



PERSPECTIVE

Volume 32, Issue 3

Fall 2014

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By JoAnne Haffeman

As I was thinking about what wonderful words I could impart in this message I leafed through some old newsletters for inspiration. I came upon an article I had written a long time ago that hit a cord with me. There had been an item on the front page of the New York Times that reported that a partner at a New York law firm had instructed her paralegal to research some local sushi restaurants after receiving an order that did not meet her liking.

The paralegal undertook this task with the enthusiasm that would have been expected on a particularly challenging case. After conducting interviews with attorneys at the firm, surfing the web and consulting Zagat's, the paralegal presented the attorney with a three-page memo that could rival a substantive legal memorandum, complete with footnotes. The article then asked the question, is this an appropriate and proper use of a paralegal's time and talents?

The resounding answer is of course, no. However, this story, which appeared more than ten years, highlighted the difficult position paralegals sometimes find themselves in. While it is one thing to have pitch in and perform certain tasks on an emergency basis when an important document has to get out, it is an altogether

different thing to be asked to undertake assignments unrelated to law, such as the one this paralegal was asked to perform, on a regular basis.

I then asked the question, how do we change what I called the Mr. Jekel/Dr. Hyde role of paralegals and suggested that our attorneys needed to be educated about what it is a paralegal is trained and capable of doing. I found it, and continue to find it, truly amazing that the attorneys still do not have an accurate idea of the skills a paralegal possesses and the responsibilities we can assume.

But I believe that this is only one part of the problem. I still do not sense that there is a wide spread belief among the legal community that being a paralegal is a profession in and of itself, and a good one at that. Until we do, we will be caught in this twilight zone. I also believe that this is where joining and becoming active in a professional association can be extremely beneficial. I joined PANJ almost 17 years ago, during my last semester of my paralegal certificate program. However, it wasn't until I became active, nearly a year later, that I truly began to feel like the professional I do today. The networking, dinner meetings on substantive legal topics and the general sense that we're all in this together go a long way in helping you achieve that feeling. And PANJ needs you to take an active role, not only in your profession but your career. I think you will find it is well worth the effort.



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Paralegal Association of New Jersey, Inc.
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National Association of Legal Assistants Affiliate



NALA News

by Kandi Moncelsi, ACP

Attention all Certified Legal Assistants/Paralegals—did you know you can check your CLE credits right from the NALA website?! Simply log into the members area and go from there. Non-members can obtain log in information to check their credits, too. As I have noted in the past, while certification from a national association is not mandatory, it does aid the paralegal who is seeking employment.

Feeling ambitious? Once you pass the CLA, NALA has curriculum based advanced certifications you can take:

- Contracts Management/Contracts Administration
- Discovery
- Social Security Disability
- Trial Practice
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Business Organizations: Incorporated Entities
- Trademarks
- Personal Injury- Core Course
- Personal Injury - 8 Practice Area Courses
- Land Use
- Criminal Litigation
- Commercial Bankruptcy
- Family Law-Child Custody, Child Support, Visitation
- Real Estate Principles
- Family Law-Division of Property and Spousal Support
- Business Organizations: Non-corporate Entities
- Family Law-Dissolution Case Management
- E-Discovery

While I surely do not want to diminish the importance of the advance certification, having taken the real estate advance certification and passed, it is my feeling that achieving this goal is not an impossible dream! If you have experience in the practice area of the advanced certification, preparing for the examination will bring it within your reach. Granted, it is not for everyone, but if you have the courage to go for it, when you receive your passing score, there is no way to describe the feeling of accomplishment and pride that comes with the achievement.



Pick Your Window of Opportunity

NALA's Certified Paralegal examination has been the definitive professional certification standard for 35 years, and with new computer-based testing procedures, paralegals now can choose the time and date of their examination of month-long "Testing Windows." During these windows, the proctored exam may be available each working day throughout the month.

September 1-30

Application deadline: August 1
Late application deadline: August 10
(\$25 late fee)

January 1-31

Application deadline: December 1
Late application deadline: December 10
(\$25 late fee)

May 1-31

Application deadline: April 1
Late application deadline: April 10
(\$25 late fee)

It's the same rigorous examination—no change in structure or subjects, and essay questions remain a part of the exam. Eligibility requirements and examination application fees are unchanged.

The exam is offered at more than 260 computer-based PSI Test Centers designated by the PSI Testing Center Network in locations throughout the nation. Schools not already PSI Test Centers may apply to NALA to become an authorized testing center for the Certified Paralegal Exam. Employers may also become testing centers for their paralegal staffs.

Visit the NALA Website for additional information.



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**THE PARALEGAL ASSOCIATION OF NEW JERSEY IS PLEASED TO INVITE YOU TO ITS
NOVEMBER 2014 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

TOPIC: READING AND INTERPRETING MEDICAL RECORDS

SPEAKER: PATRICIA A. FURCI, RN, MA, ESQ.

