INTRODUCTION TO THE 2025 SUPPLEMENT

The 2025 edition of the pocket part for Volume 26B of Washington Practice: Probate Law and Practice has been revised as follows:

- Background information on the potential use of generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) and ChatGPT to assist with practice management for Probate Law settings was included in the 2024 edition of the pocket part for Volume 26B and remains a resource for the 2025 version (Chapter 1, subpart III, §§ 1:45-1:55).

- This 2025 edition of the pocket part for Volume 26B extends the discussion to include further examples and applications of generative AI for estate-related practices.

- For 2025, these materials have been further applied to testate probate activities (§§ 1:56-1:66), illustrating the potential for enhanced approaches to Probate Law in many practice areas.

- There is an expanded discussion of generative AI for estate practice activities combined with analysis of the impact of the Washington Rules of Professional Conduct (RPCs) on the use of such AI support (§ 1:57).

- Further detail is provided on the ways in which Probate Law practices may consider the use of generative AI for meetings with clients; representation of clients; legal research; legal documents and practice materials; client profiles, marketing and networking; resource management; and preparing for possible disruptions (§§ 1:58-1:65).

- Probate Law practices have been substantially affected by the long-term impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and follow-on financial pressures, and may be affected by the introduction of generative AI to practices (as described in Volume 26A, Chapter 10).

- This volume presents an overview of the key features of Probate Law practices as they have evolved over several years as the result of the disruptive influences of COVID-19 and continuing shifts in the financial details of estate practices. The potential applications and limitations afforded by generative AI are introduced. This combination provides insight into Probate Law practices as they continue to evolve and provide insight into the most effective strategies that may develop for generative AI.

- Special Notice of Proceedings are further discussed for non-intervention and full-intervention probates (§§ 6:5, 7:5, 8:5, 9:5, 10:5, 11:5).
- Appeal by a claimant of the rejection or lack of action by the Personal Representative regarding a creditor's claim is further considered (§§ 18:6, 26:6).