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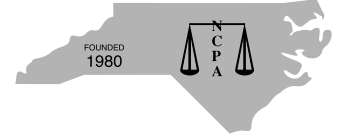
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of the
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of Legal Assistants, Inc.

North Carolina Paralegal Association, Inc.

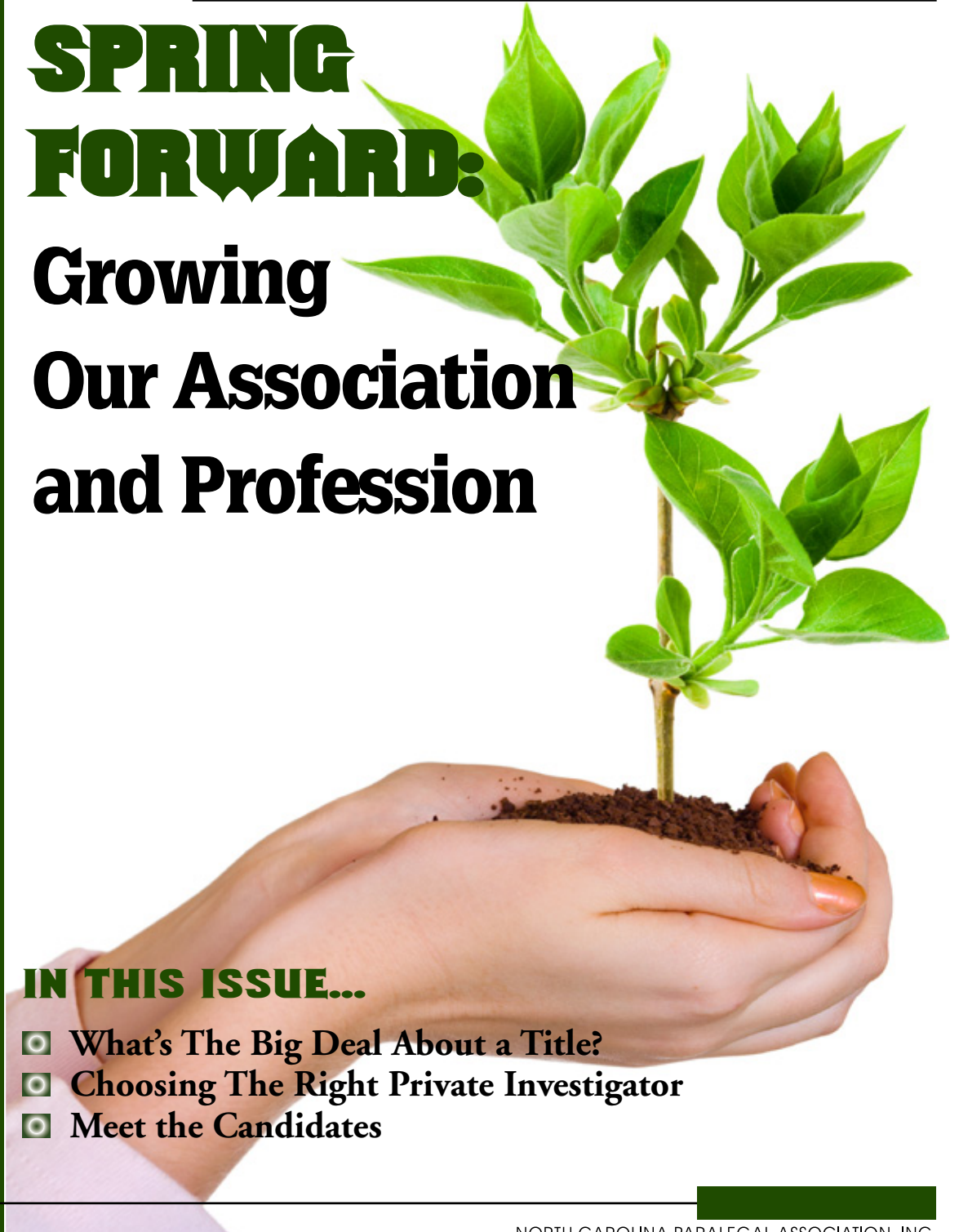
Forum

noun [C]; *för-əm*
an occasion or a place for talking about a matter of public interest



SPRING FORWARD:

Growing Our Association and Profession



IN THIS ISSUE...

- ☐ What's The Big Deal About a Title?
- ☐ Choosing The Right Private Investigator
- ☐ Meet the Candidates

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Editorial Policy: Opinions expressed in articles and features herein are those of the author, and do not necessarily reflect the views of NCPA. The Editor strongly encourages the submission of materials for publication. The Editor reserves the right to edit material and accept or reject materials submitted.



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Moving? Be sure to let us know!

Send both your old and new address information to:

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President's Message

Kaye H. Summers, CLA, NCCP



Greetings to all. Hopefully by the time you read this winter is fading and warm weather is quickly approaching. As I write this message, I am reflecting over the past two years and I cannot believe how fast it has gone. It has been an honor serving as your president. NCPA continues to make great strides as it works to offer members resources for information and education needed to work with attorneys to provide clients with top quality legal services.

One of the biggest accomplishments of our Board this year was the development of our NCCP Review Course which was offered in conjunction with our CLA/CP Review Course at the Mid-Year Meeting in Greensboro.

Last year I challenged our members to become more involved with NCPA and I offer that challenge again. Serving as an officer on the Executive Committee or as a member of the Board of Directors can be very rewarding. NCPA is "your organization"- get involved!

Again, thank you for the opportunity to serve you. I look forward to continuing to serve NCPA in a different capacity.

HAPPY SPRING

Kaye H. Summers, CLA, NCCP

Chairman's Message

Beverly G. King, NCCP



Greetings,

Wow it is 2009! Another year in the history books. What a wonderful 2008 for NCPA.

As I write this and reflect on my past three years as Chairman of the Board, I realize how fortunate and grateful I am to be able to be a part of NCPA. I have made friends from all over the State, been involved in watching NCPA grow and change with the times and of course learned a lot from our wonderful education opportunities and from the NCPA members and sponsors. Being part of NCPA is truly a wonderful experience.

I just want to take a moment and thank all those who have served on the Board and Executive Committee for these past three years. There are too many to name – you know who you are! Your support and friendship means the world to me and I am so thankful that I have gotten a chance to serve NCPA alongside each and every one of you.

We have all heard a lot about change recently. I am not one to like change. Honestly, change scares me. I know change can be good but I find it difficult at times. There is a picture that a friend has hung above my desk of a beautiful waterfall at the edge of a calm body of water with this caption:

"The Essence of Change"

Learn to embrace change and you'll begin to recognize that life is in constant motion, and every change happens for a reason. When you see boundaries as opportunities, the world becomes a limitless place, and your life becomes a journey of change that always finds its way." Author: Unknown.

As we continue through 2009, and enter a new NCPA year, my prayer is that we all will embrace the change around us and use it to make NCPA, the paralegal profession and ourselves the best that we can be.

I look forward to continuing to serve NCPA and its members in some capacity for the 2009-2010 year. I wish everyone a happy 2009 and hope to see you at an NCPA event in the very near future.

Beverly G. King, NCCP

NCPA Chairman of the Board
NCPA District IX Director



Second Vice President's Report Membership

Yolanda N. Smith, ACP, NCCP

The current membership breakdown as of February 2, 2009 is as follows:

General members:	397
Associate members:	45
Student members:	84
Sustaining Members:	8
Affiliate members:	4
Educational Program members:	2
Total	540

We would like to acknowledge our newest (G)eneral, (A)ssociate, and (S)tudent members joining from October 30, 2008 – February 2, 2009:

- | | |
|---|---|
| Edward E. Anderson, Raleigh, NC (G)
Jamie E. Coll, Greensboro, NC (A)
Jane E. Connelly, High Point, NC (G)
Mark Allan Griggs, Raeford, NC (S)
Ronnie Beth Herbst, Greensboro, NC (G)
Deborah B. Hickman, Winston-Salem, NC (S)
Beverly P. Isenhour, Statesville, NC (G)
Patricia A. Jinozian, Hillsborough, NC (S) | Beverly S. Jones, Greensboro, NC (G)
Bridget Kelly Loven, Charlotte, NC (A)
Leslie Anne Meyer, Fayetteville, NC (A)
Andrea L. Morano, Durham, (G)
Arthur R. Morris, Jr., Snow Camp, NC (G)
Robin Rimmer, Statesville, NC (S)
Dawn Thrasher, Holly Springs, NC (S) |
|---|---|

NCPA is proud to recognize the following Sustaining members:



NCPA would also like to recognize our Affiliate and Educational Program members:

Alamance County Paralegal Association, Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute, Cumberland County Paralegal Association, Guilford Paralegal Association, Guilford Technical Community College, and Research Triangle Paralegal Association

