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# WCBA Newsletter

Washington County Bar Association  
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## President's Note

On September 14, the WCBA held its first meeting of the year. It was nice to see everyone. It seems like this year is off to a busy start already. I enjoyed helping to serve ice cream to the staff at the Washington County Courthouse last month. I know Elizabeth Lemoine will be writing about the ice cream social, but I want to add my thanks to Elizabeth, Richard Moellmar, and all the court staff for all the hard work they do. We really appreciate it.



Coming up, I would love to hear from members who knew the Honorable Donald C. Ashmanskas or appeared before him. I invite you to share with me your experiences, remembrances, words of wisdom and other memories of him. Although I did not know him, I have heard from many of you that this was a well-respected and revered judge who went from our circuit court to serve as a U.S. Magistrate.

Please contact me at [kproctor@proctor-popia.com](mailto:kproctor@proctor-popia.com) or call me at 503.352.0730 by October 20 to share your stories. A compilation and tribute will appear in our November newsletter.

Finally, our October 12 CLE should be of interest to everyone. Helen Hierschbiel, General Counsel for the OSB will be presenting on Ethics: Avoiding Discipline in 2011: What's New, What's Not. See you then!

Sincerely,

*Kathy Proctor,  
WCBA President*

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## News from around the courthouse and the Presiding Judge

Washington County Circuit Court has seen some changes in the past few months. Here are a few of the highlights:

**A new judge, and some judicial assignment changes**  
Judge Janelle F. Wipper was appointed to the bench by Governor Kitzhaber this summer and began serving on August 1<sup>st</sup>. Her formal investiture is set for September 23<sup>rd</sup>. She began on the general trial rotation in Courtroom 105C. In addition to general civil and criminal trials, she will be serving in the Law Enforcement Center for alternating two month assignments beginning in November, 2011.

Judge Jim Fun has moved from Juvenile Court after serving there for five years, and is joining the general trial rotation with alternating two month assignments in the Law Enforcement Center. He began this new assignment in September.

Judge Eric Butterfield moved from LEC to Juvenile Court in September and is serving there along with Pro Tem Judge Michele Rini.

## Budget cuts and court closure furlough days

The legislature cut our local court budget by \$1.7 million which the court was required to take in a combination of \$1.2 million permanent cuts, a \$0.5 million in non-permanent budget reductions. On the local level, we laid off some employees and abolished some positions.

## WCBA Contacts

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Director Nicholas Heydenrych

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Given solid information on our budget we were also in the process of hiring some new employees. Overall, we went from 103.9 FTE positions to 93.9 FTE positions. The remaining budgetary cuts are being dealt with by a combination of 10 to 14 unpaid furlough days, employee contributions to insurance, and limited salary adjustments by way of cost of living increases and merit steps. Nine of the furlough days will be 'fixed' to coincide with furlough days previously set by executive branch agencies. The other furlough days will be 'floating' furloughs set between supervisors and employees. 'Fixed' court closure furlough days are November 25, 2011; March 23, May 25, August 17, October 19, November 23, in 2012; and January 18, April 19, May 24, in 2013.

All of the furlough days fall on Fridays. Case assignment will be moved to Thursday during these weeks.

Our court release assistance office was reduced from two to only one employee. The court has been working with the Sheriff's office to increase the use of Sheriff's staff in the release function, including use of trained community volunteers to assist with gathering information from defendants seeking travel permits, and other routine release modifications.

#### **New filing fee schedule**

A new filing fee schedule will be in effect as of October 1, 2011. The new schedule greatly simplifies fees for civil cases, including domestic relations. Attorneys are encouraged to review the fees which are already posted on the Court's website, <http://courts.oregon.gov/washington>.

#### **Brownbag CLEs**

The Court sponsored a brownbag CLE "Criminal Sentencing Update" presented by Herbert Lovejoy from the Department of Justice in August. Another brownbag CLE is scheduled for September 30<sup>th</sup>, "Interstate Compact for Adult Offender Supervision" Finally, a brownbag CLE "Nuts and Bolts of Serving as Arbitrator for Court-ordered Arbitration" is planned for November 18, on the topic of the nuts and bolts of serving as an arbitrator for court-ordered arbitration cases.

#### **Arbitration commission**

Judge Butterfield was instrumental in revitalizing the arbitration commission for Washington County. The Commission has been meeting routinely and is working on strengthening the court-order arbitration process by looking at the application process for arbitrators, increasing the fees paid to arbitrators to be more comparable to fees charged in neighboring counties, and to provide training opportunities for arbitrators, such as the brownbag CLE coming up in November.

**Wednesday November 9, the WCBA CLE topic is Probate in Washington County presented by Judge Rita Cobb**

## **WCBA Director Amy Velazquez**

*by Nicole L. Schneider*

I had the opportunity to meet Amy Velazquez, new member of WCBA Board of Directors, for the first time at the Venetian over food and wine. Shortly into our conversation I was intrigued by Amy's accent and I had to ask "where she hailed from." With a quick fiery response, Amy said "I am from North Eugene!" With her fun accents interspersed into conversation and her good sense of humor, these are a few things that made it so nice getting to know Amy.

