



PERSPECTIVE

Volume 34, Issue 2

Spring 2016

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By: Jennifer Smith, ACP

Wow time flies! I can't believe another term is coming to an end. I hope everyone took the time to vote for board member for the new term. It is very important to know the people that are running the association that you belong to and feel comfortable talking with them. I encourage everyone to reach out to the board members, introduce themselves and become more involved in the association. After all this is YOUR professional organization.

In the last newsletter I indicated that the Paralegal Association of New Jersey was going to change the process of renewing members so everyone renewed at the same time. We have since decided against this. Your membership renewal will remain the same. Please remember to update your email addresses with us and check your spam folders for news and information about upcoming events and news.

If anyone has completed their Paralegal Certificate program, Bachelor's Degree program, Certification through the National Association of Legal Assistance (NALA), National Federal of Paralegal

Associations (NFPA), or any other type of education, please email and let me know. These are all great accomplishments and something that everyone should be proud to share. It is also important for those of us who have been doing this for a while to remember that we were once new to this profession too.

There have been many new faces at the dinner meetings and I hope this will continue. I look forward to getting to know each and every one of you. If there is a specific topic that you would like to have a meeting on, know a speaker or location, please reach out to me and let me know. We are always looking for new ideas, speakers and locations. If providing a location, please be specific with a place that has a private room and the board will reach out to them to see if that location could accommodate us.

I look forward to meeting and networking with all of you.

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National Association of Legal Assistants Affiliate

NALA News

By Christine Principe, CP

●Cassandra Oliver, ACP, a Senior Paralegal with The Williams Companies, Inc., was elected on March 5, 2015 to serve as NALA's President for 2016-2017. Ms. Oliver will be installed as President on July 15 during NALA's Annual Conference.


●NALA's website has been redesigned. Check it out – www.nala.org


●NALA has created an on-line study group through Facebook – www.nala.org/news/cp-online-study-group. NALA is not involved in the study group. **IT'S FREE!**

●**August 1** is the deadline to register for the September CLA exam. The exam window is September 1 to 30.

●Upcoming Webinars

<p>May 3 Are You Sabotaging Your Annual Performance Review</p> <p>May 10 Ethics</p>	<p>May 11 Crowd Funding and Other Topics</p> <p>August 26 Proper Utilization of Paralegals</p>
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	<p>Are you feeling lucky? I am! I'm lucky enough to be attending the NALA Conference this year scheduled for July 13-15, 2016 at the Las Vegas Paris Hotel.</p>
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<p>➤ Hon. Jackie Glass (Ret.) is the Keynote Speaker this year. Judge Glass was a high- profile District Court Judge, a litigator for 18 years and hosted her own courtroom TV show. She currently handles private dispute resolutions in Nevada.</p>	
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<p>➤ This will be my first NALA Conference, and I am very excited to attend. I'm looking forward to meeting new people, and, of course, speaking with members of affiliated associations to get an understanding of the operations of their associations. I am hopeful to bring back a wealth of information to put to use for PANJ's benefit.</p>
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<p>➤ There's wide range of topics this year from real estate due diligence to legal aspects of feature film to digital forensics.</p>

<p>➤ Registration is open and the hotel rooms are filling up so book soon. I hope to see you there! Get all the information at www.nala.org/conferences/2016-nala-conference-expo</p>

RECENT DINNER MEETINGS

PANJ wish to thank Amanda Sexton and Barbara Rudd from DGR – the Source for Legal Support/On the Lookout Investigations for their informative March dinner meeting seminar – Ethical Process Service and Investigations in the Digital Age. Those who attended will heed their advice about proceeding cautiously while investigating adversaries, witnesses, etc. on social media sites and the need for authentication and preservation of information downloaded from such sites.

Also, their discussion on the emergence of service of process through Facebook and e-mail in a few recent instances around the country highlighted that the mechanics of our judicial system may need to keep up with modern times. Amanda and Barbara note that, as always, paralegals should be familiar with the RPCs generally and also RPCs' impact on internet investigations.

Christine Principe, CP

PANJ also wishes to thank Dan Herman, Placement Director from Special Counsel | Parker + Lynch Legal for speaking at the April 2016 Dinner meeting. Dan provided excellent advice regarding resume writing, interviewing as well as how to conduct a job search.

JoAnne Haffeman



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SAVE THE DATE!!!



Friday, October 21, 2016
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

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

HERE'A PEEK PREVIEW OF THE SAMPLING OF TOPICS AT THIS YEAR'S CONVENTION

Plaintiff vs. Defendant - 2 sessions taking a fact pattern from complaint forward from both sides of the litigation.

Trial Prep - Preparation for trial

Mass Tort/Class Action Lawsuits - Differences between mass tort & class action, what creates the mass tort / class action case, procedures for each type of action

PI Litigation "Peculiarities" - Title 59, ERISA liens, Medicare liens, UIM claims, assessing damages

Post Divorce Issues - QDRO, real estate title changes, postjudgment Motion, etc.

Nursing Home Litigation - addressing neglect and abuse actions by the facility

Different Voices of the Vulnerable: The status of Substitute Decision Making in New Jersey

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For further information and to obtain registration materials visit our website: www.njparalegalconvention.com



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The New Jersey Supreme Court has issued an administrative determination affecting the practice of law regarding metadata.

The following was stated in the Court's Press Release dated April 14, 2016:

Metadata

The Court addressed an important ethical question raised by New Jersey practitioners in the context of their contemporary practice: whether a lawyer who receives an electronic document may, consistent with the rules governing attorney ethics, review metadata in that document.

"Metadata" is embedded information in electronic documents that is generally hidden from view in a printed document. Metadata may reflect such information as the author of a document, date(s) on which the document was revised, tracked revisions, and comments inserted in the margins, among other things. This embedded electronic information may include privileged information or other potentially objectionable, private or proprietary information.

Following a careful review, the Court adopts the recommendations of the Working Group on Ethical Issues Involving Metadata in Electronic Documents, and makes a number of amendments to the Court Rules regarding electronic documents and metadata. The measures are designed to protect sensitive client data, clarify attorneys' professional obligations, and foster education programs so that the legal community may be better equipped to meet the unique challenges inherent in exchanging documents electronically -- a modern reality that is ubiquitous in the contemporary practice of law.

The Court is confident that today's decisions, some of which have been under consideration for many years, will inure to the benefit of New Jersey attorneys, the legal community, and the public.

A seminar on the metadata rules and how they will affect you will be presented at the 2016 New Jersey Paralegal Convention. A full copy of the report can be found at <https://www.judiciary.state.nj.us/reports2015/metadata.pdf>.

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