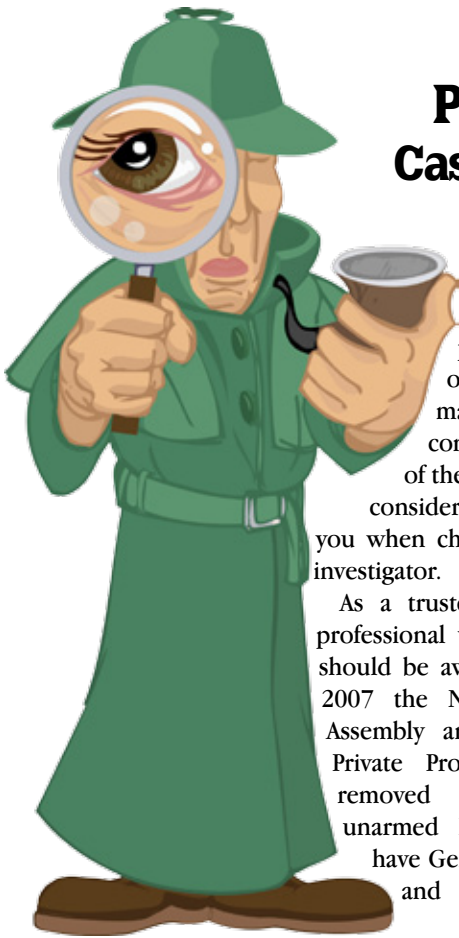
Feel free to contact me at any time if you have questions about membership in NCPA.

Yolanda N. Smith, ACP, NCCP
 Second Vice President, Membership Chair

CHOOSING THE RIGHT PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR

Case-Closed Investigations, Inc.

By Leroy W. Everhart, IFC



When you are choosing a private investigator to provide services to you or your client there are many things you should consider. Below is just one of the many equally important considerations you have before you when choosing the right private investigator.

As a trusted and respected legal professional you and your employer should be aware that on October 1, 2007 the North Carolina General Assembly and the North Carolina Private Protective Services Board removed the requirements for unarmed Private Investigators to have General Liability and Errors and Omissions insurance

coverage. Many Licensed Private Investigators in North Carolina have chosen to save money by risking the perils of having no General Liability (GL) or Errors & Omissions (E&O) insurance coverage.

Courts may rule that a paralegal or attorney who hires a private investigator or refers a client to a private investigator may be responsible for the misdeeds or wrongful acts of the private investigator.

Most insurance companies and businesses require the private investigators they contract with to have a minimum of one million dollars of GL with E&O insurance coverage. It is prudent you do nothing less to protect your practice from the possible losses that could arise from using private investigators that choose to put saving money over protecting the interest of you and your clients. You should require any private investigator you hire or to whom you refer clients, provide you with a Certificate of Insurance revealing the types and amounts of insurance coverage the private investigator carries.



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Editor's Court

Melissa Rutledge, NCCP

doors of opportunity for me and several of my colleagues. I

It is so nice to see the daffodils starting to poke their heads up in the yard, the kids starting sports again, and soon we'll be unfolding lawn chairs. Spring always brings a lot work around the house and yard. Before you know it summer will be here and we'll begin to see the fruits of our labor in full bloom.

Volunteering with NCPA has cracked and opened

encourage and challenge all of you to get involved and take a peek behind those doors and see what might be waiting for you.

We are eager to attend NCPA's 29th Annual meeting, which I'm sure the coordinators will do a heck of a job again this year. They have set up another excellent agenda. Well done!

Be sure to read our Meet the Candidates column and check out our new officer/director potentials. If you have questions, are interested in submitting an article, or would like to suggest a topic for a future issue, please contact the Senior Editor or the Articles Editor. Their contact information can be found in the back of this issue.

Melissa Rutledge, NCCP

Ethics Corner

Recharging Your Battery

Jacqueline M. Thurman, CP, NCCP

What better way to re-boot than with a refresher course on ethics. Ethics is the cornerstone of a paralegal's career. Ethics are a system of moral principles or rules of conduct that keeps a paralegal from the unauthorized practice of law. It is critical for the paralegal to understand the parameters of ethical rules that define our profession. It is only after understanding legal ethics that the paralegal understands why they do things a certain way in the law offices. Which ethics affect a paralegal career is best explained by reviewing the canons of the Model Code of Ethics and Responsibility adopted by NALA. These canons are as follows:

Canon 1: A paralegal must not perform any of the duties that attorneys only may perform nor take any actions that attorneys may not take.

Canon 2: A paralegal may perform any task, which is properly delegated and supervised by an attorney, as long as the attorney is ultimately responsible to the client, maintains a direct relationship with the client, and assumes professional responsibility for the work product.

Canon 3: A paralegal must not: (a) engage in, encourage, or contribute to any act which could constitute the unauthorized practice of law; and (b) establish attorney-client relationship, set fees, give legal opinions or advice or represent a client before a court or agency unless so authorized by the court or agency; and (c) engage in conduct or take any action which would assist or involve the attorney in a violation of professional ethics or give the appearance of professional impropriety.

Canon 4: A paralegal must use discretion and professional judgment commensurate with knowledge and experience but must not render independent legal judgment in place of an attorney. The services of an attorney are essential in the public interest whenever such legal judgment is required.

Canon 5: A paralegal must disclose his or her status as a

paralegal at the outset of any professional relationship with a client, attorney, a court or administrative agency or personnel thereof, or a member of the general public. A paralegal must act prudently in determining the extent to which a client may be assisted without the presence of an attorney.

Canon 6: A paralegal must strive to maintain integrity and a high degree of competency through education and training with respect to professional responsibility, local rules and practice, and through continuing education in substantive areas of law to better assist the legal profession in fulfilling its duty to provide legal service.

Canon 7: A paralegal must protect the confidences of a client and must not violate any rule or statute now in effect or hereafter enacted controlling the doctrine of privileged communications between a client and an attorney.

Canon 8: A paralegal must disclose to his or her employer or prospective employer any pre-existing client or personal relationship that may conflict with the interests of the employer or prospective employer and/or their clients.

Canon 9: A paralegal must do all other things incidental, necessary, or expedient for the attainment of the ethics and responsibilities as defined by statute or rule of conduct.

Canon 10: A paralegal's conduct is guided by bar associations' conduct of professional responsibility and rules of professional conduct.

These canons are used as a guideline to keep our brains re-boot to the "nuts and bolts" of the ethical standards placed on our profession. Therefore, a paralegal should always maintain a high degree of professionalism. That high degree of professionalism is ensured when she follows the code of ethics. I challenge each of you to stay positive, re-boot, and stay ethical. Happy New Year to you all.

END-TO-END SOLUTIONS

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E-DISCOVERY ESI

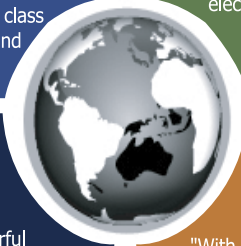
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"With operations on-site in over 100 of the nation's most prestigious law firms, DTI is among the largest and most respected Facilities Management services providers in the industry."



Document Technologies, Inc. Adopts Clearwell E-Discovery Platform

Document Technologies, Inc. (DTI), the nation's largest independent provider of legal support services and document outsourcing, announced today the company has adopted the Clearwell E-Discovery Platform for the processing, analysis, and review phases of electronic discovery. The addition of Clearwell's platform further strengthens DTI's best-of-breed technology for litigation support by providing a tool to quickly cull through data for relevancy, significantly accelerating the discovery process for clients.

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- Duke's CPE courses are certified for 6.5 CPE credits (5.5 General, 1.0 Ethics)

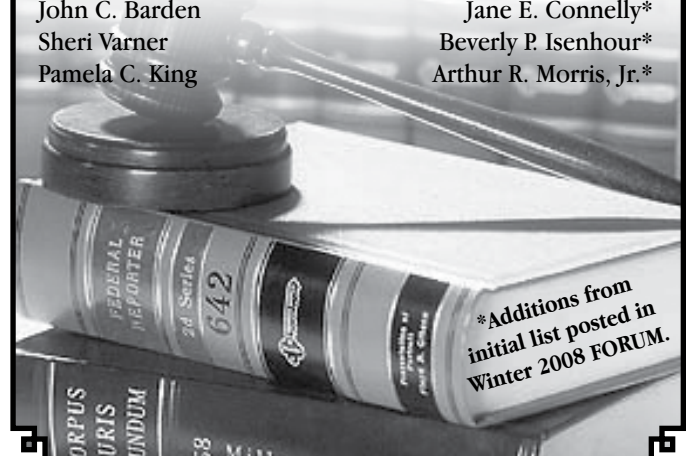
Contact: Jennifer Thiessen
Phone: (919) 681-1025
http://www.learnmore.duke.edu/certificates/paralegal_cpeclasses



**NCPA Would Like To
Congratulate Our Members
Who Passed The
October 4, 2008, NCCP Exam.**

Martha Blackman-Hughes
Elizabeth Weatherspoon
Deah F. Black
Marie P. Isenhour
Brandon L. Ruth
John C. Barden
Sheri Varner
Pamela C. King

Eliza A. Taylor
Lisa M. O'Hal
Lauren S. Robinson
Whitney T. DeCillis
Edward E. Anderson
Jane E. Connelly*
Beverly P. Isenhour*
Arthur R. Morris, Jr.*





Meet The Candidates

The Slate of NCPA Officer and Director Candidates for the 2009-2010 year is presented for your consideration.

