

WASHINGTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

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NEWSLETTER

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Family Law Assistance Program Marks Seven Years in October 2007



Ben Romero and Sue Gerhardt

The Family Law Assistance Program, also known as the FLAP in Washington County, opened its doors on October 9, 2000, and Sue Gerhardt, a native Ohioan, has been with the program since the beginning. The FLAP is located in room 102C of the Washington County Courthouse.

Sue worked for Multnomah County Family Court Services (which is similar to Conciliation Services in Washington County) before starting her position as the Family Law Facilitator and now as the Family Court Coordinator with the FLAP. She has lived in Oregon for 23 years and moved here for our temperate climate. Her time and effort in the Family Law Assistance Program is not only appreciated by all the individuals who represent themselves in domestic relations cases, but also by all the volunteer lawyers and law students who learn so much from Sue and her staff. Ben Romero is the Family Law Facilitator; he is a fluent Spanish speaker and has been with the FLAP for three years.

Sue's main goal for the FLAP is to help pro se litigants feel comfortable about asking for assistance if they are representing themselves in a domestic relations case

and to be reasonable in their negotiations with the other party or attorney. When one observes Sue and Ben in action, they are naturals at making folks feel at ease. This program is available for indigent customers, as well as others who choose to represent themselves for other reasons.

The program helps individuals get started with and complete the paperwork and process for 1) divorces or legal separations; 2) custody or parenting time issues for unmarried parents; 3) a child support cases; and 4) modifications of a previous Washington County judgments.

The program cannot help with the following referrals: 1) third parties filing for custody of a child; 2) fathers seeking emergency custody IF paternity has not been established; and 3) any party seeking custody if the child has not resided in Oregon for the past six (6) months, unless the danger is so extreme that Oregon takes jurisdiction (very rare). In these situations, individuals are advised to seek legal counsel and are referred to the Lawyer Referral Service or the Modest Means Program of the Oregon State Bar, St. Andrew's Legal Clinic in Washington County as well as other attorneys willing to work on the same sliding fee scale as St. Andrew's (contact Sue Gerhardt if you would like to be added to the list).

FLAP also explains the court filing fees to parties. If a party cannot pay a filing fee, they may submit request for deferral or waiver. The FLAP and the clerk's office provide the paperwork for a deferral or waiver. The new fee schedule as of September 1, 2007 follows:

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President's Message

By WCBA President Keith Rogers



Keith Rogers

On September 12th, the Washington County Bar Association held its' first meeting of the year with a program honoring former Washington County Circuit Court Judge Al Musick, who died earlier this year. Thanks to the efforts of many, but primarily to Judge Hollie Pihl, dozens of "older" members of the Bar attended and shared their memories of Judge Musick and the practice of law in Washington County in decades past. The stories were inspiring and great entertainment. Indeed, it may have been the best Bar Meeting I can remember attending. But one thing stood out for me: the average age of the lawyers in the room couldn't have been less than 60. Of course, those were the people who best knew Judge Musick, who served as a Circuit Court judge here from 1964 to 1982. But this started me thinking about the massive changes which have taken place in Washington County over the last 20 years and how this might affect the goals and potential of the Washington County Bar Association over the coming year. Mostly, it started me wondering what will it take to engage the interest of the hundreds of younger lawyers in this county in their Bar Association and how can we make it relevant to their interests and practices.

I've practiced in Hillsboro since 1986. Even that recently, I remember Washington County as small town America and the Courthouse as a very small community of lawyers and staff. It was the kind of place where the lawyers, staff and the judge might go across the street for a drink together while they waited for verdicts to be returned. Personal relationships between the lawyers were central to most negotiations. The Bar Association was central to that community.

Since that time, Washington County has grown from a population of about 285,000 to about 515,000 people in 2006. If current growth rates continue, it could exceed Multnomah County as the state's largest county in a little more than ten years. The Bar lists 852 lawyers with their primary offices in Washington County. The paid membership of the Bar this year is 190 including a number of lawyers whose primary offices are in Multnomah County. But typically only 40 or so members come to the meetings each month. I would wager a guess that despite the growth, this is no more than attended the meetings 20 years ago. By contrast, the Multnomah Bar Association has 4600 members. I'm told that 400 members have registered for their annual meeting and that 200 are expected for an awards luncheon next week. I

would hesitate to suggest that we should emulate Multnomah County in any particular way, but I thought the contrast was somewhat dramatic.

So the question I have for you, the members of the Bar and the other lawyers of Washington County, is this: What do you want from your Bar? How can it evolve to represent the interests and needs of the lawyers of Washington County? Do you have ideas for programs or other activities which would benefit your profession? What can we do so that twenty years from now, there will be a cadre of members as loyal to their colleagues and community as those who came to honor Judge Musick this week? The Board of Directors of your Bar Association would love to hear from you.

Washington County Bar Association

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Immediate Past President:

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The Board of Directors meets the first Wednesday morning of the month

WCBA

P.O. Box 912, Hillsboro, OR 97123

Phone: 503-648-0300, Fax: 503-693-9304

Contact Julie Viner, our Administrative Assistant, at the above address and/or number for any correspondence or information about membership, meeting reservations or Newsletter articles or classifieds. Leave a brief message (60 sec. limit) on our answering machine and she will get back to you as soon as possible.

Letters, award and news items, and announcements are welcome.

Articles by members are accepted. All submissions may be edited for length, clarity and style, are published on a space available basis, and at the editor's discretion. Views expressed in articles represent the author's opinion, not necessarily the WCBA's. The publication does not purport to offer legal advice.

