

Each year the Board of Governors appoints a new Treasurer. I am honored that my fellow governors unanimously elected me to serve as your treasurer for fiscal year 2017. It has been my pleasure to serve on the Budget and Audit Committee of the Board of Governors for the past three years. I particularly want to thank my immediate predecessor, Karen Denise Wilson, for her exceptional leadership as your treasurer last year.

I'd like to tell you a little more about me and my background before I share information about the Board's decisions on setting 2018-20 license fees.

I grew up in Walla Walla. Many of you associate this region with a booming wine country. But this area was not always covered with grapevines. My family lived on a 40-acre horse farm just outside town, surrounded by onion and wheat fields. The influx of vineyards and wineries really hit while I was away for college. Returning to Walla Walla now is a remarkable experience — the downtown has been transformed with art galleries, boutiques, and tasting rooms. This transformation has been mostly positive for the town, but certainly has come with growing pains as the area is still learning how best to embrace the new culture.

I see a lot of similarities to the legal

profession. When I started law school in 2000, legal research was done primarily with hard copy books. When I took the bar exam in 2003, most applicants were handwriting the essay portion. In my first few years of practice for medium-sized insurance defense firms, I was engaged in a very traditional law practice that did not allow a lot of flexibility for working mothers.

I sit now, in 2016, in my solo practice office in southwest Washington, master of my own calendar, utilizing a cloud-based practice management database so I can work virtually anywhere, and with a remote receptionist to handle incoming calls. The legal profession is changing rapidly. Even the way we market our practice is changing. This is an exciting time to be a lawyer and an exciting time to be part of the Board of Governors. The WSBA and its Board are continuing to find ways to adapt our member services to help you thrive in this great profession. I bring this excitement for change and growth to my service as your treasurer.

2018-2020 Lawyer License Fees

This year, I was proud to chair the WSBA Strategic Planning Committee. As part of this process, the Board adopted strategic goals for the next three years. One of our goals include

enhancing member services to properly equip licensed professionals with the skills they need to succeed in this changing profession. Once we set our goals, we spent a year discussing the cost to implement these services in conjunction with our mandatory regulatory functions.

License fees are the main source of funding for WSBA programs, services, and operations. As fiduciaries, the Board must set license fees at a level that enables the Bar to continue to meet our regulatory obligations, advance our mission, provide value to our members at reasonable cost, and preserve a prudent level of reserves. On Sept. 29, following extensive examination this year of historical, current, and projected revenues, expenses, license fees, and reserves, the Board adopted lawyer license fees for the period 2018-20 as follows: \$449 in 2018, \$453 in 2019, and \$458 in 2020. These levels reflect the Board's deep commitment to support the WSBA as an integrated bar, provide a high level of member benefits that ensure licensed professionals thrive in their practices, while also preserving minimum operating reserves of \$2 million.

For additional background and information on the development of license fees, I encourage you to read the Treasurer's Report in the July/August issue of *NWLawyer*, and the WSBA's financial information page, <http://wsba.org/treasurer>. As a solo practitioner, I certainly understand the impact of increased license fees. If you are interested, the WSBA offers several exemptions and a payment plan. There are two exemptions: (1) a one-time hardship exemption for members whose current household income is equal to or less than 200% of the federal poverty level; and (2) the armed forces exemption. Under the payment plan, you may pay your license fee in three installments. For more information, see <http://www.wsba.org/exempt>.

During my term, the Board will make important policy decisions about the FY18 budget; and engage in long-range planning to support the Bar's programming, services, and operations well into the future. Through-



on our clients' objectives. Whatever the course.

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The MIRANDA WARNING!

We all know it by heart, but a helpful officer will still read it to you if you get arrested! *

You have the right to remain silent... etc.

* ...probably.



It wasn't set in stone at first... Miranda gave the States leave to devise other "fully effective means" of protecting arrestees' rights.

C.J. Earl Warren



They didn't, so we stuck with Miranda.

But people got used to it. Even C.J. Rehnquist, who'd spent years chipping away at Miranda, forebore to overrule it in Dickerson.

The warnings have become part of our national culture.

C.J. William Rehnquist

DUN! DUN!

* Law & Order sound.



... and not just our national culture.

In **CANADA**, the U.S. Constitution has no force. And the Canadian Supreme Court declined to import Miranda, in *R. v. Sinclair*.

C.J. Beverley McLachlin



We have our own warning, and think it's quite nice.

No right to counsel at interrogation, though.

But while U.S. law stops at the border, Law & Order doesn't.



And many Canadians raised on America's "national culture" know exactly what rights they are due...

This is an illegal arrest!

You didn't read me my Miranda rights!

out the year, I hope to provide insight and solicit your feedback on these and other fiscal issues that face the organization. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. **NWL**



JILL KARMY was elected to the Board of Governors in September 2014. She is the managing member of Karmy Law Office, PLLC,

in Clark County. Her practice consists of representing injured workers before the Department of Labor and Industries, Board of Industrial Insurance Appeals, and superior and appellate courts. Karmy has been an Eagle member of the Washington State Association for Justice since 2006 and previously served on the WSBA Board of Bar Examiners. She received her undergraduate degree from Pacific Union College in California and her law degree from Lewis & Clark Law School. She can be reached at jillkarmy@karmylaw.com.

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Arnold v. City of Seattle,

185 Wn.2d 510, 374 P.3d 510 (2016)

(attorney fees recoverable in administrative proceeding where back pay is awarded)

Coomes v. Edmonds School Dist. No. 15,

816 F.3d 1255 (9th Cir. 2016) (reversed dismissal of employee's claim of wrongful discharge in violation of public policy)

Kim v. Lakeside Adult Family Home,

185 Wn.2d 532, 374 P.3d 21 (2016) (establishing cause of action for breach of adult abuse reporting statute)

Chism v. Tri-State Construction,

193 Wn. App. 818, 374 P.3d 193 (2016) (successfully restoring in-house counsel's RCW 49.52 wage claim for unpaid bonuses)

Segura v. Cabrera,

184 Wn.2d 587, 362 P.3d 1278 (2015)

(TFT submitted successful amicus brief on damages)

Albertson v. State, DSHS,

191 Wn. App. 284, 361 P.3d 808 (2015) (court affirms CPS abuse investigation duty and reverses CPS verdict on abuser as alleged superseding cause)

Bright v. Frank Russell Investments,

191 Wn. App. 73, 361 P.3d 245 (2015)

(fee recovery in employment discrimination case)

State v. Sykes,

182 Wn.2d 168, 339 P.3d 972 (2014)

(Drug Court therapeutic proceedings not subject to open courts requirement of Washington Constitution)

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