



# **The Starting Place:**

*Washington State Law Library's quarterly e-newsletter*

**Winter 2008/2009**

Serving the legal information needs of the citizens  
of Washington State

## **Sixty-First Legislature, 2009 Session**

The 2009 legislative session is set to begin January 12. The primary focus of the session will be to hammer out a budget for the next biennium that takes into account a projected \$5.7 billion deficit amidst a growing economic crisis.

Sure to be of interest is the fate of the unfunded paid family leave program that was to be implemented in October 2009. Other items likely to be on the legislative agenda are basic education finance, worker privacy/union neutrality legislation, and public financing for state level judicial campaigns.

To keep up with session events in Olympia check out the State Legislature's web site at <http://www1.leg.wa.gov/legislature>.

Useful features include:

- A bill tracking service
- In depth legislator and bill sponsorship information
- Email notification for committee meeting schedules, floor activities and more
- Legislative process guides

And don't forget TVW (<http://www.tvw.org>) for video coverage of legislative hearings.

## **Related Links**

- Governor Chris Gregoire's Budget <http://www.governor.wa.gov/priorities/budget/default.asp>
- Priorities of Government budget prioritization program <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/budget/pog/default.asp>
- The Office of Financial Management's guide to the state budget process <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/reports/budgetprocess.pdf>
- Legislative Evaluation and Accountability Program Committee <http://leap.leg.wa.gov/leap/default.asp>
- Joint Task Force on Basic Education Finance <http://www.leg.wa.gov/joint/committees/bef/>

## **Office of Public Guardianship**

This year the legislature will be looking at the success of the new Office of Public Guardianship (OPG), administered by the Administrative Office of the Courts. The OPG was established in 2007 "to promote the availability of guardianship services for individuals who need them and for whom adequate services may otherwise be unavailable." For more information on this new program, visit the OPG website at [http://www.courts.wa.gov/committee/?fa=committee.home&committee\\_id=136](http://www.courts.wa.gov/committee/?fa=committee.home&committee_id=136)

### New WSLI Instructional Video

Here's a great tool for those who need a helping hand when it comes to doing legislative history. Reference Librarian, Dawn Kendrick Gibb, has created a how-to video that takes you step by step through the legislative history of a Washington statute. Check it out at <http://www.courts.wa.gov/library>.

### Did you know?

- John Quincy Adams was the first president to be sworn in wearing long trousers on March 4, 1825.
- African-Americans first participated in the inaugural parade at Abraham Lincoln's March 4, 1865 inauguration. Women did not participate until Woodrow Wilson's 1917 inauguration.

Read more on presidential inaugurations from the Library of Congress at <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/pihtml/pihome.html>

### On Display

Please stop by our Main Reading Room display containing writings by former and sitting State Supreme Court justices. Articles and books cover a number of subjects, from the State Constitution to trial preparation.

### New CLE Rules

New Continuing Legal Education rules take effect on January 1, 2009. The amendments to Admission to Practice Rule 11 and related MCLE Board Regulations incorporate a number of changes. These include credit allowance, credit reporting, and course accreditation changes. More information and links to the new rules can be found at the State Bar Association web site:

<http://www.wsba.org/lawyers/groups/mcle/default.htm> and <http://www.wsba.org/lawyers/licensing/faq-mcle-credits.htm>

### From the BRC

[Assisted dying and legal change](#), Oxford University Press, 2007  
Call# KF3827.E87 L49 2007

[The FBI : A Centennial History, 1908-2008](#), U.S. Dept. of Justice, 2008  
Call# HV8144.F43 F35 2008  
Also available online at: <http://www.fbi.gov/book.htm>

[The attorney-client privilege in civil litigation](#), 4<sup>th</sup> ed., American Bar Association, 2008  
Call# KF8959.A7 A935 2008

[The lawyer's guide to collaboration tools and technologies](#), American Bar Association, 2008  
Call# KF320.A9 M54 2008

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Chat with us at: <http://www.courts.wa.gov/library/?fa=library.ask>  
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Comments Welcome!