



Multnomah Bar Association

Tuesday,
March 29, 2016
3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

World Trade Center,
Mezzanine, Building 2,
26 SW Salmon, Portland

Registration forms with
payment must be received by
the MBA office by March 28.

The MBA will apply for two
hours of OSB MCLE Access
to Justice credit. Washington
MCLE credit may be obtained
individually. Registrants who
miss the seminar may request
the handout materials. Sorry,
no refunds. Substitutions are
welcome; non-members may
be subject to an additional
fee. Accommodations
available for persons with
disabilities; please call in
advance for arrangements.

Atticus Finch: Role Model,
Racist or Realist?

Come for a full and open discussion of the best and the worst about fictional lawyer
Atticus Finch as portrayed in Harper Lee’s books, To Kill a Mockingbird and Go Set a
Watchman.

For decades since the publication of To Kill a Mockingbird, lawyers have identified
Atticus Finch - or at least Gregory Peck’s portrayal of him in the 1962 film - as one
reason they decided to become lawyers. Mockingbird, set in the 1930s, shows Finch
accepting a court appointment to defend an African American against a rape accusation
by a white woman in the face of rampant racism and public hostility from the
community. For a substantial part of the twentieth century, it was probably one of the
most widely read books dealing with race in America. Go Set a Watchman, which was
written before the publication of To Kill a Mockingbird but only published in 2015,
looks at an older Atticus Finch, a grown-up “Scout” and the other citizens of Maycomb,
Alabama, in the early years of the Civil Rights movement following Brown v. Board of
Education (1954). Although, by present standards, Atticus Finch does not come across
as well in Watchman as in Mockingbird, the two books taken together provide an
excellent vantage point for considering the progress that has been made on diversity
issues, as well as the many challenges that remain before us, and the personal and social
issues that may help explain why many of those challenges seem so hard to address. And
as a book narrated by a young female professional in the period before the women’s
rights movement, Go Set a Watchman has a good deal to say about past and present
gender-based cultural biases.

This program will take advantage of the unique opportunity created by the two books to
help us better understand our past, present and future as a profession and as individual
lawyers. Panelists will be Steve Griffith, a trial lawyer recently retired from Stoel Rives,
LLP; Mariann Hyland, Assistant Vice Provost for Academic Affairs at the University
of Oregon; and Peter Jarvis, Holland & Knight, LLP, noted expert on professional
ethics.

For more information: Call Leslie Johnson, Kent & Johnson at 503.220.0717. For
registration questions, call the MBA at 503.222.3275.

Name
Firm
Billing Address
Phone OSB #

Register me for the seminar as indicated:

- MBA Member \$60.00
Non-MBA Member \$95.00

I will not be attending but would like to order:

- CD ROM / & Handouts (Member) \$60.00
CD ROM / & Handouts (Non-Member) \$95.00

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