



2026 Law of Lawyering

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2026

Approved for 6.0 Ethics CLE Credits.

\$275 - Standard

\$255 - New Members*

Washington State Bar Association

1325 Fourth Ave., Suite 600 | Seattle, WA 98101

WEBCAST
ONLY

DESCRIPTION

The program presents six ethics-focused sessions exploring undercover investigations, client intake and withdrawal, the emerging ethical landscape of generative AI, and the complexities lawyers face when changing firms or practicing across jurisdictions. It also examines forthcoming changes to RPC 1.14 and the ethical responsibilities involved when representing clients with diminished decision-making capacity. Moderated and taught by leading practitioners and scholars, the sessions provide practical guidance on professional responsibility challenges that arise in modern, multijurisdictional, and technology-driven law practices.

CO-CHAIRS

Peter Jarvis – WSBA Committee on Professional Ethics Member, Portland, OR

Nellie Barnard – Schwabe, Portland, OR

Colin Folawn – Schwabe, Portland, OR

SCHEDULE

8:10 a.m. > Webcast Log-In Opens

8:25 a.m. > Welcome and Introductions by Co-Chair

- **Peter Jarvis** – WSBA Committee on Professional Ethics Member, Portland, OR

8:30 a.m. > Client Devotion vs Culpable Dishonesty: Permissible Roles for Lawyers in Advising or Directing Undercover/Sting Operations

60 minutes, 1.0 credits Ethics

Essential information about the conduct of others can be hard to get and may only be available with extra effort. Learn about what lawyers may and may not do when it comes to advising or assisting clients in hiring private investigators and advising or implementing undercover/sting operations.

- **Peter Jarvis** – WSBA Committee on Professional Ethics Member, Portland, OR
- **Caesar Kalinowski IV** – Davis Wright Tremaine, LLP, Seattle
- **Brooks Holland** – Gonzaga University School of Law, Spokane

9:30 a.m. > Tying the Knot and Cutting the Cord: From Client Due Diligence at Intake to Quiet and Noisy Withdrawals at the End

60 minutes, 1.0 credits Ethics

Both lawyer self-interest and the RPCs require lawyer due diligence in taking on new clients. And both also affect when a lawyer may or must withdraw as well as what lawyers can or should say or do at the time of withdrawal. This panel will address the necessary and permissible steps of the client-hiring and client-firing process, including how to deal with clients who may be acting unlawfully.

- **Nellie Barnard** – Schwabe, Portland, OR
- **Natalie Cain** – Davis Wright Tremaine, LLP, Seattle
- **David Elkanich** – Buchalter, A Professional Corporation, Seattle

10:30 a.m. > BREAK

10:45 a.m. > Generative AI in the Evolving Practice of Law: Are We Damned if We Do and if We Don't?

60 minutes, 1.0 credits Ethics

Although problems caused by AI 'hallucinations' in pleadings have lately been in the news, they represent only a small part of the ethical and disciplinary traps set for lawyers when using AI. But at the same time, we are approaching (if we have not already reached) the point at which many kinds of law practice may well be required to incorporate AI to meet evolving competence, diligence, and client service requirements. This panel will identify both the potential risks and benefits of AI use.

- **Colin Folawn** – Schwabe, Portland, OR
- **Michele Carney** – Carney & Marchi, PS, Seattle
- **Trisha Hedges** – DLA Piper LLP (US), Seattle

11:45 a.m. > LUNCH on Your Own

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SCHEDULE

12:45 p.m. > Moving On? Rules of the Road
When Lawyers Change Firms

60 minutes, 1.0 credits Ethics
Lawyers owe duties not only to their clients and themselves but also to their firms and the legal system. This panel will address what lawyers and their ‘old’ and ‘new’ firms may, must, and must not do when lawyers wish to leave one firm for another.

- **Colin Folawn** – Schwabe, Portland, OR
- **Seth Endo** – Seattle University School of Law, Seattle
- **Sandra Schilling** – Washington State Bar Association, Seattle

1:45 p.m. > Choice of Ethics Law Issues

60 minutes, 1.0 credits Ethics
Many lawyers have practices that directly or indirectly cross state lines. They may not realize, however, that this may make them subject them not only to Washington’s own RPCs but also to the RPCs of other jurisdictions which could be materially different. In fact, different parts of a single case or client matter may be subject to different sets of RPCs. This panel will address these choice of ethics law issues so that lawyers can prepare themselves in advance.

- **Nellie Barnard** – Schwabe, Portland, OR
- **Mark Fucile** – Fucile & Reising, LLP, Portland, OR
- **Arden Olsen** – Miller Nash, LLP, Portland, OR

2:45 p.m. > BREAK

3 p.m. > Representing Clients with Decision-Making Limitations:
What the Likely Changes to RPC 1.14 Means for All of Us

60 minutes, 1.0 credits Ethics
Sooner or later, most lawyers come into contact with clients who may have limited cognitive ability or who may need assistance in making the decisions which clients, and not lawyers, must make. The 2026 changes to ABA Model Rule 1.14, which are likely soon to be incorporated into Washington RPC 1.14, help clarify how lawyers in such situations should proceed in order to preserve as much of an ordinary lawyer-client relationship as practicable. This panel will discuss the philosophy behind the 2026 amendments as well as the competence, confidentiality, client loyalty, and other professional responsibility issues that can arise.

- **Peter Jarvis** – WSBA Committee on Professional Ethics Member, Portland, OR
- **Sara Ayoubi** – Snohomish County Public Defender Association, Everett
- **Abe Ritter** – Gonzaga University School of Law, Spokane

4 p.m. > Adjourn • Complete Online Evaluations

REGISTRATION

To register online, please go to the [registration page](#). Click to add to cart and complete your purchase. You may pay by credit card, or via ACH. Alternatively, you may print and mail an invoice seven business days prior to the program along with your check payable to WSBA. Credit card payments by mail or fax are no longer accepted. Note, our service provider will charge you a separate, non-refundable transaction fee of 2.5% on all bank card transactions.

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If special accommodations are needed, please email cle@wsba.org or call toll-free at 1-800-945-9722.

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PRICING INFORMATION

☐ **#27506 WEB, attend via webcast, 12/3/26**

- ☐ \$275 - Standard
- ☐ \$255 - New Members*

**Active members of the Washington State Bar Association will be considered New Members through the calendar end of the tenth year following admittance to practice in the state. The store will automatically discount registration, if applicable, during checkout.*

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