

Complex & High Asset **Divorce**



APR. 25, 2019

COURTYARD SEATTLE
DOWNTOWN/
LAKE UNION

Seattle, WA

ACCREDITATION

**WA MCLE
OR CLE**

(see inside for details)

THE SEMINAR GROUP ~ RAISING THE BAR OF CONTINUING LEGAL AND PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Seminar Overview

Join us for a seminar focusing exclusively on complex high net worth marital dissolution cases. A distinguished panel of attorneys, financial advisors, and valuation experts will address some of the challenges and considerations in these cases.

Subjects addressed will include a legislative update, the use of experts in high asset divorce cases, considerations for parenting plans and a review of pro's and con's in mediation and the collaboration process. This program will also include a panel of specialized attorneys and tax experts discussing how the new tax rules will affect divorces finalized in 2019 and thereafter.

Don't miss this opportunity to hear from a group of experienced and highly credentialed professionals on new developments and resources available to your clients in complex dissolution.

Who Should Attend:

Accountants
Attorneys
Financial Planners
Guardians

9:00 Introduction and Overview

PDT

Christopher Terp, Program Chair
President
The Seminar Group

9:10 Marital Law Update

- Maintenance
- Child Support
- Parenting
- Property

Michael Louden
Wechsler Becker LLP

10:15 Effective Use of Experts

- What is Expert Testimony?
- When Should an Expert be Used?
- Do you Have a Consulting or Testifying Expert?
- Why Does Consulting vs. Testifying Expert Matter?
- How do you Select your Experts?
- How Should you Work with your Experts?
- How Should you Work with Opposing Counsel's Experts?
- Should you use a Joint Expert?

J. Blake Hilty
Socius Law Group PLLC

11:00 Break

11:15 Parenting/Grandparenting Plan Update

- Parenting coordinators – function of a PC, drafting order of appointment, review of PC decisions (arbitrator, court), necessary training.
- Grandparent statute – an interpretive reading of the statute, financial implications and barriers to filing such an action.
- Drafting for the children's best interest vs. the parent's, thinking outside the box/form language, preventing future litigation with clear language, drafting simultaneously for two different school schedules.
- To modify or not to modify?
- Trial – Preparing parenting experts for trial.

Stella L. Pitts
S.L. Pitts PC

12:00 Midday Break

1:15 Impact of the New Tax Code – A Panel Discussion

What it means; who it impacts & how; possible solutions – are there ways around it?

Neil J. Beaton, CPA/ABV/CFF, CFA, ASA, Managing Director
Alvarez & Marsal Valuation Services LLC

Kenneth E. Brewe
Brewe Layman PC

Shannon M. Ellmers
Strata Law Group PLLC

Benjamin Hawes, CPA/ABV, CFF, FCPA, CDFA
Managing Partner and Director of Client Services
William L. Hawes Company

Arik K. Van Zandt, ASA, CDBV, Managing Director
Alvarez & Marsal Valuation Services LLC

2:45 Break

3:00 Mediation vs. Collaboration

Types of mediation; rules of mediation; preparing for mediation; practice tips for mediation; overview of the collaboration process; how does collaboration differ from mediation; practice tips for the collaborative process

Tara K. Richardson
Lasher Holzapfel Sperry & Ebberson PLLC

Maya Trujillo Ringe
Lasher Holzapfel Sperry & Ebberson PLLC

4:00 A View from the Bench

A panel of retired judicial officers will discuss issues of particular concern in high asset/high income and complex dissolution cases, including: pre-trial motions practice, presentation of evidence concerning complex financial matters, effective alternative dispute resolution in these often contentious and complicated cases, privacy issues and GR 15. Finally, the panel will briefly address the question of how litigation can be avoided by drafting enforceable prenuptial agreements.

Hon. Deborah D. Fleck, (Ret.)
JAMS

Hon. Helen L. Halpert, (Ret.)
JAMS

Hon. Richard F. McDermott, (Ret.)
JAMS

Commissioner Eric B. Watness, (Ret.)
JAMS

5:00 Adjourn

Faculty - Complex & High Asset Divorce



Neil J. Beaton, CPA/ABV/CFF, CFA, ASA, is a Managing Director with Alvarez & Marsal Valuation Services. He specializes in the valuation of public and privately held businesses and intangible assets for purposes of litigation support (lost profits claims, marriage dissolutions and others), acquisitions, sales, buy-sell agreements, ESOPs, incentive stock options and estate planning and taxation.



Michael Louden has practiced family law since 1995 and has been a partner at Wechsler Becker LLP since 2010. Since 2002, he has been a pro tem family law commissioner with King County Superior Court. His practice now consists mainly of mediating and arbitrating family law disputes. He edited the Washington Family Law Practice Manual for 15 years and has presented at dozens of CLE's.