Calendar of Events

WCBA Newsletter Deadline

Please submit your information, articles, announcements, ads, etc. to our address or fax for publication in our next Newsletter by the following date:

- December 2007 Issue: November 15, 2007

Schedule of Business Meetings/ CLE's/Social Events

Washington County Bar Association

- WCBA Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, October 10, 2007
Rock Creek Country Club
*CLE: Uninsured, Underinsured and PIP
Sponsored by Alex Libmann and Matt Kehoe
CLE begins at 5:15 p.m.
Dinner at 6:30 p.m. with speaker:
Judge Marco Hernandez, Ethan Levi of the Metropolitan Public Defender's Office and Jeff MacLean of the District Attorney's Office on the status of the new Mental Health Court.

* All WCBA CLE programs are \$15.00 for those who register in advance and \$20.00 for those who register at the door. Charge for non-WCBA members is \$25.00. **Please register so we know how many CLE packets we need to prepare.**

Multnomah Bar Association

- 10/3 Annual Evidence Update
- 10/4 Child Abuse Reporting Requirements
- 10/18 Cross Examination with George Kirklin and David Markowitz
- 10/18 "Absolutely Social" Social

Editorial

After attending the recent bar meeting honoring Judge Musick, I came away feeling that I've never been prouder to be part of an organization. The 70 or so people attending that night spent the evening telling stories, sharing experiences, and reminiscing about the old days. If you were there, you couldn't miss the raw emotion that some of the speakers showed. To them, Judge Musick wasn't just a judge, he was a mentor, a colleague, and a friend. He was well respected and known for his wisdom, if not also, for his demeanor. Several people spoke of how, when he would get frustrated with a case, we would look back to the law - just the law. He felt that if you followed the law, justice would almost always be served. What will we be known for when we are gone? How will we be remembered by our colleagues?

The evening reinforced a debate I have long been having with myself. With great sorrow, I wonder where those days have gone that lawyers were part of a large, congenial group and wonder what has happened to our profession? What ever happened to getting together after work for a beer with opposing counsel or meeting for coffee while waiting for a jury? It's almost like lawyering has become like any other 9-5 job. We don't live in the same city, we don't socialize together, we are hardly even civil to each other when meeting in the hallways at the courthouse. I hear so many times such negative comments about opposing counsels. Why? What purpose does that serve in the long run and when did we become so vicious? Instead of being part of a community and proud to do what we do, it's like we're ashamed, so we hide behind disparaging remarks. What kind of image is that portraying to the public or to other lawyers?

I can only hope that when I am gone I will be remembered for being kind, honest, and always willing to go the extra mile for a client, or an opposing counsel. I hope they remember you as the same.

OREGON STATE BAR

Pro Bono Roll Call

Help Us Spread the News about the **Great Things Lawyers Do** for their Community

Participate in the 2007 Pro Bono Roll Call and the Pro Bono Challenge by reporting your hours at www.osbar.org/probono



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2007 WCBA Professionalism and President's Awards



Judge James Lee Fun

The 2007 WCBA Professionalism Award was presented to Judge James Lee Fun, Jr. at the June monthly meeting. This award began in 2004, and recognizes a local attorney or judge who exemplifies the highest standards of skill, professionalism and integrity.

Judge Fun was elected to the bench in the May 2006 primary election. He is currently assigned to the Juvenile Court, but has been known to handle additional assignments at the request of the Presiding Judge.

Fun grew up in Wyoming, and graduated from the University of Wyoming in 1983. He obtained his JD from the Willamette University College of Law in 1987. Fun began his legal career in private practice, but was hired as a Deputy District Attorney for Washington County in 1991. Fun spent 15 years with the DA's office, and rose to the position of Senior Deputy District Attorney.

As a Senior Deputy District Attorney, Fun's professionalism extended to all parties, even the defendant and defense counsel. As a judge, Fun respectfully and patiently listens to all participants and thoughtfully renders his decision with common sense and compassion.

Always humble, Judge Fun accepted the award with much appreciation and called it "one of the highlights of my legal career".

In addition to his professional duties, Judge Fun donates his time to several public service endeavors. Some of these projects include the Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force, the Washington County DUII Advisory Panel, the Domestic Violence Intervention Council, and Community Youth Services.

Prior recipients of the Professionalism Award include Hillsboro attorneys Larry Brisbee and Connie Terwilliger, and retired Judge Alan Bonebrake.



Michele C. Rini

The President's Award is presented to an attorney or judge who has been instrumental in assisting the outgoing WCBA President with fulfilling his or her duties and in appreciation for services to the WCBA. The 2007 President's Award went to Michele C. Rini, who is the Washington County Juvenile Court Referee and Pro Tem Judge, and former president of the WCBA. Prior to her appointment to the Juvenile Court, Rini was a well known local attorney who worked for the Hillsboro firm of Karpstein & Verhulst, and with the Garland law firm prior to that.

Outgoing WCBA President Ken McNeil expressed his sincere thanks for all Michele Rini has done in her service of the WCBA. Rini was on the WCBA Board of Directors for several years, and served as President from July 2005 to July 2006. She was a regular contributor to the Newsletter, and organized many WCBA social and educational events.

"Michele Rini's organizational abilities greatly assisted in a smooth transition to my term as WCBA President," said McNeil. "She was always available to answer questions about WCBA practices and procedures, and had good advice for me whenever I asked."

Prior recipients of the President's Award include Hillsboro attorneys John Peterson and Matt Kehoe.

