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1.25 Law & Legal CLE Credit – A/V Approval #1121131

Recording Date - September 12, 2019

Meeting Location	Date	Time	Topic
King County Bar Association 1200 Fifth Avenue - Suite 700 Seattle, WA	Thursday, September 12, 2019	11:55 AM to 1:30 PM	Exploring Small Claims Court Pre-trial Mediation in King County District Court

AGENDA

11:55 AM Introduction

12:00 PM Presentation: ‘Exploring Small Claims Court Pre-trial Mediation in King County District Court’, by Judge Anne Harper, King County District Court; Gaye Bammert, King County Dispute Resolution Center; Win Todd, King County Dispute Resolution Center and Paula Emery, King County Dispute Resolution Center

- An introduction to the King County Dispute Resolution Center’s Small Claims Court Pre-trial Mediation program (SCC PTM) for King County District Court: how it was created, how it operates, key program efficiencies, and how mediator engagement is a key driver of the program’s success.
- Panelists will share King County District Court’s perspective on ADR options, especially as it is connected to mandatory pre-trial mediation processes.
- Panelists will also share about the legislative changes to small claims court laws, including jurisdiction, judgments, and fees.

1:30 PM Adjourn

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

Judge Anne Harper, King County District Court – Anne Harper is a judge in King County District Court, Seattle. Judge Harper has been a member of the Washington Bar since 1981. She has served on the bench for 18 years. Judge Harper spent 16 years as a trial attorney and public defender, primarily focused on felony practice. She as served in the Executive branch, as the Director of the King County Public Defense system. She has been a Trial Advocacy instructor at the University of Washington for 20 years.

Judge Laurel Gibson, King County District Court – Appointed to the King County District Court (KCDC) bench in 2016, and subsequently elected later that year, Judge Laurel Gibson currently is assigned to the Burien courthouse, where she hears all district court case types. Judge Gibson also is the presiding judge for King County Community Court in Burien, which launched in February 2019.

Judge Gibson is a member of the KCDC Equity and Social Justice Committee, Budget Committee, Rules Committee and sub-committee member for the Pre-trial Services Reform Task Force. Prior to her appointment to the bench, she served as a King County District Court pro tem judge from 2014 to 2016, and as an administrative law judge with the Office of Administrative Hearings from 2011 through 2016. She was a public defender in King County for more than 12 years.

Her previous professional experience includes working as a resource manager with the Washington Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), where she was involved in developing community-based residential living alternatives for persons with developmental disabilities who were transitioning out of institutional living. At DSHS, she also served on the agency's Crisis and Diversion Planning Committee.

A native of South King County, Judge Gibson earned an undergraduate degree in political science from the University of Washington, and a law degree from the Seattle University School of Law.

Gaye Bammert, King County Dispute Resolution Center – Gaye M. Bammert currently serves as the Small Claims Court Mediation Program Manager for the King County Dispute Resolution Center (KCDRC). In addition to her eight years of work as a community and work place mediator, Gaye coaches mediation trainings, including for the KCDRC and the University of Washington School of Law Mediation Clinic. She also has her Ph.D. in Communication and teaches a range of communication courses including Communication in Small Groups, Conflict and Cooperation, Gender and Communication, and Persuasion, most recently for the Department of Communication at the University of Washington. Currently, she also works as an organizational development consultant for the University of Washington Consulting Alliance (UWCA).

Win Todd, King County Dispute Resolution Center – Win Todd became a full-time mediator in 2013 after practicing law for over 35 years. He does mediations and trainings for the King County Dispute Resolution Center and is a court lead and coach for mediations in the King County District Court Small Claims Court. He also mediates for the King County Office of Alternative Dispute Resolution and the Inter-Local Conflict Resolution Group. As an attorney, Win's practice included corporate and business law, business litigation, real property law, labor law and trust and estates. Win is a member of the ADR sections of the KCBA and the WSBA. He received his JD from the University of Michigan Law School, and was a law clerk for Judge W. Wallace Kent on the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

Paula Emery, King County Dispute Resolution Center – Paula has been a licensed attorney in Texas since 1996 and is currently serving clients in estate planning, civil and probate mediation in private practice, with Emery Law and Mediation Services. She has been a volunteer mediator with the King County Small Claims Court program since September 2018.