

The SPOKANE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION in association with WOLFF, HISLOP & CROCKETT, PLLC presents

## LANDMINES IN LITIGATION

How Death, Divorce, and Other Events Affect Pending Litigation September 16, 2022

Gonzaga University School of Law

721 North Cincinnati Street Barbieri Courtroom Spokane, Washington

8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. Check-in, Registration & Coffee Service

8:45 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. **WHO'S THE CLIENT?** 

Presented by Bradley Crockett

RPC 1.7 and RPC 1.8 Conflicts of Interest; RPC 1.13 Organization as a Client; RPC

1.14 Client with Diminished Capacity

9:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. BREAK

10:00 a.m. − 11:00 p.m. **DEATH** 

Presented by Adam Kitz

Who's the client (the Estate, the P.R., a Beneficiary)?; Procedure When Claim is Pending; Survival Action – Claim of the Heirs or the Estate; Creditor Claim

Considerations; Using TEDRA Instead of General Civil Suit

11:00 p.m. − 12:00 p.m. **DIVORCE** 

Presented by Robert Wright

Who's the Client (Continued Representation of Both Spouses or Just One); Attorney-Client and Marital Privilege Implications; Separate Property & Community Property Considerations; Effect of Unfinalized / Pending Divorce; and Divorce Decree Effects

on Pending and Future Litigation

12:00 Noon – 1:15 p.m. LUNCH (On Your Own)

1:15 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. **BUSINESS** 

Presented by Wm. Scott Hislop & Andrew Helmstadter

Who's the Client (the Entity or the Owners)?; Sale of the Business – Effects on Claims; Turn-Over in Employment (effects on Client Communication and Witnesses); How Changes at a Company Affect CR 30(b)(6) Considerations; Atty

Client Privilege Differences Between Current and Former Employees

2:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. **REAL ESTATE** 

Presented by Aaron Dunham

Who's the Client (Person on Title or Interest in Real Property)?

Litigation Guarantee

## **SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES**

**Bradley Crockett** is the managing partner at Wolff, Hislop & Crockett. Brad's practice focuses on litigation with an emphasis on business litigation. Brad has extensive experience in helping business owners approach disputes with an eye towards not just winning a case but improving their own business practices. As the managing attorney at Wolff, Hislop & Crockett, Brad understands on a first-hand level not just the legal implications involved in business decisions but also the practical considerations. Brad has practiced law in Spokane since 2010, prior to which he was an attorney with the US Army Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAG). Brad continues to serve as a JAG Officer in the Washington Army National Guard. When not advocating for a client, Brad spends most of his time enjoying the outdoors with his family.

Adam Kitz is an associate attorney at Wolff, Hislop & Crockett. Adam's practice focuses on assisting clients with probate and trust administration, including dispute resolution among beneficiaries. He has experience getting family members appointed to carry on the lawsuits of their loved ones, bring claims that had not been pursued during their loved ones' life, and bring claims the arose out of, or after, the death of their loved ones. Adam often works with the other litigation attorneys in the firm to ensure the client's interests in an estate are holistically represented. He has extensive experience in using the Trust Estate Dispute Resolution Act to timely resolve disputes impacting a decedent's estate. His compassion allows him to provide clients a sense of peace during turbulent times. Outside of the office, Adam can be found playing bass in a local band.

**Robert Wright** is a senior associate attorney at Wolff, Hislop & Crockett. Robert currently practices civil litigation and specializes in the areas of construction litigation, employment litigation, business litigation, and divorce. Prior to joining the firm, Robert practiced exclusively family law, gaining valuable insight into the intricacies of divorce and child custody work. Now, Robert's experience allows him to assist clients in navigating the complexities of civil litigation while understanding the impact that divorce and the application of community property laws can have on ongoing litigation cases. During Robert's time outside of the office, he enjoys spending time with his wife and two children, competing in Ironman triathlons, and bowhunting.

Wm. Scott Hislop is one of the founding partners at Wolff, Hislop & Crockett. Scott is currently the head of the firm's business and estate planning practices. Scott enjoys forming lifelong relationships with his clients. He has helped many business owners form their entities, then sell them, and then assisting them in legacy planning. Scott grew up in the Liberty Lake area and attended Gonzaga. After law school Scott served in the US Army Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAG), before returning to Spokane to practice law. On the weekends Scott will often be found skiing with his family, either on a lake or in the mountains.

Andrew Helmstadter is an associate attorney at Wolff, Hislop & Crockett. Andrew's practice currently focuses on business transactions and planning which ties in well with his degree in accounting. Drew also represents his clients in business litigation and has appeared in State in Federal Courts in Washington and Idaho. Drew brings excellent practical knowledge to his clients based on his knowledge of how businesses should handle their books. Prior to attending Gonzaga University School of Law, Drew played baseball at his undergrad Northwest Nazarene University in Idaho. When not fielding client calls, Drew prefers to be on a baseball field.

Aaron Dunham is a partner at Wolff, Hislop & Crockett. Aaron heads up the firm's Real Estate and Utilities Practice. Aaron's practice includes transactional matters as well as litigation. He has represented clients in the sale, purchase, lease, and development of their real estate as well as through multiple quiet title actions. With respect to utilities, Aaron represents several water districts, irrigation districts, and private water companies with their compliance and real estate dealings. Aaron has also previously served on the Board of Directors for his local irrigation district; meaning he has unique experience of having handled developments from the perspective of the developer, the utility's counsel, and the utility's board. Aaron grew up in rural Iowa and has relatives that farm on ground that has been in the family for over a century, so he understands not just the financial value of real estate but also the emotional value. Outside of the office, Aaron enjoys hiking, visiting State and National Parks, and playing board games.