Personal Injury Protection Case

By Alex Libmann, October CLE Seminar
Keynote Speaker

Grisby v. Progressive Preferred Insurance Company, ____ OR ____ (August 9, 2007); The issue was whether plaintiff was entitled to attorneys fees in a PIP matter filed in circuit court. The court held, "...that plaintiff's action comes within the scope of the attorney fee provision for actions on insurance policies, ORS 742.061, and that plaintiff is entitled to recover a reasonable attorney fee from his insurer." Plaintiff was injured in an MVA. He filed a claim for expenses with his carrier. The carrier replied in writing and accepted coverage for PIP benefits. The letter explained that plaintiff's PIP coverage provided him with coverage for reasonable and

necessary medical expenses directly related to the accident, but that defendant would not pay benefits that did not meet those criteria. The carrier denied a portion of chiropractic bills. The parties arbitrated the matter and the carrier won. Plaintiff then sought a trial de novo on his claim for chiropractic treatment covered by the PIP provisions of the insurance policy. The court held that that this was not a case that the carrier "has accepted coverage and the only issue is the amount of benefits due to the insured." Claimant was entitled to recover attorneys' fees in this matter.

News from the Family Court Team *By The Honorable Keith R. Raines*

1. January 2, 2008 will bring some substantial changes for the family court team. Judge Bailey will replace Judge Knapp at LEC. Judge Cobb will join the team on a 0.5 FTE basis, maintaining her probate court duties for the other 0.5. Because we are shifting from 3.5 FTE judges to 3.0 FTE in family law, our referee/pro tem, Nancy Hochman, will be picking up some dockets, including the DA/attorney general support docket and some FAPA application days.

Judge Thompson will continue on the A docket. Judge Bailey will complete what he can on the B docket until his reassignment; thereafter Judge Cobb will assume the B docket for newly filed/prejudgment cases. Judge Raines will continue on the C docket. Judge Letourneau will continue on the D docket, both new cases and modifications. Unlettered cases (DR, FI, and cases predating the ABCD designations will be assigned by last number, 0-4 to Judge Thompson, 5-9 to Judge Raines. B modifications will be divided with Judge Cobb handling 0-4 (last number) and Judge Letourneau handling 5-9 (last number). We continue to sort out the final details and will continue to inform the WCBA as plans solidify.

2. Proposed SLRs have been promulgated to the Bar and to the UTCR Committee. Once approved, they will take effect as of February 1, 2008. Some of the more substantive changes have already been put into place:

- A. We are requiring a certificate of service for motions for continuance.
- B. Custody/parenting time modifications require a mediation order to be presented at the time when the show cause order is signed.

C. A parent who has a support case (lacking an ABCD designation) and wants to modify custody or parenting time is required to file a new case to obtain the ABCD designation which will then be consolidated with the support case. (This is partly administrative-driven and partly fee-driven because the filing fees pay for a variety of services including Conciliation Services.) Naturally if the only issue is support modification, the party may simply file a modification.

3. Conciliation Services reports continued success. Clients report a 90%+ overall "high" or "very high" helpfulness and even higher rate of "recommendation to others", and increased levels of interparental cooperation CS is current on assigned custody studies.

4. Nagging reasons why your work gets delayed continue to cluster around these:

- A. Kids Turn is incomplete. I would urge you to go to the website with your client and get the registration form and send it in with the client when you are drafting your pleadings or retainer agreement. Many lawyers come in sheepishly saying that they told their client to sign up but it didn't happen. It may take a few weeks to get into class, so get on this one early please.
- B. Certificates of service must accompany any proposed forms of order. Letters to the Court with a cc to opposing counsel are discarded.
- C. Support show cause orders won't be signed without a Uniform Support Affidavit.

Continued from page 1 **Family Law....**

- \$321 Dissolution/\$253 response (contest)
- \$320 Legal separation/\$253 response (contest)
- \$320 Unmarried parents custody/\$253 response (contest)
- \$108 Modification divorce, separation, annulment/
\$95 response (contest)
- \$55 Modification other than divorce/\$55 response (contest)
- \$145 Mandatory Family Education/
Kid's Turn fee – required if children are involved
- \$53 Enforcement of parenting time
- \$35 Reported hearing lasting 3 hours or less
- \$81 Reported hearing lasting more than 3 hours
- \$81 Trial fee - only if case goes to trial

The FLAP's schedule is Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on a walk-in first-come, first-served basis; no appointments are required. Assistance also is available by e-mail. Contact information for the Family Law Assistance Program is:

Washington County Courts

145 Northeast Second Avenue, Room 102C

Hillsboro, OR 97124

E-Mail: WSH.Familylaw@ojd.state.or.us

Website: <http://www.ojd.state.or.us/wsh/FamLaw1.htm>

The Family Law Assistance Program has helped thousands of parties through the divorce process over the past seven years. For those of us who know Sue Gerhardt and Ben Romero, the Family Law Assistance Program will continue to be a successful and vital program comfortably guiding many more parties through the family law process, which is a challenging time both legally and emotionally. Washington County is fortunate to have such competent and compassionate staff working for this program. Congratulations to the FLAP for celebrating seven successful years of helping Washington County residents work through their domestic relations actions.

– article submitted by Rachel Houston

Retirement of Judge Alexander

By Sue Hohbach

Washington County is soon to lose another extremely experienced and tenured judge. Judge Timothy P. Alexander will be retiring on December 31, 2007 after 17 years of service on the Washington County Circuit Court bench.

