## WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE TREATMENT OF SEXUAL ABUSERS

## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES 3.19.2021

## LOCATION: VIRTUAL MEETING VIA GOTOMEETING 12:00-2:00 P.M.

Attendees	
Walter Cardona	Buck Huber
Brian Judd	Theresa Engdahl
Olivia Charles	Julia Crabbe
Dominic Winter	James Manley
Julia Newbold	Christina Woolery
Clark Ashworth	Holly Coryell
Lisa Trifiletti	Kelly Sullivan
Mark Ferraz	Jay Williamson
Taylor Johnson	Corey McNally
David Flynn	Paul Douhan
Gary Rink	Patricia Crockett
Linda Paxton	Melissa Hernandez
Kevin Lambe	Michael O'Connell
Minna Kokko	Priscilla Hannon
Rick Ackerman	Dan Yanisch
Dan Knoepfler	Dan DeWaelsche
Jenny Sheridan	Julie Johnson
Alina Shaw	Brandon Duncan
Julie Crest	Karen Feller
Michael DiGuilio	Marcus Miller
Vincent Gollogly	Rachael Sahi
Lissa Treadway	Jennifer Williams

## Presentation

Topic: Working with LRA Clients

Presenters: Sonja Hardenbook, Josh Choate, Devon Gibbs, & Jennifer Ritchie

Sonja Hardenbrook earned her undergraduate from Pacific Lutheran University, her masters at New Mexico State University, she graduated from the UW School of Law in 2004 with a juris doctorate. Sonja has worked at the Snohomish County Public Defender Association since 2003, doing rotations in the misdemeanor and felony units as well as serving for two years as supervisor of the district court unit. In 2013 she began RCW 71.09 work where she carries a full caseload of precommit, post commit, and conditional release clients. She won the Presidents Award from Washington Defender Association for her 71.09 work, is involved in legislative reform of RCW 71.09, and is currently the defense representative on the Sex Offender Treatment Provider Committee.

**Josh Choate** is the Section Chief of the Sexually Violent Predator Prosecution Unit at the Attorney General's Office. He prosecuted SVP cases from 2006 through 2012 and was promoted to Team Leader in 2010. Josh took a break from prosecution to work for the AGO's Torts Division where he defended the State against a wide variety of claims. He was invited to return to the Criminal Justice Division in 2014 to establish the office's first Environmental Crime Unit, which has since grown into its own division within the office (Counsel for Environmental Protection). Josh was appointed to SVP Section Chief in 2019 where he supervises 14 AAGs and oversees SVP prosecutions in 38 of the 39 Washington Counties.

**Devon Gibbs** is a Senior Attorney in the Sex Offender Commitment unit of The Defender Association Division of the King County Department of Public Defense. Devon has worked with clients under the sexually violent predator civil commitment law since 2009 and has conducted several trainings in this area of law. She obtained her JD from Seattle University School of Law. She is an affiliate member of the Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers and WATSA.

**Jennifer Ritchie** is a Senior Deputy Prosecutor with the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office. She has been with the Prosecutor's Office just short of 27 years, and currently serves as the Unit Chair of the Sexually Violent

Predator Unit. In addition to working at the PAO, Jennifer teaches trial advocacy and is a guest lecturer at the University of Washington School of Law and is a frequent presenter at national and international conferences in the areas of both civil and criminal law. She is an active member of Washington Women Lawyers and currently serves as a Commissioner on the Washington State Supreme Court Gender and Justice Commission. As well, she volunteers in the Washington Survivor Reentry Program, helping sexually-trafficked women vacate prostitution convictions. In addition, she is a volunteer attorney with the Alliance for International Women's Rights where she tutors Afghan women lawyers and judges. Jennifer also serves as the Board Chair for the Anti-Defamation League for the five-state Pacific Northwest Region.

(WATSA members receive 1.5 hours of continuing education credits for attending today's presentation; please retain a copy of these minutes as a record/proof of your attendance/CEUs).