



**Renne Public Law Group
Public Law Fellowship Program 2020
Syllabus / Schedule**

Introduction: Welcome to our Public Law Fellowship Program for 2020. We are excited to meet each of you, and to share our deep experience in and passion for public law. This outlines our course schedule and curriculum.

If you have not already done so, please visit our website – www.publiclawgroup.com – to learn more about us and what we do.

Learning Objectives: To provide each Fellow with a strong overview of local government functions and the practice of law representing local agencies.

Overview of the Program: The 2020 Program has several components:

- (1) **Speaker Series:** We have assembled a broad array of speakers working in local government. Each speaker will address a specific topic. You will have the opportunity to interact and ask questions. The format will be Q & A on Zoom. Bios for each speaker are attached, and you are encouraged to research and learn about them.
- (2) **Teaching:** We have scheduled several topics where you will receive information and “instruction” regarding selected issues. Bios for each teacher are also attached.
- (3) **Local Government Overview – Research:** We pose 15 “daily” research questions to the Fellows. These questions involve a mixture of legal structures and related policy concerns. These questions are designed to cover a broad spectrum of local government laws. Also included is a [Reading List](#).
- (4) **Research Assignment:** Each Fellow will have an “in depth” research project to complete. The deliverable will be written product at the end of the Fellowship. Each fellow will also share their findings with the group on the final day of the fellowship, June 19th. Our mission is to make the world a better place on a



local level, and our assignments ask for your ideas to make things better. Local government is about providing services, from potholes to parks, police and fire, to social services, medical assistance, water and wastewater management, land use regulation and more.

- (5) **Mentorship:** Each Fellow will be assigned a mentor – an experienced attorney in our field who can answer (or attempt to answer) your various questions along the way, as well as provide support and feedback.

- (6) **Fun:** Seriously. We like to have fun, and we love what we do. The sometimes crazy interactions we have with local governments trying to do the right thing, while facing obstacles including the democratic political process itself, is anything but boring.



**Public Law Fellowship Program
Renne Public Law Group
<https://rennepubliclawgroup.com/>
June 8 – 19, 2020**

Schedule

***All Meetings Held Via Zoom
Fellows and Other Participants Will Receive Zoom Credentials***

All Times Listed in Pacific Standard Time Unless Otherwise Noted

Please Observe Zoom Best Practices

- *Whenever possible, please keep your camera on (use your judgement if you need to move about your home, etc.)*
- *Please keep your mic muted except when speaking*
- *Please utilize the “hand raising” feature when you have a question in order to avoid crosstalk*
- *Feel free to leave questions in the chat box. Please no cross/side conversations in the chat box. We will reevaluate this policy if necessary*

Monday, June 8, 2020 – Day 1

9:00am	Introduction to the Program by RPLG Co-Founders
9:30am	Dedication to Buck Delventhal, a giant in public law who passed away last year. Dedication by our colleague Andrew Schwartz .
10:30am – Noon:	<u>Speaker</u> : Meet Willie L. Brown, Jr. , the renowned former Mayor of the City and County of San Francisco, and longtime Speaker of the California Assembly
12:30 – 1:30pm	<u>Curriculum</u> by Corrie Manning , General Counsel to the League of California Cities – the key advocacy organization in California representing over 475 cities, and Betsy Strauss , Program Director of Intergovernmental Conflict Resolution for the Institute for Local Government.
3:00pm	Concluding First Day Remarks and Q&A session.
4:00pm	Welcome virtual cocktail reception.



Tuesday, June 9, 2020 – Day 2

- 10:30am – Noon: Speaker: Panel with current and former city managers regarding the *Management of Local Cities in California: Challenges for Delivering Services*. The panelists will include **Nelson Fialho** (Pleasanton), **Kurt Wilson** (previously, Stockton), and **Bruce Rudd** (Consultant, RPLG.solutions; previously, Fresno).
- 12:30 – 1:30pm Curriculum by **Russ Branson**, Consultant – Russ Branson Consulting, and **Jon Holtzman**. Mr. Branson and Mr. Holtzman will be discussing *Government Finance in the Age of COVID-19*, particularly in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting recession.
- 1:30pm – End of day Individual &/or group work time: Plan on preparing for upcoming presentations and lessons, the smaller research questions, and your larger individual project.
- Also, during this time you will be meeting with your mentor and/or project liaison regarding your research project.
Meeting times will vary person-to-person.
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Wednesday, June 10, 2020 – Day 3

- 10:30am – Noon: Speaker: **Andrew Schwartz**, Partner at Shute, Mihaly, & Weinberger and Stanford Law School lecturer, will present; *Housing Challenges – Is There Any Hope?*
- 12:30 – 1:30pm Curriculum by **Ruth Bond** and **Linda Ross**, RPLG Partners. Ms. Bond and Ms. Ross will be discussing *Workplace Investigations & Whistleblower Allegations*.
- 1:30pm – End of day Individual &/or group work time: Plan on preparing for upcoming presentations and lessons, the smaller research questions, and your larger individual project.



