



- PRESIDENT
RODNEY B. RAY, Tacoma
- PRESIDENT-ELECT
JOHN R. CONNELLY, JR., Tacoma
- VP EAST
BLAINE L. TAMAKI, Yakima
- VP WEST
WILLIAM S. MCGONAGLE, Bainbridge Island
- VP CLE
KEVIN COLUCCIO, Seattle
- SECOND VP CLE
MATTHEW G. KNOPP, Seattle
- VP DEVELOPMENT
CAROL N. JOHNSTON, Bainbridge Island
- SECOND VP DEVELOPMENT
ARTIS C. GRANT, JR., Tacoma
- VP FINANCE
STANLEY J. RUMBAUGH, Tacoma
- VP JUDICIAL RELATIONS
PATRICIA A. WILLNER, Bellevue
- SECOND VP JUDICIAL RELATIONS
REBECCA ROE, Seattle
- VP LEGISLATIVE
DEBORAH NELSON WILLIS, Port Angeles
- SECOND VP LEGISLATIVE
KAREN K. KOEHLER, Seattle
- VP MEMBERSHIP
PATRICK A. PALACE, Tacoma
- SECOND VP MEMBERSHIP
THADDEUS MARTIN, Tacoma
- VP PUBLIC AFFAIRS
STEPHEN L. BULZOMI, Tacoma
- SECOND VP PUBLIC AFFAIRS
KENNETH H. COLEMAN, Spokane
- VP PUBLICATIONS
JUDITH A. LONNQUIST, Seattle
- SECRETARY
MARC L. SILVERMAN, Bellevue
- TREASURER
LOUIE V. DELORIE, JR., Yakima
- EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
BRADFORD J. FULTON, Everett
- 1ST CONG. DISTRICT
JOSEPH M. CUNNANE, Edmonds
JANE A. MORROW, Seattle
- 2ND CONG. DISTRICT
CARRIE COPPINGER CARTER, Bellingham
TODD C. NICHOLS, Everett
- 3RD CONG. DISTRICT
LOREN ETENGOFF, Vancouver
TERRI L. HERRING-PUZ, Tacoma
- 4TH CONG. DISTRICT
STEVEN C. LACY, East Wenatchee
STEVEN DEFOE, Kennewick
- 5TH CONG. DISTRICT
MARK D. KAMITOMO, Spokane
RICHARD E. LEWIS, Spokane
- 6TH CONG. DISTRICT
JOHN J. DURKIN, Tacoma
JONATHAN F. STUBBS, Tacoma
- 7TH CONG. DISTRICT
MICHAEL R. CARYL, Seattle
MARY K. FLECK, Seattle
- 8TH CONG. DISTRICT
STEVEN G. LINGENBRINK, Kirkland
SIDNEY S. ROYER, Seattle
- 9TH CONG. DISTRICT
SUSAN MACHLER, Seattle
KATHLEEN GARVIN, Renton
- AT-LARGE
VIRGINIA L. DECOSTA, Tacoma
JOHN C. PEICK, Bellevue
JERRILYNN HADLEY, Bellevue
- IMMEDIATE PAST-PRESIDENT
JUDY MASSONG, Seattle
- PAST-PRESIDENTS' COUNCIL
STEVEN G. TOOLE, Bellevue
- ATLA BOARD OF GOVERNORS
MARIA S. DIAMOND, Seattle
PATRICK H. LEPLEY, Bellevue
MICHAEL E. WITHEY, Seattle
- ATLA STATE DELEGATES
ROBERT K. DAWSON, Seattle
STEVEN P. KRAFCHICK, Seattle
- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
GERHARD LETZING
- GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS DIRECTOR
LARRY SHANNON

Lawyers working to protect the safety of Washington's families



February 2, 2005

Alice C. Paine
Executive Director
King County Bar Association
1200 Fifth Avenue; Suite 600
Seattle, WA 98101

Re: Legislation extending campaign contribution limits to judicial campaigns

Dear Ms. Payne,

I am pleased to advise you that the Board of Directors of the Washington State Trial Lawyers Association has voted to endorse Section 2 of HB 1226 that would extend campaign contribution limits to judicial campaigns. It became abundantly clear in the November 2004 elections that massive amounts of special interest money is now being funneled into judicial campaigns. Although judicial candidates are not supposed to know who contributes to their campaigns, it is clear that such large contributions do not go unnoticed. This undermines the independence of the judiciary and the public trust thereof.

Judges are supposed to administer the law impartially and independently. Campaign finance limitations along the lines of the limitations currently applied to legislative and executive office campaigns should help to reduce the influence of large organizational contributors and restore public trust in the electoral process and the judicial branch of our government.

As a group of over 3,500 members, many of whom practice in the district, superior and appellate courts of the State of Washington, WSTLA is pleased to join the Washington State Bar Association, the Municipal League of King County, and the Washington Defense Trial Lawyers Association in endorsing Section 2 of HB 1226.

Sincerely,

Rodney B. Ray
President, WSTLA

1809 7th Ave., #1500
Seattle, WA 98101-1328
(206) 464-1011
FAX (206) 464-0703
wstla@wstla.org

910 N. Washington #100
Spokane, WA 99201
(509) 326-6660
FAX (509) 326-5111
spokane@wstla.org

1511 State Ave. N.E.
Olympia, WA 98506-4552
(360) 786-9100
FAX (360) 786-9103
govaffairs@wstlaoly.org

Web site:
www.wstla.org
www.trustjuries.org