Judge Alexander's judicial career in Washington County has involved many high-profile criminal cases. At the start of Alexander's career as a judge in 1990, he presided over a criminal trial involving murder by abuse. The defendant had been married to a nurse, and had murdered their two-year-old daughter by repeatedly hitting her head until she died, although the defendant had no intent to kill her. He also presided over a jury trial in the first Jessica's Law prosecution, which was a new concept at the time. Judge Alexander has also presided over several aggravated murder cases, including the Hagg Lake case, which was the most memorable one for Alexander. In that case, the defendants shot a man to prevent his planned marriage. The jury elected not to impose the death penalty. Instead, one defendant was sentenced to life in prison without possibility of parole; the other was sentenced to life in prison with the possibility of parole. Of the presiding judges in Washington County, Judge Alexander has presided over the largest number of murder trials. Alexander recalls that the last 5 years of his experience as a judge has involved many complicated and difficult cases.

Judge Alexander currently chairs the panel of Washington County judges handling Measure 37 cases, which is a role that he will need to hand over to another judge upon his retirement. Most cases regarding measure 37 have already been completed, and joint motion hearings have been held. However, there are more motions and trials pending in Washington County that need to be heard.

Judge Alexander's fondest memories as a judge have been all the people that he's met while serving on the Washington County bench, including court staff, other judges, and attorneys who have tried cases before him. Alexander was president of the Washington Bar Association before becoming a judge, so he already knew many of the local attorneys. Judge Alexander says that he's experienced very few conflicts with attorneys over the years, and he notes that local law enforcement personnel also know him very well. Being a very social person, Judge Alexander has never wanted to be locked in an office where he would not see people.

Judge Alexander notes that the biggest change in the judicial system today is how young the judicial bench has become in the wake of the retirements of Judges McElligott, Bonebrake, and now himself. Judge Alexander recognizes that the best way to learn how to be a judge is through firsthand

experience, so it is important that the younger judges are given opportunities to handle a variety of cases.

Prior to becoming a Circuit Court Judge, Judge Alexander prosecuted criminal defendants while living and working in Texas, some of whom were executed. Although he has represented both sides in criminal, domestic relations, and other civil cases, Judge Alexander recalls never completely enjoying being an advocate for just one party. Judge Alexander discovered that he really enjoyed the role of judge when he worked as a pro tem judge in Washington County from 1987-1990. Although it was a part-time position for which he received partial pay, he really enjoyed the role. It afforded him a great opportunity to experience what it would be like to be a circuit court judge and to make a reasoned decision to take that career path.

During Judge Alexander's retirement, he plans to be an arbitration reference judge similar to what Judge Bonebrake is doing, to do some long distance traveling, and to play more golf. He recently participated in the Reno / Tahoe Open PGA Pro Am tournament, and wants to compete on a more serious level. Although he does not have any trips planned yet due to his recent ankle surgery, Judge Alexander hopes to take a 3 week trip to Europe when his ability to walk has improved.

Judge Alexander is publicly supporting Keith Rogers as his replacement on the Washington County bench. He is also, however, encouraging Michele C. Rini to apply for his judicial position because she should be rewarded for having given up a lot for her current referee position.

While Judge Alexander had initially planned to retire at the end of October, Governor Ted Kulongoski needed more time to fill his position. Not wanting Washington County to be short a judge, Judge Alexander agreed to postpone his retirement until the end of this year. Judge Alexander hopes that Governor Kulongoski is able to appoint someone by then because it would be a hardship for the Washington County bench to have one less judge in the interim.

Judge Alexander is currently on medical leave due to a recent ankle surgery he had that required the cartilage from his ankle to be removed and be replaced by a titanium screw. The screw may or may not be removed for 6 to 8 months, and Judge Alexander was instructed not to put weight on his ankle for 6 weeks. Judge Alexander says that he is feeling much better now, and that it will take about 4 more weeks (as of the time of the interview) before he is able to resume his daily routine.

Review of Judicial Candidates

At the time this article is being written, the deadline has not yet passed for interested attorneys to submit their applications for the judicial position soon to be vacated by retiring Judge Timothy P. Alexander. Given the tight timeframe, the WCBA newsletter staff is grateful to those candidates who were able to provide brief interviews prior to the deadline to go to print. We offer our apologies to those candidates who are not included herein. Once the deadline has passed, the Governor's office will obtain input from the local bar association. If you want to make comments, go onto the OSBAR website, click on "judicial vacancies" on the left. Under Washington County, click "details" and you will be given contact information. The Governor's staff will then review each candidate's packet and prepare a summary for the

Governor. The Governor will then decide which candidates should be interviewed.

The currently known candidates are:

Marc Abrams	Craig Crispin
Eric Butterfield	Leon Colas
Vince Deguc	Daniel Hoarfrost
Susan Isaacs	Tim Marble
Francisco Ravelo	Michele Rini
Keith Rogers	Linda Rudnick
Craig West	John Uffelman
Janelle Factora Wipper	

Leon Colas

Leon Colas is currently serving as a pro tem judge / referee for Multnomah County, and has been doing so for three years on a full time basis. This position affords him the opportunity to handle a wide variety of legal matters, and he routinely handles traffic matters, criminal arraignments, DUII diversions, stalking, small claims and landlord / tenant cases. Currently he is filling in at the Gresham court, where he also hears misdemeanor jury trials.

Mr. Colas began his legal career after passing the bar in 1992 by working as an associate at the law firm of Browning & Heil in Washington County. He held that position until Mr. Heil left, and Mr. Colas and Bob Browning then became partners. It was Mr. Browning who caused Mr. Colas to become interested in becoming a judge, as Mr. Colas filled in for Mr. Browning on occasion as the Gaston municipal court judge. Mr. Colas' private practice experience spans the years 1992 - 2004. During that time his practice was almost exclusively

family law, focusing on divorce in particular. He also sat as municipal court judge for the city of Cornelius from 1997-2004 and for the city of McMinnville from 1998-2001.

