

MEET OUR PANELISTS

Courts During COVID: Trials Over Zoom

February 23rd 2021 | 4:00-5:30PM

The Honorable Barbara J. Rothstein

United States District Judge, United States District Court for the Western District of Washington
Sitting by designation on the United States District Court for the District of Columbia

Judge Rothstein graduated from Cornell University, Phi Beta Kappa, and Harvard Law School. She joined the federal bench in 1980. From 2003 to 2011, she was the Director of the Federal Judicial Center. Before her appointment to the federal bench, she served as a King County Superior Court judge. Prior to that she practiced law with a private firm in Boston, Massachusetts, and with the Consumer Protection and Antitrust Division of the State of Washington's Attorney General's office. Judge Rothstein has taught trial practice at the University of Washington Law School, and is a frequent lecturer and a member of the American Law Institute. She serves on numerous commissions and boards.

The Honorable Robert S. Lasnik

United States District Judge, United States District Court for the Western District of Washington

Judge Lasnik has been a leader in the state and federal judiciary during his 30 years on the bench. He was appointed to the United States District Court by President Bill Clinton in 1998, and served as Chief Judge of the Western District of Washington from 2004-2011. From 2010-2015 he served on the Judicial Conference of the United States as the district judge representative from the Ninth Circuit. The Judicial Conference is the governing body of the federal courts chaired by Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr. In 2011 Chief Justice Roberts appointed Judge Lasnik to the seven-person Executive Committee which sets policy for the federal judiciary.

Judge Lasnik graduated from Brandeis University with a degree in psychology and sociology, and later obtained two master's degrees from Northwestern University in journalism and counseling. He is a graduate of the University of Washington School of Law and was an instructor there in Interviewing and Counseling for Lawyers. He was named Outstanding Alumnus of the Law School in 2012, and the Washington Law Review awarded him its Inspiration Through Service Award in 2015. He has won awards from Washington Women Lawyers, the King County Bar Association, the American Board of Trial Attorneys and the Washington Trial Lawyers. He chaired the Washington State Rhodes Scholar Selection Committee from 2002-2007.

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The Honorable Marsha J. Pechman

United States District Judge, United States District Court for the Western District of Washington

Judge Pechman has served as a Judge of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington since 1999. She held the position of Chief U.S. District Judge of her district from 2011–2016, and elected senior status in February 2016. Prior to her appointment to the federal bench, she sat for twelve years (1988–1999) as a King County Superior Court Judge. She was previously a partner in the Seattle civil firm of Levinson, Friedman, Vhugen, Duggan, Bland & Horowitz, a King County prosecutor, and a public defender while supervising the criminal law defender clinic at the University of Washington School of Law. Judge Pechman graduated from Cornell University with a B.A., and received her J.D. from Boston University Law School.

Judge Pechman is a founder of Justice Advocacy Africa, an organization dedicated to teaching trial skills and promoting pro bono representation in multiple African nations. She has trained judges and over 1,000 lawyers in a number of foreign countries. She has served on a variety of committees during her judicial tenure. In 2007, she was named Judge of the Year by the American Board of Trial Advocates (Washington State Chapter). In 2013, she was awarded the Betty B. Fletcher Leadership and Justice Award from MAMAS (Mother Attorney Mentoring Association of Seattle). In June 2015, she received the William L. Dwyer Outstanding Jurist Award from the King County Bar Association.

Mark P. Walters

Lowell Graham Jones PLLC

Mark Walters is a trial and appellate lawyer with experience representing businesses and individuals in courts across the country. He has first-chaired several jury trials to judgment, winning multi-million dollar verdicts for clients, and prevailing for defendants in a number of “bet-the-company” cases. He has argued cases in U.S. District Court, the Court of Appeals for the Ninth and Federal Circuits, and the United States Supreme Court. In addition to litigation matters, Mr. Walters advises technology firms on intellectual property strategy, including providing patentability and freedom to operate opinions. Several of Mr. Walters’ cases involve highly technical or specialized industries, like biotechnology, software, or genetics. Mr. Walters is a registered patent attorney and a past president of the Seattle Intellectual Property American Inn of Court.

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Michael S. Wampold

Peterson Wampold Rosato Feldman Luna, P.S.

Mike Wampold is a Seattle native. He attended Yale University where he graduated magna cum laude in history. He then attended the University of Washington School of Law, where he was the President of the Moot Court Honor Board. Following law school, he became a third-generation trial lawyer. Both his father and grandfather were also lawyers in Seattle.

Mr. Wampold has had a successful career including numerous multimillion-dollar jury verdicts for injured clients. He has received many accolades for his work, including being named the 2016 Washington State Association for Justice Trial Lawyer of the Year, and one of the top 40 personal injury attorneys and one of the top 100 attorneys overall in the State of Washington by Washington Law and Politics. He is a member of the American College of Trial Lawyers (ACTL), the Damage Attorneys Round Table (DART), the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA), and the Board of Directors of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF). He regularly teaches at legal seminars, has taught trial advocacy at the UW School of Law and in Mombasa, Kenya, and serves on a number of committees and boards. In 2012, he received one of the highest awards given by the UW School of Law, the Service Recognition Award. Mr. Wampold is also a devoted husband and father of three children, and a dedicated marathon runner, having qualified for the Boston Marathon in 2019 with a time of 3:21.