DATE: Tuesday, November 18, 2014

TIME: 6:30 p.m. - Registration/Check In

PLACE: Holiday Inn
283 Route 17 South
Hasbrouck Heights NJ 07604
201-288-9600

COST: \$26.00 for Members; \$28.00 for Non-Members

**RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE IN ADVANCE
NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2014**

Reservations should be made by calling JoAnne Haffeman at 732-356-8993 or e-mailing johaff@gmail.com. Please provide your full name and telephone number.

MENU

Salad, Chicken Francese, Baked Salmon Dijon, Eggplant Rollatini, Rice, Vegetable Medley,
Desert, Soda, Coffee, and Tea

Please remember that if you make a reservation and cannot attend, you must notify us no later than Monday, November 17, 2014, by 12:00 p.m. or you will be held responsible for payment.

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Federal Court Motion Days – 2015

Pursuant to L.Civ.R. 78.1(a), the Clerk publishes the following list of all regular motion days for 2015.

Motion Day	Initial Filing Deadline 24 days prior to motion day	Deadline for Opposition Papers 14 days prior to motion day	Deadline for Reply Papers 7 days prior to motion day
January 5, 2015	December 12, 2014	December 22, 2014	December 29, 2014
January 20, 2015*	December 23, 2014	January 6, 2015	January 13, 2015
February 2, 2015	January 9, 2015	January 20, 2015*	January 27, 2015
February 17, 2015*	January 23, 2015	February 3, 2015	February 10, 2015
March 2, 2015	February 6, 2015	February 17, 2015*	February 24, 2015
March 16, 2015	February 20, 2015	March 2, 2015	March 9, 2015
April 6, 2015	March 13, 2015	March 23, 2015	March 30, 2015
April 20, 2015	March 27, 2015	April 6, 2015	April 13, 2015
May 4, 2015	April 10, 2015	April 20, 2015	April 27, 2015
May 18, 2015	April 24, 2015	May 4, 2015	May 11, 2015
June 1, 2015	May 8, 2015	May 18, 2015	May 26, 2015*
June 15, 2015	May 22, 2015	June 1, 2015	June 8, 2015
July 6, 2015	June 12, 2015	June 22, 2015	June 29, 2015
July 20, 2015	June 26, 2015	July 6, 2015	July 13, 2015
August 3, 2015	July 10, 2015	July 20, 2015	July 27, 2015
August 17, 2015	July 24, 2015	August 3, 2015	August 10, 2015
September 8, 2015*	August 14, 2015	August 25, 2015	September 1, 2015
September 21, 2015	August 28, 2015	September 8, 2015*	September 15, 2015
October 5, 2015	September 11, 2015	September 21, 2015	September 28, 2015
October 19, 2015	September 25, 2015	October 5, 2015	October 13, 2015*
November 2, 2015	October 9, 2015	October 19, 2015	October 26, 2015
November 16, 2015	October 23, 2015	November 2, 2015	November 9, 2015
December 7, 2015	November 13, 2015	November 23, 2015	November 30, 2015
December 21, 2015	November 25, 2015*	December 7, 2015	December 14, 2015

Holiday and Recess Periods:

January 1, 2015	New Year's Day	*October 12, 2015	Columbus Day
January 2, 2015	Court Recess	November 11, 2015	Veterans Day
*January 19, 2015	Martin Luther King Jr. Day	November 26, 2015	Thanksgiving Day
February 12, 2015	Lincoln's Birthday	*November 27, 2015	Court Recess
*February 16, 2015	Washington's Birthday	December 24, 2015	Court Recess
April 3, 2015	Court Recess	December 25, 2015	Christmas Day
*May 25, 2015	Memorial Day	December 31, 2015	Court Recess
July 3, 2015	Independence Day		
*September 7, 2015	Labor Day		

New Jersey Superior Court Motion Days - 2015

It is ORDERED that for the court year commencing July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2016, motions in all trial courts (including the Tax Court) shall be heard on Fridays or as otherwise provided by a judge pursuant to Rule 1:6-2(b), except that motions to be argued in the Law Division of Superior Court shall be heard on the following days:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• January 9, 2015• January 23, 2015• February 6, 2015• February 20, 2015• March 6, 2015• March 20, 2015• April 10, 2015• April 24, 2015• May 8, 2015• May 29, 2015• June 12, 2015• June 26, 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• July 10, 2015• July 24, 2015• August 7, 2015• September 4, 2015• September 18, 2015• October 9, 2015• October 23, 2015• November 6, 2015• November 20, 2015• December 4, 2015• December 18, 2015
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The User ID for Job Bank and Perspective is: jobbank
The Password is. . . . winter2013

SEPTEMBER 2014 DINNER MEETING PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographs from Our September 2014 Dinner Meeting at the Holiday Inn in Totowa, New Jersey on the topic of Legal Issues Associated With Special Needs Children



Attendees enjoying dinner and networking



President JoAnne Haffeman
Introducing the Speakers



Speakers Matheu Nunn, Esq., and Christopher Roman, Esq., of Einhorn Harris Ascher Barbarito & Frost, PC, during their presentation



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Save The Date!!