At first, Amy decided to stay close to home for college and she attended the University of Oregon. However, come junior year, she became bored, as she had grown up in the area. Therefore, she decided to broaden her college experience. She moved to the big city and enrolled at Portland State University, where she earned her degree.

Amy possesses a motto I believe all attorneys should practice, "Administration of Justice." In the practice of law, her main goal is to create cordial relationships with other attorneys and judges, while obtaining a fair deal for her clients. In the short amount of time I have gotten to know Amy, she appears to have accomplished her goal of being cordial to those she interacts with. Amy's career path has exemplified her desire to serve the needs of others. She has volunteered at the Child's Advocacy Center in Eugene. While attending law school, she was the clerk at the Oregon Department of Justice, and was a judicial intern to the Honorable Michael H. Bennett, also with the Department of Justice. Her first job out of law school was as a judicial intern for the Honorable Cynthia D. Carlson. In 2005, Amy joined Harris Law Firm, where is now a Partner/Shareholder. Amy enjoys working at Harris Law Firm. She has autonomy of her caseload as well as the types of cases she takes. Amy admires Robert Harris' business management style and says he is a "good man." A large majority of Amy's case load is family law. She also does Monday morning court appearances for court appointed cases needing set-overs and other criminal law matters as well.

When Amy is not working, it is unlikely that you will find her at a sports bar drinking beer and cheering the Ducks to a victory, as she is not a fan of sports or beer. During her down time, you are likely to catch Amy entertaining friends and family at her home, with delicious food and ambience. At times, Amy wonders if she missed her true calling in life as an event/wedding planner. During times of entertainment, she believes the atmosphere should look nice and be as equally delicious. If you are lucky enough to score an invite to one of Amy's dinner parties, (which I am keeping my fingers crossed for), you may sample food inspired by her favorite chef, Ina Garten. Amy is married to Kelly Evans of Gevurtz Menashe and they have a 14 month old daughter, Arden. The proud parent she is, Amy says Arden is "pretty awesome and so cute."

## WCBA Director Rebecca Guptill

by Amy N. Velázquez

I have had the pleasure of knowing Rebecca Guptill since 2005. We both attended Willamette University College of Law, but did not know each other well until we both began working primarily in the Washington County area doing indigent defense work for private firms.

While she enjoys practicing law, in another life, she might have been a sommelier or a cheese steward. You can see her eyes light up as she talks about two of her favorite things (and mine): dining and spirits! She loves to cook, especially wild birds like chucker, goose and partridge. She is quite a gourmet in my opinion, although I am still waiting for an invite to try some of her delectable meals! Her favorite liquids include wine and gin, but she won't rule out a good beer every now and again. There is hardly a food she doesn't like. "If I had to pick, I guess chocolate, or maybe chicken" she revealed, but only when pressed. She is a self-proclaimed "Starbucks-aholic" and admits she is known by name at the Hillsboro Civic Center location.

Maybe second only to her love of food and drink, is her love of college football. Sorry to disappoint all you hard core Oregon Duck fans, but Becky, as her friends call her, attended is a Trojan through and through! She attended University of Southern California, where she obtained her Bachelor of Arts. You may have even seen her car around town with a huge tribute/logo devoted to USC on the back window. Rebecca's husband, Dan's company does logo work so he surprises her with fun Trojan decals.

Rebecca is a native Oregonian, having graduated from Waldport High School. She loves Oregon but would also like the opportunity to travel. Highest on her list would be a trip to Europe, specifically to France and Germany, where she would find no shortage of fine dining and beverages.

Rebecca's current practice at Hillsboro Law Group focuses on criminal defense, family law, juvenile law and wills, trusts and estates. She has previously worked at Ridehalgh & Associates, LLC and Cummins, Goodman, Fish, Denley & Vickers, PC, where she handled various criminal and civil matters.

## THE WCBA CLE & DINNER MEETING WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2011

CLE 5:15 p.m.

*Avoiding Discipline in 2011:  
What's New, What's Not.*

This includes a review of recent case law,  
ethics opinions and rule changes,  
presented by Helen Hierschbiel,  
OSB General Counsel

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](mailto:wcba.association@frontier.com).

Please register by October 9 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 October CLE

Number of attendees: \_\_\_\_\_

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

### 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](mailto:washingtoncountybarnews@gmail.com).

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1/4 page \$50

1/2 page \$90

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## 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](http://www.wcbabar.org)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ OSB #: \_\_\_\_\_

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One application per attorney, please.

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

\_\_\_\_\_ New Member      Referred by: \_\_\_\_\_

Renewing Member: \_\_\_\_\_