

Judge Dave Larson

Retired Judge · Trial Lawyer · Lifelong Public Servant

I Education

University of Puget Sound

Bachelor of Arts

Public Administration

Seattle University School of Law

Juris Doctor

Attended law school at night while working full-time, first for the Pierce County Prosecutor for two years and then with a private law firm in his third year.

II Legal Career

Presiding Judge, Federal Way Municipal Court

2008–2025

Managed a court and served as a trial judge.

Of Counsel, Williams Kastner

2001–2008

Complex civil litigation, construction litigation, and mass torts litigation.

Owner, Litigation Alternatives, Inc.

1998–2001

Mediation and arbitration firm with 26 contract mediators and arbitrators.

Owner, David A. Larson, P.S.

1991–2001

Civil litigation defense.

Associate, Richard J. Jensen and Associates

1988–1991

Civil litigation defense.

Staff Trial Counsel, Safeco Insurance Companies

1985–1988

Civil litigation defense.

Legal Intern, Burgess, Kennedy, Fitzer, and Strombom

1983–1985

Civil litigation defense, including governmental liability.

Legal Intern, Civil Division, Pierce County Prosecuting Attorney 1982–1983

Government liability.

Case Controller, Misdemeanor Division, Pierce County Prosecuting Attorney 1981–1982

Managed misdemeanor case scheduling and witness subpoenas.

III Bar Memberships

Washington State Bar Association 1985–present

- | Court Rules and Procedures Committee 1996–2003
- | Professionalism Committee 2001–2002
- | Litigation Section 1985–2008

Federal District Court, Western District of Washington 1985–present

King County Bar Association 1985–present

- | Finalist, Mentor of the Year (Young Lawyers Division) 2007
- | Professionalism Committee, Co-Chair 2005–2007
- | Councils of Law, Co-Chair 2005–2007
- | Youth and the Law Committee 1986–1987

Tacoma-Pierce County Bar Association 1985–2001

- | Continuing Legal Education Committee 2001
- | Judicial Liaison Committee 1998
- | Mandatory Arbitration Committee 1990–1992
- | Doctor-Lawyer Liaison Committee 1989–1991
- | Continuing Legal Education Committee 1991
- | Professional Improvement Committee 1990

IV Judicial Service & Involvement

District and Municipal Court Judges Association

- | President’s Award 2018
- | Council on Independent Courts 2019–2025
 - | Chair 2023–2024
 - | Co-Chair 2019–2020
- | Legislative Committee 2015–2025
- | Judicial Independence Task Force 2017–2018

Chair, Fire Brigade Subcommittee	
Therapeutic Courts Committee	2019–2025
Public Trust & Confidence Committee, Board of Judicial Administration	2018–2023
Chair, Internal Education Subcommittee	
Judges in the Classroom, Southwest Washington Coordinator	
Liaison, ELIAS Electronic Search Warrant Work Group	2014–2015
Long Range Planning Committee	2009–2015
Technology Committee	2009–2015
Legislative Committee	2009–2015
Liaison, House of Representatives Impaired Driver Workgroup	2011–2015
Court Improvement Committee	2013–2014
Liaison, Data Management Steering Committee	2012–2013
Education Committee	2008–2011
Rules Committee	2008–2011

Civic Learning Council 2009–2025

Executive Committee (<i>formerly Council on Public Legal Education</i>)	2011–2019
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YMCA High School Mock Trial Competition 2010–2018

Convener and Founder, South King County District Competition.

Settlement Now 1990–1998

Mediator.

National Institute for Trial Advocacy 1988

Graduate.

Civil Air Patrol

Assistant Washington Wing Legal Officer	2002–2008
Instructor, National Legal Officer's College	2005

Municipal Court Task Force, House of Representatives 1999–2000

Instructor at numerous litigation seminars 1990–2008

V Community & Service

City of Federal Way

Key to the City	2025
Homelessness Task Force	2018
Human Services Commission	1999–2004
Federal Way C.E.R.T.	2003
Board of Ethics, Chair	1991–1994

Federal Way Public Schools

1996–2025

INSTRUCTIONAL INVOLVEMENT

Street Law Instructor, Todd Beamer High School	2009–2025
Coach, Federal Way High School RoboEagles robotics team	2012–2013
Liberty & Justice for All Art Contest, with City Arts Commission	2009–2025

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Recognized as a “Hero” of Federal Way Schools	2022
Recognized as a “Hero” of Federal Way Schools	2018
Board Recognition for volunteer activities	2013
Diversity Award, WSSDA	2006
Board Recognition for volunteer activities	1999

LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

School Board President	2007–2008
School Board Director	2006–2008
School Board Vice-President	2006–2007
Washington State School Directors Association (WSSDA)	2006–2008
Career and Technical Education Business Advisory Board	2018–2024
District-Wide Strategic Planning Group	2015–2016
School Board Legislative Delegate, WSSDA	2006–2008
School Construction Oversight Committee	2001–2004

