



Elder Law – Spring 2026

ORIGINAL PROGRAM DATE

May 12, 2026

*Presented in partnership with the
WSBA Elder Law Section*

REPORTING YOUR CREDIT

This on-demand program was a live seminar presented on May 12, 2026. If you attended or viewed the original presentation, please note that WSBA members may not claim credit for the same CLE sessions if repeated within their three-year reporting period.

DESCRIPTION

Join the Elder Law Spring CLE program on-demand. Gain timely updates, practical insights, and helpful strategies from arbitrators, trainers, and practitioners across the region. Sessions will highlight the always-popular legislative update, discharge and transfer issues, court orders and jurisdictional considerations. This popular and highly useful program provides guidance you can start using immediately.

AGENDA

1 Legislative Update

This session reviews bills related to Elder Law that were introduced in the most recent legislative session, both proposed and passed.

Matthew Fiedler – Graunke Ayoub Law, Seattle, WA

2 Jurisdiction and Venue in Washington Guardianships & Conservatorships

A focused look at jurisdiction and venue in Washington guardianship and conservatorship proceedings. This session reviews key provisions of RCW 11.130 and RCW 11.90, with practical tips for determining proper jurisdiction and venue.

Eric Brunstrom – Aiken St. Louis & Siljeg, P.S., Seattle, WA

3 Error and Record Preservation for Appeals in TEDRA Litigation

The Trust and Estate Dispute Resolution Act (TEDRA) under Chapter 11.96A RCW contains unique procedural rules that may trip up even seasoned litigation attorneys who regularly practice trust and estate litigation. This presentation will discuss practice tips and common pitfalls to avoid in order to preserve your client's appellate rights in case they need to pursue an appeal during the course of or after trial court litigation.

Kevin Khong – Miller Nash, LLP, Seattle, WA

Agenda continues on next page.

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4 Kids, Cash and Court Orders

This presentation is designed for lawyers navigating how money is given to minors, whether through probate distributions or court-approved settlements, and what happens next. It focuses on the legal frameworks governing transfers to minors, examining the ongoing management of resulting trusts, with an emphasis on trustee duties, beneficiary rights, notice obligations, and strategies to limit long-term liability. Gain practical guidance on avoiding common pitfalls, addressing conflicts of interest, and ensuring that both the transfer and administration of funds are handled correctly from start to finish.

Tasha Cosimo – Betts Patterson & Mines, P.S., Portland, OR

5 Complex Counsel: Exploring Client Relations

In today's complex legal landscape, maintaining effective and ethical client relations can be particularly taxing when clients may be facing mental health struggles, managing age/health-related cognitive issues, or exhibiting challenging behaviors for any reason at all. This session explores both common situations and practical strategies for navigating sensitive client interactions while also upholding attorney ethical obligations under American Bar Association and Washington State Bar Association guidelines for professional conduct.

Vanessa Laughlin – Banister Advisors, Seattle, WA

Frances Schopick – Schopick Law, Burien, WA

6 Discharge and Transfer Issues in Long-Term Care: A New Legal Resource for Residents

This presentation will provide an overview of facility discharge and transfer issues affecting residents in Adult Family Homes, Assisted Living Facilities, and Enhanced Services Facilities, with the broader legal and systems context in which those issues arise. It will also introduce Washington's new Legal Counsel for Long-Term Care Program, including its purpose, structure, and how it may serve as a resource when these issues surface in practice.

Max Mendez Kauffman – Washington State Office of Civil Legal Aid, Olympia, WA

7 Navigating Common Ethical Issues in Elder Law

This session addresses ethical challenges in elder law litigation and settlement practice with emphasis on conflict of interest and confidentiality issues under the Washington Rules of Professional Conduct and relevant case law. Topics include representation involving multiple parties, unrepresented individuals, and clients with diminished capacity, as well as issues of undue influence and financial exploitation. Panelists will discuss attorneys' duties of honesty, diligence, and loyalty, including ethical considerations surrounding identity related factors. This session will also explore the use of emerging technologies in the practice of law including risks and benefits of online proceedings, social media, and artificial intelligence.

Comm. Bradford Moore (Ret.) – JAMS, Seattle, WA

David M. Schoeggl – JAMS, Seattle, WA

Comm. Eric Watness (Ret.) – JAMS, Seattle, WA