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# WCBA Newsletter

Washington County Bar Association  
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## President's Note

*Lawyers  
 associated for justice, service,  
 professionalism, education,  
 mentoring, social interaction and  
 leadership for our members  
 and our community.*

My time as WCBA President is rapidly coming to an end. While I will continue on the WCBA Board next year as Immediate Past President as Nick Heydenrych begins his term as President, the overall board is losing some valued members, welcoming new members, and welcoming back past president Kathy Proctor. Attorneys Ben Evans and Zoe Smith were elected as new board members to replace valued longtime board members Becky Mehringer and Elizabeth Lemoine.

Becky and Elizabeth have been invaluable board members over the years—performing tasks both great and small, both in the spotlight and out. They are the type of amazing people who do what needs to be done without the expectation of being thanked or receiving any glory. They serve because they are at the end of the day absolutely good people. So, from the bottom of my heart, I thank them both for their service to WCBA.

Kathy took a much deserved break from the WCBA board this past year, but jumped into the deep end with both feet at our recent elections where she was re-elected as President Elect. Her next term as President will begin after Nick's terms ends in a year. Her willingness to step back into a demanding position so soon is impressive.

As for Ben and Zoe: welcome to the team. You don't know what you are in for, but I know you are both up to the task. Your fresh ideas and willingness to get involved is appreciated. I look forward to working more closely with both of you.

I also want to thank Rosie De Santos for her hard work in taking on the job of the WCBA administrative assistant. Julie Viner's shoes were tough to fill and the bar was set high, but Rosie has managed to put her own spin on the job. (Have I used enough metaphors yet?) Thank you, Rosie!

To my fellow WCBA board members, thank you for putting up with me this past year. I have been so lucky to have such a great group to work with. I couldn't have made it through the year without the help and support of the board.

My final thank you goes out to our members. This organization exists for you, and I hope we have provided you with an edifying and invaluable (and hopefully even fun) year of WCBA events and experiences. Thank you for being members.

To Nick: as you embark on your year as President, may the road be smooth and may you always remember to enjoy the ride. You will do wonderfully.

Sadly I will be unable to attend our June Social at the beautiful Ruby Vineyard as I will be visiting family on Grand Manan Island in New Brunswick on a trip that has been planned for several months. Rest assured however that I will be with you all in spirit and will raise a glass to you from afar. (And if you aren't sick of me yet, don't worry - I'll be back and with you at our September meeting.)

Have a great time at Ruby Vineyard and a wonderful summer. See you in September!

*Rebecca Guptill  
 WCBA President*



## WCBA Upcoming Events

**Wednesday, June 17,  
 Summer Social at  
 Ruby Vineyards**

***No meetings in July & August  
 Enjoy your summer hiatus!***

**Wednesday, September 9  
 PLF CLE—Topic TBA**

*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.*

## TCA Receives Distinguished Service Award

By Kathy Proctor  
WCBA President Elect

Richard Moellmer, the Trial Court Administrator for the Washington County Circuit Court, received the 2015 Distinguished Service Award from the National Center for State Courts (NCSC). He was presented with the award at the Washington County Bar Association dinner on May 8, 2015 by Oregon Supreme Court Justice David V. Brewer and Senior Judge Gayle Nachtigal. Both Justice Brewer and Judge Nachtigal are former NCSC board members. Senior Judge Nachtigal proudly noted that she was the one who hired Richard Moellmer from the court in Arizona.

For those who may not know, the National Center for State Courts (NCSC), headquartered in Williamsburg, West Virginia. "The NCSC is an independent, non-profit court improvement organization founded at the urging of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Warren Burger." [www.ncsc.org/About-us.aspx](http://www.ncsc.org/About-us.aspx). Their goal is to help courts plan, improve and implement improvements in the administration of our courts.

