# Agenda

#### **Understanding Wisconsin Personal Injury Law** C. Wirth The development of personal injury law in Wisconsin Statutes and regulations that affect liability law An overview of liability law in different types of personal injury cases Automobile accident Slip-and-fall Medical malpractice Product liability The law of damages Recent developments and anticipated changes in Wisconsin law **Investigating and Evaluating a Personal Injury Claim** K. LaFave Obtaining information from/about the plaintiff Using (and not using) investigators Identifying and locating parties and witnesses Investigating/documenting the incident Interviewing witnesses Obtaining information on damages Identifying and obtaining other relevant information Helpful resources **Litigating Personal Injury Cases** C. Strohbehn Drafting, filing and serving initial pleadings Participating in the discovery process

Drafting admissions, interrogatories and requests for production of documents Responding to discovery requests Deposition practice: preparing for, attending and reviewing Working with expert witnesses Preparing for and assisting at trial

#### Handling Ethical Issues in Personal Injury Practice

Communicating with clients, the court and opposing counsel

Maintaining client confidentiality

Avoiding the unauthorized practice of law

Avoiding conflicts of interest

W. Healy

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2022







# **Learning Objectives**

#### You'll be able to:

**Review** the development of personal injury law in Wisconsin.

**Understand** liability law in different types of personal injury cases.

*Learn* how to investigate and document a claim, and interview witnesses regarding a claim.

Assist with the drafting, filing, and serving of initial pleadings.

*Learn* about avoiding conflicts of interest and avoiding unauthorized practice of law.





**Understand** the development of personal injury law in Wisconsin

**Review** pertinent statutes and regulations

*Explore* ways to investigate and evaluate personal injury claims

#### **Continuing Education Credits**

This seminar offers Wisconsin paralegals 6.0 CLE hours, including 1.5 ethics hours. NALA: 6.0 CLE Hours (1.5 Ethics) NFPA: Pending

## HalfMoon Education Live Webinars **Wisconsin Personal Injury Practice for Paralegals**

Live, Interactive Webinar - Friday, February 18, 2022

Assist with personal injury litigation, from initial filing through trial

**Discuss** the handling of ethical issues in a personal injury practice



## Faculty

#### Cristina Wirth Attorney at Bye, Goff & Rohde (River Falls, WI)

Ms. Wirth was born and raised in River Falls and is proud to serve her hometown community as well as the greater states of Wisconsin and Minnesota as an injury lawyer. She attended law school at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, where she graduated magna cum laude, served on the Law Review senior board, and was inducted into the Pro Bono Society. During law school Ms. Wirth also served as a judicial intern at the United States District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin. Prior to law school, Ms. Wirth graduated summa *cum laude* from Hamline University in St. Paul. Minnesota as a member of the Phi Beta Kappa honor society. She also obtained her paralegal certificate while attending Hamline. Ms. Wirth's personal injury practice is grounded in the understanding that injuries can be life-changing and that no one should have to navigate the legal system alone. Her extensive experience in the legal field allows her to employ a myriad of skills in advocating zealously for her clients. Her years of experience in various positions at Bye, Goff & Rohde and her prior work with judges give her a unique perspective in litigating personal injury cases.

Krista LaFave Attorney at Warshafsky, Rotter, Tarnoff & Bloch, SC (Milwaukee, WI) Ms. LaFave is a trial lawyer at Warshafsky, Rotter, Tarnoff & Bloch, S.C. where she represents plaintiffs injured due to the negligence of others. Her practice includes automobile collisions, product liability, premises liability, and nursing home abuse and neglect cases. She initially worked in insurance defense and subrogation litigation. Ms. LaFave is a 2013 magna cum laude graduate of Tulane University Law School, where she was a member and coach of the Vis International Commercial Arbitration moot court team and president of the Student Bar Association. She was selected to The National Trial Lawyers: Top 40 Under 40. She serves on the board of the Association for Women and was elected to the State Bar of Wisconsin's Board of Governors where she also chairs the Strategic Planning Committee. Prior to attending law school. Ms. LaFave worked in legal marketing and performed background business research. The combination of her interest in investigation and representing both plaintiffs and defendants provides her with a unique background for evaluating a personal injury claim from the outset.

