WSAMA
Washington State Association of Municipal Attorneys

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 30TH

WCIA Session: Homelessness After *Grants Pass*: What Washington City Attorneys Need to Know

Time	1:00 – 3:00 PM	**Location:**	TBD	**CLE Credits:**	2.0
Speakers	Jeffrey Meyers, Law, Lyman, Daniel, Kamerrer & Bogdanovich				
Description	The U.S. Supreme Court's 2024 decision in *Grants Pass v. Johnson* significantly changed the legal landscape surrounding municipal regulation of public camping and homelessness. But while *Grants Pass* resolved an important Eighth Amendment question, it did not resolve many of the constitutional, statutory, and procedural issues that continue to create liability risks for Washington cities. This two-hour program, will examine where the law stands now, what has developed since Grants Pass, and the issues courts are likely to confront next. Beginning with a brief review of *Martin v. Boise a*nd *Grants Pass*, the program will address what the Supreme Court changed—and just as importantly, what it did not. Participants will receive an update on significant federal, Ninth Circuit, and Washington developments affecting municipal homelessness ordinances, public-space regulation, and enforcement.				

BOARD MEETING

Time	3:15 – 4:15 PM	**Location:**	Rainier

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Time	12:00 – 7:00 PM	**Location:**	Conference Center Lobby

WEDNESDAY EVENING SOCIAL ACTIVITY

Time	5:00 – 7:00 PM	**Location:**	TBD

THURSDAY OCTOBER 1ST

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Time	7:00 AM – 5:00 PM	**Location:**	Conference Center Lobby

BREAKFAST

Time	7:00 AM – 8:00 AM	**Location:**	Cascade Locks Ballroom

JOINT SESSION - THURSDAY OCTOBER 1ST

Moderator:

Welcome by WSAMA President

Time	8:00 – 8:30 AM	**Location:**	Stevenson A & B
Speakers	Jeffrey Taraday, Lighthouse Law Group		

Update on Use of ALPRs (Flock Cameras)

Time	8:30 – 9:00 AM	**Location:**	Stevenson A & B	**CLE Credits:**	0.5
Speakers	James McMahan, WASPC				
Description					

Ethics: Litigating Against Jerks

Time	9:00 – 10:00 AM	**Location:**	Stevenson A & B	**CLE Credits:**	1 ETHICS
Speakers	Alexandra Nica and Ghazal Sharifi, City of Seattle				
Description	Combatting offensive conduct, discrimination, and misogyny in the practice of law.				

BREAK

Time	10:00 – 10:15 AM	**Location:**	Conference Center Lobby

AI: From Prompts to Production

Time	10:15 – 10:45 AM	**Location:**	Stevenson A & B	**CLE Credits:**	0.5
Speakers	Kyla S. Bond, Sound Law Solutions				

Description A city employee uses ChatGPT to draft a procurement document. A requester uses AI to generate a sweeping records request. The records officer considers using AI to search, review, or redact the response. Each scenario presents distinct and evolving questions under the PRA. This session will examine how existing public records principles apply across that lifecycle, from prompts, outputs, chat histories, and uploaded materials that may become public records, to AI-assisted and automated requests, to agency use of AI in records processing. The focus will be practical: reducing unnecessary record creation, preserving and locating AI-related records, distinguishing AI-assisted requests from statutory bot requests, and using AI without compromising accuracy, confidentiality, or defensibility.

Code Enforcement Strategies

Time 10:45 – 11:15 AM **Location:** Stevenson A & B **CLE Credits:** 0.5

Speakers TBD

Description

Criminal Law Update

Time 11:15 AM – 12:00 PM **Location:** Stevenson A & B **CLE Credits:** 0.75

Speakers Bradley Lane, City of Seattle

Description

AWARDS LUNCHEON

Time 12:00 – 1:30 PM **Location:** Cascade Locks Ballroom

Award Recipients Terry Weiner: 2026 Ernest H. Campbell Award
Flannary P. Collins: 2026 Outstanding Service Award

CIVIL SESSION – THURSDAY OCTOBER 1

Moderator:

Hot Topics in Environmental Law

Time 1:30 – 2:15 PM **Location:** Stevenson A & B **CLE Credits:** 0.75

Speakers Emma Lautanen and Jeff Kray, Marten Law Group

Description

Ethics: OPMA Litigation: Privilege, Settlements, Conflicts

Time 2:15 – 2:45 PM **Location:** Stevenson A & B **CLE Credits:** 0.5 ETHICS

Speakers Andrea Bradford, Foster Garvey and Jessica Leiser, City of Seattle

Description

Eminent Domain & Utilities

Time 3:00 – 3:30 PM **Location:** Stevenson A & B **CLE Credits:** 0.5

Speakers TBD

Description

BREAK

Time 3:15 – 3:30 PM **Location:** Conference Center Lobby

Public Works: Piggybacking, Apprenticeship, and More

Time 3:30 – 4:15 PM **Location:** Stevenson A & B **CLE Credits:** 0.75

Speakers Tom Brubaker, Lighthouse Law Group

Description This presentation will provide a brief refresher of state procurement requirements, for goods, services, and public works, including a look at the occasional fine line when attempting to determine whether a procurement is a public work or a purchase of goods. The presentation will then shift to the use of other public agency contracts for procurement of goods, services, and public works, paying particular attention to a number of wrinkles to this "piggyback" process imposed by the State Auditor's Office.

