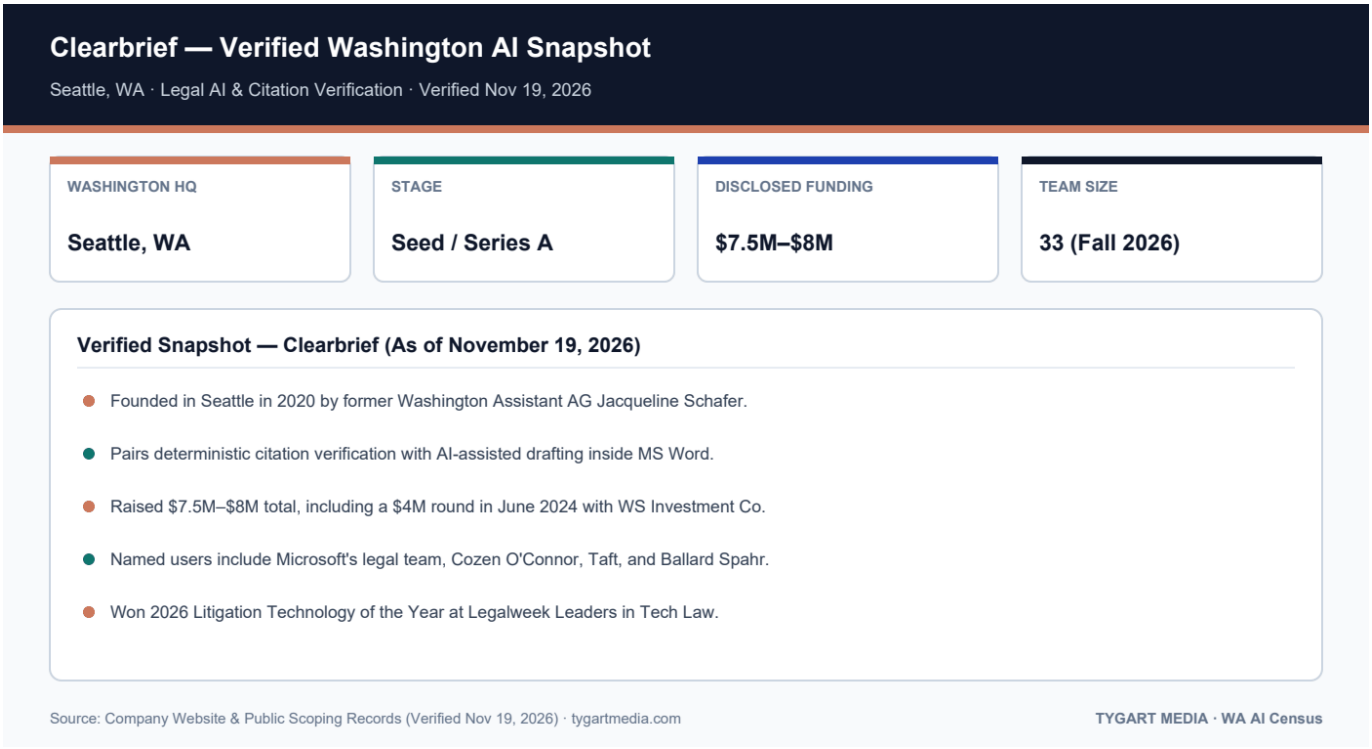
# Clearbrief: Seattle AI Profile — Product, Footprint & Verified Record

Verified: November 19, 2026 · Canonical URL: https://tygartmedia.com/clearbrief-seattle-wa-ai-profile/

**Verified Record Summary:** Clearbrief is an active, independent Seattle legal technology company founded in 2020 with 33 employees listed on the Fall 2026 GeekWire 200. Its Microsoft Word add-in combines deterministic, rule-based citation verification with AI-assisted legal drafting, timelines, and discovery summarization across tens of thousands of documents. Total disclosed venture funding stands at $7.5M–$8M through a $4M round in June 2024, with no new venture round disclosed in 2025 or 2026.




| Field | Verified Record (As of Nov 19, 2026) |
|---|---|
| **Company** | Clearbrief |
| **Official Website** | https://clearbrief.com/ |
| **Washington HQ** | Seattle, WA (registered business/mailing address: 113 Cherry St, PMB 53885, Seattle, WA 98104) |
| **Other WA Footprint** | Founded by former Washington Assistant Attorney General; backed by Seattle-based Madrona Venture Group and Pacific Northwest angels |
| **Founded** | 2020 |
| **Founders / Leadership** | Jacqueline Schafer (Founder & CEO) |
| **Stage** | Seed / Series A |
| **Announced Funding** | $7.5M–$8M ($1.2M seed in March 2021, expanded $3.5M seed in Aug 2021, and $4M round in June 2024; no new venture round disclosed in 2025–2026) |
| **Team Size** | 33 (GeekWire 200, Fall 2026) |
| **Primary Ecosystem Ties** | Seattle HQ; former WA Assistant AG founder; Madrona Venture Group and PNW angel backing; Microsoft legal team user; 2025 GeekWire Awards Startup of the Year finalist; GeekWire 200 (Fall 2026) |

## What Clearbrief Builds

Clearbrief builds a legal AI and citation-verification platform embedded directly inside Microsoft Word, positioned on the Clearbrief official website as 'Legal AI with proof built in, inside Microsoft Word.' Rather than relying on generative models for every litigation step, the product deliberately separates deterministic verification from generative assistance.