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Todd Beamer High School Booster Club	2005–2012
Todd Beamer High School Titan Advisory Committee	2005–2006
Illahee Middle School PTA	2003–2008
Panther Lake Elementary PTA	1996–2004
Panther Lake Elementary PTA, Co-Chair, Community Services	2000–2004
Panther Lake Elementary Site Leadership Team	2000–2001
Community of Character	1999

OTHER

| “Notable Graduate” of Federal Way Public Schools 2009

Kiwanis Club of Federal Way

1998–present

AWARDS, PACIFIC NORTHWEST DISTRICT OF KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL

| Distinguished Past President Award 2003

| Everyday Hero Award 1998

CLUB AWARDS

| Zeller Award 2016

| Doug Benton President’s Award 2014

| Distinguished Service 2012

| Hixson Fellow 2000

| Kiwanian of the Year 1998–1999

FOUNDED & SPONSORED

| Founder and Adviser, Aktion Club of Federal Way 2011–2025
Service club for people with developmental disabilities

| Founding Member, Kiwanis Foundation of Federal Way 2003–present

| Sponsored, Gordon and Madonna Larson Vocational School Scholarship

| Sponsored, Elwood & Gladys Berntson Vocational School Scholarship

| Founder and Advisor, Panther Lake K-Kids 1999–2003
Service club for elementary school students

OFFICES HELD

| Board Member 2017–2021

| Immediate Past President 2015–2016

| President 2014–2015

| President-Elect 2013–2014

| Vice-President 2012–2013

| Board Member 2009–2012

| Veterans Support Committee 2009–2015

| Board Member, Kiwanis Foundation of Federal Way 2003–2015

| Immediate Past President 2002–2003

| President 2001–2002

| Young Children Priority 1 Chair 2000–2002

| President-Elect 2000–2001

| Community Service Chair 1999–2000

| Vice-President 1999–2000

| Program Chair 1998–1999

| Board Member 1998–1999

U.S. Air Force Auxiliary (Civil Air Patrol) 2002–2008

- | McChord Composite Squadron 2002–2008
- | Rank, Major 2004–2008
- | Rank, Captain 2002–2004
- | National Commander’s Commendation for Emergency Services 2007

LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

- | Commander, McChord AFB Composite Squadron 2005–2008
- | Director, Emergency Services 2005–2006
 - | Liaison, WSDOT Aviation Division, Air Search & Rescue Coordination Committee (2005–2006)
 - | Air Force Rescue Coordination Center, Search Management Graduate (2004)
- | Deputy Wing Homeland Security Officer 2003–2006
 - | Liaison, Region V Homeland Security (2005–2006)
 - | Exercise Committee (2004–2006)
 - | Training Committee (2004–2006)
 - | Asymmetric Warfare Exercise Committee (2004–2006)
 - | Liaison and Project Officer, Combined Exercise Seahawk (2004), a U.S. Navy and Canadian military training exercise
- | Assistant Wing Legal Officer 2002–2008
- | Instructor, National Legal Officer’s College 2005

Washington State Department of Transportation

- | Aviation Division, Air Search & Rescue Management Team 2004–2012

Puget Sound Honor Flight

- | Guardian 2016–present

Advancing Leadership

- | Board Member 2013–2019
- | Instructor 2016–2019

Pacific Ballroom Dance 2008–2010

- | Chair 2009–2010
- | Board of Trustees 2008–2010

Additional Recognition & Service

- | Best City Leader, Federal Way Mirror 2022
- | Finalist, Best Community Leader, Federal Way Mirror 2024
- | Finalist, Best City Leader, Federal Way Mirror 2023
- | Finalist, Best City Leader, Federal Way Mirror 2021

Finalist, Best City Leader, Federal Way Mirror	2020
Runner-up, Best City Leader, Federal Way Mirror	2019
Finalist, Best City Leader, Federal Way Mirror	2017
Finalist, Best City Leader, Federal Way Mirror	2015
Finalist, Best City Volunteer, Federal Way Mirror	2015
Nominated, Citizen of the Year, Federal Way Mirror	2015
Citizen of the Month, Federal Way Mirror	Dec 2015
Federal Way Helmet Coalition, Founding Board Member	2002–2004
“Outstanding Community Partner” Award (2004)	
Federal Way National Little League, Manager and Coach	1996–2005
Cub Scouts Pack 366, Den Leader	2001–2005
Federal Way Hawks Junior Football, Coach	1999
Columnist, “On Community” column, Federal Way Mirror	1999–2001

JUDGE DAVE LARSON · WASHINGTON STATE SUPREME COURT, POSITION 5

larsonforjustice.com