Here, in Washington County, Oregon, Richard Moellmer has been working with our court to improve its efficiency. Upon being presented with one of the highest awards given by the NCSC, Richard accepted the award on behalf of our judges and court staff, the Washington County justice system and the Oregon Judicial Department. He noted that the Distinguished Service Award recognizes the work done here in Washington County to improve our court system and the continued promise of more improvements to come. The award itself is a silver platter that he promises to hang on his office wall and, in keeping with his self-deprecating style, bring down for special occasions to be used to serve desserts and punch during the court holiday luncheon and other special occasions.

Local court and justice system representatives attended NCSC-sponsored criminal caseload management and court reengineering trainings in 2013. The purpose was to improve criminal calendaring and case management and to make more court time and resources available for civil case management and trials. The fact is that busy criminal dockets tend to crowd out civil cases and this is a challenge not only in Washington County, but nationwide. Recent improvements are helping to free up court resources for civil and family law.

After our court delegates attended the court improvement trainings, NCSC offered *free* court reengineering consulting services to Washington County. Richard credited Judge Nachtigal, a former NCSC board member, with using her connections to bring Vice President of Court Consulting Services Dan Hall and Court Services Director Laura Klaversma right here to Washington County. They administered their High Performance Courts Survey to identify Washington County's strengths and areas needing improvement. Justice sys-

tem stakeholders were also interviewed. The survey and interviews revealed many court strengths, but most importantly, that the bench and the court are open to change that will simplify policies and streamline processes. Some areas of improvement include increasing an understanding of how court policy decisions are made, improving predictability and consistency across judges and courtrooms, and more effective criminal pretrial conferences.

In 2014, the NCSC helped Richard successfully apply for a State Justice Institute \$50,000 technical assistance grant for criminal calendar and case management consulting services. The work resulted in a new "Criminal Case Management and Docket Changes" General Order, and published Criminal Guidelines and Sentencing Policies. Additionally, the Washington County Circuit Court has created and published guiding principles and a governance model to improve how court policy decisions are made and communicated, and revamped criminal calendaring and case management systems to increase predictability, consistency and trial date certainty.

Other initiatives include reestablishing a Washington County Bench-Bar Committee, building a new courtroom, and adding a new judge position. Judge Kirsten Thompson will move into the new courtroom in August. Chief Justice Balmer has included a new judge position for Washington County as one of his current legislative priorities.

In October 2015, NCSC consultants will return for a final site visit and there will be a judge retreat to review, evaluate and make adjustments to criminal system changes we have made. Judges will also consider civil system changes. NCSC will issue its final report to our court by the end of this year.

Congratulations Richard and thank you for all your hard work and for bringing recognition and improvement to our county. Thank you also to all the members of our Bench and legal community who are helping to improve our court system. I relied heavily on Richard Moellmer's notes which he kindly provided to assist me in writing this article.





## Thank You Laura Orr!

By Arthur Saito  
WCBA Board Director

It is with great thanks that we at the Washington County Bar Association say bon voyage to our esteemed law librarian, Laura Orr. Laura started her tenure as the County Law Librarian in April of 2002, following the retirement of Law Librarian Ann Karlen. Laura has since served our county with distinction, both as an outspoken champion of Oregon's county law libraries and a dedicated advocate for equal access to our legal system.

Laura's 27-year career as a law librarian had its roots in her home state of Pennsylvania, where she worked for the Free Library of Philadelphia after finishing high school. After traveling in Europe, Laura later returned to Philadelphia and the Free Library. Raised by parents with a strong sense of civic responsibility, Laura was taught to value education, to search for truth, and to promote justice. When asked why she chose a profession in the law, Laura explained: "When I first started working in public libraries so much was happening. Those 70's issues involving women's legal rights to jobs, abortion, and birth control, and then there was Viet Nam and Watergate. I also always felt that working with people who did not have a voice as strong as my own was valuable and rewarding public service." Much later, in law school, Laura worked as detention bail interviewer for the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, enjoying the grittiness of the criminal court system and noting the fact that law students from more privileged institutions often had little stomach for the job.

