3rd Annual Northwest Marijuana Law Conference: Strategies for a Local and National Industry
November 13, 2015 | WSBA Activity ID#412866
6.25 General CLE and 0.0 Ethics Credits

Agenda

8:00 – 8:30 a.m. Registration and Coffee
8:30 – 8:40 a.m. Welcome
8:40 – 10:15 a.m. Session 1: Marijuana Basics, Part I – Regulated Marijuana Going Forward
Stephanie Boehl, KB Law Group
• A review of the Washington State system and changes in Washington’s medical marijuana laws in 2015
• Common carrier licenses, research licenses, and other recently created ancillary licensed industries
10:15 – 10:30 a.m. Break
10:30 – 11:30 a.m. Session 2: Marijuana Basics, Part II – Emerging Trends and Challenges
James Hunt, The Law Office of James G. Hunt PLLC
Dan Bugbee, DBS Law
• Financing, receiverships, and banking
• IRS: Taxation of marijuana business and IRC §280E
• State Taxation: Exemptions, deductions and unique issues
11:30 – 12:00 p.m. Session 3: Marijuana Attorney Panel – Q&A
Moderator: Stephanie Boehl
Ryan Espegard, Gordon Thomas Honeywell
Teresa Daggett, Gordon Thomas Honeywell
Joshua Ashby, Ashby Law Group
Christopher Larsen, Ashby Law Group
12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch on your own
1:00 – 2:15 p.m.  
**Session 4: Marijuana Basics, Part II - Local Government**
*David Mendoza, City of Seattle  
David Galazin, City of Kent Law Department*
- The role of local governments in regulating marijuana
- Revised building code requirements and zoning
- The conflicting goals and attitudes towards marijuana across the state

2:15 – 2:30 p.m.  
Break

2:30 – 3:15 p.m.  
**Session 5: Marijuana's Future in Criminal Court**
*Kurt Boehl, KB Law Group  
Carla Lee, King County Prosecutor's Office*
- Driving under the Influence of THC
- Priorities of local law enforcement
- The role of prosecutors in moving the industry into a regulated market

3:15 – 3:45 p.m.  
**Session 6: The Future of Hemp**
*Joy Beckerman-Meyer, Hemp Ace International, LLC*
- Washington's legal position on industrial hemp
- The hemp movement nationally

3:45 – 4:30 p.m.  
**Session 7: A Look at the Future**
*Professor Andrew Siegel, Seattle University School of Law  
Jared Van Kirk, Garvey Schubert Barer*
- A nation at odds with itself: how soon will Congress legalize marijuana?
- The conflict between federal and state law, and its impact on free speech, the right to privacy, the commerce clause, etc.
Faculty Biographies

Chairperson

Stephanie Boehl, KB Law Group PLLC
Stephanie advises marijuana growers, processors, and retailers, as well as other businesses, on critical legal issues in order to maintain compliance with a multitude of growing and changing state rules and regulations. She began advising closely held businesses and start-ups on marijuana regulatory compliance immediately after the passage of Initiative 502 in 2012. Stephanie also helps her clients minimize and comply with state and local taxes. She represents clients in audit, appeals, and litigation. She is a frequent speaker and writer on marijuana regulatory compliance and local taxes. For the last three years, Stephanie was named by her peers as a Washington "Rising Star" in Super Lawyers magazine, she was also featured in the magazine's 2015 issue. Stephanie received her LL.M. in tax from the University of Washington, and her J.D. from Seattle University School of Law in 2007. She co-owns KB Law Group PLLC with her husband, Kurt. This is her third year as the chairperson of the annual Northwest Marijuana Law Conference.

Presenters

Joshua Ashby, Ashby Law Group
Joshua is the managing attorney at Ashby Law Group PLLC, a business law practice focused on start-ups in high growth and emerging industries. Joshua earned his J.D. from Seattle University School of Law, where he studied administrative, regulatory, tax, business, and international law. After starting Ashby Law Group, Joshua began to focus his practice on Washington's marijuana market through a business strategy and corporate planning lens. Shortly thereafter, Joshua authored and published "Lost in the Weeds," the first comprehensive reference guide to Washington's new recreational marijuana laws. After being listed for only a few short weeks, "Lost in the Weeds" quickly climbed to #3 on Amazon’s Best Sellers for Legal Self Help books. The Ashby Law Group was recently featured on the cover of Seattle University's Lawyer Magazine for their work with recreational marijuana companies in Washington State, and has been nominated for Dope Magazine's “Best Law Firm of 2015.”