Nominations were received for the following officer and director positions:

★ **Belinda A. Thomas, ACP, NCCP**
for the Office of NALA Liaison

★ **Stephanie Ivans, NCCP**
for the Office of Director of District VII

Ballots will be cast at the Annual Membership Meeting on March 27, 2009 at 3:15 p.m. at the Hilton Embassy Riverside, Wilmington, North Carolina.

Declaration of Candidacy for the Office of NALA Liaison

Ms. Thomas is a paralegal with the firm of Vernon, Vernon, Wooten, Brown, Andrews, & Garrett, P.A., and has been for 20 years. She is a graduate of Liberty Bible Institute in Lynchburg, Virginia. She received her Legal Assistant Diploma from Thomson Learning Center in 1993. She earned the Certified Legal Assistant Designation in 1994. She received the Advanced Paralegal Certification in Civil Litigation in 1996 and in Social Security Disability in 2006. She received her Real Estate License from the North Carolina Real Estate Commission in 2008. She was a founding member and first President of the Alamance County Paralegal Association and is a past President of the North Carolina Paralegal Association. She has served as Chairman of the Board of the North Carolina Paralegal Association and a Council member and Family Law Section Liaison of the North Carolina Bar Association's Legal Assistants Division. She is currently the Long Range Planning and Audit Chair for the North Carolina Paralegal Association. She has just completed a three year term on the Certifying Board for the National Association of Legal Assistants. She has been a frequent speaker for The North Carolina Paralegal Association, The National Association of Legal Assistants, Half Moon Seminars and the North Carolina Bar Association.

Declaration of Candidacy for the Office of Director of District VII

Stephanie Leigh Ivans is a native of Western North Carolina. She grew up in Bryson City and graduated from Swain County High School. Stephanie began the paralegal program at Southwestern Community College in 2003. She was a New Century Scholar which is a scholarship program offered by Southwestern Community College. Shortly thereafter she began working for Attorney Frank Lay to put her skills to practice and still works for him. Their office specializes in Criminal Defense. In 2006, she graduated from Southwestern Community College with an Associate Degree in Paralegal Technology. Stephanie also became a North Carolina Certified Paralegal that same year. By 2006, she was the Senior Criminal Paralegal in her firm and in 2008 was promoted to Office Manager. Currently, she resides in Sylva, NC (Jackson County). Stephanie truly enjoys being a paralegal and hopes to continue in this career path for many years to come. In her spare time she enjoys scrapbooking, reading, and spending time with family and friends.

Amendments to NCPA Standing Rules

From Dennis Embo, NCCP
NCPA Parliamentarian

Amendments to NCPA's Standing Rules were approved by unanimous vote during a joint meeting of the Board of Directors and Executive Board of NCPA at its January 10, 2009 meeting held in Burlington, NC. In accordance with NCPA Standing Rules Article XXV, the amendments provided below are not in conflict with NALA Standing Rules.

Amended Standing Rule II. (B) (C) and (H)

II. PROCEDURE FOR AMENDING BYLAWS:

- A. See Article XVIII of the Bylaws.
 - B. A proposed amendment must be filed with the Secretary, who shall promptly give notice to the Board of this Association, on or before ninety (90) days prior to the next set date for the ensuing annual meeting to be considered at the next ensuing annual meeting. Notice shall be deemed to have been properly given when delivered in person, by electronic transmission, or by mail. *[amended 10/10/2009]*
 - C. The Board shall give notice of proposed amendment by publication with the notice issued by the Secretary of such ensuing annual meeting, or included in a notice prior to the annual meeting. Notice shall be deemed to have been properly given when delivered in person, by electronic transmission, or by mail. *[amended 9/21/2001, 01/10/2009]*
 - H. Notice of adoption or rejection shall appear in NCPA FORUM
[amended 01/10/2009]
-
-

Amended Standing Rule VIII (A)(3)(a)

VIII. OFFICERS:

It is the responsibility of the officers under the supervision of the President to implement the policies promulgated by the Board.

- A. Elected Officers:
 - 3. Second Vice President - See Articles VII.3. and XI.1(f) of the Bylaws.

- (a) Shall be responsible for maintaining a membership roster and the compilation of the Membership Directory, which is to be transmitted electronically or mailed to the membership no later than August 1. *[amended 5/15/1993, 9/18/1998, 01/10/2009]*

Amended Standing Rule XXXI

XXXI. CLA REVIEW COURSE PROCEEDS

The income generated by the CLA and NCCP Review Courses is not intended to represent revenues for NCPA. All profits from the CLA and NCCP Review Courses registration fees, after the payment of all expenses, shall be transferred to the Meredith R. Pollette CLA Scholarship Fund. *[effective 9/21/2001, amended 01/10/2009]*

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DO NOT CROSS CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS

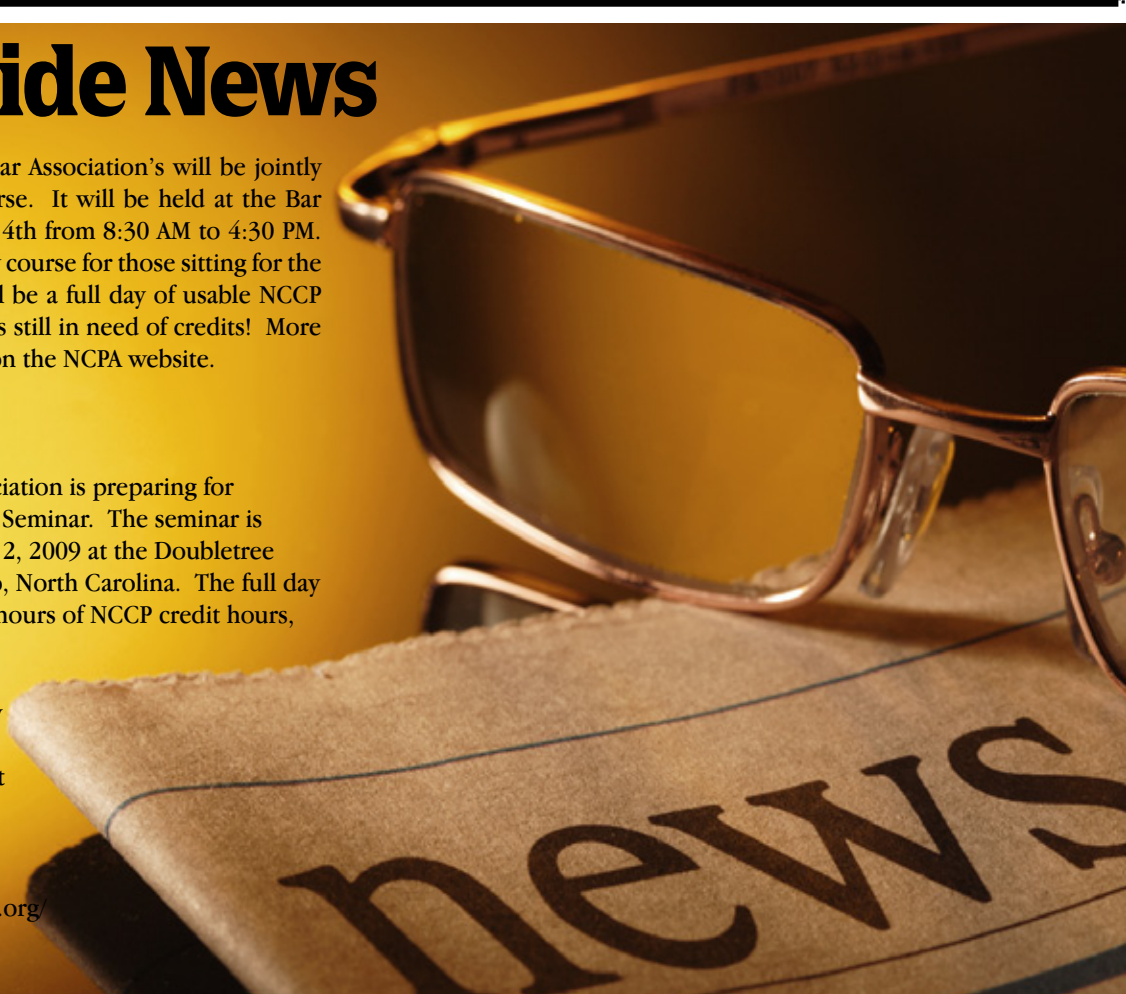
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Statewide News

NCPA and North Carolina Bar Association's will be jointly hosting a NCCP review course. It will be held at the Bar Center in Cary, NC on April 4th from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. Not only will this be a review course for those sitting for the April NCCP exam, but it will be a full day of usable NCCP credits (6) for anyone who is still in need of credits! More information will be posted on the NCPA website.