Mr. Colas has experience in both running for office and in seeking appointment, as he ran for a circuit court judge position in Washington County in 2002 and 2006, and ran for a similar position in Yamhill County in 2000. In his one earlier attempt at gaining the position via appointment, he was unsuccessful against Kirsten Thompson.

Mr. Colas sees his recently-gained three years of solid, full-time circuit court judge experience in Multnomah as a great benefit to the Washington County bench. He has gained a great deal of experience hearing misdemeanor jury trials, and has experience with almost every aspect of being a judge. Mr. Colas would much rather be a judge in Washington County than Multnomah County, as Mr. Colas makes his home in Washington County. Mr. Colas is very concerned about the many child victims in the community and wants to be a positive force in helping to protect children.

Craig West

Craig West has been in private practice for 31 years. He started out in the early days doing court-appointed criminal cases, and has grown his practice into primarily a civil litigation practice. He represents both plaintiffs and insurance companies in personal injury and property damage matters. Being licensed in both Oregon and Washington and being a member of the federal bar, Mr. West practices all over the states of Oregon and Washington and has experienced a wide range of courthouses, systems, attitudes and procedures.

Mr. West feels that as a member of the Washington County bench, he could put to use his experience with a variety of judicial systems to add some different ideas to the discussion in Washington County. Given that Washington County has recently lost judges experienced in civil practice due to attrition, it is important that the next practitioner to be added to the bench be an experienced civil attorney. By putting his name forward for consideration for appointment by the Governor, he offers that choice.

Tim Marble

Tim Marble is in private practice in Forest Grove, where he has mostly handled probate matters for ten years, although he has done a little bit of almost every kind of law except patent cases. His practice is currently comprised of approximately 40% estate planning, but he also handles probate matters such as guardianships, conservatorships and estate administration in addition to real estate, FED and elder abuse litigation. Mr. Marble assisted in originating the Washington County elder abuse multi-disciplinary team, served on the Governor's elder abuse task force in 2004 and 2005, and has served on the Attorney General's elder abuse task force since 2003. Mr. Marble is also active in his local community,

participating in the Forest Grove Senior Law Project since 1998 and currently serving as a member of the Washington County Disability, Aging and Veterans' Services Advisory Council and the Forest Grove Building Board of Appeals.

In seeking out the upcoming judicial appointment, Mr. Marble intends to stress the importance of utilizing local people, preferably Oregon natives such as himself, in the makeup of the Washington County bench. He also feels it is important that the next judge have a local presence, preferably in western Washington County, and that the bench as a whole be representative of the community it serves. Mr. Marble also feels the Washington County bench would benefit from his broad range of civil experience.

Michele Rini

Michele Rini is currently sitting as a juvenile court hearings referee in Washington County, after having been in private practice for the preceding 14 years. While in private practice, Ms. Rini handled a wide variety of cases, to include criminal, juvenile, and domestic relations. Her practice was primarily in Washington County, but she handled similar matters in Tillamook County, also.

Since becoming the juvenile court hearings referee, Ms. Rini has taken part in the developing and implementing of a model court program here in Washington County. The primary focus of the project is to improve permanency outcomes for children in dependency cases. To that end, the court is now taking steps to ensure proper legal measures are taken throughout the process so that if and when the time comes to switch to an alternate dispositional plan, the transition can happen smoothly and efficiently.

Ms. Rini hopes to become a sitting Circuit Court judge

in Washington County because she hopes to make a difference. One of the things she loves about juvenile court is that she has the opportunity to provide services to youths and families to help overcome the effects of neglect and abuse, and to try and change the paths of delinquent youths to keep them from entering the adult criminal justice system. In taking that thinking into the circuit court arena, Ms. Rini observes that there is a large group of people who use a large amount of court resources. The same families are involved in criminal, juvenile, FED and family law cases, in particular. While Ms. Rini currently hears family law cases where there is a juvenile court overlap, she envisions streamlining the handling of these families even more in the future.

As for her judicial demeanor, Ms. Rini emphasizes the importance of efficiency in the court system, but also feels it important that people – victims, defendants, and lawyers – all feel like they're being listened to and being treated respectfully. She observes that it is a lot easier to hear an answer you don't like if you feel you've been listened to and your position considered.

Susan Isaacs

Susan Isaacs is currently a sole practitioner with an office located in Beaverton. She has been an attorney in Oregon since 1979, with a broad range of experience. Ms. Isaacs worked as a Deputy District Attorney for Multnomah County for two years, then went to work for Des Connal doing criminal defense work for a year, before she worked for the Oregon State Bar for six years prosecuting attorneys for ethics violations. After that, Ms. Isaacs handled worker's compensation defense for an insurance company for three years.

Ms. Isaacs opened her own law office in 1992, where she practices juvenile, criminal defense, appellate, and social

security disability law. She has also served as the Executive Director for the Judicial Fitness Committee since 2000.

In serving on the Judicial Fitness Committee, Ms. Isaacs has had the opportunity to review a large number of complaints against judges, and feels the most important aspect of being a good judge is having an appropriate demeanor on the bench. Ms. Isaacs believes her primary assets in becoming a judge would be her wide breadth of experience and her demeanor. Ms. Isaacs feels it is important that each party be given an opportunity to be heard, while still exercising appropriate judicial temperament and running a courtroom efficiently.

