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## ASCE SEATTLE SECTION GEOTECHNICAL GROUP JOINT DINNER MEETING WITH ASCE SEATTLE SECTION

Thursday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012

- Topic:** Changes in Standard of Care for Engineers in Washington State
- Time:** 5:30 – Social Hour, 6:30 – Dinner, 7:30 – Program
- Place:** Red Lion Hotel, 11211 Main Street, Bellevue, 98004, 425-455-5240
- RSVP:** Please RSVP with your dinner entrée preference (Macadamia Chutney Chicken or Ratatouille Linguine) *via*: Our website [www.seattlegeotech.org](http://www.seattlegeotech.org), or e-mail to [rsvp@seattlegeotech.org](mailto:rsvp@seattlegeotech.org) by 4:00 PM on Tuesday February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012 for the advance RSVP rate.
- Cost:** \$35 with advance RSVP via Paypal. \$40 with reservations made after February 21<sup>st</sup> deadline or at the door. \$15 for non-reimbursed public agency employees, unemployed members, and students. **A limited number of student sponsorships will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis.** You can pay via Paypal or credit card online in advance, or at the door by cash or check payable to "ASCE Seattle Geotechnical Group".
- Speaker:** Terence Scanlan, Principal, Skellenger Bender P.S.
- Abstract:** The Washington Supreme Court has issued a significant opinion creating substantial new risks for design professional firms doing work in Washington State.
- In the Michaels case, the Court greatly limited the protections afforded design professionals by Washington's Design Professional Immunity statute and made a cardinal change to the definition of the "standard of care" for design professionals.
- This decision substantially increases the professional duties design professionals will face when working on virtually any project, no matter how limited the professional undertakings. This unanimous decision from the state's highest court is all the more significant because it announces important changes in how the standard of care for design professionals will henceforth be defined and correspondingly, the risk to architects and engineers for new claims has been increased significantly.
- Terry's presentation will address this new case, explaining how the court arrived at this decision, and the consequences and considerations for design professionals going forward.

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**Bio:** Terence Scanlan is a Principal in the law firm of Skellenger Bender P.S., practicing in the firm's litigation group. He has extensive jury trial experience in both state and federal courts and handles matters in the Pacific Northwest and in Alaska.

He has been extensively involved in complex litigation, including cases involving design defects, delay and cost issues, wrongful death and worker injury claims, site safety questions, construction management issues. His practice has included claims concerning the design, modification and construction of municipal water and wastewater treatment facilities, high-rise structures, highways and bridges, pipelines, commercial and residential development projects, light rail projects, substantial retaining wall systems, and complex infrastructure projects. He is admitted to practice in Washington, Oregon and Alaska. Terry frequently speaks on contracting and risk management issues concerning design professionals, including for ASFE legal counsel forum, the ACEC attorney's roundtable and ACEC-Washington.