



2025 WPPA NEW COMMISSIONER SEMINAR

AGENDA

November 18-19, 2025
Marriott Tacoma Downtown | Tacoma, WA
Lunch – Union, 3rd Floor
General Session – Commencement, 2nd Floor
Reception – Chambers Bay Pre-Function, 3rd Floor

TUESDAY, November 18

- 11:00 AM **REGISTRATION OPENS**
- 12:00 PM **BUFFET LUNCH AND OPENING REMARKS**
Glen Bachman, WPPA Executive Committee President; Eric ffitch, WPPA Executive Director
- 1 PM **WHAT IS A PORT DISTRICT AND WHAT POWERS DOES IT HAVE?**
Eric ffitch, WPPA; Tim Schermetzler, CSD Attorneys at Law (WPPA General Counsel)
- 2 PM **WHAT IS THE ROLE OF A PORT COMMISSIONER AT THEIR PORT?**
Frank Chmelik, WPPA Life Member (and former WPPA General Counsel); Eric ffitch with Cmr. Glen Bachman, Port of Everett and Jack Ng, Port of South Whidbey (WPPA Executive Committee President and Vice President)
- 3:15 PM *Break*
- 3:30 PM **OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS AND PUBLIC RECORDS TRAINING**
Lisa Lowe, Schwabe (Chair, WPPA Legal Committee)
- 5pm **ADJOURN**
- 5:30 PM **RECEPTION** *(held jointly with WPPA Executive Committee and Committee Chairs)*

WEDNESDAY, November 19

- 9:00 AM **PUBLIC PROCUREMENT 101**
Dawn Egbert, Port of Vancouver (WPPA Procurement Working Group Co-chair) with Tim Schermetzler, CSD Attorneys at Law
- 9:45 AM **KNOWING THE WATERS: LEGAL GUIDELINES WITH WPPA General Counsel**
Tim Schermetzler, CSD Attorneys at Law
- 10:45 AM **WHAT NOW?!: ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION OF ISSUES, LINGERING QUESTIONS**
Tim Schermetzler and Frank Chmelik, joined by WPPA Executive Committee alums: Dan Stahl, CEO, Port of Longview; Jean Ryckman, Commissioner, Port of Pasco; Kathy Pittis, Commissioner, Port of Anacortes; Troy Stariha, Commissioner, Port of Kalama
- 11:30 AM *Adjourn*