Keith Rogers

Keith Rogers has extensive experience practicing law, beginning with his graduation in 1976 from the University of Oregon. His career began with providing legal aid services at Oregon Legal Services for two years. From there, he went into private practice in Walla Walla, Washington, then worked for the Seattle Public Defenders Office briefly. Mr. Rogers then worked for the Metropolitan Public Defender from 1981 until 1991. A couple of those years in the late 1980s were spent in the Hillsboro office. For the years 1991-1998, Mr. Rogers was in private practice in Hillsboro. He then went back to the Metropolitan Public Defenders Hillsboro office, where he continues to serve as the Director.

Mr. Rogers has handled hundreds of non-jury trials and 145 jury trials. Five of the jury trials were civil cases; the

rest criminal. He has handled everything from civil commitment hearings to murder cases. He has also done every aspect of family law, handled cases as a contract attorney for Washington County Counsel, handled appeals and federal court cases, and has served as a mediator in civil cases for the past 13 years.

Mr. Rogers is interested in becoming a Washington County Circuit Court Judge because he feels the position would be both interesting and challenging. He also feels a sense of loyalty to the thousands and thousands of individual clients – all described as the “little guy” with no money or power – he has served over the years. He believes his long and varied experience practicing law will benefit the Washington County court system.

Janelle Factora Wipper

Ms. Wipper completed her law school education in 1996 and went to work for the Tillamook County District Attorney's office for a year. She moved from that position to the Washington County District Attorney's office in June of 1998, where she currently prosecutes all levels of felony crimes. As part of her experience in the criminal arena, Ms. Wipper has specialized in elder abuse and vehicular assault and manslaughter cases for approximately seven years. The elder abuse cases included various aspects of probate law, and afforded her an opportunity to work with various members of the community in combating elder abuse in the multi-disciplinary team setting and otherwise. In working car crash cases, she worked closely with law enforcement in investigating serious car crashes from beginning to end. In both

arenas she has provided education to law enforcement and participatory citizen groups.

Ms. Wipper believes she would be an ideal judicial candidate because she possesses both the correct temperament for the job and the skills necessary to administer justice in Washington County. Ms. Wipper is interested in the upcoming judicial position because she would like to have an opportunity to have a positive impact on a different level and to have a new way to serve the citizens of Washington County. Ms. Wipper, if appointed, would commit a great deal of time and energy to the position, as she would have a number of years before retirement. Ms. Wipper feels the bottom line is that the handling of criminal cases is what Washington County does most of, and this is where her experience lies. Ms. Wipper has tried approximately 200 cases in her tenure as a district attorney; 85 of those were jury trials.

Daniel Hoarfrost

Mr. Hoarfrost has been in private practice since 1978, and a sole practitioner for the majority of that time. Mr. Hoarfrost first opened shop in Portland, and moved to Tigard in 1993 where he was of counsel to McClure & Schwab. From 1994-2001 he maintained an office in Beaverton. In 2001 he moved to his current location near St. Vincent Hospital in unincorporated Washington County. While he began practicing a wide variety of practice areas, he quit doing criminal cases in the late 1980s to concentrate on civil matters, and added his bankruptcy practice at that time instead. From 1975 – 1978 Mr. Hoarfrost also worked for Legal Aid in the Hillsboro office.

Mr. Hoarfrost believes his wide variety of experience in the legal profession lends itself to the demands of the bench. He believes that being a judge is like having a general practice where you are not necessarily limited to a single specialty area. He would like to have the opportunity to resolve issues and engage in the intellectual pursuit of determining right and wrong. He feels it would be a good position and one that comes with a certain amount of prestige. It would be an opportunity to put his real world experience and education to use. “I think I could do a good job.”

Francisco Ravelo

Mr. Ravelo began his legal career as a prosecutor with the Multnomah County District Attorney's office, handling all levels up through murder cases during his tenure there from 1993 -2003. For two of those years, he worked with the Portland Police department out of their North Precinct office working directly with the community to help resolve issues. He also worked in the SE Precinct for five years. When he left the District Attorney's office, he was a member of Unit D, which is the major assaults and sex crimes unit. After leaving that position, Mr. Ravelo opened his civil law firm in Beaverton, in the suburb in which he lives. His primary practice areas include criminal defense, personal injury, and landlord-tenant. He also acts as his firm's lead litigation counsel.

Mr. Ravelo is interested in the upcoming judicial position

in Washington County because he enjoys and is committed to public service and giving back to the community. When he left the criminal prosecution arena, it was with the intent to round out his legal experience by practicing in the civil arena and by having direct contact with defendants in order to see their perspective also. His courtroom experience has helped him to understand what it is that makes a good judge, and he believes he possesses the knowledge of the system, as well as the decisiveness and the judicial temperament that will help him to be a good judge. He also feels he has a broad background that has included interacting on different levels with a broad cross-section of the community, which will help him to understand the different perspectives of the parties if appointed to this position.

Linda Rudnick

Linda Rudnick is a native Oregonian and a very experienced civil practitioner. Ms. Rudnick began practicing law in NW Portland, then moved to downtown Portland until approximately 1993. She then moved her practice to Beaverton, where she stayed until 2005. For the last ten years of that time, her practice was focused on catastrophic injury and death cases. Since 2005, Ms. Rudnick has been on sabbatical in order to spend time with her son during his last two years at home. Her son just went away to college, so Ms. Rudnick is ready to get back into the legal arena.

