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President's Note

It was nice to see everyone at the 2011 Holiday Party at the Glenn and Viola Walters Cultural Arts Center. We were happy to have such good attendance and everyone seemed to like the location. I would like to say thank you to Matt Kehoe for being Santa, he did a much better job than I would have!

Our January meeting promises to be interesting and informative. Adam Furchner, The Honorable Keith R. Raines, David Hobson, Deborah Le Meitour and Laura L. Schantz will be our CLE presenters. They will be discussing what the Judge is looking for in a child's attorney and the perils and pitfalls of Representing a Child in a Domestic Relations Case.

During dinner, the Honorable Kirsten Thompson, Presiding Judge of the Washington County Circuit Court, will present her report on the state of the court.

Best Wishes for the New Year and I hope to see you at our next meeting on January 11.



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WCBA Newsletter

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Gone But Not Forgotten

Catching Up With the Retired Judges of Washington County: Senior Judge Timothy Alexander

by Rebecca Guptill

Senior Judge Timothy Alexander was back in Washington County Circuit Court recently, albeit for a short while. Judge Alexander has one year left of Plan B and he has been enjoying his time traveling around the state. He has found that he particularly enjoys visiting some of the smaller, more rural courts in places like Baker City and La Grande where, "you have to do everything – you have to be prepared to handle anything from juvenile to traffic, but it's a lot of fun."

Judge Alexander was particularly impressed during his time in Bend. "They are the best organized in Bend. They are really busy, but well-coordinated and the lawyers seem to enjoy practicing there."

In terms of life outside of the courtroom, Judge Alexander and his wife, Lindy, recently enjoyed a three-week trip to Italy through Trinity College. They traveled through Rome, Florence, and Venice with a group of fellow travelers and university professors who lectured on the region.

Judge Alexander has also been playing as much golf as he can manage, particularly trying to seek out course in sunshine states such as Arizona and Nevada. His favorite course to play lately has been Montreux outside of Reno. The course is a challenging one located in the mountains, with plenty of wildlife.

As Judge Alexander looks toward the future, he acknowledges that the transition to full retirement when you are used to working hard and then stop can be difficult. "I think I will miss it when I am not doing it at all. It will be a definite change." Along with finishing his Plan B time, Judge Alexander plans to continue doing arbitrations and mediations in the future.

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THE WCBA CLE & DINNER MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11
CLE, 5:15 p.m.

How to Represent a Child & Parent Coordination for Dummies

Please join us for our January CLE, presented by Adam Furchner, the Honorable Keith Raines, David Hobson, Deborah Le Meitour and Laura Schantz. They will be discussing what the judge is looking for in a child’s attorney and the perils and pitfalls of representing a child in a domestic relations case.

More and more we are using parent coordinators in high conflict cases; we will discuss how that works and its benefits, and also how a parent coordinator can work closely with a child’s attorney. We will be asking for volunteers for the Washington County Court list for representing children in family law cases.

**Our dinner speaker will be Washington County’s
Presiding Judge Kirsten Thompson
Presenting the State of the Court address**

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 January 9th 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.

News from around the courthouse

from the
Presiding Judge
Kirsten Thompson
and Trial Court
Administrator
Richard Moellmer



2011 has been a year of change and challenge for the Court system. 2012 will bring a few more changes and some of the same challenges. Here are a few highlights:

Judges: Judge Steven L. Price retired effective January 1, 2012. Appointed to the bench in March 1996, Judge Price has served in the areas of criminal, family, and juvenile law. Most recently Price has presided over the domestic violence deferred sentencing, and domestic violence probation violation dockets as well as general trial duties. Until a new judge is appointed by Governor Kitzhaber, Judge Price will be his own Plan B replacement for the first few weeks of the year. We wish him well, and look forward to seeing him from time to time in the coming years as he does his Plan B service. Judge Price's many duties will be finding new homes among current judges. Judge Upton will step into the ongoing Position One/ Probation Violation rotation along with Judge Knapp. Judges Fun and Wipper will share responsibility for the Domestic Violence Deferred Sentencing and Domestic Violence Probation Violation docket. Judge Kohl will be taking over the Post Conviction Relief docket.

Court Technology Update

(courtesy of TCA Richard Moellmer)

Video Conferencing Carts

Three (3) *new* video conferencing carts are available for use in courtrooms. Video conferencing carts - pre-positioned in storage closets in the Courthouse, Justice Services Building and Juvenile Services Building - may be used for in-custody defendant/inmate court appearances from jail/prison, remote testimony by witnesses, etc. First come, first serve reservations are required. Call Court Administration at 503.846.8767 to reserve a Video Conferencing Cart.

