



The 2026 Washington Law and Practice Refresher Course – Day 1

ORIGINAL PROGRAM DATES

February 5, 2026

REPORTING YOUR CREDIT

This on-demand program was a live seminar presented on February 5, 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

This special seminar, originally designed as part of the WSBA Reinstatement Course, is now offered to all interested members and other legal professionals. The content has been vetted as essential information that an attorney practicing in Washington today must know.

AGENDA

1 Introduction to Federal Indian Law

Federal Indian Law represents a complex field involving the legal relationship between the United States, Native American tribes, and individual tribal members. This presentation offers a foundational overview of the core principles, historical developments, and current issues shaping federal Indian law today. Attendees will gain insight into the origins and evolution of Indian Law and the federal-tribal relationship, including key statutes, treaties, and Supreme Court decisions. The session will explore the doctrine of tribal sovereignty and its implications for self-government, jurisdiction, and the administration of justice in Indian Country, as well as the trust responsibility of the federal government and its impact on tribal lands, resources, and economic development.

Derek Red Arrow – Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP, Seattle, WA

2 Business Management Ethical Pitfalls That Get Lawyers in Trouble & How to Avoid Them

Lawyers face a range of ethical risks not just in the courtroom, but in the day-to-day management of their practices. This session explores how common business decisions—like how you bill, supervise staff, manage deadlines, or use technology—can lead to ethics violations if not handled properly. We'll walk through real-world scenarios, highlight relevant RPCs, and offer practical tools and systems to help you stay compliant while running a more efficient, client-centered practice. *(This document was edited with Microsoft Copilot's AI and reviewed for accuracy by Margeaux Green)*

Margeaux Green – Washington State Bar Association, Seattle, WA

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(agenda continued from previous page)

3 Estate Planning Basics and Recent Changes

Review the fundamentals of estate planning in Washington and learn how the law has recently changed. This session will include topics such as:

- Common Estate Planning Tools (e.g. wills, trusts, nonprobate transfers)
- Estate and Gift Tax Issues
- Other Legislation Affecting Estate Planning and Administration (e.g. the Trust and Estate Dispute Resolution Act or “TEDRA”)

This session will also cover recent case law and legislative updates relevant to trusts and estates and how those updates impact the considerations and decision points that practitioners should address when engaged in estate planning or dispute work for clients.

Gail E. Mautner – Ballard Spahr LLP, Seattle, WA

Zach Lundin – Ballard Spahr LLP, Seattle, WA

4 Tort Law Tool Kit: Fundamentals and Recent Updates

This seminar explores basic Washington tort principles alongside the latest developments in tort law. Practitioners will be equipped with practical insights into emerging issues, significant cases, and evolving standards in tort law.

Sydney Codd – Rush Hannula Harkins & Kyler PLLC, Tacoma, WA

5 Legal Research Resources: Part 1

In the first three sessions of the program, focus on legal research and learn about cost-effective and efficient legal research strategies.

Barbara Engstrom – King County Law Library, Seattle, WA

6 Legal Research Resources: Part 2

In part two, we'll explore how AI holds both promises and pitfalls for practicing lawyers while practicing legal research.

LeighAnne Thompson – Seattle University Law School, Seattle, WA

7 Legal Research Resources: Part 3

In part three, we'll explore how to make the most of Fastcase/vLex subscription, a benefit of WSBA bar membership.

Maya Swanes – University of Washington School of Law, Seattle, WA