



MONDAY MORNING NEWS

March Madness



**GOOD MORNING
MARCH 8, 2021**

MEETINGS

3/12/21 – “Virtual” Safety Meeting

3/16/21 – 3/25/21 – Microsoft Project Training

5/25/21 – 5/26/21 – Safety Professionals Conference

WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT WASHINGTON’S NEW RULES FOR BOARDROOM DIVERSITY

SSB 6037 goes into effect on Jan. 1, 2022, but companies that are incorporated within the state of Washington will need to have diverse boards well before that date to comply with the new law. The bill defines a gender-diverse board as one with at least 25% of directors who self-identify as women. They will also need to have this board composition for at least 270 days of the fiscal year before the company’s annual meeting of the shareholders. “Because there’s that 270-day look-back period, most companies are going to have to meet that 25% gender diversity threshold before Jan. 1, 2022,” [Eric DeJong](#), partner at Perkins Coie, said.

For a company with a fiscal year ending in September, for example, that board member composition should have been established in January. For a company with a fiscal year ending in December, they will need to meet the requirement by April 5, 2021. The law applies to public companies incorporated in the state of Washington. These companies may be headquartered in Washington, but do not have to be. There are a few exceptions to the rule, DeJong said.

“The ones that matter the most are exceptions for a category of public companies that are referred to as emerging growth companies,” he said. “These are companies that have less than around \$1 billion in revenue and have recently gone public. There is also an exception for companies that are defined as smaller-reporting companies under SEC rules; those are really small companies.”

Unlike the law in California, the law only applies to public companies that are incorporated in Washington, regardless of where they are headquartered – many large companies headquartered in Washington, for example, are incorporated elsewhere. Companies that are headquartered elsewhere but incorporated in Washington, however, would be subject to the law.

Also different from the California law: No fines will be imposed on a company that does not comply. Instead, if a company does not meet the gender diversity requirement, it must disclose to its shareholders how it considers diversity of its board as well as any measures that have been taken to address a lack of diversity. Setting term limits, for example, on a company with a long-tenured board can help open doors to diverse candidates down the line.

And if a company does not meet the requirements and fails to provide an explanation? “The remedy for failure to comply at all is for a shareholder to go to court and get a court order requiring the company to give the required disclosure,” DeJong said.

NECA SAFETY PROFESSIONALS CONFERENCE GOES VIRTUAL MAY 25th – 26th

The NECA Safety Professionals Conference is going virtual in 2021. While NECA had hoped to have an in-person event, the health of all participants – attendees, presenters, exhibitors, and staff – must take precedent. The conference will be hosting four general sessions featuring Kevin Brown, Anthony Huey, John Cruickshank, and Kevin Hines. There will also be educational breakout sessions for inside electrical construction, outside line construction, safety leadership and risk management. All attendees will gain valuable knowledge to assist in their daily activities and responsibilities. Please join us May 25th and 26th for this exciting conference. **Registration will open March 24, 2021.**

SR 99 – DUWAMISH RIVER BRIDGE CLOSURES AND LANE RESTRICTIONS

Travelers who cross the **Southbound** SR 99 Duwamish River Bridge (AKA 1st Ave South Bridge), please beware of upcoming repair work that started March 5th and will last until March 15th. It includes the following closures and lane restrictions:

- Two lanes closed 24 hours a day starting March 10 at 12 PM, through March 15 at 12 PM.
- Two full closures, March 14 and 15, from 9 PM to 5 AM.

*This work **does not affect** the **Northbound** SR 99 Duwamish River Bridge, but please plan for extra time for your trips. You can find more info about the repairs, including a short video, in this blog by clicking [HERE](#).

STRAIGHT TALK: FUTURE OF DOWNTOWN SEATTLE – A VIRTUAL CONVERSATION

Puget Sound Business Journal will be hosting a virtual discussion about the future of downtown Seattle. While downtown Seattle was hit hard by the pandemic and associated closures, the area was struggling before 2020 with some public safety challenges. Now, as we move into the recovery, the Puget Sound Business Journal will look at what is next for downtown Seattle, how this region can make sure the revitalization efforts help those who need it most, including the restaurants and retailers whose businesses were decimated by the pandemic. **This virtual event will be held on Tuesday, March 9th.**

Speakers will include **Matthew Gardner** – Chief Economist, *Windermere Real Estate*, **Denise Merle** - SVP & Chief Administration Officer, *Weyerhaeuser*, **Suzy Monford** - President & CEO, *PCC Community Markets*, and **Jon Scholes** - President & CEO, *Downtown Seattle Association*. This one-hour event will be held from **8:30 AM – 9:30 AM**. Registration is free. Please click [here](#) if you are interested in attending.

ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY – ALI BATTLES FRAZIER IN “FIGHT OF THE CENTURY”

On March 8, 1971, [Muhammad Ali](#) and Joe Frazier meet for the “Fight of the Century” at Madison Square Garden in [New York City](#). The bout marked Ali’s return to the marquee three-and-a-half years after boxing commissions revoked his license over his refusal to fight in the [Vietnam War](#). It was also Ali’s first chance to win back the heavyweight championship, which had been stripped by the WBA (World Boxing Association).

Both Ali and Frazier were undefeated and had won Olympic gold medals and multiple Golden Gloves championships, but their personalities were vastly different. Ali was a showboat, and his mastery of the media, his improvisational poetry during interviews and his debonair good looks separated him from every other fighter, and every other athlete of his generation. Much to his opponent’s dismay, Ali successfully painted the less popular and more reserved Frazier as an “Uncle Tom” and an instrument of the establishment. Leading up to the fight, the national press fawned over Ali, heralding “the hero’s return.” Ali played right along, while doing his best to knock Frazier off his game through mental intimidation. He even went so far as to repeatedly call Frazier a “gorilla.”

On the night of the fight, celebrities filled Madison Square Garden. Miles Davis was resplendent in a red suit. Frank Sinatra sat ringside, photographing the fight for a *Life* magazine article. It was said that billions of people were following the fight in person, on TV or on the radio, and most of them were cheering for Ali. The fight lived up to the hype. Ali initially landed more punches, gliding about the ring as light on his feet as he was in the prime of his career. Frazier’s punches, however, seemed to have more impact. By the eighth round, Frazier was leading six rounds to two with each judge. In the 11th round, Ali staggered but fought back, forcing the action into the 12th and 13th rounds. The fight was already decided by the 15th, when Frazier landed a left hook to Ali’s right chin, knocking down the champ for just the third time in his illustrious career. Ali got up, but Frazier won the fight by unanimous decision, retaining his title and delivering Ali the first loss of his career.

The two fighters would fight twice more, in 1974 and 1975, with Ali winning both fights. The rivalry was so intense that, 20 years after their final fight, when Ali carried the torch and lit the ceremonial flame at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, Frazier said, “If I had the chance, I would have pushed him in.”

“March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb.”

English Proverb

As of Friday, March 5th, there are 382 JW on Book 1 and 183 JW on Book 2. There are currently 26 Commercial Apprentices, 0 S&C Apprentices, and 0 Residential Apprentices available for dispatch. There are 10 First Period Commercial Bootcamp graduates available for dispatch. There will be 16 Limited Energy Bootcamp graduates available for dispatch on April 6th and an additional 16 graduates available April 12th. There will be 16 First Period Commercial Bootcamp graduates available April 19th and an additional 16 graduates available April 26th.