

To: All members, official

Date: March 16, 2020

Subject line: Coronavirus update: Information from WSBA and our commitment to service

*A message from WSBA's President and Interim Executive Director*

Dear WSBA colleagues,

These are uncertain times, and we understand that your work on the frontlines of our justice system—and the public's access to it—does not necessarily halt due to crises. There is an abundance of information in the public realm right now regarding the novel coronavirus and rapidly changing advice to curb its spread, and we want to let you know how the Washington State Bar Association is responding so that we can continue to support you in your practice.

While we are closely tracking and following the official recommendations to prioritize the safety of our employees, members, and community, we are adamantly committed to maintaining services for our members and the public. Toward that end, here are several important updates from WSBA, including a free on-demand CLE opportunity and information from the Washington Supreme Court:

- **WSBA is limiting access to our physical office, but services will continue to be made available to you.** WSBA will close general public access to its Seattle office beginning tomorrow, March 17, to comply with orders from health-department officials and to ensure the safety of staff and volunteers, who will be keeping our limited on-site operations running smoothly. *We are still open for business:* services will continue via phone, email, and [online resources](#). If you need assistance, please refer to our [services directory](#) and/or use [questions@wsba.org](mailto:questions@wsba.org) for general inquires. While many of our employees are following official guidance to work remotely, we expect minimal disruption in services.
- **Court emergency operations and closures.** The Washington Supreme Court has postponed March oral arguments and authorized presiding trial court judges to respond appropriately to protect the safety of their own courts and communities ([more information](#)). The Supreme Court has also published a new webpage with statewide court modifications and local court orders; [check that clearinghouse often for updates](#).
- **March WSBA Board of Governors meeting to be held virtually.** Following the guidance of state and local government officials, we have moved this week's Board of Governors meeting from Olympia to a primarily virtual format, which will be hosted from WSBA headquarters. [Go online to find the agenda and remote participation access as we finalize details before Thursday](#).
- **On-demand Legal Lunchbox for April and other WSBA CLEs.** To encourage best practices in social distancing and support members with a convenient way to earn CLE

credits during this time, we will offer April's Legal Lunchbox on-demand for free throughout the month of April. Watch for an email with the link to the free on-demand seminar on April 1 or go directly to [WSBA's CLE store for access](#). We plan to use webinar technology for other WSBA CLE offerings throughout April to allow for remote faculty and attendee participation with minimal disruption.

- **Practice support:** To help you navigate this unprecedented global emergency as an employer and legal practitioner, we have compiled a [regularly updated webpage](#) with guidance from the American Bar Association, Law and the Workplace experts, and the Centers for Disease Control. As a reminder, our **free** legal research platforms—[Casemaker and Fastcase](#)—offer services that may be beneficial if you are affected by closures of local law libraries.

We will continue to stay on top of the latest health information/recommendations and to relay updates to you that may be crucial to your practice and access to WSBA services. We remain dedicated to doing right by the members and public we serve, and we will update you further with resources and opportunities as they arise.

Take care, be well.

In service,

Rajeev Majumdar, WSBA President  
Terra Nevitt, Interim Executive Director