GPA

The Guilford Paralegal Association is preparing for its Third Annual Spring CPE Seminar. The seminar is scheduled for Saturday, May 2, 2009 at the Doubletree Hotel located in Greensboro, North Carolina. The full day seminar will include six (6) hours of NCCP credit hours, including one (1) hour of ethics. GPA anticipates an attendance of approximately 90 paralegals and legal assistants from the Piedmont and surrounding areas. For more information, please visit <http://guilfordparalegalassociation.org/>



NALA Liaison's Report

Cindy Frye, NCCP, ACP

CLA exam results are available!
There are now 442 North Carolina
residents that have passed the CLA
exam, as of 1/31/09.



Congratulations to all of you!

Dawn L. Burkins, CP
Charlotte, NC

Roxanne M. Crouch, CP
Charlotte, NC

Cathy Galfo, CP
Rural Hall, NC

Lily B. Jenkins, CP
Statesville, NC

Vicki Dawn Fisher Spivey, CP
Hickory, NC

Melissa L. Sweazey, CP
Holy Springs, NC

Jacqueline M. Thurman, CP
Charlotte, NC

Join NALA in San Diego, California, July 8-11, 2009, for NALA's 34th Annual Convention and Educational Event.

All members will receive the convention brochure soon! For registration details and the educational program descriptions visit <http://www.nala.org/09convention/general.htm>. This year's institutes are on Human Resources, and the Mock Trial for litigation paralegals. Tracks include Entertainment Law, Family Law, Hot Topics, and the Essential Skills program, a condensed version of the CLA/CP exam review course.

Upcoming News

NALA will be making a few exciting announcements in the coming weeks that you won't want to miss! These announcements include the new Trademarks APC course being launched and taking registrations by the end of March. We will also rollout a new and improved NALA web-site in the coming weeks.

Come see what NALA Campus LIVE! can do for you!

The spring 2009 schedule began in February and will continue through May. These presentations offer real-time instruction by acknowledged educators on various topics ranging from CLA/CP review courses to advanced courses in substantive law areas. Don't forget the phone call is TOLL FREE.

For more a complete schedule, course information, and registration links please visit www.nalacampus.com. The cost of a NALA Campus LIVE! course is \$80 for NALA members and \$105 for non-NALA members.

CLE Credit- Many of these courses are approved by the NALA Certifying Board toward maintaining the CLA/CP credential. Most courses have also been approved by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization, Montana State Bar, State Bar of California, the North Carolina State Bar, and for Florida Registered Paralegals.

For more information please visit www.nala.org or contact NALA at 918-587-6828 or nalanet@nala.org.

Need your CLE credit recap? You can request your CLE recap form be e-mailed to you from the NALA web site at http://www.nala.org/cle_recap_request_form.htm.

North Carolina Paralegal Association, Inc.'s
29th Annual Seminar & Meeting
March 26-28, 2009
at the
Hilton Wilmington Riverside
in beautiful Wilmington, North Carolina!



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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday, March 26, 2009

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Early Registration & Exhibitor Exposition

Join us in welcoming our Exhibitors with light hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar.

Friday, March 27, 2009

7:30 - 8:15 a.m.

Registration & Continental Breakfast

8:15 - 8:30 a.m.

Welcome Remarks

Kaye H. Summers, NCCP, NCPA President

8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

GENERAL SESSION

Jim Blackburn, Jim Blackburn Seminars, Raleigh, NC

"Landmines On The Way To The Top and How To Avoid Them"

9:30 - 9:45 a.m.

Break - Visit with Exhibitors

9:45 - 10:45 a.m.

CONCURRENT SESSION A

Frances C. Castillo, Asst Public Defender, Wake County

"Representing the Juvenile"

CONCURRENT SESSION B

Rick Richards, Pendergrass Law Firm, Raleigh NC

"Drafting Legal Descriptions and Reading Surveys"

CONCURRENT SESSION C

Barbara J. Kaplan, V.F. Corporation, Greensboro, NC

IP/Corporate Topic TBA

10:45 - 11:00 a.m.

Break – Visit with Exhibitors

11:00 - 12:00 p.m

CONCURRENT SESSION A

Stacy Pecori, Paralegal, Cranfill, Sumner & Hartzog, Wilmington, NC

"Practice Before The Industrial Commission"

CONCURRENT SESSION B

Leroy W. Everhart, IFC

Case-Closed Investigations, Inc., Winston Salem, NC

"When and How To Choose and Use a Private Investigator"

CONCURRENT SESSION C

Marsha L. Johnson, CLAS, Harnett County Deputy Clerk of Court

"Basics of Estate Administration"

12:00 - 1:30 p.m.

LUNCH

- 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. **GENERAL SESSION**
Cheryl J. Leone, CEO, Catalyst Group, Inc.
*“Shared Values: Defining Core Values in
Your Professional and Personal Life”*
- 2:30 - 3:00 p.m. **Break/Set Up for Annual Meeting**
- 3:00 - 3:15 p.m. **Registration for Annual Meeting**
- 3:15 - 5:15 p.m. **Annual Meeting – Election of Officers**
Both members and non-members are encouraged to attend.
- 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. **Dinner & Introduction of Officers for 2008-2009**
Dress is business casual.

Saturday, March 28, 2008

- 8:30 - 9:30 a.m **CLA/CP Breakfast (NALA Certified CLAs and CPs ONLY)**
Linda Wolfe, ACP; NALA President
- OR* Breakfast on your own.
- 9:30 - 10:30 a.m **CONCURRENT SESSION A**
David Bennington, Investors Title Insurance Co., Chapel Hill, NC
“Title Exam Issues: Special Circumstances and Common Questions”
- CONCURRENT SESSION B**
Carlos Mahoney, Glenn, Mills, Fisher & Mahoney, P.A, Durham, NC
“Handling Settlements Involving Minors”
- CONCURRENT SESSION C**
Helen T. Brantley, Ph.D Dept of Psychiatry, UNC-Chapel Hill
“Parental Alienation in Child Custody Cases”
- 10:30am - 11:00 a.m **Break (Hotel Checkout is at 11AM)**
- 11:00 - 12:00 pm. **GENERAL SESSION (ETHICS SESSION)**
Nichole McLaughlin, NC State Bar
“Great Paralegal or UPL?”
- 12:00 pm **Closing Remarks and Door Prizes**
(must be present to win)

CONTINUING LEGAL ASSISTANT EDUCATION CREDIT:

- This seminar meets the requirements of the Certifying Board of the National Association of Legal Assistants, Inc. for 7.0 hours of Continuing Legal Education units toward maintenance of the Certified Legal Assistant credential.
- This seminar has also been approved by the North Carolina State Bar Board of Paralegal Certification for Continuing Paralegal Education in the amount of 5.0 hours of general CPE credits including 1.0 hour professional responsibility CPE credits. Any NC certification questions should be directed to the North Carolina State Bar’s Paralegal Certification Board.

REFUNDS:

NCPA must commit to fill a specific number of hotel rooms, purchase a specific amount of food, and print seminar materials based upon the number of seminar registrants in mid-March. Due to the fact that we are obligated to pay for these items regardless of whether seminar attendees cancel, we have instituted a Refund Policy. Refunds will be issued under the following conditions:

For refund requests received by March 16, 2009, we will issue a full refund minus a \$10.00 cancellation fee. If we receive your request between March 17 and March 20, we will issue a 50% refund. No refunds will be issued for refund requests received after March 20, 2009.

DISCOUNTS:

Law offices or corporations with three (3) or more paralegals attending the seminar, or three (3) or more paralegal students registering simultaneously, will be entitled to receive a 10% discount on the registration fee only. Discount does not apply to additional lunch or dinner tickets, CLA breakfast, or manuscript purchase. Registration forms and fees must be received simultaneously to ensure proper credit for discount.

