PREFACE TO THE 2025 EDITION OF VOLUME 26A

This 2025 edition of Volume 26A of Washington Practice, *Washington Elder Law and Health Law (Part 2)* includes additional materials that support efforts by Health Law attorneys to maximize office productivity and minimize practice costs through the potential use of—and careful control of—ChatGPT-based generative Artificial Intelligence (AI).

A conceptual analysis of ChatGPT enables Health Law attorneys to better understand the properties of this technology without requiring detailed background in computer hardware or software, including the introduction of a few basic terms; the nature of information flow in such Large Language Models (LLMs); the resultant ChatGPT performance; evolution of the technology; uses of search and target vectors; and creating responses from prompts (§ 10:257).

Another generative AI Super-Chatbot called Chatsonic has been applied to Elder Law at § 1:27 and to Health Law (in Vol. 26A, Ch. 10 Part P (§§ 10:180-10:183) and Ch. 23); see also Application to Elder Law at Vol. 26 § 1:27). A new approach to practice management for Health Law settings—with forms—is based on a broad analysis of the ways in which ChatGPT may affect such practices, based on seven typical practice activities (defined with generative AI assistance at § 10:241).

Meetings with clients, their legal representatives, or organizational teams; Representation of organizational clients (for all types of activities); Legal research (both for background topics and clients); Drafting and finalizing documents (including all stages and methods); Managing client files (with all associated records); Marketing and networking; and Managing resources.

For each area, practice activities without ChatGPT capabilities are contrasted with activities that make use of ChatGPT support (§§ 10:240-10:257). As a result Health Law attorneys may contrast existing operations with the potential use of such Super-Chatbots, in order to better understand the advantages and limitations of such strategies for practice operations. These materials allow attorneys in all Health Law settings to better ap-

preciate the possible approaches that may be taken to improving office productivity and controlling costs without excessive reliance on the over-promotions of technology that are often encountered.

Comparable practice management materials for Elder Law may be found in the Volume 26 of Washington Practice, *Washington Elder Law and Health Law (Part 1)*.

Comparable practice management materials for Probate Law may be found in the Pocket Part for Volume 26B of *Washington Practice, Probate Law and Practice*.

An example related to vacating orders under Court Rule (CR) 60 is used to illustrate how the most effective ChatGPT-supported legal research may result from access to an extensive database of state statutes, regulations, and court rules; cases; and diverse secondary sources. These materials need to be linked together to form an integrated information base through which topics may be traced; cases reflect statutes; statutes are integrated with cases; and secondary sources are cross-referenced to statutes and cases. The advantages of Westlaw linkages are described in terms of annotated statutes (that make use of West RCWA cites); the summarizing of case features (through West Headnotes); and the classifying of topics through West Key Numbers that combine insights across cases (§ 10:244). Further applications illustrate the potential uses of generative AI to enhance Health Law practice management.

CHERYL C. MITCHELL
FERD H. MITCHELL