#### Christopher Strohbehn

Attorney & Partner at Gimbel, Reilly, Guerin & Brown LLP (Milwaukee, WI)

Mr. Strohbehn is a partner at Gimbel, Reilly, Guerin & Brown, LLP in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, He enjoys the challenge of helping clients through difficult situations. He has developed a diverse litigation practice that focuses on personal injury, insurance coverage litigation, civil litigation, and commercial property tax appeals. Mr. Strohbehn's practice extends throughout the state of Wisconsin. He represents clients across the spectrum – from individuals to small businesses to large national corporations. He is also experienced in litigating in appellate courts across the state, including serving as lead counsel in a number of cases that were litigated at the Wisconsin Supreme Court. Previously, Mr. Strohbehn was President of the Milwaukee Young Lawyer's Association and was a member of the Board for six years. He also sat for a number of years as an alternate on the City of Milwaukee's Administrative Review and Appeals Board and was president of a large downtown Condominium Association. Currently, he is a board member of the Wisconsin Association for Justice.

Whitney Healy Attorney at Habush Habush & Rottier SC (Appleton & Green Bay, WI) Ms. Healy is an attorney in the firm's Appleton and Green Bay office. She focuses her practice on a wide variety of personal injury cases. Prior to joining Habush, Ms. Healy worked as an attorney at a civil litigation firm in Madison, Wisconsin, where she dedicated her career to helping those who need it most. She has vast experience representing individuals in both state and federal courts, as well as with transnational litigation. In recognition of her civil litigation work, Ms. Healy was designated a Super Lawyers Rising Star in 2019, 2020, and 2021. Currently, she sits on the board of directors for the Wisconsin Association for Justice (WAJ) and is the immediate past chair of the Women's Caucus. Additionally, she was recently nominated to serve as a Regional Officer for WAJ. Her term will commence in December of 2021. Ms. Healy is also a member of the lames E. Doyle Inn of Court and is an active member of the Legal Association for Women in Dane County, serving on the board of directors from 2019-2021. Ms. Healy received her undergraduate degree from Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa, and graduated cum laude, with honors, from Valparaiso Law School. While in law school, she served as editor of the Law Review.

### Webinar Information

Log into Webinar 8:00 - 8:30 am CST

Break 11:45 am - 12:15 pm CST

12:15 - 3:30 pm CST

**Morning Session** 8:30 - 11:45 am CST Afternoon Session

### Tuition

**\$289** for individual registration **\$239** for three or more registrants from the same company at the same time.

Included with your registration: PDF seminar manual.

#### How to Register

- Visit us online at www.halfmoonseminars.org
- Mail-in or fax the attached form to 715-835-6066
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#### **Continuing Education Credit Information**

This webinar is open to the public and offers 6.0 CLE hours, including 1.5 ethics hours, to Wisconsin paralegals. Paralegal certification is not required to participate in this webinar.

The National Association of Legal Assistants has approved this course for 6.0 CLE Hours, including 4.5 Substantive CLE Hours and 1.5 Legal Ethics CLE Hours.

HalfMoon Education has applied to the National Federation of Paralegal Associations for course approval. This application is currently pending.

Visit this course listing at www.halfmoonseminars.org for updates on pending credits.

Completion certificates will be awarded to participants who complete this event, respond to prompts, and earn a passing score (80%) on the guiz that follows the presentation (multiple attempts allowed).

Cancellations: Cancel at least 48 hours before the start of the webinar, and receive a full tuition refund, minus a \$39 service charge for each registrant. Cancellations within 48 hours will receive a credit toward another webinar or the self-study package. You may also authorize another person to take your place.

### Additional Learning — **Wisconsin Family Law** Practice for Paralegals Self-Study

Available on a USB drive, or as a digital download, this package covers topics including:

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- Obtaining and Evaluating Financial Information
- Assisting with Child Custody, Placement, Third-Party Visitation
- Enforcing and Modifying Family Law Orders and Decrees
- Handling Ethical Issues in Family Law Practice

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# Registration

Live, Interactive Webinar - Friday, February 18, 2022

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#### **Online:**

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Complete the entire form. Attach duplicates if necessary.

### Tuition

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### **Wisconsin Personal Injury Practice for Paralegals**

Registrant Information
Name:
Company/Firm:
Address:
City:State: Zip
Occupation:
Email:
Phone:
Additional Registrants:
Name:
Occupation:
Email:
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Name:
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