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Spring Conference

May 8-10, 2024 - St. George, Utah

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

Time	Title	Description	Presenters
1:00-2:30	Legislative Update	The 2024 legislative session was busy. We had some wins and some losses. This presentation will cover what changes you need to be aware of.	Utah Leagues of Cities and Towns
2:30-2:45	Break		
2:45-3:45	Employment	Participants will walk through employment scenarios frequently encountered in the public sector. We will address the common problems and discuss solution as well as best practices to avoid employment claims and succeed in litigation.	
3:45-4:45	Special Districts for Public Finance - PIDs and IFDs	This is an overview of the two types of special districts that allow developers to access public funding in Utah: Public Infrastructure Districts (PIDs) and Infrastructure Financing Districts (IFDs, just created by the legislature). We will review the features, powers, and creation process for both district types; review the growth of PIDs in Utah and discuss several operating PIDs; and discuss related issues like disclosure requirements and boundary actions.	
5:30 Dinner 7:30 Movie	Dinner and Movie	Location: Pizza Factory then Megaplex on Sunset Sponsored by Olympus Insurance. RSVP here.	Brian Child

Thursday, May 9, 2024

Time	Title	Description	Presenters
7:00-:800	Breakfast		
8:00-9:00	U.S. Supreme Court Update	The Supreme Court's 2023-2024 term is wrapping up in what will surely be another blockbuster. The Court's docket is chocked full of cases of importance to local governments. These include cases setting forth the parameters of public officials' social media usage within the confines of the First Amendment, retaliatory arrests, a Title VII case that could expand liability for public employers, a case involving land use impact fees, whether the Court should overrule Chevron, and more. This presentation will provide you with background and insight into these decisions.	Amanda Karras

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9:00-10:30	Code Enforcement	Panel discussion on effective code enforcement practices and what to look out for.	Ryan Robinson Stuart Williams Brieanne Brass Kasey Wright
10:30-10:45	Break		
10:45-12:00	Negotiating, Drafting, and Defending Development Agreements	This is a panel discussion of land use development approval by agreement. Specifically, the panel will discuss best practices for city attorneys and other city staff to manage development agreements from the beginning of negotiations through the development phase. This discussion also includes perspectives and practice tips helpful for defending these agreements.	Steven Schaefermeyer Ryan Loose Matt Church
12:00-1:00	Lunch - Civility	Civility: It's Not Just For Sissies Anymore! Judge Warner will explain the history of trying to get lawyers to be more civil, and will explain current requirements in Utah. He will also give examples of incivility he has encountered as a judge, and will give practice pointers on how to be civil and professional without appearing weak to opposing counsel.	Paul Warner
1:00-2:00	First Amendment	Focusing on current issues in First Amendment Law.	Scott Young
2:00-3:00	Attorney-Client Privilege and Work Product as Municipal Attorneys	This presentation will address how several key ethics concepts apply in the government context, including the importance of accurately identifying one's client and the ways that a lawyer's confidentiality duty and the attorney-client privilege differ for governmental and private-sector clients.	Kathleen Clark
3:00-3:15	Break		
3:15-4:30	Roundtable	Back by popular demand! We will have several tables with specific topics and experts for you to listen to and ask questions. Each roundtable discussion will be 15 minutes long.	
5:30	Dinner	Location: Town Square Park (50 S Main St, St. George, UT 84770). Sponsored by the Utah Local Governments Trust	Ryan Hatch

Friday, May 10, 2024

Time	Title	Description	Presenters
7:00-8:00	Breakfast		
8:00-8:45	Board Meeting	Discuss business matters; review draft amendment to bylaws; board election.	Todd Sheeran David Quealy Mike Barker Shawn Guzman

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8:45-9:45	Mt. West Towing v. West Jordan City: Lessons Learned from a Code Enforcement Case that resulted in Section 1983 Litigation	West Jordan City Civil Litigator, Paul Dodd, will discuss the details of a case that involved seven tow companies being removed from the police tow rotation and code enforcement action that ordered all seven tow companies to cease operations. The companies ultimately filed a lawsuit against West Jordan and partially prevailed at trial. The case is likely to be appealed. We will discuss the mistakes made and the lessons learned that could benefit other municipalities. Discussion will cover tow rotation policies being treated as a contractual agreement by the court, property interests in being on a tow rotation, due process concerns in removing companies from tow rotations, equal protection and zoning estoppel claims in code enforcement cases, Rule 26a damage calculations and disclosures and what to do when those disclosures are not properly made, and many other issues related to the case.	Paul Dodd
9:45-10:00	Break		
10:00-11:00	GRAMA Update and Current Trends	Each year municipalities are bombarded with GRAMA requests - so each of us are generally familiar with GRAMA laws. But, to help you avoid losing any appeal, this presentation focus on changes in case law and legislative updates, and we will go over trending issues and claims.	David Quealy Todd Sheeran
11:00-12:00	Utah Case Law Update	Dani Cepernich and Nate Mitchell are appellate practitioners and co-authors of the Utah Bar Journal's "Appellate Highlights." They will present on recent developments in case law and key decisions by the Utah Supreme Court, Utah Court of Appeals, and Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals from the past year. The discussion will focus primarily on cases of interest to municipalities, including land use, government defense, and evidentiary or procedural rules affecting litigation. The presenters will also briefly highlight recent trends in appellate practice.	Nate Mitchell Dani Capernich