content; handling false information, threats, spam, and off-topic content; documentation and retention obligations under the Public Records Act; and the role of internal moderator guides and real-time legal review.

The session concludes with interactive hypotheticals drawn from real-world comment scenarios, giving attendees an opportunity to evaluate whether common moderation decisions are legally defensible.

THURSDAY RECEPTION

Time 5:30 – 7:00 PM **Location:**

CRIMINAL SESSION – THURSDAY APRIL 23RD

Moderator: Polly Peshtaz, City of Redmond

Ethics: UVISA review and Potential Impeach Disclosure (for UVISAs)

Time 1:30 – 2:30 PM **Location:** Cheakamus Room **CLE Credits:** 1.0 ETHICS

Speakers Michael Rio, Rio Foltz



Washington State Association of Municipal Attorneys

Description

BREAK

Time 2:30 – 2:45 PM **Location:**

Video Evidence in Motions/Trials (Body Cams a Case Study)

Time 3:00 – 4:00 PM **Location:** Cheakamus Room **CLE Credits:** 1.0

Speakers Michelle Rutherford, TSRP, Snohomish County

Description This session will focus on reviewing practical strategies for effective presentation of video evidence, including body worn cameras. We will review and discuss foundation, common objections, and practical considerations surrounding balancing media exhibits with testimony

Therapeutic Courts Panel

Time 4:00 – 5:00 PM **Location:** Cheakamus Room **CLE Credits:** 1.0

Speakers Geoff McCann, City of Mount Vernon and Hil Kaman, City of Everett

Description A panel discussion of therapeutic courts in Everett and Mount Vernon Municipal Courts. Topics include learned lessons, innovations, and how these types of court continue to evolve as new "best practices" are introduced.

THURSDAY NIGHT RECEPTION

Time 5:30 – 7:00 PM **Location:**

FRIDAY – APRIL 24TH

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Time 7:00 AM – 12:00 PM **Location:** Waterfront Foyer

BREAKFAST

Time 7:30 AM – 8:30 AM **Location:** Mackenzie Ballroom

CIVIL SESSION – FRIDAY APRIL 24TH

Moderator:

Litigating a PRA case When Material Facts are in Dispute (Procedural Tools)

Time 8:30 – 9:15 AM **Location:** Waterfront Ballroom **CLE Credits:** 0.75

Speakers Jessica Goldman, Summit Law Group and Jessica Leiser, City of Seattle

Description

Municipal Authority to Collect Wealth, Income, and Head Taxes

Time 9:15 – 9:45 AM **Location:** Waterfront Ballroom **CLE Credits:** 0.5

Speakers Debra Casparian, City of Tacoma

Description This presentation will explore a municipality's excise tax authority and discuss a variety of revenue options.

When Leave Laws Collide: Navigating the Impact of E2SHB 1213 on PFML, FMLA and Other Leave Laws

Time 9:45 – 10:15 AM **Location:** Waterfront Ballroom **CLE Credits:** 0.5

Speakers Sarah Mack, Pacifica Law Group

Description Join employment lawyer and WSBA Labor and Employment Law Section Executive Committee Chair Sarah Mack for a presentation and discussion of the Impact of E2SHB 1213 on PFML, FMLA and other Leave Laws. This presentation will highlight the primary changes to PFML after the passage of HB 1213, which became effective January 1, 2026, and its impact on leave stacking under PFML and FMLA, the continuation of employee benefits during these leaves, and other significant changes to the administration of leave, with time for audience questions and discussion.

BREAK

Time 10:15 – 10:30 AM **Location:**

ETHICS - Managing Conflict Screens



Washington State Association of Municipal Attorneys

Time 10:30 – 11:00 AM **Location:** Waterfront Ballroom **CLE Credits:** 0.5
Speakers Foster Garvey - TBD
Description

Overview of the Recycling Reform Act

Time 11:00 – 11:30 AM **Location:** Waterfront Ballroom **CLE Credits:** 0.5
Speakers McKenna Morrigan, City of Seattle and Shannon McClelland, AWC
Description The Recycling Reform Act passed in 2025 and is the first major change in the state’s recycling system since the advent of commingled recycling in the 1990’s. The law shifts financial responsibility for managing residential recycling programs from local governments to product and packaging producers. This session will provide an overview of the law, implications for all cities, including contracting considerations for those who contract for collection and/or processing; and what cities need to be ready for to take advantage of the cost reimbursement that will begin in 2030. It’s a complex law with a 5-year runway—and actions cities will need to take along the way.

Tort Law Update

Time 11:30 AM – 12:00 PM **Location:** Waterfront Ballroom **CLE Credits:** 0.5
Speakers Dan Lloyd, Lighthouse Law Group
Description

CRIMINAL SESSION – FRIDAY APRIL 24TH
Moderator:

Legislative Update DUI

Time 8:30 – 9:00 AM **Location:** Cheakamus Room **CLE Credits:** 0.5
Speakers Michelle Rutherford, TSRP, Snohomish County
Description This session will briefly review some of the important legislative changes to impaired driving enforcement, including both State and Federal updates regarding licit substances, deferred prosecutions, oral fluid roadside testing, felony DUI changes, vehicle pursuits, intelligent speed assistance devices, IID, and CDL holders.

10.77 Issues (Restoration, Forensic Navigators, Sell Hearing)

Time 9:00-10:00 AM **Location:** Cheakamus Room **CLE Credits:** 1.0
Speakers Hil Kaman, City of Everett
Description

BREAK

Time 10:00 – 10:15 AM **Location:**

Belltown Hellcat Prosecution (Reckless Driving/ Racing Case) - Panel Discussion

Time 10:15 – 12:00 PM **Location:** Cheakamus Room **CLE Credits:** 1.75
Speakers Bradley Lane, TSRP, City of Seattle
Description