

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THREE NEW MEMBERS NAMED TO BOARD OF WASHINGTON COALITION FOR OPEN GOVERNMENT

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The former investigative editor of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, a former Seattle City Clerk and a longtime stalwart of the League of Women Voters have been named to the Board of Directors of the Washington Coalition for Open Government (WCOG), a nonpartisan advocacy group that promotes accountability and transparency within government agencies in the Evergreen State.

Rita Hibbard is executive director and editor at Investigate West, an independent, non-profit investigative reporting organization based in Seattle. Hibbard is a former assistant managing editor at the Seattle Post-Intelligencer where she coordinated the now-defunct newspaper's investigative team. Hibbard also served a stint as the P-I's metro editor.

Barbara Levette is past president of the League of Women Voters in Mason County and will represent the statewide League of Women Voters of Washington on WCOG's Board. Levette, who lives in Union, Wash., became a fan of open government and public process when she spearheaded a successful campaign to seek grants to construct a wastewater system for her rural community. Levette has worked in a variety of management consulting roles and holds a Master of Public Administration from the University of South Dakota.

Catherine Moore is a Seattle attorney and former Seattle City Clerk. While in that job, she helped draft rules aimed at helping elected officials and other public employees use Facebook, Twitter and other social networking websites while still complying with Washington's open public records and meetings laws. Moore is a Peace Corps alumna and has long been active in the King County and Washington State bar associations.

"The Coalition is very pleased to have Rita Hibbard, Barbara Levette, and Catherine Moore join our Board," said Toby Nixon, president of WCOG. "Their diversity and depth of experience and the skills and wisdom they bring will contribute greatly to fulfilling our mission of educating the public and government officials about open and transparent government, and defending open government in the courts and the legislature. We look forward to working with them!"

The Washington Coalition for Open Government (is an independent non-partisan non-profit organization founded in 2002 by a group of individuals representing organizations with a broad spectrum of opinions and backgrounds, all dedicated to the principles of strengthening the state's open government laws and protecting the public's access to government at all levels.

For more information, contact Washington Coalition for Open Government, 6351 Seaview Avenue NW, Seattle, WA 98107-2664 or on the web at [www.washingtoncog.org](http://www.washingtoncog.org) or call (206) 782-0393 or FAX (206) 623-4474.