Thursday, June 11, 2020 – Day 4

- 10:30am – Noon: Speakers: A conversation with **Dennis Aftergut**, former Chief Assistant City Attorney for the City and County of San Francisco, co-founder of the Coalition to Preserve, Protect & Defend, and Of Counsel at RPLG, and **Jon Holtzman**. They will be discussing – *Bending the Curve: Cities Lead the Country in Policy Development*.
- 12:30 – 1:30pm Curriculum by **Louise Renne** and **Art Hartinger**, RPLG Founding Partners. Art will interview Louise about some of her past and present projects, including taking on Big Tobacco, forcing the Olympic Club to admit women members, and her role in the Nationwide Opioid litigation.
- 1:45 – 3:15pm Fellow Roundtable – discussion of “daily” research questions (attached). Prepare to discuss questions #2 – #7.
- 3:15pm – End of day Individual &/or group work time: Plan on preparing for upcoming presentations and lessons, the smaller research questions, and your larger individual project.
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Friday, June 12, 2020 – Day 5

- 10:30am – 11:30pm: Speaker: Panel with current city attorneys as they discuss *The Role of the City Attorney*. The panelists will include **Harvey Levine** (City Attorney, City of Fremont), and **Teresa Stricker** (RPLG Founding Partner & Corte Madera Town Attorney).
- 12:30 – 1:30pm *A Conversation with Jon Holtzman: Building a Career in Local Government*: Art Hartinger will interview Jon about his 30+ year career in the public sector.
- 1:30pm – End of day Individual &/or group work time: Plan on preparing for upcoming presentations and lessons, the smaller research questions, and your larger individual project.



Monday, June 15, 2020 – Day 6

- 10:30am – Noon: Speaker: A presentation and conversation regarding *Human Services & Homelessness* with **Trent Rohrer**, Executive Director of the SF Human Services Agency and **Abigail Stewart-Kahn***, Interim Director of the San Francisco Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing.
- 12:30 – 1:30pm Curriculum by **Ryan McGinley-Stempel**, RPLG Senior Associate, regarding The Constitutional Implications of Responding to the Homelessness Crisis: Navigating *Boise v. Martin*.
- 1:30pm – End of day Individual &/or group work time: Plan on preparing for upcoming presentations and lessons, the smaller research questions, and your larger individual project.
- *Emily Cohen**, Interim Director of Strategy & External Affairs will be joining the conversation should Ms. Stewart-Kahn become unavailable.
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Tuesday, June 16, 2020 – Day 7

- 10:30am – Noon: Speaker: A conversation with **Dane Hutchings**, Director of the Renne Public Policy Group, and **Phil Ting**, California State Assembly member representing the 19th District, regarding *Our State Capitol & Governance: An Insider's Perspective*.
- 12:30 – 1:30pm Curriculum by **Fire Chief Dave Winnacker** (Moraga-Orinda Fire District) and **Jon Holtzman**. Fire Chief Winnacker and Mr. Holtzman will be discussing *Government Innovation: A Case Study of Wildfire Management*.
- 1:30pm – End of day Individual &/or group work time: Plan on preparing for upcoming presentations and lessons, the smaller research questions, and your larger individual project.



Wednesday, June 17, 2020 – Day 8

- 10:30am – Noon: Speaker: A conversation with **Therese McMillan**, Executive Director of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, and **Jim Wunderman**, President & CEO of the Bay Area Council, regarding *Are Regional Solutions Viable?*
- 12:30 – 2pm Fellow Roundtable – discussion of “daily” research questions (attached). Prepare to discuss questions #8 – #15.
- 2pm – End of day No afternoon instruction today. Utilize this time to work on your larger project, connect with your mentor, connect with the other fellows, and/or prepare for your presentation on Friday.
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Thursday, June 18, 2020 – Day 9

- 10:30am – Noon: Speaker: Panel with current labor experts regarding *Labor & Employment: Complexities for Cities, Counties, and Special Districts*. The panelists will include **Carol Isen**, Employee Relations Director at the City and County of San Francisco, and **LaTanya Bellow**, Director of Human Resources at the City of Berkeley.
- 12:30 – 1:30pm *A Conversation with the Director of the San Francisco Department of Police Accountability: Fresh Perspectives on Police Reform.* **Paul Henderson**, Executive Director of the San Francisco Department of Police Accountability, will talk about modern day police reform.
- 1:30pm – End of day Roundtable on Assigned Research Questions
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Friday, June 19, 2020 – Day 10

- 10:30am – Noon: Speaker: A conversation with **Joaquín Torres** (Director of San Francisco Economic and Workforce Development) and **Julian Gross** (Law Offices of Julian Gross). They will be discussing – *Workforce & Economic Development*.



12:30 – 1:30pm

No afternoon instruction today. Utilize this time to take a break, have some lunch, and prepare for your presentation.

1:30pm – 5:30pm

Presentations by Fellows, wrap-up remarks by RPLG Attorneys & Staff, and cocktail party.