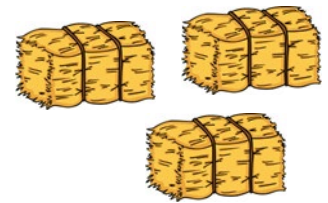


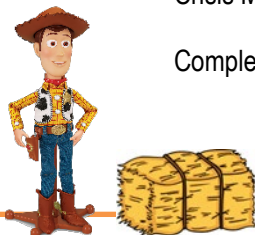


Spokane County Superior Court Title 11.130 Court Visitor Mandatory Annual Training Agenda



October 27, 2023
Gonzaga School of Law Moot Court Room
Host: Brent Stanyer

- 8:00 – 8:15 **Check-in and Welcome** – Spokane County Superior Court Judge Rachelle Anderson with Introduction of the Hypothetical
- 8:15 – 9:00 **“Court Visitor Report and Investigation”** Frank Christoff, Attorney / Court Visitor
- 9:00 – 10:15 **“Medicare 101”** Monica Kudrna, SHIBA Coordinator
Aging & Long Term Care of Eastern Washington, Spokane Washington
- 10:15 – 10:30 **Break**
- 10:30 – 11:45 (Virtual) **“Social Security Administration Basics”** Raymond A. Cebula, III, J.D.
Program Director, K. Lisa Yang and Hock E. Tan Employment and Disability Institute
ILR School, Cornell University, Santa Fe, New Mexico
- 11:45 – 1:15 LUNCH PANEL at VOLKAR GAFFNEY CHAMPION ROOM (aka: Herak Room)
“Best Practices, Fees and Expectations” Spokane County Superior Court Bench
· Judge Jeremy Schmidt
· Commissioner Tony Rugel
· Commissioner Julia Pelc
- 1:15 – 2:15 **Hypothetical / Interactive Discussion** including Ethics
Judge Rachelle Anderson, Spokane County Superior Court
- 2:15 – 3:15 **“Emergency Guardianship” Panel** **Facilitator:** Brent Stanyer
· Catherine Kardong, Attorney
· Lisa A. Malpass, Attorney
· Jeremy Schmidt, Judge
- 3:15 – 3:30 **Break - Setup**
- 3:30 – 4:30 (Virtual) **KEYNOTE SPEAKER** – Barbara Rubel, BS Psychology, MA Community Health,
BCETS, DAAETS Board Certified Expert in Traumatic Stress, Diplomate, American
Academy of Experts in Traumatic Stress in collaboration with the National Center for
Crisis Management
- 4:30 - Complete Evaluations, Adjournment, Sign Out



Last Edited: September 15, 2023

SPEAKER BIOS

JUDGE RACHELLE ANDERSON was appointed to Superior Court Dept. 12 in January 2019, prior to that, she served as a Spokane County Superior Court Commissioner since December 2010. Judge Anderson spent 14 years in private practice, focusing on family law and juvenile dependency matters. She spent a brief time as an Administrative Law Judge with the Washington State Office of Administrative hearings before her time on the bench.

Professional Affiliations: Judge Anderson currently serves as Co-Chair of the Superior Court Judges' Association's Legislative Committee. She is a past President of the Superior Court Judges' Association, (2021-2022). She serves on the SCJA Guardianship and Probate Committee, which she formerly chaired. She is former Chair of the Certified Professional Guardianship Board, former Chair of the WSBA Character and Fitness Board, and former Washington Young Lawyer Division Trustee.

Education: Eastern Washington University, Government, BA, 1994 • Gonzaga University School of Law, JD, 1997

Personal: Lifetime Spokane Resident • Married with five daughters between the two of us, dog lover and avid Gonzaga Basketball fan! Go ZAGS!

RAYMOND A. CEBULA is a member of the Extension Faculty of Cornell University's Yang-Tan Institute on Employment and Disability. As a faculty member, he provides technical assistance and training to Protection and Advocacy program attorneys and paralegals in 16 states and territories covered by Cornell's Work Incentive Support Center.