After obtaining a B.S. in public administration at Indiana University in 1980, Laura earned a J.D. from Temple University School of Law in 1986. Laura then obtained her M.L.S. from Indiana University in 1987. Laura traveled extensively during her professional career. Laura worked as a research law librarian at the University of Maryland Law School, a Visiting Fellow at the University of Bristol, a law librarian at the University of the West of England, a visiting reference librarian at Willamette University College of Law, and as senior reference librarian at Yale Law School. "Yale Law Library was a dream job for a new law librarian," recalls Laura, "with remarkable students, faculty and visiting dignitaries from around the globe and unfettered access to research libraries one can usually only dream about."

Laura's professional contributions have not gone unnoticed. Her most recent honors include the Washington County Bar Association's Professionalism Award (2012) and the Bethany J. Ochal Award for Distinguished Service to the Profession (2015). Laura has worked tirelessly, creating websites, legal research blogs (one of which is currently sponsored by the online legal website *Justia.com*), publishing articles, overseeing electronic preservation of Oregon statutes, and teaching classes in legal research. In 2014, Laura appeared on Oregon Public Broadcasting's *Think Out Loud* in a program titled "Going Pro Se: Representing Yourself In Court."

When asked about her decision to retire, Laura simply states that the timing felt right. When asked about her specific retirement plans, Laura smiles and replies, "Librarians have lists." Laura you will be sorely



Richard Moellmer receives his award.



## CLE Recap

### Marijuana Law Update

#### Legal Issues for the Cannabis Business

By Matthew McKean  
WCBA Director

Our May CLE was presented by Eddie Medina of Underwood | Medina LLC entitled "Canna\_Business" Mr. Medina shared the following highlights of the presentation:

Oregon is one of the first states to take the lead on ending the prohibition of marijuana. Currently there are two different and complex programs related to marijuana that are currently operating independently of one another.

First, the Oregon Medical Marijuana Act (OMMA) and the associated OAR's regulate medical marijuana patients, growers and medical marijuana dispensaries. The OMMA set patient eligibility, limits on possession amounts, regulates transfers of marijuana and put distance and zoning limits on the location of dispensaries. Local municipalities have also imposed more stringent time, place and manner restrictions on the location of medical dispensaries.

Second, Ballot Measure 91 legalized marijuana possession as of July 1, 2015 and tasked the OLCC to come up regulations for the licensing and operation of marijuana businesses, including producers, processors, wholesalers and retailers. The OLCC is currently working on draft rules and is mandated to begin accepting license applications for related businesses on January 4, 2016. In addition, the OLCC is working closely with the Oregon Legislature to make changes to the OMMA, in order to stay in compliance with the Federal guidance found in the "Cole Memo" issues by the DOJ in 2013.

The legalization of marijuana in Oregon has opened up business opportunities for entrepreneurs to start new businesses and opportunities for attorneys to help navigate the complex and changing regulatory regime. It is important for anyone practicing in this area to be familiar with both programs and the inevitable blending that will occur in the future.

Thank you Mr. Medina for an interesting and thought provoking presentation. For more information, contact Eddie Medina at Underwood | Medina LLC, 330 NE Lincoln St., Ste 200, Hillsboro, OR 97214, (503) 336-4007.



SAVE THE DATE!



## ABA Section of Family Law Fall 2015 CLE Conference

October 14—17, 2015


*The Nines Hotel*

Portland, Oregon

*Savor the Flavor of Portland*

Join the ABA Family Law Section at The Nines Hotel, adjacent to Pioneer Square and the central business district, in one of the country's premier walking cities!





**Calling all paralegals! Please help us by completing the 2015 OPA Annual Paralegal Survey using the Survey Monkey link below by June 19.**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MCJKZQP>

The survey will take less than 10 minutes to complete and as a thank you for completing the survey, you will be eligible to be entered into a \$25 Macy's gift card drawing. Details on how to be entered into the drawing will be provided upon completion of the survey.

