OSLUND UDO LITTLE

2026 Summer Newsletter



We're excited to share a few recent highlights that have shaped life at the firm, from welcoming new team members and expanding our office to supporting community events and celebrating meaningful victories alongside our clients. We hope these stories give you a glimpse into the people, partnerships, and purpose that continue to guide our work each day.

We've Expanded Our Office

One of the biggest changes for our firm this year has been the expansion of our office. The new space includes a larger conference room for meeting with clients, additional workstations for new team members, and expanded file storage to help keep cases organized as our firm continues to grow.

However, one of our favorite features of the expanded office isn't a new room at all—it's the board in our break room covered with photographs and cards from clients and their families. Every photo and handwritten note reminds us of the relationships we've built over the years and the people who have trusted us during some of life's most difficult moments. Even after a case comes to a close, many clients continue to stay in touch, sharing family milestones, holiday cards, and updates on their lives. Looking at that board each day reminds us that the work we do is about far more than the outcome of a case. It's about the people we have the privilege of representing.









MEET OUR NEWEST PARTNER

Erica Bergmann



At the beginning of 2026, Oslund Udo Little proudly welcomed Erica Bergmann as our newest partner. Since joining the firm in 2018, Erica has become an integral part of the team, helping clients and their families navigate the challenges of mesothelioma with compassion, determination, and thoughtful advocacy.

Over the past eight years, Erica has helped prepare complex asbestos cases against multinational corporations, contributing to significant settlements and jury verdicts on behalf of mesothelioma victims. Clients and colleagues alike know Erica for her thoughtful approach to client advocacy and her commitment to understanding how an asbestos-related disease has affected every aspect of a family's life.

Erica's promotion to partner recognizes the lasting impact she has made since joining the firm in 2018. Through years of advocacy, careful case preparation, and close collaboration with clients and colleagues, she has helped shape the next chapter of Oslund Udo Little while continuing to fight for families across the Pacific Northwest.

Thoughtful Advocacy in Action

Among the many cases Erica has worked on, one stands out for the unique challenges it presented and the meaningful outcome it achieved for the family involved.

Our client developed mesothelioma after being exposed to asbestos as a baby. His father carried asbestos dust home from a shipyard on his work clothes. Because the exposure occurred so early in life, there were no firsthand memories to help establish what happened. Instead, Erica and the trial team pieced together the family's story through decades-old records, including a letter written by the client's mother describing the father's work at a shipyard and the asbestos dust he unknowingly carried home on his clothing.

Despite the challenges of proving the case, the team secured a $10 million jury verdict. For Erica, the outcome was about more than the verdict itself. It was about helping the family feel heard, believed, and knowing they had the opportunity to hold the responsible company accountable. Cases like this reflect the thoughtful, client-centered approach Erica brings to every matter and the commitment she will continue to carry forward as a partner at Oslund Udo Little.

Welcoming Our New Associate Attorneys

The growth of our team has matched the expansion of our office as we have added four new associate attorneys. Each brings a unique background and perspective, but all share the same commitment to providing compassionate representation and advocating for clients when they need trusted guidance most.



Debbie Silberman

Debbie Silberman has built her career around standing beside people during some of the most difficult moments of their lives. For more than 11 years, she served as a public defender in Brooklyn, New York, representing thousands of clients and regularly volunteering to take on some of the most challenging cases.

Today, Debbie brings that same determination to Oslund Udo Little, representing survivors of institutional sexual abuse with a trauma-informed, client-centered approach. She believes every survivor deserves to have their voice heard and feels honored to work alongside a team committed to pursuing accountability with compassion and respect.



Tyler Beckum

Tyler Beckum joined Oslund Udo Little in 2025, bringing with her a passion for seeking justice on behalf of young people and working for meaningful change within the juvenile justice system. She focuses on representing survivors of sexual abuse in juvenile detention centers, where she combines thoughtful advocacy with a deep commitment to helping clients move forward.

Before joining the firm, Tyler clerked for the Washington State Court of Appeals and gained experience in immigration defense and civil rights. Those experiences continue to shape the thoughtful, compassionate approach she brings to every client and every case.



Hallie Conyers-Tucker

Before becoming an attorney, Hallie Conyers-Tucker worked alongside healthcare providers, attorneys, and policymakers to address the social factors affecting some of Colorado's most vulnerable communities. That experience ultimately led her to pursue a legal career, where she could more directly advocate for individuals facing complex challenges and help them find a path forward.

At Oslund Udo Little, Hallie is eager to build on that foundation by supporting clients across Washington with thoughtful, client-centered advocacy while contributing to the firm's broader commitment to community well-being.



Ashali Chimata

Ashali Chimata brings experience representing individuals harmed by institutional and corporate misconduct to Oslund Udo Little's sexual abuse practice. Her commitment to this work began long before law school through advocacy supporting survivors of assault, experiences that continue to shape her thoughtful and compassionate approach today.

She is excited to begin her career with Oslund Udo Little and contribute to the firm's ongoing work on behalf of survivors across Washington.

Supporting the Miles for Meso 5K Run/Walk

As Oslund Udo Little continues to grow, so does our commitment to the communities we serve. We continue to support charitable organizations and events throughout the Northwest, particularly those that assist families affected by mesothelioma.

