



# Dispute Resolution Section

## Washington State Bar Association

1325 Fourth Ave., Ste. 600  
Seattle, WA 98101-2539

### 2023-2024 Executive Committee

Courtland Shafer, Chair  
Paula Emery, Vice Chair  
Mel Simburg, Past Chair  
Lauren Novack, Treasurer  
Dee Knapp, Secretary

Kristina Larry, Board of Governors Liaison  
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Melissa Fuller, At-Large Member  
Lish Whitson, At-Large Member  
Ted Hunter, Advisor  
Bob Oberstein, Advisor  
Jody Suhrbier, Advisor

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

February 16,, 2023

12:13 pm – 1:22 pm PST

Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82282323088?pwd=Nnp1Z3oraTgwS2FDVIA2Vk1yZG01UT09>

Passcode: 12345

**Attendees:** Courtland Shafer, Lauren Novack, Paula Emery, Oliver Garrison, Julia Doherty, Ted Hunter, Jody Suhrbier, Melissa Fuller, Chris Casillas, Carolyn MacGregor

**12:13: Reflective Check-In:** what are you looking forward to in 2024?

**12:14: Meeting Matters:** Confirm quorum – quorum confirmed

- a. Agenda additions and changes -- none
- b. January meeting minutes approval—approved
- c. Dee is out of town and Lauren is filling in to take minutes

**12:15: Announcements: None**

**12:15: Treasurer's Report:** New Funds balance is \$41,175 through 12/31/23. Audit has been completed without concerns. Year to date we're at 31% of the budget, with about \$40,000 in reserves. The conference is budgeted at \$38,000 in revenue and \$42,000 in expenses.

**12:20: Oliver Garrison appointment approved.** Went around the Zoom room to welcome Oliver and get to know him. The motion to appt Oliver an Executive Comm-Member at Large was made by Paula Emery, Chris Casillas seconded, motion carried unanimously. Carolyn stated that every appt must be voted on. Oliver will be on ballot next month. Formality.

**12:40: WSBA Section Leaders Meet and Greet.** Paula noted that she went to the WSBA Meet and Greet. Paula added shout-out to Carolyn MacGregor. Carolyn helped her set up mini-CLEs. Paula wonders if we should move our meeting as it conflicts with another section meeting Carolyn has. Having Carolyn at our meeting is so important. Courtland says 12-1:30 time frame is artifact from pre-zoom era. 4<sup>th</sup> Friday is good for Carolyn. Paula will update Calendar to make that change.

*Promoting Informed Use and Best Practices of ADR*

[www.wsba-adr.org](http://www.wsba-adr.org)

**12:50 PM Outreach Efforts:**

- a. Paula reminded us to post to listserv and/or social media

**12:55 PM Committee Reports:****a. Media & Communications (Paula) --none**

**b. NWDRC Conference:** Chris says good news is we have 5 weeks until conference. Not so good news, only 46 people are registered as paying speakers, so the planning committee meeting vigorously with Kristin and working our channels. Early bird deadline is 2 weeks away, so should be get registrations before the end February. We will make the best of it. Breakeven is 115. Kristin recommends going hard with promoting the following Monday after presidents' week. \$5500 in sponsorships. Still pursuing more. Lauren raised the question about revenue. Carolyn says we should think about scaling back if we must. Generally, sections don't go into the hole. She has never experienced that. Courtland thinks we can't sink all reserves. The difference between \$6 and \$8k loss is one thing, 20K difference another thing. Paula says both income and expenses will be lower. Carolyn thinks we may need a budget memo if we cut into fund balance significantly, \$500.00 wiggle room only. Chris doesn't think there is a lot we can do, as Kristin is already approved. The catering budget is the only thing we can reduce. After plenary, Alan Kirtley part of closing ceremony. Paula thinks it may be valuable to establish a conference scholarship in his name. Paula asked Carolyn to help her est. section scholarship, Carolyn says we need to throw together RFP to WSBA. Carolyn will send a sample proposal. In the past the section has offered scholarships, and UW took it out of proceeds. Historical precedents for scholarships in 2017 and 2018. Carolyn will investigate WSBA records. Hard to release people on UW Ave for lunch, committee is mindful. Ted suggested HUB. He will see if it is open during UW's spring break. WAMS is hosting their awards banquet for their members. Send Paula errors on NW DR conference webpage. Ted will take the lead to reach out Neuroscience Dept. to include non-attorneys and other grad students. Lauren Novack will ask her co-presenter, Ellie Terry, to spread word to other Evans School of Public Policy PHD students. We should ask presenters to ask their networks.

**c. Legislation & Public Policy (Jody)—** Jody says there is not significant legislation impacting DR this session. Sanjay (WSBA legislative affairs mgr.) and she have been in contact. Only 3 weeks out from end of session. Preparing for the next session, she wants to plan and be ready. Paul McVicar filled her in about history of DR and policy. Plant seed: We need to talk now if want to propose legislation. Paula mentioned: Restorative Justice law in OR around confidentiality passed May 16, 2023. Paula dropped link in the chat.

[https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/SB0586/Introduced#:~:text=\(4\)%20%E2%80%9CRestorative%20justice%20program,result%20of%20an%20offender's%20crime](https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/SB0586/Introduced#:~:text=(4)%20%E2%80%9CRestorative%20justice%20program,result%20of%20an%20offender's%20crime)

**d. Professional Development & Membership:** No report

**e. CLE development: HOA mini-CLE update:** No report

**f. Academic Partnerships:** No report.

**1:22 PM Adjourned** Paula moved to adjourn; Julia seconded. Motion approved unanimously.