

WSBA Elder Law Section
Secretary Position
Letter of Interest

I am interested in joining the WSBA Elder Law Section executive committee as Secretary to support the work the Section has been doing. I know I am just one of many elder law practitioners who has come to really value all the work the Section has done (and continues to do) to help prepare attorneys for the implementation of the Uniform Guardianship Act, advocate for and monitor legislation, and provide guidance to lawyers in the elder law space.

Today I am a trusts and estates lawyer who works with Attorneys-in-Fact, professional and lay fiduciaries, guardians/conservators, clients planning for the near and distant possibilities, and families addressing complex legal, financial, and familial issues. I am passionate about educating members of the public about the benefits of advance planning and frequently give presentations to the public and through Peoples Memorial Association and as faculty in Edmond Community College's Paralegal Program.

I would like to support the Section as Secretary and help further the good work the Elder Law Section is doing for practitioners and clients.

ELIZABETH F. JENNINGS

WSBA No. 44111 (November 2011)

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Legal & Teaching Experience

Stokes Lawrence, P.S. - Associate Attorney

January 2022 to Present

Representing clients in trust and estate litigation as well as advising court-appointed Personal Representatives and Trustees in estate administration. Advise professional and lay fiduciaries in duties, reporting obligations, and in complex family matters. Draft pleadings, research estate legal issues, and argue contested hearings in court. Work with individuals and couples to develop estate plans to address immediate concerns and long-term goals.

Edmonds College - Associate Faculty

September 2014 to Present

Faculty in the ABA-approved Paralegal Program teaching both in-person and online courses (via Zoom and Canvas platforms) in the areas of Legal Research & Writing, Advanced Legal Research & Writing, Estate Planning & Probate, and Elder Law, 5 to 10 credits a quarter.

Northwest Elder Law Group - Associate Attorney

January 2019 to January 2022

Represented clients in estate planning, guardianship proceedings (petitioner, lay guardian), TEDRA disputes, Vulnerable Adult Protection Order actions, and complex family dynamics cases. Developed estate planning strategies that met client goals and long-term care needs, for both high-asset clients and those planning to qualify for government benefits. Advised Personal Representatives, Trustees, and court-appointed Guardians regarding fiduciary obligations, reporting requirements, and statutory duties.

Renton Technical College - Program Coordinator & Faculty

September 2015 to December 2018

Full-time faculty and program coordinator for the Legal Assistant Certificate and AAS degree program. Developed program curriculum, established course objectives, and tracked student outcomes for all Legal Assistant Program courses. Advised students individually on academic success strategies and career planning goals. Established and fostered relationships with legal employers in the greater Seattle area to aid student internship placement and post-degree employment.

Beresford Booth PLLC - Associate Attorney January 2012 to September 2015 (Summer 2009, 2010)

Represented individuals and corporate clients at various stages, including preliminary motions, summary judgment hearings, settlement negotiations, mediation/arbitration, through court appeals, and collection on judgments in probate, real estate litigation, trust & estate dispute litigation, estate planning, and family law/dissolution cases.

Education

Boston College Law School, *Juris Doctor*, 2011

Law & Religion Program – *Associate Conference Editor, Note Editor*

Pre-Law Mentoring Program – *One-on-One Mentor to Undergraduate Students*

Clemson University, *Bachelor of Arts, magna cum laude, Political Science*, 2008

Team Captain, Division I Rowing Team; Student-Athlete Advisory Committee

Volunteer & Community Involvement

People's Memorial Association - Provide regular presentations to members on estate planning.

Old Dog Haven – Final refuge foster home for senior dogs with chronic illnesses.

Holy Names Academy - Alumnae Board member