

May 3, 2024

Elder Law Executive Committee
WSBA, 1325 Fourth Ave., Suite 600
Seattle, WA 98101

RE: Section Executive Committee Application
At-Large Member

Good Afternoon:

Please accept this statement of interest for a member-at-large position on the WSBA's Elder Law Section Executive Committee.

Born in Tacoma and raised in Gig Harbor, from 2008 through most of 2016 I lived in Omaha, Nebraska. Here I served as a supervising attorney at Creighton University School of Law, working with third-year law students and managing a caseload of civil litigation matters. I also served with numerous multi-agency workgroups and experienced first-hand the power of productive, innovative, and energetic collaborations. I returned to Washington in late 2016, following my wife's employment opportunity as an OBGYN with Olympic Medical Center. In Spring 2018 I left my general counsel position with an organization focused on sustainable housing for at-risk youth, to open a civil practice serving the Olympic Peninsula. Although my professional background involves diverse matters of civil litigation, including high-conflict family law, probate – trust and estates and guardianships, and real property, after discussing the Olympic Peninsula's legal climate with area colleagues and learning more about the unique character of my community, it became clear there was a need for practitioners, and opportunity, in the field of Elder Law.

I became an attorney from a desire to serve. I can think of no better way to do so than by: 1) assisting individuals who face or are at risk of facing exploitation due to age, infirmity, or disability; and 2) engaging as a productive member of a professional organization who shares this mission and commitment.

Warmest Regards,

Patrick M. Erker