



Washington Coalition *for*  
Open Government  
washingtoncog.org

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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The Washington Coalition for Open Government is proud to announce the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Madison Andersen Awards Breakfast will be held on Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Washington Athletic Club. We are hopeful this year's event will be as successful as last year and that means we want all our members, supporters, and citizens who believe in open government and transparency to join us.

Each year, WCOG honors those who have dedicated their time, money, and energy to the cause of transparency in government. We are pleased and proud to announce this year's honorees.

**The Kenneth F. Bunting Award**, given to journalists or organizations who have used or written about the Open Public Meetings Act and the Public Records Act or have used records requests in their quest to inform the public, will be presented this year to Sean Robinson of The News Tribune for outstanding work on secrecy surrounding the operations of the Pierce County Prosecutor's office and Prosecutor, Mark Lindquist. The award is for a body of work on issues surrounding that office.

**The James Andersen Award**, presented for work that supports the mission of the Washington Coalition for Open Government will be given to Michele Earl-Hubbard, one of our founding board members and someone who consistently gives of her time, energy, and money to help the organization continue its work in serving the public in matters of transparency.

**The James Madison Award**, our highest honor, is presented to an individual or organization that has championed the cause of open government and transparency. We are pleased and proud to announce that this year's James Madison Award will be presented to the law firm of Witherspoon Kelley of Spokane. This law firm has consistently been on the front lines of the battle for openness and access to government and we are pleased and proud to honor their many years of dedication to the cause of transparency.

Please plan to join us as we honor those who fight for your right to know what your government is doing in your name. The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Madison Andersen Awards Breakfast will be held Friday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Washington Athletic Club. The doors will open at 7:30 AM and the Awards presentation will be from 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM. Individual and full table registration is now open; visit <http://washingtoncog.org/events/upcoming-events/>. If you are unable to attend this event, please support the event with a sponsorship or donation.

*Join WCOG and help in the non-partisan fight for transparent government and open public participation. WCOG was founded in 2002 by a group of individuals representing organizations with a broad spectrum of opinions and interests but all dedicated to the principles of strengthening the state's open government laws and protecting the public's access to government at all levels. WCOG stands for the principle that transparency and public participation are essential building blocks of good government. Membership is open to the public. For more information contact WCOG at 6351 Seaview Avenue NW, Seattle, WA 98107-2664, on the web at [www.washingtoncog.org](http://www.washingtoncog.org), or call (206) 782-0393*