While Ms. Rudnick has practiced in the areas of family law, business, bankruptcy and estate planning, her primary interest has always been in representing plaintiffs in personal injury matters. Her interest in this area stems from a serious car accident when she was 11 years old, when her family

was struck by a drunk driver and all five sustained serious physical injuries. It was the unfortunate handling of her case by the insurer and the family attorney that got her interested in becoming an attorney herself.

Ms. Rudnick advises that she is at a stage of her life where she is looking to be of service to her community, and thinks she would make an excellent judge. While she understands that due to her staunch advocacy for plaintiffs over the years the civil defense bar may have concerns about her ability to be fair, she believes she does not have feelings of bias. She has served as an arbitrator in the past, and understands that it is important to be neutral, saying "that's what any judge should be." She feels that to be a good judge, it is important to like people, and Ms. Rudnick likes people very much.

Craig Crispin

Mr. Crispin, founder of Crispin Employment Lawyers, maintains an office off Highway 217 in Washington County. Having practiced law for some 25 years, Mr. Crispin has primarily focused on plaintiffs' employment law issues. His many years of practice have afforded him the opportunity to handle cases at the trial court and appellate court levels, including arguing in the United States Supreme Court. In addition to his strong commitment to employment law issues, Mr. Crispin has also handled a wide range of other civil matters, to include but not limited to assault, defamation, breach of contract, and minority shareholder rights.

Mr. Crispin notes that his employment law experience will be very useful at the state court level, given the recent legislative changes that will funnel a significant portion of federal court employment cases into the state court system. Because employment matters have been handled largely in the federal system, Mr. Crispin believes his long and concentrated history in this area of the law will be of great benefit to the Washington County bench.

Marc Abrams

Mr. Abrams, after completing his Masters degree in Journalism, began his legal career when he moved to Oregon in 1981. Mr. Abrams first taught journalists about the First Amendment at the University of Oregon, then went to Washington D.C. where he represented high school newspaper editors against school districts based on First Amendment issues. He spent the next eight years working for large firms, first back East, then at Bogle & Gates in Portland. After Bogle & Gates, Mr. Abrams was in private practice for 9 years as a sole practitioner, handling general litigation matters, primarily to include representing both plaintiffs and defendants in employment cases. Mr. Abrams ran unsuccessfully against Judge Litzenberger in Multnomah County five years ago, then went to work for the Department of Justice in the fall of 2002. There, he spent the first three years handling torts and employment matters, including constitutional claims. For the past 2 years he has been one of four attorneys on the Special Litigation Unit, handling injunctions, election law issues, and high profile cases.

Mr. Abrams comes from a public service oriented family that believes in giving back to the community. Mr. Abrams did some pro tem work for the City of Tigard in the mid-1990s, primarily to give him perspective from the other side

of the bench to help him as a trial lawyer. However, he found he enjoyed the role, and now would like to help demystify the court process for nonlawyers. Mr. Abrams points out that there is a large influx of population in Washington County (and elsewhere) of people who come from countries where the only experience with the court system results in the disappearance of a family member. Mr. Abrams would like to work with Presiding Judge Thomas Kohl and others to make the bench responsive to the citizens of Washington County, and to help with community education, such as the Classroom Law Project.

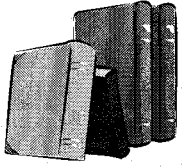
Finally, Mr. Abrams feels it is important as a judge to leave political predispositions behind. It is important to get to the right answer, as opposed to the answer the individual judge might otherwise prefer.

John Uffelman

Mr. Uffelman began his legal career in 1973 in The Dalles, Oregon as an associate with Ronald M. Somers. In 1975 he became a deputy district attorney at the Washington County District Attorney's office, where he prosecuted criminal defendants until he left in 1982 to go into private practice at Brink, Moore, Brink & Peterson. He became a partner after a couple of years. He left in 1988 and opened an office in Beaverton, where he originally shared space with retiring Judge Timothy Alexander, whom he now seeks to replace. Mr. Uffelman has handled personal injury, wrongful death, workers compensation, criminal defense, medical negligence, civil rights, probate, domestic relations, and employment cases over time. His practice currently focuses on general practice civil litigation to include injury, wrongful death, and medical negligence. Although he has an abundance of criminal experience, he stopped accepting criminal defense cases approximately 7-8 years ago. Prior to that time he had

served as chief trial counsel on an aggravated murder case in Multnomah County.

Having tried what he estimates to be between 50 and 100 criminal and civil jury trials to jury verdict, Mr. Uffelman would like to bring his strong civil background and trial practice to the bench in Washington County. Mr. Uffelman feels he can relate to trial lawyers and has a general appreciation for what the practice of law entails before the parties ever enter the courtroom. Mr. Uffelman feels his exposure to all manner of clients and cases, and his sense of professional camaraderie, will make him an asset to the bench.



What's New at the Washington County Law Library

By Laura Orr, Law Librarian

MORE FREE FEDERAL LEGAL RESOURCES ONLINE

You used to have free and searchable access to federal district court cases only on a district by district basis, but the situation is improving. Librarians and lawyers have for years been arguing that these are government funded databases and access should be available for all for a nominal charge or for none at all.

LexisONE(r) (www.lexisone.com) has offered free case searching for a long time, but they and no one else offered federal district court case searching until now. JUSTIA (justia.com) has launched a searchable database of just these cases. The database is new and not all the bugs have been worked out (it's free, folks), and is worth a look-see. Visit Justia at justia.com or go directly to their list of cases databases at cases.justia.com/.