As an experienced social security disability attorney Mr. Cebula practiced with the Disability Benefits Project as a Senior Staff Attorney with the Disability Law Center in Boston, Massachusetts. He has also served as a Managing Attorney of the Disability and Medicare projects at Southeastern Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corporation. He is a graduate of Franklin Pierce Law Center in Concord, NH and received a Reginald Heber Smith Community Lawyer Fellowship upon graduation. He is also a graduate of Merrimack College and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in history. His practice has concentrated in the area of social security practice and has brought several pieces of significant litigation on behalf of low income, disabled social security beneficiaries. While working with the Disability Law Center, Mr. Cebula taught at Harvard Law School's Legal Aid Bureau for a period of three academic years.

He is the co-author of the MCLE publication An Advocate's Guide to Surviving the SSI System, as well as several SSI practice manuals published by Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education, and is a regular presenter of social security related programs at local and national conferences of social security practitioners.

FRANK CHRISTOFF graduated from Gonzaga University School of Law in 1990. He served as a Spokane County Prosecutor from April 1991 to September 2017. He spent approximately 19 years prosecuting Juvenile Offenses. After retiring from the Prosecutor's Office, Mr. Christoff served as a Judge Pro Tem, largely doing the Spokane Valley Infraction Docket, handling Children in Need of Services case in Juvenile and working as a Guardian ad Litem. This is his third-year handling GAL cases.

CATHERINE KARDONG - Catherine graduated first in her class from Gonzaga University School of Law and began her legal career at the Washington State Supreme Court, where she clerked for Washington Supreme Court Justice Mary E. Fairhurst. She was then selected as an honors candidate at the Washington State Attorney General's Office and spent two years in Olympia representing areas within the Department of Social and Health Services that serve the aging and disabled populations of Washington. Catherine and her family relocated to Spokane where she continued on with the Attorney General's Office and began representing various institutions of higher education, most recently acting as lead counsel for Eastern Washington University.

Catherine is originally from Spokane, having graduated from Lewis and Clark High School before venturing to the east coast to earn her undergraduate degree from Boston College. During law school, she was a Thomas More Scholar and a member of the Gonzaga Law Review. She also clerked for United States District Court Judge Robert H. Whaley and United States Bankruptcy Judge John A. Rossmeissl. She was admitted into practice in Washington in January of 2014.

In her spare time, she enjoys cooking, baking, and spending time with her husband, two children, and all their extended family that live in town.

MONICA KUDRNA is employed by Aging and Long Term Care of Eastern Washington, as the Statewide Health Insurance Benefits Advisor (SHIBA) Program Coordinator. She began her work with the SHIBA Program in 2018. Monica leads a team of 40 outstanding SHIBA volunteers who assist clients through the Medicare maze. Through the collaborative work with her volunteers, Monica and her team are able to provide public education on Medicare and one-on-one assistance tailored to the individual needs of the client they serve in Spokane, Whitman Counties.

LISA A. MALPASS earned a Bachelor of Arts degree (BA) in Government and earned a Master's degree in Public Administration (MPA) from Eastern Washington University. In 2003, she earned her Law degree (honors) from Gonzaga University School of Law. Lisa has practiced law in Washington State since 2003 and was admitted to the State of Idaho in 2014.

Lisa has been an in-house legal benefits attorney for Adult Protective Services; an Attorney Advisor for the Social Security Administration; opened Malpass Law Office, P.S.; was a partner at Winston & Cashatt, Lawyers ; and now she can be found at the law firm of James P. Spurgetis, P.S.

Her areas of practice include guardianship/ conservatorship law, estate planning, probate administration and fiduciary services.

In 2019, Lisa was appointed to the Washington State Certified Professional Guardianship Board as a WSBA delegate. She is a past President of the Washington Chapter of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (WAELA); a founding member of the SCBA Elder, Disability and Estate Planning (EDEP) section; a contributor of the Title 11.130 Guardian ad Litem State-Wide Advisory Committee; a member of the WSBA Elder Law and Administrative Law Sections, Real Property Probate and Trust Sections; and past chair of the Spokane County Superior Court Title 11.130 Training Committee. She is also a Leadership Spokane graduate and military veteran.

