

THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION SECTION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

January 16, 2026 (via Zoom)

I. CALL TO ORDER

- Roll call

Position	First Name	Last Name	Present?	Absent?
Chairperson	Spencer	Aldrich	1	
Chair-Elect	Elyse	Waters	1	
Past Chair	Ian	Brown		1
Treasurer	John	Young	1	
Secretary	Christo	de Villiers	1	
Member-at-large #1	Charisse	Dickson	1	
Member-at-large #2	Heidi	Havercroft	1	
Member-at-large #3	Melissa	Douglas	1	
Member-at-large #4	Ned	Arenberg	1	
Member-at-large #5	Nicholas	Cordes	1	
Member-at-large #6	Van	Quan	1	
Member-at-large #7	Derrick	Louie	1	
Member-at-large #8	Lourdes	Sanchez Marte	1	
Member-at-large #9	Andrea	Knight	1	
Member-at-large #10	Katerina	Wolfe	1	
Member-at-large #11	Thom	Nash	1	
OSB liaison	Tria	Vang	1	

II. MINUTES

- Approve minutes from December 12, 2025
 - Motion to approve the minutes from the EC's December 12, 2025 meeting, by Nick Cordes. Seconded by Christo de Villiers. No corrections/objections. Minutes approved unanimously.

III. CHAIR REPORT (Spencer Aldrich)

- The chair welcomed everyone to the EC for 2026. This is the first meeting, and he does not yet have much to report.

IV. TREASURER REPORT (John Young)

- Not much has changed in the section's financial since end of 2025, and the section's December 2025 financials are not yet available.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Access to Justice (Charisse Dickson)
 - Access to Justice subcommittee is still waiting on a response from the Workers' Compensation Division relative to the rule change proposed to deal with granting claimant's an extension of time to find a new AP when enrolled in a MCO. A2J is hoping for an update in February.
 - The other issue A2J is working on is potentially allowing injured workers to opt in to email notices rather than mail, to speed up the time in which they learn of time-sensitive issues. An example is IME notices. Kevin Anderson, chair of A2J has been talking to WCD about this issue as well and they hope to have an update with a proposal for EC to review in February.
 - A recent issue raised is the new postmark rules of USPS- postmarking when they pick it up for processing versus when it is actually dropped off.
- Bench Bar (Derrick Louis)
 - Derrick is the new chair of the Bench Bar subcommittee.
 - Derrick reached out to Nick Cordes of Salishan committee recently as they start planning the agenda for Bench Bar 2026.
- Going Forward (Kat Wolfe)
 - Chair of this subcommittee, Katie Krametbauer, indicated she emailed the Going Forward subcommittee's planning document for 2026 to Spencer Aldrich.
 - As the focus is on growing the worker's compensation section, they are planning additional "Ask Me Anything" events (previously hosted by Kat Wolfe and Matt Lawrence) for March, June, and September
 - Portland Rip City Remix is planned for March 6th, in conjunction with the Hispanic Bar Association
 - They are also planning something for first time attendees at Salishan
 - The Pickles game event last year was a firm favorite and they will try and do something like that again this year.
- Professionalism Award (Ian Brown)

- No report
- Salishan (Nick Cordes)
 - Things are proceeding apace with planning meetings bi-weekly since the fall. The topics/speakers have mostly been finalized and moving onto the phase of obtaining sponsorship.
 - Dr. Ron Bowman has agreed to speak about shoulders
 - Dr Larry Drumm will speak about challenges and rewards of being an AP in the WC system;
 - There is a double presentation – two hours long – about ethics and AI;
 - Presentation on cross-examination – expert and lay witnesses;
 - Tim Simmonds will talk about calculating AWW and Supplemental Disability.
- Nominations
 - No report.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- No old business at this time

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- The chair asked each member of the EC to introduce themselves.
- No other new business at this time

VIII. NEXT MEETING

- February 13, 2026 @ noon, via Zoom

IX. ADJOURNMENT

- Motion to adjourn by Nick Cordes, and seconded by Ned Arenberg. Unanimously approved by the members. Meeting adjourned at 12:40 p.m.