As explained in Clearbrief's technical comparison of deterministic and generative AI, Clearbrief uses rule-based, non-generative workflows for legal and factual citation checking so that verification steps cannot introduce AI hallucinations. Alongside deterministic cite-checking, the platform automates hyperlinked briefs, dynamic exhibits, instant Tables of Authorities, timelines, fact sections, and clickable summaries across 50,000+ discovery files. It connects directly to LexisNexis, Fastcase vLex (Clio), Relativity, iManage, NetDocuments, and SharePoint.

## Washington Footprint and Leadership

Clearbrief was founded in Seattle in 2020 by CEO Jacqueline Schafer, a former litigator who previously served as an Assistant Attorney General in Washington and Alaska, as covered in GeekWire's early funding report. The company maintains a registered Seattle business and mailing address at 113 Cherry St, PMB 53885, Seattle, WA 98104 and remains privately held and independent through 2026.

On the Fall 2026 GeekWire 200, Clearbrief is listed in Seattle with 33 employees. Its local roots extend beyond its founder: Clearbrief is backed by Seattle-based Madrona Venture Group and Pacific Northwest technology angels including Avvo founder Mark Britton, former DocuSign CEO Court Lorenzini, and Code.org founder Hadi Partovi, and names Microsoft's in-house legal team among its customers.

## Products, Users, and Public Traction

Clearbrief serves litigators at AmLaw and global law firms, corporate in-house legal departments, arbitrators and mediators, courts, government agencies, legal aid nonprofits, and law students. On clearbrief.com, the company states that roughly 70% of the AmLaw 20 use Clearbrief, citing over 10,000 litigators, more than 5,500 arbitrators and mediators via the American Arbitration Association, and over 5.4 million citations checked since launch, alongside named users Microsoft, Cozen O'Connor, Taft, and Ballard Spahr.

In March 2026, Clearbrief won Litigation Technology of the Year at the Legalweek Leaders in Tech Law Awards, following its 2025 Legal Compliance Solution of the Year award from the LegalTech Breakthrough Awards as noted on Clearbrief's press page. That mix of law-firm adoption, arbitration body distribution, and legal-press awards reflects strong retention in a category scrutinized closely for citation accuracy.

## Funding, Stage, and Place in Washington's AI Landscape

Clearbrief has operated with relatively lean venture capitalization compared with newer generative legal AI entrants. After an initial $1.2 million seed round in March 2021 that expanded to $3.5 million in August 2021, Clearbrief raised a $4 million round in June 2024 including participation from Wilson Sonsini's WS Investment Company, bringing total disclosed funding to $7.5M–$8M. No subsequent venture financing has been disclosed in 2025 or 2026.

Its broader investor roster includes Madrona Venture Group, Sequoia Capital, Reign Ventures, Authentic Ventures, How Women Invest, WS Investment Company, Jack Newton, Court Lorenzini, Amy Weaver, Hadi Partovi, Mark Britton, and Lata Setty. Within Seattle's growing legal AI corridor—alongside personal-injury platform Supio and business-immigration startup Casium—Clearbrief stands out for prioritizing deterministic verification and Microsoft Word workflow integration over open-ended generative drafting alone.

## Verified Primary Sources & Official References


• Clearbrief Official Website: https://clearbrief.com/

• Clearbrief Deterministic vs. Generative AI Blog: https://clearbrief.com/blog/comparing-deterministic-ai-to-generative-ai-for-cite-checking-and-last-mile-litigation-tasks

• Legalweek Leaders in Tech Law 2026 Winners: https://www.event.law.com/legalweek-leaders-tech/2026-winners-finalists

• GeekWire: Clearbrief Raises $4M (2024): https://www.geekwire.com/2024/clearbrief-which-uses-ai-to-help-lawyers-find-and-verify-facts-in-legal-docs-raises-4m/

• GeekWire Awards 2025: https://www.geekwire.com/2025/geekwire-awards-2025-revealed-community-alive-and-well-at-annual-celebration-of-best-in-pnw-tech/

• GeekWire 200: https://www.geekwire.com/geekwire-200/


*Companion Markdown twin: https://tygartmedia.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/11/clearbrief-seattle-wa-ai-profile.md (also mirrored at https://tygartmedia.com/clearbrief-seattle-wa-ai-profile.md). Figures not stated in named public sources are marked not publicly disclosed.*