

Bench Bar Events
W.D. Washington Bankruptcy Court
January 23, 2023 – Seattle Courthouse, 19th floor
January 24, 2023, Tacoma Union Station, Jury Assembly Room
3:00 – 4:30 with social event to follow

Agenda

3:00 Welcome

Chris Alston, Chief Judge

3:05 – 3:20 Court Update: filing trends, changes to judiciary, anticipated case reassignments.

Chris Alston, Chief Judge

Gina Zadra Walton, Clerk of Court

3:20 -3:50 Amendments to Local Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure and Local Bankruptcy Forms effective December 1, 2023

Tim Dore, Bankruptcy Judge

Jason Wilson-Aguilar, Chapter 13 Trustee (Seattle)

Matthew LaCroix, Staff Attorney, Chapter 13 Trustee (Tacoma)

3:50 – 4:30 Evidentiary Practices in Bankruptcy Court: The judges consider the evidentiary record when preparing their rulings, are you?

Bankruptcy practice is replete with contested matters, requiring the decision maker to make findings of fact. Whether you've submitted sufficient evidence in support of your motion sets an attorney up for success and is an analysis that should be done before every filing. This panel will discuss why the evidentiary record matters, including for appeals, and address the most common evidentiary pitfalls seen in WAWB: declarations, admission of transcripts, offers of proof, judicial notice, expert opinions, default judgments and disclosures for employment applications.

Panelists:

Laurie Thornton, Assistant U.S. Trustee

Ryan Moore, Trial Attorney, U.S. Trustee

Thomas Buford, Bush Kornfeld

Claire Martirosian, McNaul Ebel