COMMISSIONER JULIA PELC - Appointed: August 1st, 2016

Career Highlights

- City & County Public Defender, part volunteer, part paid attorney
- Maxey Law Office Associate, emphasis in criminal defense and family law
- Taft Mackin Pelc Henault & Hancock, partner. Emphasis in family law, probate, and guardianship Title 11, 26 & 4 GAL
- Cooney Law Office. Emphasis in family law and guardianship Title 11, 26 & 4 GAL
- Commissioner Pro tem Spokane Superior Court, 13 years

Education

- Gonzaga Prep & Ferris High School
- Whitworth University
- Gonzaga School of Law

Activities

- Yoga & Health

COMMISSIONER TONY M. RUGEL - Appointed: September 4, 2012

Career Highlights

- Assistant Attorney General, Spokane/Olympia 2004 - 2012
- Senate Committee Counsel, Washington State Senate 2002 - 2004
- Attorney at Law, Law Offices of Ron Hammett, Republic, WA
- Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, Okanogan County Prosecuting Attorney's Office
- Attorney at Law, Law Office of Hank Rawson, Okanogan, WA

Professional Affiliations, Committees

- Special Assistant United States Attorney 2007 - 2008

Education

- Seattle University School of Law, J.D., 1993
- Eastern Washington University, B.S., 1990

JUDGE JEREMY SCHMIDT is currently assigned as Trial Judge and was elected in 2023

- Senior Attorney at Counsel for Defense 2015-2022
- Adjunct Professor, Gonzaga University School of Law, 2018-Present
- Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for Pend Oreille/Lincoln Counties 2010-2015
- Attorney for the Spokane County Public Defender's Office 2008-2010

Education

- Graduate of Gonzaga University School of Law, 2008
- Graduate of Carroll College, Helena, Mt., 2005
- Graduate of Gonzaga Preparatory High School, 2001

Civil Involvement

- Coaching Gonzaga University School of Law's National Trial Team
- Spending time with family

BARBARA RUBEL, BS, MA, BCETS, DAAETS is a leading authority and award-winning author on managing burnout, secondary traumatic stress, compassion fatigue, empathic distress fatigue, moral injury and vicarious trauma. As a nationally recognized keynote speaker and thanatologist, Barbara motivates audiences to build career resilience through the lens of vicarious trauma-informed care. Her programs help professionals manage workplace chronic stressors. Barbara has presented to over 1,000 organizations since 1991. As a Board-Certified Expert in Traumatic Stress and Diplomate with the American Academy of Experts in Traumatic Stress, she gives audiences practical wellness strategies. Barbara received a Bachelor of Science in psychology and a Master of Arts degree in community health, with a concentration in thanatology, both from Brooklyn College. She is the author of, *But I Didn't Say Goodbye: Helping Families After a Suicide* (3ed). (2020), and the 30-hour CE course, *Loss, Grief, and Bereavement: Helping Individuals Cope* (4ed), and CE course, *COVID-19 Loss, Grief, and Bereavement* (2020). Barbara co-authored the Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime Training Curriculum, *Compassion Fatigue*. She is a contributing writer to *Thin Threads: Grief and Renewal; Fresh Grief; Coaching for Results; and Keys to a Good Life*. You have seen her work in Newsweek, Family Circle, Health, Shape, FOX Business, TODAY, and others. Three weeks prior to giving birth, her father died by suicide. Her story of managing traumatic loss was featured in the Emmy award winning documentary, *Fatal Mistakes, Families Shattered by Suicide* narrated by Mariette Hartley. Her website is www.barbararubel.com.

BRENT T. STANYER - For over 25 years Brent has practiced law in Spokane in the areas of elder law and special needs planning, estate and trust planning and administration, and health care. He has also been a GAL in Spokane County Superior Court since 2002.

He is a member of the Washington State Bar Association, the National and Washington Academies of Elder Law Attorneys. He is a past president, board member and officer of the Spokane Estate Planning Council.

Brent is a lifelong Washingtonian. He and his family have lived in Spokane for over 25 years, where he has worked in private legal practice, and legal and management positions with health care organizations. He has also been an adjunct professor and lecturer at Washington State University, Whitworth University, and University of Idaho Law School.

Brent graduated with his law degree (magna cum laude) from the Gonzaga University School of Law in 1992. He also holds an MBA from the Drucker Management Center at Claremont Graduate University and an MA in Ethics from Loma Linda University.

He is active in community, church, and nonprofit organizations. His personal interests include singing with the Spokane Symphony Chorale, running/cycling/swimming and reading.