

WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION HEALTH LAW SECTION

January 2026 Full Executive Committee Meeting

Date:	January 7, 2026
Invitees:	Stephanie Sundier, Eric Neiman, Anna Clavel, Jeremy Belanger, Bebe Vanek, Kate Robertson, Andrew Feld, Carolyn Macgregor (WSBA), Elena Praggastis, Genta Iwasaki, Sabrina Marquez, and Christopher Bhang (WSBA)
Attendees:	Stephanie Sundier, Eric Neiman, Anna Clavel, Jeremy Belanger, Bebe Vanek, Kate Robertson, Andrew Feld, Elena Praggastis, Genta Iwasaki, and Christopher Bhang (WSBA)
Call to Order:	12:00 PM
Adjourn:	12:58 PM
Approved on:	February 4, 2026, 12:27 pm, February 2026 Full Executive Committee Meeting
Agenda:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Housekeeping (Stephanie)<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Roadmap document access (other than as a Google Doc)- EC bio updates- Reminder: mini-CLE training request for the full EC by 1/31/262) Minutes approval for last month's meeting [Attached] (Genta)3) WSBA updates and election prep (Carolyn)4) Board of Governors updates (Chris)5) Subcommittee updates (Eric/Anna)<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Student Health Law Fair- CLE updates- WSSHA collaboration- Legislative training- Newsletter- Pro bono- Any other subcommittee updates6) Other updates

Minutes:

1. Housekeeping (Stephanie)

- Stephanie reminded the Executive Committee that the mini-CLE training deadline is January 31. Everyone should complete the required YouTube training and submit the required certification. If people cannot meet that deadline, please let Stephanie know. No formal confirmation is requested; default assumption is that members will complete on time.

2. Minutes approval for last month's meeting (Genta)

- The Executive Committee approved the meeting minutes from last month. Genta will circulate the minutes to Carolyn next.

3. WSBA updates and election prep (Carolyn)

- (Skipped because Carolyn could not make the meeting.)

4. Board of Governors updates (Chris)

- Chris Bang (of King County Metro) offered ongoing support and open communication with the Health Law Section.
- He offered an Invitation for the Executive Committee to attend Board of Governors (BOG) meetings to strengthen our section's visibility and connection. The next BOG meeting will be held on Friday, January 16 at the WSBA Headquarters (downtown Seattle). It is an all-day format and starts at 9:00 am with public comment around that time. In-person and online options available; no advance registration is required. Breakfast will be provided for early attendees. Chris can request a five-minute slot to introduce the Health Law Section if given sufficient notice.

5. Subcommittee updates (Eric/Anna)

- Eric is exploring a possible cross-sectional mini-CLE with the World Peace Through Law section. One possible topic will be the 'universal right to health care.' It will be structured as a 90-minute free session at noontime on March 24 or March 25. Potential speakers might include an international scholar, as well as another commentator to discuss US' decision to withdraw from international efforts to promote healthcare.
 - o Oregon in 2022 made a constitutional amendment establishing a right to healthcare (not yet enforced; includes budget

off-ramp). So, Eric suggests possibly inviting someone who was involved with that Oregon constitutional amendment.

- o Elena commented that we might want to avoid any overtly political framing (e.g., commenting on US' decision to withdraw from international efforts to promote healthcare) and instead maintain neutral, intellectually-grounded critique focused on facts, policy, and public health implications in order to align with WSBA guidelines.
- o To the extent we are moving forward with this proposed mini-CLE with the World Peace Through Law section, a cross-section Letter of Agreement will be required. Fees and cost-sharing need to be clarified (i.e., mini-CLEs are typically free to members, but non-members must pay unless designated otherwise).
- Another mini-CLE being explored is tentatively titled: "What clinicians want lawyers to know about end-of-life, and what lawyers want clinicians to know."
 - o Scope: end-of-life issues, possible inclusion of medical aid in dying discussion.
 - o Speakers: both Andrew and Bebe are recruiting potential speakers.
 - o Timing: tentatively scheduled for some time in April.
- Another potential mini-CLE topic (for some time in May or June) will focus on rural health.
 - o Focus: Washington's share of the \$50 billion rural health fund and its implications for providers, systems, and legal frameworks.
 - o Status: outreach underway; planning in progress.
- Podcasts
 - o Concept: 4–5 short interviews (15–20 minutes each) titled "what I do as a health lawyer," highlighting diverse paths and practice areas. Anna will serve as the interviewer, and Eric will also try to interview at least one person.
 - o WSBA does not host podcasts; limited potential funding may be available, but content and publishing are section-led.
 - o Anna commented that the American Health Law Association also hosts podcasts and that they have recently started uploading them onto YouTube.
- Andrew and Stephanie discussed implementing editorial guidelines. Specifically, there will need to be some guidelines to edit or withhold any problematic segments prior to the podcast's release.
- Half-day event:

- o A potential idea is to adjust the Student Health Law Fair to be a “fundamentals-lite” multi-credit CLE offering so that both students and attorneys can attend.
- Legislative tracking (Anna):
 - o WSBA legislative team has been flagging bills of potential interest to our section and forwarding them to Anna (e.g., abortion, payment requirements, chiropractic licensure, cannabis use).
 - o Response options: ‘Not of interest’; ‘track with no position’; ‘provide technical comments’; ‘formally take a position via WSBA process’.
 - “Track with no position” will be the most likely approach for most bills due to timing and broad scope. Anna will forward the list to the committee and collect any urgent feedback.
 - o If any bill raises strong concerns or support, Executive Committee members are urged to reach out to Anna right away.

Please note that some material in these meeting minutes was generated with help from artificial intelligence and reviewed for accuracy by Genta Iwasaki.