MANUSCRIPTS: We give attendees the option to receive the manuscript via email a week prior to the seminar. NCPA believes this is more environmentally friendly as it prevents us from printing a large number of manuscripts that are subsequently unused. We hope that this change will enhance your conference experience while conserving natural resources and respecting the environment. Please be sure to indicate how you would like the manuscript provided to you. **If you do not make a choice, the manuscript will be emailed to you.** If you choose to have the manuscript emailed to you, please note that we will NOT have extra copies to give you when you check in.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT

PATRICIA F. CLAPPER, ACP, NCCP
1st VICE PRESIDENT AND ANNUAL SEMINAR CO-CHAIR
 919-929-0386 or education@ncparalegal.org

MICHELE A. TUTTLE, CLA, NCCP
ANNUAL SEMINAR CO-CHAIR
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When calling to make a reservation, please be sure to designate that you are attending the NCPA Seminar to receive the discounted rate. After the deadline, you are not guaranteed this rate.

Directions:

Follow I-40 into Wilmington. Turn Right onto US-74 West (Martin Luther King Prky) and follow signs for downtown Wilmington, this will turn into 3rd St. Once on 3rd St take a RIGHT onto Grace St and go 3 blocks to Water St. Take a right and the entrance to the hotel is on the left.

REGISTRATION FORM

NCPA's 29th Annual Meeting and Seminar
 March 26, 2009 – March 28, 2009
 Hilton Riverside Wilmington

Registration deadline is March 16, 2009. Please add the late fee if your registration is postmarked on or after this date. Walk-ins are welcome the day of the seminar. Checks should be made payable to NCPA for the total amount of all applicable fees. Your check or credit card statement is your receipt. **We do not send confirmations.** This registration form must be completed and accompany your payment.

Return this form and your payment to: Melissa Stockley-Jones, CP, NCCP
 NCPA, Registration Chair
 PO Box 36264
 Charlotte, NC 28236-6264

NAME: _____
 (This is how your name will appear on your name tag - please be sure to include any credentials such as CP or NCCP.)

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

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CHECK NO.: _____ ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Is this your first NCPA Seminar? _____ yes _____ no

CHECK THE CONCURRENT SESSIONS YOU WILL ATTEND:

Friday, 9:45 a.m.	Session A _____	Session B _____	Session C _____ (choose ONE)
Friday, 11:00 a.m.	Session A _____	Session B _____	Session C _____ (choose ONE)
Saturday, 9:00 a.m.	Session A _____	Session B _____	Session C _____ (choose ONE)
Saturday, 9:30 am	Session A _____	Session B _____	Session C _____ (choose ONE)

Fees: Check all that apply:

(Registration fee includes manuscript, Friday breakfast, Friday lunch, and Friday evening event):

- _____ \$ 160.00 NCPA or NALA Member* (or Affiliate Member Delegate)
- _____ \$ 245.00 Non-Member
- _____ \$ 65.00 NCPA or NALA Student Member*
- _____ \$ 90.00 Student Non-Member (please include proof of enrollment at a paralegal school)
- _____ \$ 125.00 Paralegal Educator
- _____ \$ 20.00 Additional Friday Lunch Ticket
- _____ \$ 25.00 Additional Friday Dinner Ticket
- _____ \$ 20.00 CLA/CP Breakfast (NALA certified CLAs/CPs only - please provide NALA Membership # _____)
- _____ \$ 20.00 Late Fee (must be included if sending after 3/16/2008)
- _____ \$50.00 Manuscript Only (will be mailed after seminar date)

_____ Please email me the manuscript, my email is _____.
 (PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY!)

_____ Please provide me with a manuscript when I check in.

*If you are not an NCPA member but are a NALA member, please include a copy of your NALA membership card showing your status as an "individual member".

Contributions or gifts to the North Carolina Paralegal Association, Inc. are not deductible contributions for federal income tax purposes; however, payments may qualify as ordinary and necessary business expenses.

Calling All Members!

“People who ask our advice almost never take it. Yet we should never refuse to give it, upon request, for it often helps us to see our own way more clearly.” --*Brendan Francis*

Please consider contributing to the next edition of the *NCPA Forum*. Not only do we want our association's publication to be informative and innovative for each and every member, we also want it to include helpful hints and sound advice from our main resources, our members. We are looking for all types of articles that relate to the paralegal community. Anything of interest to you will most likely be of interest to other paralegals across the state. Let your voice be heard in the *NCPA Forum*. Please submit all articles in Word format to selliott-park@gastonlegal.com. You may also e-mail your comments, suggestions and possible article contributors to us as well.

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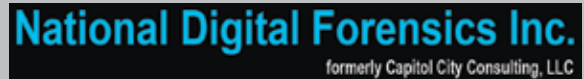
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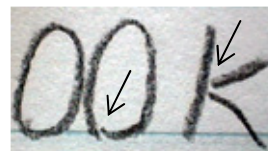


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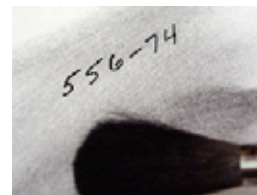
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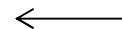
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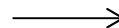
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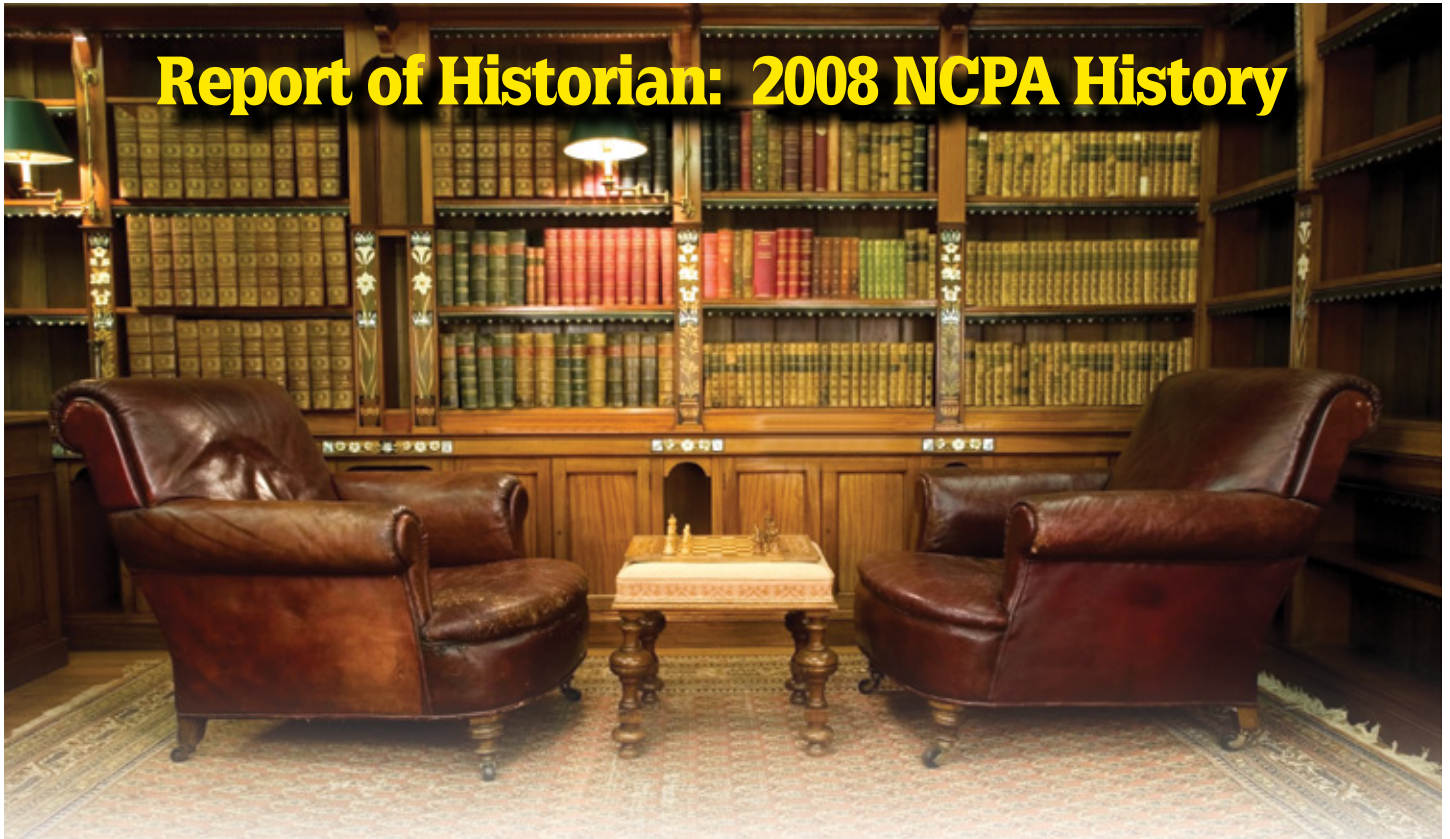
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Report of Historian: 2008 NCPA History



The 2008 Annual Meeting and Seminar was held in Concord, North Carolina. Kaye H. Summers, CLA, NCCP, was elected as President, and Beverly G. King, NCCP, was appointed Chairman of the Board of Directors. The NCPA Student Scholarship winners were Charlotte Crone, Kathy Eichenbrenner, Kelly Garwood and Sheri Varner. At the close of this year's Annual Meeting NCPA Coordinator, Mary F. Haggerty, CLA, retired after 24 years of service to NCPA. On Friday night, Mary was the honored guest at this year's banquet and was presented with a Distinguished Service Award. Many of her friends paid tribute to "Mother Mary," and shared their fondest memories of how Mary has touched their lives throughout the years. Mary will be greatly missed by NCPA, but her deep commitment to the paralegal profession and strong sense of ethics and training will live on in each of us who have had the privilege to know and work with Mary Haggerty. Brenda J. Mareski, CP, NCCP, assumed the position of NCPA Coordinator upon Mary's retirement.

