

**The Annual Bench-Bar CLE on Social Security Appeals Practice in  
the Western District of Washington**

**Presented by the Social Security Disability Bench Bar Committee, in  
partnership with the King County Bar Association and the Federal Bar  
Association for the Western District of Washington**

**U.S. Courthouse, Seattle, 19<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room  
And via Zoom**

- **Thursday, December 7, 2023**
- **CLE program, 1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. moderated by Theresa L. Fricke, U.S. Magistrate Judge**
- **Reception, immediately after (first floor of the U.S. Courthouse)**

**1:30 p.m. - Welcome and Report from the Western District of  
Washington**

The Hon. David G. Estudillo, Chief U.S. District Judge  
The Hon. Tana Lin, U.S. District Judge  
U.S. District Court at Seattle, Washington

**1:40 p.m.- Language of Justice**

Joe Solseng, Attorney with Schroeter Goldmark and Bender,  
and Adjunct Professor at Seattle University School of Law

**2:00 p.m. - Practical Aspects of the Social Security Disability System**

Chief Administrative Law Judge, Seattle Region, Judge Kidd  
Kirk Larson, SSA public affairs specialist

**2:30 p.m. - Caselaw Update**

Amy Gilbrough, Douglas, Drachler, McKee & Gilbrough  
Sarah Moum, Assistant Regional Counsel, SSA

3:30 p.m. - **View from the Bench, Winning Strategies**

Moderator: Leanne Martinez, Douglas, Drachler, McKee & Gilbrough

The Hon. S. Kate Vaughn, Magistrate Judge

U.S. District Court at Seattle, Washington

The Hon. Grady Leupold, Magistrate Judge

U.S. District Court at Tacoma, Washington

Judicial Law Clerk Maria Manalac

4:00 p.m. - **Questions from the Bar**

- Reception and networking opportunity, immediately after the CLE --  
SSA Committee Members, CLE Speakers, and CLE Attendees  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor Reception Area, U.S. District Court

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the Western District of Washington**

**Thursday, December 7, 2023**

**1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

Please join us for the annual CLE Seminar sponsored by the Western District of Washington's Social Security Disability Bench Bar Committee. This year's program will be hosted by the Hon. Tana Lin, U.S. District Judge, and the Hon. Theresa J. Fricke, U.S. Magistrate Judge – Co-Chairs of the Western District of Washington Bench-Bar Committee on Social Security Disability Appeals. This CLE is planned and produced in partnership with the Federal Bar Association for the Western District of Washington, and the King County Bar Association.

Opening remarks and an overview of the Social Security Disability Bench-Bar Committee of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington, will be given by Chief U.S. District Judge David G. Estudillo, and U.S. District Judge Tana Lin.

Joe Solseng, Attorney, and Adjunct Professor at Seattle University School of Law, will provide insights and recommendations about respectful language in the disabilities context.

Judge Kidd, Chief Administrative Law Judge and Kirk Larson, public affairs specialist with SSA, will discuss practical aspects of the appeals process in the Social Security Disability benefits system.

Attorneys Amy Gilbrough and Sarah Moum will present the new and notable SSA opinions published by the Supreme Court and Ninth Circuit.

Attorney and Chair of the Federal Bar Association's disabilities law committee, Leanne Martinez, will moderate a panel presentation. The Hon. S. Kate Vaughan, Hon. Grady Leupold, and Judicial Law Clerk Maria Manalac will provide guidance from the District Court's perspective, speak about practice tips for Social Security appeals, and answer questions from the Bar.

The Social Security Bench Bar Committee will host a reception/networking meeting immediately following the CLE presentation where speakers and attendees can collaborate with their colleagues, and informally discuss the Supplemental Rules of Civil Procedure that became effective in December 2022.

Please also use the following link to access the Committee's website to review updated information: <https://www.wawd.uscourts.gov/bench-bar-committee-social-security-disability-appeals>

The program is free of charge, and we are seeking approval for CLE credit.

Questions? Please contact Moderator Leanne Martinez at [LeanneM@ddmglaw.com](mailto:LeanneM@ddmglaw.com)