
Sharon Cates



Lighthouse Law Group PLLC
1100 Dexter Avenue N
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1/2 — Sharon Cates
Curriculum Vitae

Employment

Lighthouse Law Group
Member

The Garden City Group, Inc.
Director of Operations

Microsoft Corporation
Attorney, Legal & Corporate
Affairs

Foster Pepper, PLLC
Attorney

**Washington State Court of
Appeals, Division II**
Judicial Clerk

Bar Admission
Washington 1999

Professional Affiliations

Washington State Bar
1999-Present

**U.S. District Court, Western
District of Washington**
2001-Present

**Ninth Circuit Court of
Appeals,**
2006-Present

Recognition

Washington Law & Politics “Rising Star” Award
Recipient, 2005 & 2006

Seattle University Law Review, Executive Editor, 1997-1999

Presidential Scholarship, Seattle University School of Law
Recipient, 1996-1999

Areas of Practice

- Employment & Labor
- Eminent Domain / Real Estate
- Contracts
- Public Works

Skills

- Counseling
- Advocacy
- Investigations
- Communication
- Mediation & Settlement

Education

Seattle University, J.D.
Cum laude, 1999

Marquette University, B.A.
Magna cum laude, 1995

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Representative Work

Employment

Ms. Cates has represented both public and private sector clients on a wide variety of employment law issues, including litigation of employment matters. She regularly advises clients on discrimination and harassment laws, wage and hour compliance, wrongful termination, leave management, drug and alcohol testing, background investigations, labor relations, employment agreements, personnel policies, workplace misconduct, employee discipline and termination, retaliation and privacy issues. Ms. Cates consults with clients on internal workplace investigations and is available to act as an unbiased outside investigator into employment law claims.

Contracts

A regular part of Ms. Cates' practice is to draft and review contracts for her municipal clients, including professional services agreements, interlocal agreements, employment agreements, lease agreements, grant and loan agreements, and public works construction contract documents. She is also experienced in litigating contract disputes.

Eminent Domain / Real Estate

Ms. Cates has advised on and litigated numerous eminent domain cases, as well as various real estate disputes. Her work includes the representation of municipalities and other public entities (including the cities of Bellevue, Lynnwood, Edmonds, Sumner and Long Beach, as well as Sound Transit, the Seattle Monorail Project and the Snohomish County PUD) to obtain necessary right-of-way and other property to construct public works projects. She has also successfully litigated, mediated and settled various real estate disputes involving lease agreements, adverse possession, construction claims, and landlord/tenant issues.

Public Works

Ms. Cates regularly advises municipal clients on public works construction issues, including reviewing and revising bidding documents and construction contracts. She also represents clients with regard to public works disputes, such as construction delay, acceleration and inefficiency claims, bid protests and related disputes.