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WCBA Newsletter

Washington County Bar Association

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November 2011, Page 1 of 4

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President's Note

Each of us, if we're lucky, will encounter someone in our professional or personal lives that inspires us to greater excellence or to help others. While I personally did not know Judge Ashmanskas, I understand from talking with people who knew him, that he was one of those inspiring influences.

Through his actions and words, Judge "Ash" as he was called by many, encouraged lawyers and new or aspiring lawyers to improve themselves and our profession. The statement of professionalism adopted by the Bar and approved by the Oregon Supreme Court includes a commitment to "protect and improve the image of the legal profession in the eyes of the public;" to, "promote respect for the courts;" and to "support the education of the public about the legal system." First as a circuit court judge



right here in Washington County, then as a United States Magistrate Judge and supporter of the Classroom Law Project, it is clear that Judge Ashmanskas exemplified these ideals.

Marilyn Cover of the Classroom Law Project told me that Judge Ash was more than a great supporter of their programs; he was one of their "special friends," going above and beyond. Anytime they held a teaching session where they needed a presenter who possessed a sense of humor and a wealth of knowledge, she would call on Judge Ash. Over the last two years the "We the People" competition has been held at the Federal Courthouse. Judge Ash always went the extra mile to make sure that facility issues were taken care of and that the competition was a smooth event for the students, coaches and volunteers.

Judge Ash had an appreciation for all the things they were trying to accomplish at the Classroom Law Project and supported them in any way he could. His son Gardner, a teacher coach at Lincoln High School, is carrying on with his father's dedication to the Classroom Law Project and he often recruited his Dad to help.

I personally, and on behalf of the Washington County Bar Association Board, want to express my sympathy to Judge Ashmanskas's family for their loss. His influence benefitted our legal community. In honor of his memory, the Washington County Bar Association will be donating \$100 to the Classroom Law Project. If you would like to support the Classroom Law Project, volunteer coaches are needed. You can also volunteer to help with the state wide mock trial regional competition right here at the Washington County Courthouse on March 3, 2012. More information about the Classroom Law Project is available at <http://www.classroomlaw.org>. The full text of the Statement of Professionalism may be found online at www.osbar.org.

Sincerely, *Kathy Proctor*

WCBA Contacts

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President Elect

Immediate Past President Sharon Brown

Treasurer Bret Knewton

Secretary Rebecca Pihl-Mehring

Director Elizabeth Lemoine

Director Arthur Saito

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The WCBA uses email to promote its programs and services to members only and does not share its email list with third parties. If you would like to be removed from our email list, please reply to this message with the word "remove" in the subject line.

**THE WCBA CLE & DINNER MEETING
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2011
Probate CLE, 5:15 p.m.**

This CLE will feature information on updated procedures, law and the mechanics of probate practice. Our guest will be Judge Rita B. Cobb

Cocktails at 6 p.m.

Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Place: The Old Spaghetti Factory
18925 NW Tanasbourne Drive
Hillsboro, Oregon 97124

Please send your pre-registration form to:
Julie Viner, PO Box 912, Hillsboro OR 97123;
phone 503.648.0300; fax number 503.693.9304;
or via email to wcba.association@frontier.com.

**You can now also pay online on our website,
wcbabar.org using PayPal.**

Please register by November 7th so that we will be able to guarantee space.

DINNER COST \$15 (PLEASE CHOOSE AN ITEM)

Dinner Reservation

Your name: _____

Dinner food choices:

- Spaghetti Sampler _____
(Mizithra cheese, meat, clam & tomato sauces)
- Spaghetti with Meat Sauce _____
- Spaghetti with Marinara _____
- Spaghetti with Mizithra Cheese _____
- Fettuccini Alfredo _____
- Baked Chicken with steamed broccoli _____

CLE Reservation

Your name: _____

Yes, I will attend the November CLE

Number of attendees: _____

\$15 for members, \$25 for non-members.

**Family Law
Bench Bar Committee**

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The Family Law Bench Bar Committee opened its quarterly meeting to all interested Family Law Lawyers during a recent gathering at the Venetian in Hillsboro. Over 65 lawyers and judges were in attendance. Chair, Laura Schantz, started the meeting by thanking members of the committee and, along with Judge Raines, stressed the importance of the committee in keeping communication open between the bench and bar. Judge Raines continued by reminding us all that the committee is not a complaint department, but intended to help with problem solving and creating best practices for lawyers and judges in our area. It also allows a forum where issues can be presented so solutions can be found. He continued by stating that with upcoming budget cuts, things will get worse due to lack of funding, temporary employees, etc., and that we must become more efficient. His concerns were not only for private practitioners, but, more importantly, for pro se litigants.

