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Recording Date – January 8, 2018

Recording Availability – January 29, 2018

Meeting Location	Date	Time	Topic
King County Bar Association 1200 Fifth Avenue - Suite 700 Seattle, WA	Monday, January 8, 2018	12:00 PM to 1:15 PM	So You Want to Be a Judge

AGENDA

12:00 PM Introduction

12:10 PM Presentation: ‘So You Want to Be a Judge’, by Judge Linda Lau (ret.), Judicial Dispute Resolution; Judge Michael Spearman, Division 1; and Nick Brown, Pacifica Law Group

- This presentation will discuss the appointment process in Washington State and how it works; any relevant rules, canons, and statutes that apply to this process; the requirements for the job; and other practical tips and perspectives.

1:15 PM Adjourn

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

Judge Linda Lau (ret.), Judicial Dispute Resolution – As a trial judge, Judge Lau presided over hundreds of jury trials including complex civil litigation in medical malpractice, business and commercial, employment, discrimination, personal injury, domestic relations, construction defect, insurance and other civil litigation.

As a seasoned appellate judge, who authored more than 400 opinions on almost every area of contemporary civil litigation, she brings both a trial and appellate judge’s perspective.

As a trial judge, she successfully settled countless cases in settlement conferences.

Judicial:

- 2008 to 2016 – Washington State Court of Appeals, Division One
- 1995 to 2008 – King County Superior Court
- 1992 to 1995 – King County District Court

Judge Lau is the daughter of Chinese immigrants. As a youth working in her parents' small businesses, she learned the value of a strong work ethic. Judge Lau applied this ethic in judicial service and earned praise as a thoughtful and hardworking judge. She brings these traits to mediation, arbitration, and consultation.

Judge Michael Spearman, Division 1 – Judge Michael S. Spearman joined Division One of the Court of Appeals in April 2010. Before his appointment to the bench Judge Spearman provided mediation and arbitration services with Judicial Dispute Resolution. Judge Spearman was also a King County Superior Court judge for 14 years. In that capacity, Judge Spearman served in all of the court's departments, including three years as the Chief Judge of the Criminal Department, eight years on the court's Executive Committee, and two years as Assistant Presiding Judge.

Judge Spearman has also been actively involved in efforts to improve the judicial system. At various times, he has served as a member of the board of the National Center for State Courts and as a commissioner on the State of Washington's Sentencing Guidelines and Interpreter Certification Commissions. He also served on the boards of the King County Bar Association, the Washington Foundation for the Courts, Family Law CASA for King County, the American Judicature Society and Seadrunar, a substance abuse treatment program.

Prior to his judicial career Judge Spearman was a trial lawyer in the areas of criminal defense, family law and personal injury. He was a public defender with The Defender Association, where he supervised the Felony Division; the Society of Counsel Representing Accused Persons; and the Office of the Federal Public Defender. He was an associate with the firm of Adler, Giersch and Read.

Judge Spearman was born in Lawrence, Kansas and has made his home in Seattle since 1983. He holds an undergraduate degree from Brown University and a J.D. from New York University School of Law.

Nick Brown, Pacifica Law Group – Nick Brown is a litigation partner at Pacifica Law Group, where he focuses on assisting public and private clients with complex civil and regulatory litigation, municipal law, public policy, and political matters.

Nick provides strategic advice and counsel to clients to prevent legal challenges from occurring, and helps them effectively and efficiently resolve litigation or crisis management matters that do arise. Nick also has extensive trial experience before juries, trial judges and the Ninth Circuit, and has handled cases ranging from simple prosecutions to complex multi-million dollar cases involving numerous defendants. In addition, Nick's experience working with state and federal leaders, his substantial involvement in legislative matters, and his first-hand experience with election issues enables him to navigate political and policy matters for clients.

Nick previously served as General Counsel to the Governor of Washington, advising on an array of legal issues, including high-priority litigation, criminal justice policy, tribal gaming and Indian law, and clemency petitions. He also managed the Governor's judicial appointments, including the appointment of 52 judges.

Prior to that, Nick served as Assistant U.S. Attorney in the U.S. Attorney's Office, Western District of Washington, where he was responsible for the management of a variety of federal criminal cases, from initial investigation to trial and sentencing, and through the appellate process. In that role, Nick appeared before every federal judge in the Western District of Washington and prosecuted over 100 individual cases.