Digital Projector, DVD/VCR Player and Speaker Carts and Screen

Two (2) carts with a digital projector, DVD/VCR

player and speakers are available for use in courtrooms. These Digital Projector Carts - pre-positioned in storage closets in the Courthouse and Justice Services Building - are commonly used by attorneys with laptop computers containing Power-Point presentations, animations, videos, documents, pictures, audio files etc. First come, first serve reservations are required. Call Court Administration at 503.846.8767 to reserve a Digital Projector Cart and screen.

Document Camera

One (1) high quality document camera (commonly called an ELMO) is available for use in courtrooms. The document camera plugs into the digital projector and displays documents, pictures, evidence, X-rays and transparencies on a screen. First come, first serve reservations are required. Call Court Administration at 503.846.8767 to reserve the document camera, Digital Projector Cart and screen.

TV/DVD/VCR Carts

Carts with a TV and DVD/VCR player are available for use. No advance reservation is required. Courtroom clerks can retrieve a cart for your use on short notice - they are pre-positioned in storage closets in the Courthouse, Justice Services Building and Juvenile Services Building.

Judicial assignments: The 14 judges on the bench are assigned in different teams based on case categories. Judges Nachtigal, Bailey, Knapp, Kohl, Upton, Letourneau, Fun, and Wipper make up the general trial team, hearing criminal and civil matters. Judge Raines, Erwin, Cobb, Letourneau, and Butterfield are on the Family Law Team. Judge Butterfield is serving in Juvenile Court with Referee/Pro Tem Michele Rini. Judge Cobb handles the probate docket with the assistance of the new probate commissioner Stephanie Schilling. Judges Fun and Wipper are sharing the LEC docket in two month rotations. Judges Knapp and Upton will share the PV docket in one-month rotations. Judges Bailey, Letourneau, Wipper and Fun will hear civil motions. Judges Upton and Bailey continue to share the DUII diversion and enhanced bench probation duties. The court continues to rely on volunteer pro tem judges to hear Small Claims and contested Family Abuse Protection Act hearings when the case is not consolidated with a domestic relations case.

Arbitration: Judge Butterfield convened an arbitration commission which met and worked through 2011. The Arbitration Commission recommended to

the court that arbitrators' fees be increased comparable to neighboring jurisdictions. As a result, arbitration fees for cases referred after January 3, 2012 will have fees of \$175 per hour up to a maximum of \$1,050 per case.

Brownbag CLEs: The Court sponsored and hosted three brownbag CLE lunches in 2011. Topics included Criminal Sentencing, Interstate Compact for Supervision of Adult Offenders, and Arbitration. The Court will be looking for other topics of interest for short, free, lunch-hour CLEs from time to time in 2012.

Defense Attorneys appearing at arraignment: The Office of Public Defense Services awarded a contract to Metropolitan Public Defenders a contract to represent all defendants at arraignment in Washington County beginning in January 2012. MPD began appearing at arraignments with in-custody defendants in December 2011. The Sheriff's office, District Attorney, MPD, and Court have worked together to create a protocol for providing a summary of important information to all parties regarding the case and defendant at the time of arraignment. MPD won't be trial counsel for all of these folks, so defense providers have created a system to get information to trial counsel and see that the case is properly assigned.

Budget woes: Like all courts throughout Oregon, Washington County is anticipating budget difficulties in the second half of the biennium. We have already been required to reduce our budgeted staff numbers from 104 FTE employees to 94 FTE employees, and we will be taking a total of 5 furlough days in 2012, and 3 furlough days in the first six months of 2013. We anticipate that additional cuts will be required after the legislature meets in February 2012. Significant portions of the Judicial budget are pass-through funds, debt-service, or are constitutionally protected. The bulk of the rest of the budget comes from personnel costs meaning that the court will face additional staff reductions



Washington County High School Mock Trial Tournament is coming soon!
Please mark your calendars to judge on Saturday, March 3, 2012 at the Washington County Courthouse. There will be three rounds, at approximately 8:30 am; 11 am; and 1:30 pm. The case this year is entitled "*Lee Cavanaugh v. Cup of Joe*." It is a civil dispute when coffee purchased from a local shot burns a customer. Was the coffee too hot to handle? Please contact either the Classroom Law Project at classroomlaw.org or Elizabeth Lemoine at elizlemoine@yahoo.com to register to judge. Please include email and phone contact information, availability for rounds, conflict information and any experience you may have had judging. It is a wonderfully fun experience interacting with some very amazing high school students from our area!

in 2012. Oregon's Constitutional mandate calls for our court system to administer justice completely and without delay, which requires judges and court staff. Washington County's Court system looks to the WCBA to help in our effort to educate the public as appropriate about the important role of a robust independent court system in our society. In that regard, we are grateful for the WCBA's volunteer efforts and CLE programs.



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 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: _____