The various subcommittees reported on current issues including the Family Law Website, where upcoming plans include adding additional forms and video orientations to improve education for pro se litigants and thereby providing efficiency for the docket. Also discussed was Conciliation Services where the goal is to get parties into mediation quicker and cases resolved. A CLE was presented to the bar on September 14 covering recent changes in services due to budget reductions. Custody and parenting time evaluations will begin again, however there is a new screening process to determine whether a case is appropriate for a comprehensive evaluation. The fee for evaluations increased from \$500 to \$1000. There will now be a fee for voluntary mediation and counseling services. The goal for their website is to become more user friendly. Parties will be able to pay for services by cash, check or a credit card. Motions/Fees: The courts are looking to streamline services and are currently looking for ideas to make processing more efficient. They would especially welcome ideas from practitioners who practice in multiple counties. Pro Bono Kid's Attorney Program: Discussion was had regarding a program in Multnomah County and how it would work in Washington County. The program revolves around a list of trained lawyers willing to participate. Violence Against Women Grant: Judge Letourneau spoke about a recent \$400,000 grant received by Washington County (along with Clackamas and Multnomah counties) to provide services for victims of domestic violence. It will be used to help establish parenting time in cases involving domestic violence. The emphasis is to provide safety for victims of domestic violence and their children. The program, which is entitled Safety First, hopes to have its first clients around the first of the new year.

Classified advertising rates:

\$20 for the first 50 or fewer words, and \$.50 per word thereafter. Classified ads must be prepaid.

To obtain a quote, send the proposed text to: washingtoncountybarnews@gmail.com.

Display advertising rates:

Business card size (2" x 3.5") \$30

1/4 page \$50

1/2 page \$90

Please submit your ad in JPEG format to:

washingtoncountybarnews@gmail.com.



WASHINGTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION 2011 HOLIDAY DINNER



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2011

Appetizers and Cocktails at 6 p.m.
Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Glenn and Viola Walters Cultural Arts Center
527 E Main St, Hillsboro OR 97123
Catered by Claeys Catering

Dinner includes dessert, coffee and non-alcoholic beverage
All for \$35 per person (includes gratuity!)
Bring that special guest! We'll have presents!

Menu

Roast Tri-Tip of Beef and Roast Turkey Breast Carved to Order
Horseradish and Cranberry Orange Relish on the side
Spinach and Romaine Salad with Cranberries
Crisp Won Ton Strips and Raspberry Vinaigrette dressing
Basket of Rustic Breads and Butter
Yukon Gold Mashed Potatoes with Turkey Gravy
Chocolate Brownie Mousse Cake and Apple Strudel with Fresh Whipped Cream

PLEASE CONTACT JULIE VINER TO RSVP

Please send your reservation and prepayment by
Friday, December 2, 2011 to:

Julie Viner, WCBA, PO Box 912, Hillsboro OR 97123
Phone 503.648.0300 or fax 503.693.9304 Please make checks payable to WCBA
You may also now pay online through our PAYPAL account at www.wcbabar.org.

WASHINGTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION 2012 DUES

The WCBA is a local association of lawyers serving Washington County practitioners. It provides a forum for the exchange of ideas and for local bar members to voice their views on matters of importance to their everyday practice. Consider the benefits of low-cost membership:

You will receive the *WCBA Newsletter*, which keeps you informed (and sometimes entertained) on updated information from Washington County judges, various bar committees, monthly CLE Programs, social dinners and activities, the law library, etc. The newsletter is also an excellent and inexpensive place for advertising and classifieds.

- Discount on monthly CLE programs and materials.
- Discount on monthly dinner meetings with speakers or opportunities to express your views and become informed directly from local practitioners.
- Events and committees for relaxation, networking and socializing with your colleagues.
- Leadership opportunities and community service.

Membership Dues: \$75 per year (September 2011 to August 2012)

(Note: new members have this fee waived for the first year!)

Payable to: **Washington County Bar Association**
 PO Box 912
 Hillsboro OR 97124
 Phone: 503.648.0300, Fax:503.693.9304
 *You can also pay by credit card with our PayPal account
 by visiting our website at www.wcbabar.org

Name: _____ OSB #: _____

Firm: _____

Address: _____

Phone/Fax/Email: _____

One application per attorney, please.

Please return this form* with your payment to the above address and indicate:

_____ New Member Referred by: _____

Renewing Member: _____