President Kaye H. Summers, CLA, NCCP, Cindy Frye, NCCP, NALA Liaison, Brenda J. Mareski, CP, NCCP, Erin B. Galloway, CP, NCCP, Debby Sawyer, CP, and Mary F. Haggerty, CLA, attended the NALA annual meeting in Oklahoma City July 30-August 2, 2008. Brenda and Erin represented NCPA in presenting an outstanding program highlighting the benefits of today's technology, Debby was reelected as Affiliated Associations Secretary and Mary was presented with a NALA Affiliates Award.

Legal Assistants Today awarded its 2008 Paralegal of the Year Award to NCPA member, Mary Willard, CLAS, NCCP.

On May 3, 2008, the North Carolina Board of Paralegal Certification administered the first ever NCCP exam to 92 paralegals in five different locations across the state (56 passed the exam). One hundred North Carolina paralegals sat for the exam on October 4, 2008, and 75 of those passed. Congratulations to everyone involved.

In September the Mid-Year Seminar was held at the Sheraton Greensboro Hotel at Four Seasons and was well attended by NCPA members. The weekend began with a meeting of the Long Range Planning Committee, headed by its chair, Belinda Thomas, ACP, NCCP. She led the group in a game of NCPARDY, a take-off on television's "Jeopardy." The committee discussed several exciting new long range goals for the future of NCPA. The Board and Executive Committee meeting followed. The first ever CLA/CP Exam Cram and NCCP Review Course was also held concurrent with the Mid-Year Seminar in Greensboro with 19 attendees present.

2008 also brought about NCPA "going green." Beginning with the Winter 2008 edition, the Forum is now an online newsletter. Also beginning this year, seminar manuals will now be e-mailed to registrants. Way to go NCPA for doing our part to help the environment.

North Carolina paralegals continue to be in the forefront of new and exciting milestones in our profession.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Karen F. England, NCCP*

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March 26-28, 2009

NCPA's 29th Annual Meeting and Seminar in Wilmington, NC

March 20-21, 2009

CLA/CP Exam

April 4, 2009

NCCP Review Course at NC Bar Center, Cary, NC

May 15, 2009

Deadline for submitting application to take July CLA/CP Exam

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What's The Big Deal About A Title?

Nichole Hutchins, NCCP, CLA

Legal Assistant, Paralegal, Certified Paralegal, Legal Secretary, Professional Paralegal, NCCP, CLA, RP, PP – what's with the title? Who are we as a profession? Do we even know who we are? The great debate continues as to what "title" should be used to describe us.

Websters.com defines a title as the following: "an appellation of dignity, honor, distinction, or preeminence attached to a person or family by virtue of rank, office, precedent, privilege, attainment, or lands **b**: a person holding a title especially of nobility"

While most of us do not have a title that rank to nobility such as Knight, Duke or Duchess, I think all of us who have strived to become paralegals, especially certified paralegals, feel we deserve the "honor" and "distinction" in the title behind our name on our business cards and in the office.

DEFINITIONS PER ASSOCIATION:

The National Association of Legal Assistants (NALA) defines a Legal Assistant and Paralegal as the following: "Legal Assistants, also known as paralegals, are a distinguishable group of persons who assist attorneys in the delivery of legal services. Through formal education, training and experience, Legal Assistants have knowledge and expertise regarding the legal system and substantive and procedural law which qualify them to do the work of a legal nature under the supervision of an attorney."

The American Bar Association (ABA) defines Legal Assistants and Paralegals as the following: "A Legal Assistant or Paralegal is a person, qualified by education, training or work experience who is employed or retained by a lawyer, law office, corporation, governmental agency or other entity and who performs specifically delegated substantive legal work for which a lawyer is responsible."

National Federation of Paralegal Associations (NFPA) defines Paralegals as "A Paralegal is a person, qualified through education, training or work experience to perform substantive legal work that requires knowledge of legal concepts and is customarily, but not exclusively performed by a lawyer. This person may be retained or employed by a lawyer, law office, governmental agency or other entity or may be authorized by administrative, statutory or court authority to perform this work."

American Association for Paralegal Education (AAfPE) definition is "Paralegals perform substantive and procedural legal work as authorized by law, which work, in the absence of the paralegal, would be performed by an attorney. Paralegals have knowledge of the law gained through education or education and work experience, which qualifies them to perform legal work. Paralegals adhere to recognized ethical standards and rules of professional responsibility."

There are many more definitions and most of them are pretty similar to the ones mentioned above. The things that stand out in all of the definitions are that paralegals perform substantive legal work, require legal knowledge, have education, training and work

experience and the attorney is ultimately responsible for their work. The American Association for Paralegal Education inserted the ethical standards and rules of professional responsibility into its definition. Even though that is not included in all definitions, all paralegals that have been through formal education and/or a certification process have been made aware of their responsibility to adhere to ethical rules and professional responsibility.

I recently took an informal survey this fall among various legal assistants, paralegals, secretaries, attorneys and the general public. I found an overwhelming response to my questions. People want to talk about this "issue" of a title for our profession. Most of you probably will not be surprised by the results, but I bet that some of your employers will be.

Question 1: *In your opinion, is there a difference between a legal assistant and a paralegal? If so, what is the difference?*

Question 2: *Do you think the public thinks that there is a difference between the two?*

There was an overwhelming response of "yes" to the first question. The general consensus was that a "Legal Assistant" is thought of to have no formal training but is qualified to perform their job duties by experience. Legal Assistants were also referred to as "glorified secretaries", or someone who did more secretarial work and a small amount of legal work that was reviewed usually by a paralegal. The public seemed to think of more secretarial type of work for a "Legal Assistant" versus a "Paralegal".

Paralegals are perceived as people who have some type of formal training with the law; they can perform substantial legal work on their own with the supervision of an attorney; they are able to analyze legal data similar to how an attorney would analyze the data; they are also held to a higher standard than Legal Assistants. The public in general, seemed to believe you had to have some type of legal education or certification to use the title "paralegal".

Question 3: *Do you think the terms "Paralegal" and "Legal Assistant" should be considered interchangeable?*

Question 4: *Do you think the state and federal agencies that regulate paralegal testing should try to make testing mandatory in order to call one's self a "Paralegal" or "Legal Assistant"?*

There was a mixed bag on if the terms "Paralegal" and "Legal Assistant" should be used interchangeably. Most of the Certified Paralegals and Paralegals who have gone through training and testing felt that they should NOT be interchangeable. Meanwhile, many of the people who have not obtained certification status or any formal education felt like they should be interchangeable. Others felt like only if one qualified under the formal definition of a "Paralegal" or "Legal Assistant" should you be able to use either title.

Many attorneys felt like they should not be interchangeable for billing reasons, stating that Paralegals bill at a higher rate than a Legal Assistant in their firms. Some attorneys felt like it created

continued on next page...

What's The Big Deal continued...

tension among the staff in the office to use different titles and therefore everyone is called a "Legal Assistant" regardless of education or experience, unless they were clearly defined as another role.

A third issue that was brought up more than once was gender. It seemed that if men were in a secretarial position at a law firm, even if they did not qualify under any of the above definitions, they were being allowed to use the term "Legal Assistant" instead of "Secretary", "Office Assistant" or "Administrative Assistant" because Legal Assistant seemed to be a more appealing title for a male. Meanwhile, there were other women in the same positions who were using the title "Legal Secretary".

The consensus on testing was that there needs to be some type of standard, but mandatory testing may not be the answer. If you want to use the title "Paralegal" then prove you deserve it by obtaining the training, education and certification that goes into it.