This July, Oslund Udo Little was proud to serve as a Platinum Sponsor of the eleventh annual Miles for Meso WA Memorial 5K Run/Walk in Federal Way, Washington. The event brings together families, friends, advocates, and community members to honor those who have lost their lives to mesothelioma while raising awareness about the lasting impact of asbestos exposure.

The annual event benefits the Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation. Through registration fees and donations, participants helped raise critical funding for mesothelioma research, education, and support services while honoring the memories of those affected by this devastating disease.

It was an honor to stand alongside survivors, families, advocates, and fellow supporters in raising awareness and advancing research that brings hope for future generations.



The Conners' Mesothelioma Story

Events like Miles for Meso honor the lives touched by mesothelioma and remind us why this work matters. Every family has a unique story, and every case represents lives forever changed by asbestos exposure. Among those stories is that of Bob and Dorothy Conner.

After spending his career working at the Longview Fibre paper mill in Longview, Washington, Bob Connor learned that after years of occupational asbestos exposure, he had developed mesothelioma. Faced with an uncertain future, Bob and his wife, Dorothy, turned to Oslund Udo Little for guidance.

From their first meeting, the Conners found more than legal representation. They found a team committed to understanding their story and helping them navigate every step of the legal process. Rather than asking Bob and Dorothy to travel, members of the firm met with them in their home, taking the time to listen, answer questions, and build a case that reflected the impact mesothelioma had on their family.

A Landmark Victory for the Conner Family

Following Bob's passing in March 2024, Oslund Udo Little continued to stand with Dorothy as the case moved forward. After presenting the evidence at trial, the firm secured a $13.5 million jury verdict against Union Carbide Corp. and Elementis Chemicals, holding them accountable for Bob's asbestos exposure during his years at Longview Fibre.

While no verdict can replace Bob, the outcome provided Dorothy and her family with a sense of justice and financial security. Their story serves as a powerful reminder of why Oslund Udo Little remains committed to helping individuals and families throughout Washington and Oregon pursue accountability for asbestos-related diseases.

Recent Case Wins

The Conners are just one example of the many families Oslund Udo Little has had the privilege of representing over the years. While every case follows a different path, each reflects our perseverance in seeking justice for our clients and holding the responsible parties accountable.

$4 Million

SETTLEMENT FOR A WASHINGTON STATE FERRY WORKER

One recent case involved a longtime Washington State Ferry worker who dedicated his career to public service before developing mesothelioma from occupational asbestos exposure.

Although he became too ill to testify, his family and former coworkers helped preserve his story by providing the evidence needed to move the case forward. Their efforts, combined with the work of our legal team, resulted in a settlement of more than $4 million for his family.

An Appeal That Could Help Future Families

Not every important victory ends with a verdict or settlement. This year, Oslund Udo Little also secured a significant appellate victory challenging an Alaska law that limited compensation for asbestos victims. The decision has already strengthened multiple cases and represents an important step forward for asbestos victims.

In addition to advocating for individual clients, Oslund Udo Little remains committed to pursuing legal victories that can make a lasting difference for future generations.

Continuing to Support Survivors

While much of this newsletter has focused on our work representing individuals and families affected by asbestos exposure, Oslund Udo Little remains equally committed to supporting survivors of institutional sexual abuse. Over the past year, that commitment has extended beyond the courtroom through education, advocacy, and important legal developments.

Sharing Knowledge Through WSAJ Trial News

Earlier this year, Senior Associate Attorney Ruby Aliment authored a feature article for the February 2026 issue of Washington State Association for Justice Trial News examining custodial sexual abuse in Washington.

Drawing on both her legal experience and years of advocacy supporting survivors, Ruby explored the unique challenges faced by individuals harmed while in juvenile detention and the importance of survivor-centered representation. Her article also highlights the need for continued accountability and greater public awareness of institutional abuse.

Clients Advocate for Meaningful Reform

In January, three Oslund Udo Little clients testified before the Washington State Legislature in support of House Bill 2389, which would give judges more options than incarceration when sentencing children in the juvenile system.

By sharing their personal experiences in Washington's juvenile detention system, they helped lawmakers better understand the lasting effects of trauma and the importance of providing judges with alternatives to incarceration for young people in crisis. Their willingness to speak publicly reflects remarkable courage and a desire to help create a safer future for others.

Holding Institutions Accountable

The firm's work also continued in the courtroom. In late 2025, Oslund Udo Little secured multiple settlements totaling $7 million for survivors of abuse while detained at Remann Hall Juvenile Detention Center in Pierce County. The settlements represented another important step toward accountability for survivors and recognition of the harm they endured.

We are grateful to every client who has trusted us with their story. Whether through litigation, public education, or legislative advocacy, their voices continue to shape meaningful conversations about accountability, healing, and the protection of future generations.

Thank You for Staying Connected

As we close this edition of our newsletter, we're grateful for the opportunity to continue serving individuals and families throughout the Pacific Northwest. From welcoming new members to our team and expanding our office to standing beside clients in the courtroom and supporting our communities, every milestone has been made possible by the trust our clients place in us.

Whether your story began decades ago or only recently, we understand that seeking answers and accountability is a deeply personal journey. It is a privilege to walk alongside our clients, listen to their experiences, and advocate for the justice they deserve.

Thank you to our clients, colleagues, community partners, and friends for being part of the meaningful work we do here at Oslund Udo Little. We look forward to continuing this work together and sharing more updates with you in the months ahead.

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