

**Washington State Bar Association  
Construction Law Section Executive Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, October 8, 2025 — 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM**

Held via Microsoft Teams  
Meeting ID: 278 968 886 065 3  
Passcode: aM9oH7Xb

Agenda

- Welcome
- Approval of September Meeting Minutes
  - Minutes are attached for review and approval.
- Introduction of New Roster
  - Officers, At-Large Members, and Young Lawyer Liaison
  - Full roster is attached.
- Annual Report Review
  - Review the Section's Draft Annual Report.
  - Any revisions must be submitted by October 17, 2025.
  - Draft report is attached.
- Financial Report and Ideas for Fund Allocation
  - Discussion of current fund balance and spending opportunities.
  - Potential funding ideas:
    - Reduce member dues.
    - Subsidize full-day seminar costs for members.
    - Host a high-visibility or national-level CLE speaker.
    - Provide scholarships for law students.
    - Support educational projects (youth courts, mock trial, law school programs).
    - Enhance membership resources (newsletter, website, publications).
    - Establish an annual grant program for community-based civil legal service providers.
    - Sponsor public information projects (e.g., Citizens' Rights brochures, lawforwa.gov, votingforjudges.org, TVW's The Docket).
    - Contribute to or sponsor projects through the Washington State Bar Foundation.
- Spokane CLE – January 22, 2026
  - Discussion of whether to proceed with planning for this event.
- Subcommittee Updates and Assignments

- CLE Committee: Ron English, Bryce Sinner, and ???
  - Topics for next year being considered include insurance claims, public contracts, AI, electronic discovery, bankruptcy, and receivership. Insurance topic favored for upcoming events.
  - Planning for next year's major CLE event to finalize speakers and host firm by January 2026 with marketing to begin shortly thereafter.
  - Honorarium gift motion passed for Seyfarth representative for CLE assistance.
- DEI Committee: ???
- Elections Committee: Saki and ???
- Law School Outreach / Lunch with Lawyers: Travis Colburn and Rita Kutsin
- Legislative Committee: Erin Varriano and Jackie Jensen Erler
- Lifetime Achievement Award Committee: ???
- Newsletter Committee: Evan Brown and William Young
  - New articles proposed on Skanska-Howell case, Scarsella case, by members Will Young, Margarita Kutsin, and Seth Millstein.
- Social Event Committee: Erin Varriano and Travis Colburn (?)
  - Section funds can be used for alcohol at member-benefit events following WSBA guidance on licensed bartenders and drink limits.
- Community Outreach: Seth Millstein
  - Contacted Sound Foundation regarding volunteer opportunities; no immediate openings, follow-up planned.
  - Discussing possible donation recipients related to construction law or law schools.
- Social Media: Cynthia Park and Rita Kutsin
  - Posts ongoing, including newsletter and mid-year report.
- Conclusion
  - Discussion of new cases or statutes.
  - Additional comments or announcements.

**WSBA Construction Law Section  
Executive Committee Roster (2025–2026)**

**Officers:**

- Chair: R. Bryce Sinner  
Email: bryce.sinner@landerholm.com
- Chair Elect: Masaki Yamada  
Email: masaki.yamada@acslawyers.com
- Vice Chair: Evan Brown  
Email: evan.brown@stoel.com
- Secretary: Travis Colburn  
Email: travis.colburn@acslawyers.com
- Treasurer: Erin Varriano  
Email: erinvarriano@johnlscott.com
- Immediate Past Chair: Seth Millstein  
Email: seth@pillar-law.com
- Past Chair: Bart Reed  
Email: bart.reed@stoel.com
- Past Chair: Ron English  
Email: rjenglish@yahoo.com

**At-Large Members:**

- Jackie Jensen Erler (Term ending 9/30/28)  
Email: jackie.jensenerler@acslawyers.com
- Allen Benson (Term ending 9/30/28)  
Email: abenson@omwlaw.com
- Margarita “Rita” Kutsin (Term ending 9/30/28)  
Email: margarita.kutsin@acslawyers.com
- Ryan Gilchrist (Term ending 9/30/27)  
Email: rgilchrist@seyfarth.com
- Cynthia Park (Term ending 9/30/27)  
Email: cpark@omwlaw.com

- Kainui Smith (Term ending 9/30/27)  
Email: kainui.smith@absherco.com
- John Leary (Term ending 9/30/26)  
Email: jleary@grsm.com
- William Young (Term ending 9/30/26)  
Email: WillY@mckinstry.com
- William “Scott” Noel (Term ending 9/30/26)  
Email: snoel@bpmlaw.com

**Other Positions:**

- Young Lawyer Liaison: Hugo Fraga  
Email: hugo.fraga@acslawyers.com
- WSBA Sections Program Coordinator: Carolyn MacGregor  
Email: Carolynm@wsba.org
- WSBA Board of Governors Liaison: Kevin Fay  
Email: kevinfaybog@yahoo.com

## Attendance

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