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Did you know we have a small but good collection of books on limited liability corporation law? We have:

Form Your Own Limited Liability Company, 4th ed., Nolo Press, 2005

LLC or Corporation: how to choose the right form for your business, 2nd ed., Nolo Press, 2006

Quick LLC: All you need to now about limited liability companies, 3rd ed., Nolo Press, 2004

Washington, Oregon and Alaska Limited Liability Company: Forms and Practice Manual (2-volume looseleaf, updated annually)

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Even lawyers need some self-help once in a while, which is why we all like the Nolo Press titles (web site: www.nolo.com). If you have a question outside your usual practice area, we may have a Nolo Press title that provides you with a practical introduction to the subject. For example, check out these:

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Preuptial Agreements: How To Write A Fair And Lasting Agreement, 2nd ed., Nolo Press, 2005

WIRELESS ("WIFI") IN COUNTY LAW LIBRARIES AROUND OREGON

The Washington County Law Library now has wireless access to the Internet. It is password protected and encrypted (WPA/PSK). Ask at the information desk for log-on procedures.

Other county law libraries also have wireless access, including Multnomah, Marion, and Clackamas counties.

NOT EVERYTHING YOU NEED IS ONLINE

With apologies to Jane Austen, it is a truth universally acknowledged (at least among the serious legal researcher community) that not everything is online (and even if it is, it sure isn't always free). While we like to keep our online resources at our fingertips, sometimes you just need print because the document isn't online or because using print is truly the most efficient use of time and labor. I recently updated sets of some our most useful print resources, all of which are online, but there is sometimes no substitute for the print. These include: CJS, Am Jur Pleading and Practice, Am Jur Legal Forms, and a complete set of ALR through ALR 5th. (Yes, there is an ALR 6th, which we have online, but not in print.)

NEW CLEs IN THE LAW LIBRARY

- 2007 Annual Employment Law Update*, OLI
- Anatomy of a Products Liability Case - Biting the Hand That Wrongly Feeds Your Pet*, OSB 2007
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- CSI Oregon*, OSB 2007
- DNA Testing - From Fatherhood to Forensics*, OSB 2007
- E-Discovery Practice in Oregon's Federal and State Courts*, OSB 2007
- Essential Issues and Updates for the Oregon Business Lawyer*, OLI, 2006
- Estate Planning for Protected Persons and People with Disabilities*, OLI, 2007
- Greatest Hits in Probate Litigation*, OLI, 2007
- Juvenile Law 2007: Evidence in Oregon Dependency Cases*, OSB 2007 (donation: thank you to Moore Lommen Ballard!)
- Licensing Intellectual Property: Basics & Applications in Media & Technology Transfer*, OLI, 2007
- Meth Epidemic Solutions*, OSB 2007
- New Tricks Taught to Old Dogs: The Latest Developments in Animal Law*, OSB 2007
- Probate Primer*, OLI, 2007
- The Latest in Probate Practice*, OLI, 2006
- Trial Evidence in Employment and Civil Rights Cases*, OSB 2007
- Trial Evidence: The Rules You Need to Present the Winning Story featuring Jim McElhaney*, OSB 2007

NEW BOOKS IN THE LAW LIBRARY

- 8 Ways to Avoid Probate, 6th ed.*, 2006, by Randolph, Mary J.D., NOLO Press
- Berring on Legal Research: Deep Principles for Researching and Understanding the Law*, DVD 2006
- The Busy Family's Guide to Estate Planning: 10 Steps to Peace of Mind*, Hanks, Liza Weiman, NOLO Press, 2007
- Credit Repair, 8th ed.*, Leonard & Lamb, NOLO Press, 2007

Every Nonprofit's Guide to Publishing: Creating Newsletters, Magazines & Websites People Will Read, Woodard & Hwang, NOLO Press, 2007

Executor's Guide: Settling a Loved One's Estate or Trust, 2nd ed., 2006, by Randolph, Mary J.D., NOLO Press

Getting Permission: How to License & Clear Copyrighted Materials Online & Off, 2004, by Stim, Richard (Nolo Press)

Guide to Federal Agency Rulemaking, 4th ed., by Jeffrey S. Lubbers, ABA, 2006

Handbook for Oregon Landlords, Stevens-Ness, 2006 edition

How to Defend Yourself Against Your Lawyer, Eagle Publishing, 2004

How to Start a Solo Law Practice: The Nuts and Bolts of Starting & Running a Law Office, 2005, by Davis, Hal (Nolo Press)

How to Win Your Personal Injury Claim, 6th ed., 2006, Matthews, Joseph????????????? NOLO Press

Legal Research Dictionary: from Advance Sheet to Pocket Parts, 2nd ed., by Elise Fox, 2006

LLC or Corporation? How to Choose the Right Form for Your Business, 2nd ed., 2006, by Mancuso, Anthony, NOLO Press

Long-Term Care: How to Plan & Pay for It, 6th ed., 2006, Matthews, Joseph L., NOLO Press

Make Your Own Living Trust, 2007, by Clifford, Denis (Nolo Press)

Misdemeanor Man, 2005, by Schaffer, Dylan

The New Bankruptcy: Will It Work for You?, 2nd ed., Elias, Stephen, NOLO Press, 2007

Nolo's Encyclopedia of Everyday Law: Answers to Your Most Frequently Asked Legal Questions, 6th ed., 2005, by Irving, Shae J.D., NOLO Press

Nolo's Guide to Social Security Disability: Getting & Keeping Your Benefits, 2006, by Morton, David A. III, M.D.

Oregon Law & Practice: Civil Procedure, Thomson/West 2007

Preuptial Agreements: How to Write a Fair & Lasting Contract, 2005, by Stoner, Katherine E. and Irving, Shae, J.D. (Nolo Press)

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