The information you provide will remain **strictly confidential** and will not be identified with any individual. Completed surveys will be seen only by the OPA Annual Survey Chair, Linda Odermott, RP. Please contact Linda Odermott, RP at [dlsodermott@gmail.com](mailto:dlsodermott@gmail.com) with any questions.



## LAW LIBRARY NEWS

### Washington County Law Library

111 NE Lincoln  
Hillsboro OR 97124  
Phone: 503.846.8880  
Fax: 503.846.3515  
Email: [laura\\_orr@co.washington.or.us](mailto:laura_orr@co.washington.or.us)  
Email: [lawlibrary@co.washington.or.us](mailto:lawlibrary@co.washington.or.us)  
Website: <http://www.co.washington.or.us/LawLibrary/>  
Oregon Legal Research website & blog:  
<http://www.oregonlegalresearch.com/>

#### CLE Course Materials at the Law Library

Several county law libraries purchase and lend current, for credit, and expired CLE course materials. (Link to a list of those libraries: <http://is.gd/yv1tE2>)

#### How We Acquire CLE Course Materials:

- We review upcoming CLE programs and decide which ones to purchase, taking into account cost and use to lawyers over time.
- Lawyers can also recommend CLE purchases. Just email or phone us; we want to hear from you!
- We purchase CLE programs from OSB and OLI and occasionally from MBA. PLF doesn't charge us for their CLEs.

We generally place CLE orders two or three times a year. Processing CLE course materials, i.e. classifying, cataloging, labeling, etc. is a labor-intensive and costly process.

#### How to Find Out if We Have the CLE You Need:

- Visit our website: link to our online catalog or click on the CLE Information tab (left side of website) or email or phone us.
- Our online catalog includes all CLEs, current and expired. (We do not keep the audio CDs for expired CLEs.) The CLE PDF lists include current, for credit, CLEs.
- Wait (aka Hold or Reserve) Lists: Email or phone us if you want to reserve a particular CLE.

#### How to Borrow CLEs

- Only Oregon attorneys can borrow CLEs and they must visit the Law Library in person.
- CLEs can be returned by anyone, by mail, courier, or Red Bag.
- Our Red Bag service allows attorneys to drop off CLEs at any WCCLS public library (in-library or after-hour drop-box).

#### Last, but not least:

- Don't forget OSB CLE resources come in all shapes, sizes, and mediums: <http://www.osbar.org/mcle> and <http://www.osbar.org/cle/>
- The OSB MCLE Program Database is your guide to "How Many Credits": <http://www.osbar.org/members/mcleasearch.asp>

- Watch for OSB CLE course materials be published soon on BarBooks. In the meantime, look for the CLE PDF course books at the OSB CLE Library: <http://www.osbar.org/cle/library.html>



### 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).

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

To pay for your ad, visit

<http://www.wcbabar.org/newsletter-advertising.asp>

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*Washington County Bar Association*  
*Summer Social / Annual Picnic*  
*Wednesday, June 17*  
*5:30-8:30pm*

Please join us for music, wine, beer and appetizers.  
We will also be presenting the annual President's Award and Professionalism Award.

*Ruby Vineyard*  
*30088 Egger Road*  
*Hillsboro, OR 97123*  
*rubyvineyard.com*

Wine Tasting & Special Pricing provided by Ruby:  
Tasting – Pinot Gris and Pinot Noir \$5  
Bottles – Pinot Gris \$15 and Pinot Noir \$20

Appetizers & Soft Drinks \$15 per person  
Beer will be available for \$5

Please send your pre-registration payment to:  
Rosie De Santos  
PO Box 912  
Hillsboro OR 97123  
Fax number 503.693.9304;  
or via email to [wcba.association@frontier.com](mailto:wcba.association@frontier.com)

Note: We are now able to accept payments on site!  
Wine tasting and bottle fees are payable directly to Ruby.