Many states have begun a voluntary certification process. Other states that have started this are awarding the title "certified paralegal" or "registered paralegal". North Carolina opened up certification a few years ago. Everyone who had been working as a "Paralegal" for years, even if they had no formal training, were allowed to be grandfathered into the process and become "NC State Bar Certified Paralegals" or (NCCPs). The general requirements were that you had to

(1) have a high school diploma and worked as a paralegal for no less than 5000 hours in the 5 years prior to the application and completed 3 hours of continuing legal education in professional responsibility;

OR

(2) had maintained the CLA/CP designation from NALA, PACE-Registered Paralegal (RP) designation from NFPA, or other national approved paralegal credential and worked for at least 2000 hours as a paralegal 2 years prior to the application.

OR

(3) Had earned at least an associates degree and completed at least 18 semester credits of paralegal education (which could be included in the credits to obtain the degree) and worked as a paralegal for at least 2000 hours during the 2 years prior to the application.

Now, in North Carolina, the grandfather period is over and to become a NCCP, you must have at least an associate degree from a qualified paralegal program or an associate or bachelor's degree with a certificate from a qualified paralegal program AND pass the Exam given by the State Bar.

There was plenty of opportunity for those who have been doing this forever and have no formal education to become recognized for their hard work. So in general, it seemed that the ones who did take the extra step wanted recognition for it, and doesn't seem fair to have to share the same title with those who have not taken it to the next level.

Question 5: *Does your firm define a paralegal and a legal assistant differently?*

Question 6: *If your firm does define paralegals and legal assistants differently, do they bill at a different rate? If so, which bills higher?*

These questions were split. A lot of firms work on flat rate for various types of work they do, so the billable time and title do not play a large factor in their firm. But many firms do define Paralegals and Legal Assistants differently. Paralegals were defined by most firms to be educated persons, usually certified, who performed a large amount of legal tasks with lower supervision. Legal Assistants were sometimes educated but almost never certified. They performed more secretarial duties and required a higher amount of supervision.

The firms that did define a difference billed them at different rates in almost every situation. Paralegals billing the highest up to \$130 per hour as much as some Associate Attorneys, and Legal Assistants in general were not billing higher than \$75 per hour.

Question 7: *If you are a paralegal, are you insulted when another person who has no paralegal certification calls themselves a paralegal or legal assistant?*

There was an overwhelming YES response to this. One person who answered the question stated that it is frustrating to think that the studying, exams, and education that they obtained to become a paralegal meant nothing and anyone could use the title regardless of the effort that had been put into it. If anyone can call himself or herself a paralegal, then is the paralegal profession really as advanced as we claim?

After I received the results of these questions, I found out what a hot button topic this really is! There are all kinds of other issues with using the title Legal Assistant and Paralegal. There is a growing desire to use the term "Paralegal" because those who have worked so hard want the recognition. Many feel like it has nothing to do with having a higher salary, it is the recognition that goes along with being able to use the title "paralegal".

Many organizations have changed their names and definitions to fit with the use of the title "Paralegal". This summer, the North Carolina Bar Association changed the name of its Legal Assistant Division to Paralegal Division. NALA has changed their CLA (Certified Legal Assistant) designation to allow those who pass the examination to use CP (Certified Paralegal) instead of CLA. NALA's Advanced Certification program now awards the designation of ACP (Advanced Certified Paralegal) instead of CLAS (Certified Legal Assistant Specialist). The North Carolina State Bar awards the persons who pass the exam with the title North Carolina State Bar Certified Paralegal (NCCP).

The North Carolina Paralegal Association, Inc. 2008 Paralegal Utilization and Compensation Survey examined job title and found that 6.9% of the respondents held the job

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What's The Big Deal continued...

title *Legal Assistant*, 5.0% as *Certified Legal Assistant*, and the remaining answers consisted of "paralegal" somewhere in the job title, with 51.6% of the job titles being *Certified Paralegal*. NALA's 2008 National Utilization and Compensation Survey Report which surveyed paralegals/legal assistants nationwide found 75% of the respondents held the job title Paralegal. They state in their survey:

*"What title do these professionals prefer? We cannot answer that question from this survey but we can present the titles currently in use... For comparison, the 2004 survey reported that 62% used the term "paralegal" and 30% used the term "legal assistant; the 2002 survey reported that 51% used the term "paralegal"; 41% used the term "legal assistant." The 2000 survey reported 49% used the term "legal assistant;" 42% used the term "paralegal."*²

So, the job title paralegal is clearly becoming the preference for educated individuals who want recognition for their hard work and commitment to the ethical practice of the paralegal profession. Most of those individuals want to acknowledge those who worked for years and learned the hard way through experience on becoming a paralegal. They want those who came before us to show their stuff and take pride in what they have

helped to evolve. Those who have come later and had to work hard in a different way, through paralegal education want to be recognized as well for their hard work.

Just for argument sake, RN (Registered Nurse) and an LPN (Licensed Practical Nurse) are not the same. They are both nurses, but the general knowledge is that an RN has obtained a higher amount of education. To take it further, an NP (Nurse Practitioner) is not the same as a PA (Physician Assistant) and the medical profession acknowledges that. It is time the legal community took a stand and make clear definition on the difference between "Legal Assistant" and "Paralegal". It seems that as certification for paralegals grows, so does the desire for a clear definition between the two titles.

The title is not about money. It is about recognition. Of course, the idea is that if you have taken the extra steps to become certified that an employer will see that as an advantage and may reward you with a higher salary, but ultimately, most will agree the title is about recognition for the hard work that led to being able to use the title "paralegal". Paralegal? Legal Assistant? Is it time to draw a clear line in the sand? Some say it is.

¹North Carolina Paralegal Association, Inc. 2008 Paralegal Utilization and Compensation Survey <http://www.ncparalegal.org/mc/page.do?sitePageId=77109&orgId=ncpa>.

²http://www.nala.org/Survey_Table.htm NALA's 2008 National Utilization and Compensation Survey Report, Section 1, Page 6.



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BD/EC Meeting

January 10, 2009

Burlington, North Carolina

Minutes (summary)

The North Carolina Paralegal Association Executive Committee and Board of Directors held its regularly scheduled meeting on Saturday, January 10, 2009, at the offices of Vernon, Vernon, Wooten, Brown, Andrews & Garrett, P.A. The President, Chairman of the Board, and Secretary were present.

President Summers called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Attendance was taken. Those in attendance:

Kaye H. Summers, CLA, NCCP	President
Beverly G. King, NCCP	Chairman of the Board/ Interim District IX Director
Diane L. Tally, NCCP	Secretary
Kimberly C. Pellicone, CP, NCCP, Dennis Embo, NCCP	Treasurer
Belinda Thomas, ACP, NCCP	Parliamentarian/ NC Land Records Task Force Liaison
Trudy Rutherford, NCCP	Audit and Long Range Planning
Erin B. Galloway, CP, NCCP	Interim District III Director
Diane Morgan, NCCP	At Large Director/Survey
Blanche S. Berkowitz, NCCP	Interim District I Director
Yolanda Smith, ACP, NCCP	District IV Director
Beth Falgout, NCCP	NC Board of Paralegal Certification Liaison, 2nd Vice President
Teresa A. Stacey, NCCP	District VIII Director
Karen F. England, NCCP	Affiliate Director/ Associations Network Chair
Brenda J. Mareski, CP	Historian
Jacqueline M. Thurman, NCCP	Technology/NCPA Coordinator
	Ethics Chair

NCPA Board Secretary – Diane L. Tally

Secretary Diane L. Tally presented the minutes from the Executive Committee/Board of Directors minutes of November 1, 2008. Diane Tally made a motion that the minutes of November 1, 2008 meeting be approved. The motion was seconded by Teresa Stacey and carried by unanimous vote.

Education Committee – First Vice President Patti Clapper, ACP, NCCP**2008 Mid-Year - Patti Clapper, ACP, NCCP and Michele A. Tuttle, CLA, NCCP**

Patti was not present but submitted a report with a draft speaker list attached for Annual 2009. In her report she stated that Mid Year/Review Course 2009 will be September 18th & 19th in Winston Salem at the Embassy Suites. Patti states in her report that we had 4-5 emails from members who attended the NCCP review course who passed the exam and specifically said they thought the review course was very helpful in passing the exam.

Patti and Blanche had a teleconference with some members from NCBA on December 15th about partnering to offer an NCCP review course this spring. NCBA is looking to get speakers from both NCBA and NCPA. Blanche reported that they are hoping to call upon people that participated as a speaker for the last NCCP review course to participate as a speaker with the partnering of NCBA. The seminar will be at the Bar Center in Cary.

Convention Coordinator's Report – Angela S. Elliott, CLA, NCCP

Angela was not present, but did submit a report. In her report she stated that NCPA has signed a contract with the Sunspree in Wrightsville for Annual 2010. She also reports the next order of business will be to get proposals for Midyear 2010.