Kenneth E. Brewé is a partner at Brewé Layman PS. His practice has focused on complex family law and civil litigation matters for over 30 years. He has appeared in Superior Courts throughout Washington State and before the Court of Appeals, Washington State Supreme Court and in Federal District Court. He has edited and authored various family law chapters in the Washington Family Law Deskbook.



Hon. Richard F. McDermott (Ret.) is a neutral with JAMS and a retired judge with the King County Superior Court. In almost 18 years at the Court, Judge McDermott tried hundreds of cases in many diverse areas including family law and estate disputes. He previously served as a Deputy Prosecuting attorney in King County and then as a Public Defender, after that he spent 22 years in private practice.



Shannon M. Ellmers is a principal at Strata Law Group PLLC. She is a skilled family law litigator and negotiator with an emphasis on marital dissolutions that involve complex financial and property issues. She is a Fellow of the AAML, an organization limited to members who have extensive legal knowledge and experience in the area of family law and a frequent speaker at CLE seminars on family law topics.



Stella L. Pitts serves as a principal of S.L. Pitts PC and has managed the firm since 2001. Her practice focuses on complex family law cases involving dissolution and custody. With a focus on transformational law, the idea that the law is a healing profession that resolves complicated relationships, Stella is an avid leader in the legal community and regularly delivers legal education seminars on family law issues.



Hon. Deborah D. Fleck (Ret.), a neutral with JAMS, retired from the King County Superior Court after 21 years on the bench handling complex civil cases. She served as Chief Judge of the Unified Family Court which resulted in the implementation of Early Resolution Case Manager attorneys providing a Family Law Orientation to pro se parties, followed by on-site mediation for cases not settled prior to trial.



Tara K. Richardson is a principal at Lasher Holzapfel Sperry & Ebberson PLLC. She has solely practiced family law since 1998. Her cases include marital dissolutions/legal separations, parenting plan modifications, and child support modifications. She is skilled at employing traditional dispute resolution methods, such as litigation or mediation, and assists clients through the Collaborative Law process.



Hon. Helen L. Halpert (Ret.), joined JAMS after nearly 30 years of distinguished service to the judiciary in King County, including 19 years on the King County Superior Court. Judge Halpert has been an advocate for justice throughout her legal career, first as a public defender. She is known for her extraordinary kindness and ability to ensure that individuals feel understood when presenting their cases.



Maya Trujillo Ringe is a principal at Lasher Holzapfel Sperry & Ebberson PLLC. A highly skilled negotiator and litigator, she has obtained excellent results for numerous clients in a wide range of family law disputes including marital dissolution cases and committed intimate relationship cases involving high net-worth estates with complex issues, as well as high-conflict child custody and child support matters.

Benjamin Hawes, CPA/ABV, CFF, FCPA, CDFA, is the managing partner and director of client services for William L. Hawes Company PS, a firm that assists attorneys and individual clients with all financial aspects of marital dissolution matters. Services include business valuations, personal and corporate tax consulting. He has approximately 23 years in family law matters and serves as an expert witness.



Arik K. Van Zandt, ASA, CDBV, is a Managing Director with Alvarez & Marsal's Valuation Services practice. He specializes in the valuation of closely held businesses operating in a variety of industries for purposes of litigation support, acquisitions, sales, marriage dissolution, buy-sell agreements, incentive stock plans, estate planning and taxation. He has provided expert witness testimony in various matters.



J. Blake Hilty is a partner at Socius Law Group PLLC. His marital dissolution practice focuses on divorce cases involving complex financial matters. He has advised numerous clients in cases involving the division of business interests, investment portfolios, intellectual property, and real property. He works with his clients to understand their values and goals in developing his legal strategy to achieve them.



Commissioner Eric B. Watness (Ret.) is an experienced neutral with JAMS. He spent over 16 years as Court Commissioner with the King County Superior Court in their Ex Parte and Probate Department and Juvenile Court Department. He presided over dependency and termination of parental rights and offender matters, truancy and family law motions, adult plea, and disposition calendar.

Complex & High Asset Divorce

Credits

WA MCLE

This course has been approved for 6.0 hours of law and legal CLE credit by the Washington MCLE board (Live Credits for In Person Attendance & Webcast). Self-Study credit will be available, specific credit amount to be determined.

The Seminar Group is an accredited sponsor with the Washington State Bar

OR CLE

This course has been approved by the Oregon State Bar for 6.0 general CLE credits (Live Credits for In Person Attendance & Webcast).

Location

Courtyard Seattle Downtown/Lake Union

925 Westlake Avenue North
Seattle, WA 98109

Phone: 1-206-213-0100

The seminar is located in the Puget Sound Room. Please call the venue for directions/questions.

PARKING

Onsite parking is available. Please contact the venue for current rates.

Fees

Live Seminar:

Attorney	\$549.00
Government / Tribal / Non-Profit	\$449.00
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Government / Tribal / Non-Profit	\$449.00
Other Professionals	\$449.00
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