Joy Beckerman-Meyer, Hemp Ace International LLC
Joy is the President of the WA State Chapter of the Hemp Industries Association and Hemp Ace International, as well as the Senior Paralegal at The Li Law Firm / Northern Lights Legal Services. She owned the first hemp store in NY in the early 1990's in Woodstock, and was appointed by Rep. Fred Maslack to serve as the Secretary of the VT Hemp Council when the first VT hemp bill passed in 1996. Over the last 15 years, Joy developed an extensive dual career as a complex civil litigation paralegal, working with some of Seattle’s most distinguished attorneys at both Dorsey & Whitney and Lee Smart, among other fine firms. Joy is the recipient of the Hemp Industries Association’s 2014 Hemp Activist of the Year Award and is currently best known for her outstanding work educating Governor Inslee and the 147 Members of the WA State Legislature with her Industrial Hemp Edu-Kits, along with the Industrial Hemp Policy-Making Reference Materials Binders currently being distributed to them.

Kurt Boehl, KB Law Group, PLLC
KURT E. BOEHL is recognized as one of the top criminal defense and marijuana lawyers in Washington State. He is a member of the National Trial Lawyers, an exclusive legal organization composed of 100 trial lawyers from each state. Super Lawyers named Kurt a Rising Star for the past five years, and Seattle Met Magazine named Kurt as one of Washington State’s top criminal defense attorneys. In addition, Kurt was awarded the prestigious Martindale Hubbell AV rating and is ranked Superb by the AVVO attorney rating service. Kurt founded his own law firm, the KB Law Group PLLC, in 2005. Kurt is a frequent speaker on marijuana laws in Washington State. He received his B.A. from Metropolitan State University in Colorado and his J.D. from Seattle University School of Law.
Dan Bugbee, DBS Law
Dan Bugbee began his legal career after graduating from the University of Washington in 2009. After starting at the law firm of Karr Tuttle Campbell, he moved to Garvey Schubert Barer where he continued developing his finance and bankruptcy practice. In 2015 he founded DBS Law. At DBS Law, Dan provides a full range of legal services in the finance industry from drafting loan documents to workout negotiations, insolvency proceedings and litigation. Dan represents banks and other financial institutions, private lenders, court-appointed receivers, borrowers and unsecured creditors.

Teresa Daggett, Gordon Thomas Honeywell
Teresa Daggett works with businesses to help them through all phases of growth, from formation through contracts and mergers and acquisitions. She enjoys working with companies in a wide variety of industries, assisting with the challenges they encounter along the road to success. From inventors to manufacturers, from cannabis businesses to software businesses, she provides primarily business entity and securities legal services designed to bring real, bottom-line value to clients.

Teresa holds a J.D. from the University of Washington Law School and a B.A. from the University of Kentucky. She is an active member of the Business Law and Corporate Counsel sections, and a member of the Cyberspace and Securities Committees, of the Washington Bar Association.

Ryan Espegard, Gordon Thomas Honeywell
Ryan Espegard focuses his practice on litigation and regulatory compliance. He has litigated a wide variety of cases involving business, real estate, land use, construction, and product liability issues. Since the passage of I-502, Ryan has assisted cannabis business licensees and related companies navigate Washington’s regulatory system, develop compliant business strategies, and resolve disputes. He obtained his J.D. from Seattle University and a B.A. in Economics from the University of Wisconsin.

David Galazin, City of Kent Law Department
David A. Galazin, Assistant City Attorney for the city of Kent, focuses primarily on land use, planning and real property transactions as well as taxation. He received his J.D. from the William S. Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawai’i at Mānoa along with an Environmental Law Certificate, and an LL.M. in Taxation from the University of Washington. He worked as Deputy Corporation Counsel for the County of Maui for 4 years before relocating to Kent in 2011. He has handled a number of controversial local regulatory issues, such as a prohibition on the use of plastic bags and implementation of a new businesses and occupation tax, and also drafted and successfully defended Kent’s ordinance prohibiting medical cannabis collective gardens before the State Supreme Court. He currently advises the city on all matters pertaining to municipal regulation related to I-502.

James G. Hunt, The Law Office James G. Hunt PLLC
James Hunt is the Managing Member of The Law Office of James G. Hunt PLLC, a practice limited to state and federal tax matters. Jim has over 25 years of experience in advising individuals, non-profit organizations, closely-held businesses and Fortune 100 companies on multi-state tax issues, as well as, federal and state tax controversies.

He is a frequent blogger and speaker on state and federal tax issues impacting the Cannabis Industry and currently represents clients in both the recreational and medical cannabis industry. Mr. Hunt is the Chair of the State and Local Tax Committee of the Washington State Bar Association and an active member in the Coalition for Cannabis Standards and Ethics.