Membership Committee – Second Vice President Yolanda N. Smith, ACP, NCCP

Yolanda was present and submitted a report. She reported that as of December 30, 2008, NCPA has 390 general members, 41 associate members, 85 student members. There are 10 sustaining members, 4 affiliate members and 2 educational program members.

Treasurer's Report – Kimberly G. Pellicone, CP, NCCP

Kimberly was present and submitted May - November 2008 Treasurer Reports for approval along with the 2009-2010 proposed budget. May - August reports were reviewed at the November 1, 2008 teleconference meeting but were not voted on. September - November treasurer reports were reviewed. Erin Galloway made a motion to accept the May - November treasurer reports as submitted. The motion was seconded by Trudy Rutherford and carried by unanimous vote.

The 2009-2010 proposed budget was reviewed. Trudy Rutherford made a motion to accept the 2009-2010 budget as submitted. The motion was seconded by Erin Galloway and carried by unanimous vote.

District Director's Reports**(Interim) District I – Diane N. Morgan, NCCP**

Diane was present and she reported that District I has 36 members, which consists of 12 General Members; two Student Members; three Associate Members and one Paralegal Educator. She reported that she emailed the Directors of the three District Paralegal Programs. In this email she introduced herself and outlined the benefits of participating in NCPA and she informed them of the scholarship essay contest for student members.

(Interim) District III – Trudy Rutherford, NCCP

Trudy was present and reported that District III currently has 21 members.

BD/EC minutes continued...

District IV – Blanche S. Berkowitz, NCCP

Blanche was present and she reported that District IV has 88 current members that consist of 77 general members; three associate members; seven student members; and one attorney/advisory. District IV has received two new members since October of 2008.

(Interim) District VIII – Beth Falgout, NCCP

Beth was present and reported that District VIII currently has 29 members. Beth reports that attempts to increase membership have not been successful because most paralegals do not have the extra money to pay the membership dues and say that their employers are less inclined to pay the dues on behalf of their employees because of the economy. Beth also stated in her report that District VIII intends to meet for a social at the 2009 Annual meeting.

(Interim) District IX – Beverly G. King, NCCP

Beverly was present and reported that District IX currently has 21 members.

Chairman of the Board – Beverly G. King, NCCP

Beverly was present and reported that NCPA is now on Facebook. As of 1/9/09, NCPA's Facebook group has 25 members.

Committee Reports

Audit - Belinda A. Thomas, ACP, NCCP

Belinda was present and reported that she has audited the bank statements, check registers, expense claim forms, deposit records and Treasurer's reports for the months of September, October, and November of 2008 for all accounts for the North Carolina Paralegal Association and all records are in order.

Historian – Karen F. England, NCCP

Karen was present and submitted a NCPA history for the year of 2008.

NC Board of Paralegal Certification Liaison – Yolanda N. Smith, ACP, NCCP

Yolanda was present and discussed the idea of offering a one year free membership to NCPA for those who take the NCCP exam. This would give applicants who are taking the NCCP exam an incentive to join NCPA. After discussion, it was agreed that NCPA would offer May NCCP testers free membership for the rest of the year and fall NCCP testers would get the remainder of the year free, and can apply for half price of their membership to NCPA for the following year.

Nominations and Elections – Catrina Mitchell, NCCP

Catrina was not present and did not submit a report. However, Kaye reported that there was a declaration for candidacy for Stephanie Ivans for District VII Director and one nomination for Belinda Thomas, ACP, NCCP as NALA Liaison. These will be voted on at Annual.

Patron & Sustaining – Michele A. Tuttle, CIA, NCCP

Michele was not present and did not submit a report. However, Yolanda reported that Huseby, Inc. upgraded their membership to Gold. Kaye McGovern & Associates renewed as Bronze and 4NC Records renewed as Gold.

Public Relations & Official Publications

Senior Editor – Melissa A. Rutledge, NCCP

Melissa was not present, however, Erin Galloway reported that the deadline for Forum is January 23rd.

Student/School Relations – Debby Sawyer, CP

Debby was not present but did submit a report. In her report she states that in early October she sent emails to all Paralegal Programs Directors/Educators for all the colleges in North Carolina advising them of the 2009 Scholarship Essay Contest. This information was also posted in the Forum and the NCPA website. To date she has only received three entries. The winners will be notified by March 1st and the award recipients will be announced at NCPA's 26th Annual Seminar and Meeting on March 26-28 in Wilmington, NC.

NCPA Coordinator/Technology – Brenda J. Mareski, CP, NCCP

Brenda was present and reported that she is currently working on maintenance for the website. She also reports that the forms for renewal are moving along pretty good.

Old Business

The Iron Mountain storage issue is currently on hold. Kaye will get a copy of the contract and follow up.

New Business

Kim Pellicone discussed a needed change or/and an additional line item as to how much money is allocated for the NCCP scholarship. This item of new business will be on the agenda for March meeting to vote on the scholarship fund issue.

Yolanda discussed that Carteret Community College wants to start a student chapter of NCPA. Yolanda will find out what their objective is and she will tell them that we will look at their proposal at our annual meeting in March.

Dennis Embo, NCCP proposed amendments to the language in Standing Rules II Procedure for Amending Bylaws sections (B)(C) and (H), and Standing Rule VIII (A)(3)(a) Second Vice President.

There was also a proposed Bylaw amendment to Article V for consideration at the 2009 NCPA Annual Meeting on March 28, 2009.

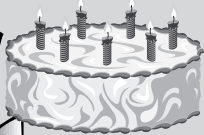
Teresa Stacey made a motion to accept the revisions to Standing Rule II. The motion was seconded by Yolanda Smith and carried by unanimous vote.

Trudy Rutherford made a motion to accept the revisions to Standing Rule VIII. The motion was seconded by Kim Pellicone and carried by unanimous vote.

Teresa Stacey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:30 pm. The motion was seconded by Dennis Embo and carried by unanimous vote.

Diane L. Tally, NCCP

Secretary to the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors



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March

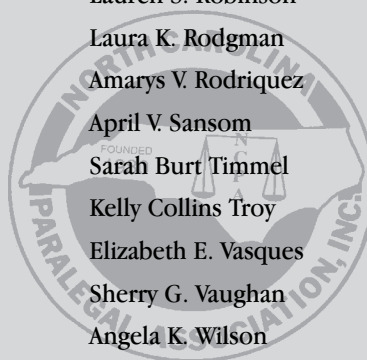
Angela M. Baker
 Jennifer A. Boucher
 Tracy Bowling
 Melissa A. Clayton
 Patricia Lynn Clinard
 William A. Coppridge
 Betsy Crittenden
 Virginia Fry
 Leigh Goodin
 Mary F. Haggerty
 Vicki Sara Helm
 Ronnie Beth Herbst
 Vickie H. Hughes
 Lisa S. Kearns
 Christina Marie Korman
 Roberta V. Lewis
 Mary I. Ridout
 Joy Rubenstein
 Renee J. Salemme
 Debbie Sawyer
 Belinda M. Smith
 Eliza A. Taylor
 Sandra E. Turner
 Mary P. Wachob
 Sherry L. Watson
 Lisa A. Weisenburg

April

Sheila Aldrich
 Rebecca M. Anthony
 John C. Barden
 Carol J. Bauknecht
 Elizabeth M. Baumann
 Diane Bobal
 Kelly A. Bowers
 Lisa Cornatzer
 Terri Edwards
 Susan M. Faith
 Susan L. Foltz
 Sharon K. Hedgecock
 Carmi H. Henderson
 David Herron
 Myra Howell
 Cheryl N. Hughes
 Nichole D. Hutchins
 Jennifer L. Iaquinto
 Brenda Lynam
 Carren Mackiewicz
 Monica M. Marchildon
 Martha E. McMillan
 Tanya L. Minton
 Kathy C. Pilkington
 Elizabeth H. Richardson
 Philip T. Rigby
 April N. Ritter
 Lauren S. Robinson
 Laura K. Rodgman
 Amarys V. Rodriguez
 April V. Sansom
 Sarah Burt Timmel
 Kelly Collins Troy
 Elizabeth E. Vasques
 Sherry G. Vaughan
 Angela K. Wilson

May

Chreatha A. Alston
 Constance B. Aull
 Barbara A. Booker
 Julia S. Currin
 Janice I. Davies
 Jean P. Durham
 Ponchita L. Heggie
 Cynthia N. Herring
 Amy J. Hill
 Judy M. Hill
 Beverly I. Holland
 Beverly P. Isenhour
 Beverly H. Johnston
 Tricia A. Millward
 Michelle M. Parker
 Sara T. Pulaski
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 Crystal L. Reece
 Kathryn M. Samuelson
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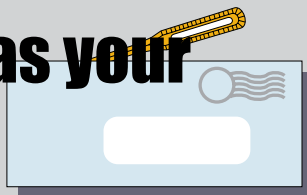
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