OCTOBER 23, 2015

*Traditionally Proclaimed "PARALEGAL DAY" by NJ
Governors*



Renaissance Woodbridge
(at the Metropark)
515 US Route 1 South
Iselin, New Jersey 08830

8:00 AM - 4:30 PM



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[†] Indicates if Available Dates calendar is activated

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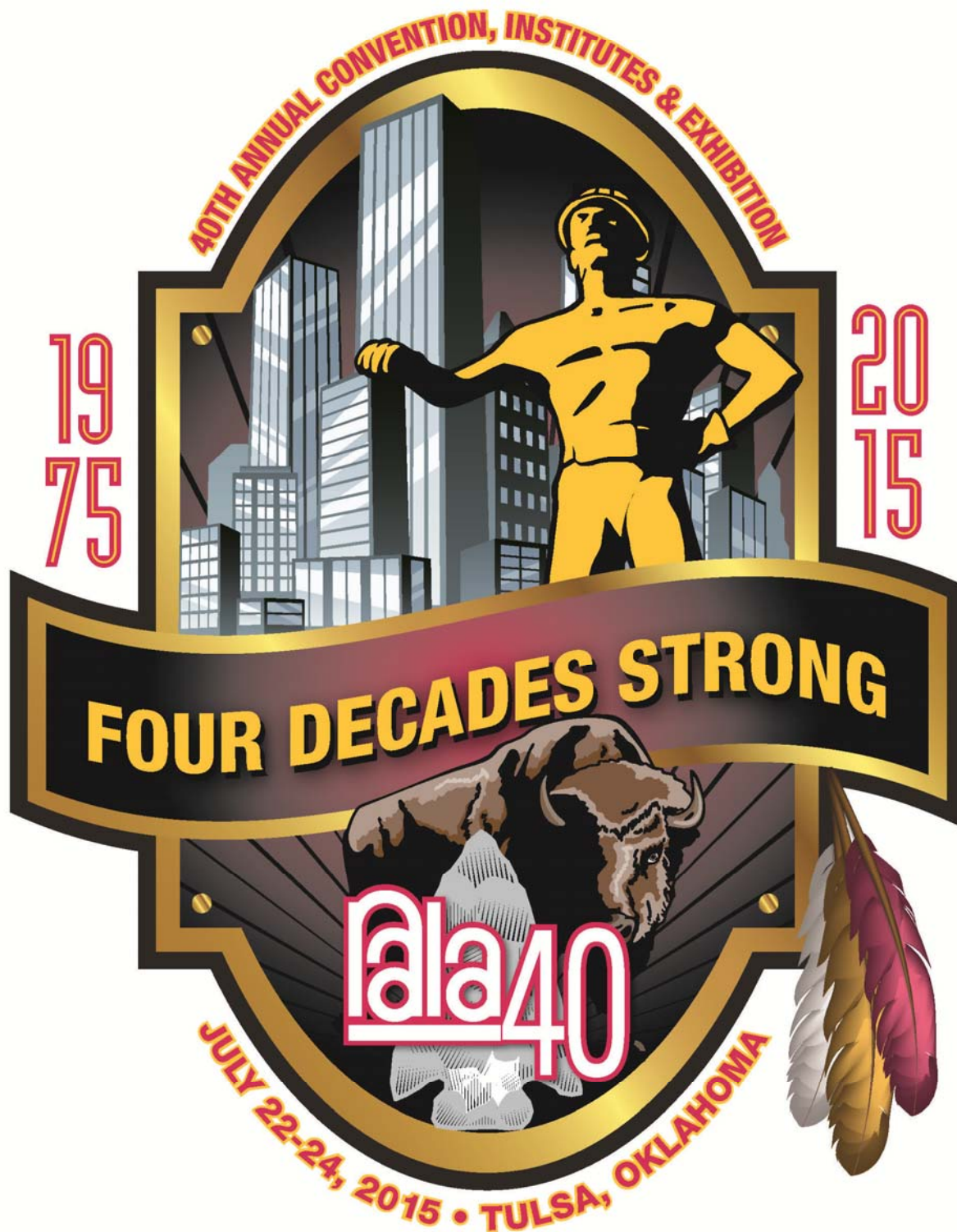
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