

# Representing Unemployment Insurance (UI) Claimants: Denials, Appeals, and the Hearing Process



---

**ORIGINAL PROGRAM DATE**

September 3, 2025

---

**AVAILABLE MEDIA TYPES**

Video & Audio MP3

---

## REPORTING YOUR CREDIT

This on-demand seminar was originally presented as a live webcast on September 3, 2025. If you attended the live webcast and reported CLE credits, you cannot also report credits from watching or listening to this recording if repeated within your three-year reporting period.

## DESCRIPTION

This seminar provides a comprehensive overview of the practical skills and knowledge needed when working with unemployment insurance (UI) claimants in Washington. Topics include eligibility for benefits, the hearing process, and advocacy techniques.

## AGENDA

### 1 Basics of Unemployment Insurance (UI) Law in Washington State

This session will review the overall intent of UI statutes and rules, employer and worker as adversaries, basic monetary eligibility for benefits (work history), the central importance of the job separation (discharge, voluntary quit, or layoff) in eligibility for benefits, plus other requirements, including availability to work and job search, the roles of alleged misconduct and good cause for quitting in establishing eligibility, and levels of appeal.

*Anne Paxton – Unemployment Law Project, Seattle, WA*

### 2 The Appeals Process: Preparing and Representing a UI Claimant at Hearing

In this session, the presenter will discuss notices of hearing, exhibit files, and case notes, prehearing conferences with the client, establishing good cause for nonappearance or missed deadlines, possible third-party representatives, direct and re-direct examination, cross examination, objections, treatment of hearsay, closing arguments, receiving decisions, filing further appeals, and pro bono representation.

*John Tirpak – Unemployment Law Project, Seattle, WA*

*Agenda continues on the next page.*

## **Representing Unemployment Insurance (UI) Claimants: Denials, Appeals, and the Hearing Process** *(agenda continued from previous page)*

---

### **3 Navigating the Complexities of Representing UI Claimants at Hearings**

In this session, you'll hear the perspective of a former administrative law judge for Washington's Office of Administrative Hearings. Topics to be discussed will include what to expect at the hearing, evidentiary issues, the seasoned attorney versus a new attorney or non-attorney representative, claimant and employer credibility issues, employer motives, client complaints and problems, ethics and conflicts, representatives' advocacy techniques, likely outcomes, and the value of pro bono representation.

*Daniel Hayward – Hayward Law, PLLC, Spokane, WA*