Non-Compete, Breaks and Personnel Files – Oh My! – Recent Updates in Washington Employment Law

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Time	4:15 – 5:00 PM	**Location:**	Stevenson A & B	**CLE Credits:**	0.75
Speakers	Shirley S. Lou-Magnuson and Brenna R. McLaughlin, Ballard Spahr				
Description	Navigating the shifting landscape of employment law can feel like walking through a forest full of unexpected twists and turns. Between sweeping federal overhauls on restrictive covenants and hyper-local updates to daily workplace rules, municipalities are facing ever unprecedented compliance challenges. This session is designed to pull back the curtain on the most pressing legislative changes impacting municipal employers in 2026.				

THURSDAY RECEPTION

Time	5:30 – 7:00 PM	**Location:**	Conference Center Lobby		

CRIMINAL SESSION – THURSDAY OCTOBER 1

Moderator:

Mechanics of 2nd Deferred Prosecution

Time	1:30 – 2:30 PM	**Location:**	Adams	**CLE Credits:**	1
Speakers	Panel TBD				
Description					

Ethical Pitfalls in the Criminal Process Specifically Closing Arguments

Time	2:30 – 3:30 PM	**Location:**	Adams	**CLE Credits:**	1 ETHICS
Speakers	Jason Gelfand, City of Seattle				
Description					

BREAK

Time	3:30 – 3:45 PM	**Location:**	

How to Establish the Reliability of Toxicology Evidence

Time	3:45 – 5:00 PM	**Location:**	Adams	**CLE Credits:**	1
Speakers	Michelle Rutherford, Snohomish County and TBD				
Description					

THURSDAY NIGHT RECEPTION

Time	5:30 – 7:00 PM	**Location:**	Conference Center Lobby

FRIDAY – OCTOBER 2

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Time	7:00 AM – 12:00 PM	**Location:**	Conference Center Lobby

BREAKFAST

Time	7:30 AM – 8:30 AM	**Location:**	Cascade Locks Ballroom

CIVIL SESSION – FRIDAY OCTOBER 2

Moderator:

Development in Uncertain Economic Times: Pros, Cons, and Tips and Traps of Using Development Agreements

Time	8:30 – 9:30 AM	**Location:**	Stevenson A & B	**CLE Credits:**	1
Speakers	Panel: Bob Sterbank and Dan Zellner, Foster Garvey; TBD				
Description					

Web Accessibility

Time	9:30 – 10:15 AM	**Location:**	Stevenson A & B	**CLE Credits:**	0.75
Speakers	Tricia Juettemeyer and Laura Shepard, City of Vancouver				
Description	The ADA Title II web rule was expected to go into effect in April 2026 for local governments with populations of more than 50,000 and April 2027 for less than 50,000. However, it has been pushed back a year, now going into effect in April 2027 and April 2028, respectively. Local jurisdictions now have more time to work towards compliance.				

The City of Vancouver began its work on compliance in 2024 and continues to implement the rule despite the delayed compliance date. This session will cover the history of web accessibility under Title II, the forthcoming web rule, its exceptions, and the City's strategies to move towards compliance across the organization.

BREAK

Time 10:15 – 10:30 AM **Location:**

TBD

Time 10:30 – 11:00 AM **Location:** Stevenson A & B **CLE Credits:** 0.5

Speakers TBD

Description

Update on Changes to Federal Grant Regulations and Guidance

Time 11:00 – 11:30 AM **Location:** Stevenson A & B **CLE Credits:** 0.5

Speakers Paul Lawrence, Pacifica Law Group

Description

Accommodating Affordable Housing: Kitsap County GMHB cases

Time 11:30 AM – 12:00 PM **Location:** Stevenson A & B **CLE Credits:** 0.5

Speakers Lisa Nickel, Kitsap County and TBD

Description

CRIMINAL SESSION – FRIDAY OCTOBER 2

Moderator:

Jury Selection

Time 8:30 – 10:00 AM **Location:** Adams **CLE Credits:** 1.5

Speakers Michelle Rutherford, Snohomish County

Description

BREAK

Time 10:00 – 10:15 AM **Location:**

Jury Selection (Cont.)

Time 10:15 – 11:00 AM **Location:** Adams **CLE Credits:** 0.75

Speakers Michelle Rutherford, Snohomish County

Description

10.77 and Forensic Navigator

Time 11:00 – 12:00 PM **Location:** Adams **CLE Credits:** 1

Speakers Michele Walker, City of Kent and Forensic Navigator TBD

Description