

## In This Issue...

1. [President's Corner](#)
2. [AG Local Government Fall Conference Wrap-Up](#)
3. [JLARC Public Records Data System](#)
4. [Opt-In to Receive Transparency News](#)
5. [Member Spotlights](#)
- 6.

## Upcoming Events

### [2019 Spring Training](#)

Tuesday, May 14  
Lynnwood Convention Center

## Job Board

Our job board constantly offers exciting new opportunities!

[View Open Positions](#)

Connect with WAPRO  
on LinkedIn!



## The President's Corner

Denise Vaughan

Well, WAPRO members, this article serves as my “swan song” in my term as President. I want to dedicate my final song to YOU! Nothing at WAPRO would happen without you. You are why we exist and you are the only reason we’ve been able to accomplish some great work over the past few years.



So, let me clear my throat and say a genuine, heartfelt thank YOU to those I’ve served with on the Board. Your energy, support, enthusiasm, and effort are impressive and I appreciate each of you. You are the part I will miss most.

Thank YOU to the Committee Chairs and members for all of your efforts in the areas of training, certification, communications, and policies and practices. You have done some really great work that has benefited all of WAPRO’s members.

Last, but certainly not least, thank YOU to all WAPRO members for your continued involvement, attendance, and great ideas! I know that you are some of the government’s finest unsung heroes so this song is for you! It’s difficult work, it’s seemingly endless work, and very often thankless work...so THANK YOU!!

It has been a privilege to serve! WAPRO serves an important need and I know that the incoming Board, committees, and members will continue to make WAPRO an even more excellent organization in the future!

And on that note (pun intended), I’m out.

## WAPRO Board of Directors

### President

Denise Vaughan

### President-Elect

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### Director

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## AG Local Government Consultation Program

The Attorney General's Office [Local Government Consultation Program](#) now offers local governments help with navigating the complexities of the public records arena. The Attorney General's Office (AGO) is pleased to offer these services free of charge to all local governments.

[Read More](#)

## Fall Conference Wrap-Up



On October 25, WAPRO converged on the Tacoma Convention Center for our [Annual Fall Conference](#) with approximately 600 attendees from local and state agencies across Washington State. We covered a variety of topics which included records management, stress management, juvenile and health care records, ethics of a PRO Whistleblower, inmate requests and litigation, a general Q&A time and of course, case law and legal updates.

Conference feedback was positive overall and the WAPRO Board has looked at attendees input in order to glean what can be done to improve future conferences. Thanks for all who attended and for all of the volunteer staff and speakers who made it a great day!

## JLARC Public Records Data Collection System

The complete set of public records data reported by agencies through JLARC's Public Records Data Collection System is now available on [JLARC's website](#).

JLARC staff compiled and formatted all data submitted by agencies for the 2017 reporting period. Please note that the statutory deadline for reporting has passed and **no further changes may be made to the data**.

JLARC staff are currently preparing a formal report of the public records data. This report will include context about the data collection process and highlight statewide data. The report will be released to the Legislature and public in January 2019.

JLARC staff are also working on an update to the Guidance document. This includes clarifying definition language to assist for submitting data next year. This will be released at the end of 2018.

If you have any questions, please call (360) 786-5286 or email [JLARCPublicRecStudy@leg.wa.gov](mailto:JLARCPublicRecStudy@leg.wa.gov).

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## Opt-in to Receive Transparency News

Every Friday, WAPRO members are sent the latest news articles from Washington State and around the globe related to legislation, court cases, public disclosure, security, privacy, open government, and archives & records management. [Learn more](#) about how you can also begin receiving our weekly Transparency News.

*WAPRO Member Log-In Required*

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## Member Spotlight

Tess Thompson

**Title:** Records Management

**Agency:** Monroe School District

**Are You a Certified PRO?** Yes

**Q. How many years have you been a Public Records Officer (PRO)?**

I have been working on Public Records for five years but just recently certified.

**Q. What is one Public Records tip or best practice you have gleaned from your work that you would pass on to others in this field of work?**

Stay as organized as you possibly can!



[Read More](#)

Get to know Tess Thompson and check out her [entire interview](#).

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## Member Spotlight

Jerome Wilen

**Title:** Public Disclosure Manager

**Agency:** Port of Seattle

**Are You a Certified PRO?** Yes

**Q. How many years have you been a Public Records Officer (PRO)?**

Four years. However, I have been involved in Public Records/Disclosure since 2001.

**Q. What is one Public Records tip or best practice you have gleaned from your work that you would pass on to others in this field of work?**

Be as kind as possible to a requestor even when they are not kind or nice to you.

[Read More](#)

Get to know Jerome Wilen and check out his [entire interview](#).



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## Member Spotlight

Scott Clark

**Title:** Records Officer

**Agency:** Port of Longview

**Are You a Certified PRO?** Yes

**Q. How many years have you been a Public Records Officer (PRO)?**

Two years.

**Q. What is one Public Records tip or best practice you have gleaned from your work that you would pass on to others in this field of work?**

Only create records that are absolutely necessary.

[Read More](#)