Prior roles have included: managing federal and state audits and litigation as Director of Tax Controversy for Washington Mutual/Chase; managing complex state tax audits for Amazon.com and GE Capital; and, holding leadership positions in Big 4 and mid-market accounting firms.

He holds a J.D. from the University of Iowa, a B.S. from Northern Illinois University. He is licensed to practice law in Illinois and Washington. He holds a CPA certificate from the State of Illinois.
Christopher Larsen, Ashby Law Group
Chris is a Washington native and earned his J.D. from Seattle University School of Law, where he studied corporate governance and intellectual property law. As the Editor in Chief of the Seattle Journal of Environmental Law, he led the publication through final accreditation and established its Westlaw presence.

Chris graduated with honors from Central Washington University, where he earned Bachelor's Degrees in both Psychology and Law & Justice.

Chris has experience assisting Pacific NW companies with compliance and investigation planning in highly regulated industries, such as unlawful detainers, process service, and government permitting. His practice area is currently focused on assisting 502 companies.

Carla Lee, King County Prosecutor's Office

David Mendoza, Seattle City Attorney's Office
David is a Policy Advisor in the Office of Policy and Innovation within the Office of the Mayor of the City of Seattle. Prior to his current position, David served as a Policy Counsel for the House Democratic Caucus in Olympia, WA. He advised Democratic Representatives on issues related to the Labor & Workforce Development Committee and the Government Accountability & Oversight Committee. This latter committee was tasked with liquor, gambling, tobacco and marijuana regulations. His other experience includes working as a Policy Analyst at Puget Sound Sage where he wrote the first research report making the case for a $15 hourly wage at Sea-Tac Airport. His volunteer experience includes serving as a Commissioner for the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission from 2011-2014 and as the 2014 President of the Latina/o Bar Association of Washington. He is a 2007 graduate of Seattle University School of Law and a 1999 graduate of Pitzer College.

Professor Andrew Siegel, Seattle University School of Law
Professor Andrew Siegel, the Associate Dean for Planning and Strategic Initiatives, joined the law school in 2007 after five years teaching at the University of South Carolina School of Law. Before entering the legal academy, Professor Siegel served as a law clerk to Judge Pierre N. Leval of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and to Justice John Paul Stevens of the United States Supreme Court and practiced as a litigation associate in the New York office of Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering. Professor Siegel graduated summa cum laude from Yale College, has a master's degree in history from Princeton University, and graduated summa cum laude and first in his class from New York University School of Law, where he was also an Executive Editor of the New York University Law Review.

Professor Siegel researches and writes about constitutional theory, contemporary constitutional and public law, American legal history, and criminal procedure. He is a nationally recognized expert on the United States Supreme Court, who frequently lectures on that subject in a variety of academic and professional settings. He is a co-author of The Supreme Court Sourcebook (with Richard Seamon, Joe Thai, and Kathryn Watts) and his scholarship has appeared in a variety of journals including the Texas, Fordham, and UC-Davis Law Reviews and the American Journal of Criminal Law. He is currently at work on a variety of projects including an annotated collection of Justice Stevens's writings, a cultural history of the first generation of American law schools, and articles exploring the structure of due process doctrine, the concept of "constitutional culture," and the evolution of thinking about the constitutionality of public school uniforms and dress codes. His writings for the popular press include "Nice Disguise: Alito's Frightening Geniality," (The New Republic, November 15, 2005) and "Farewell to Justice Stevens from those who Knew Him Well" (Washington Post, April 9, 2010) (with Joe Thai and Eduardo Penalver).

As Associate Dean, Professor Siegel is responsible for investigating, developing, and overseeing new programs and initiatives including advanced degree programs, collaborations with other schools, and the law school's new satellite campus; for coordinating long-term planning; and for advising the Dean on pressing strategic matters, including regulatory, accreditation, and rankings issues. In his years at SU,
Professor Siegel has chaired the Executive, Faculty Appointments, and Curriculum Committees, coordinated the Faculty Law Firm initiative, and served in a variety of other leadership capacities.

**Jared Van Kirk, Garvey Schubert Barer**

Jared Van Kirk is an Owner with Garvey Schubert Barer and a member of GSB’s Cannabis Business Group, a group of experienced attorneys working across multiple disciplines to address the emergent legal needs of the cannabis industry. Jared has been active in addressing legal challenges to I-502 based on the relationship between federal, state, and local laws. Jared is also a member of GSB’s Labor and Employment practice group where he provides his clients with advice and training on compliance with federal and state employment laws and avoiding disputes. As a litigator, Jared defends companies against allegations of discrimination, harassment, and other workplace disputes. Jared received his law degree from Harvard Law School and was a clerk for The Honorable Jerome Farris of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.