



THE BRIEF

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CAPITAL AREA
PARALEGAL ASSOCIATION

AUGUST 2019

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Follow the leader. We all remember this game as children, right? And we've been following the leader ever since.

On a typical Friday night, you're likely to find me with my boots on, dancing at the local dance hall. My dance partners have told me "you're a good follow" and that has more meaning off the dance floor and in my professional life than I have realized.

By the nature of our profession, we follow the lead of the attorney. We follow the lead of the Court. We follow the lead of the client. But paralegals tend to have some natural-born leadership in their make-up. We flip the script and sometimes lead the attorney. We sometimes lead the Court with a request, and we sometimes guide the client. How many times a day are you both the leader and the follower?

CAPA's leadership balances both aspects of leading and following. Your leadership is charged with keeping the organization running and moving forward. Did you know that we also follow? The leadership takes your input, recommendations, suggestions, and feedback and follows the *true* leader of the organization – the member. Without the membership, CAPA couldn't make the impact in the community and the paralegal profession that it has, and we encourage the continued involvement.

This month, think about all of the ways that you lead in your daily life. Think of all of the opportunities when you could lead a colleague or a classmate toward a goal. On the other side of the coin, find ways that you can humble yourself and follow a leader. Find ways to make an impact by supporting a leader in your job or in CAPA.

I would love to highlight in next month's *Brief* how you lead someone toward a goal or how you supported a leader in your life. I encourage you send me a snip-it into your experience at president@capatx.org.

Embrace being both the follower and the leader.

"Followership, like leadership, is a role and not a destination."
— Michael McKinney

Brittany Posadas
President, 2019-2020

IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

- Fall 2019 Scholarship
- August event calendar
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- 2019-2020 Flower Fund Beneficiary Announcement

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BOARD SPOTLIGHT

SECRETARY



Ariane Walton

I've been a member of CAPA since completing my paralegal certification at UT – Austin in 2017. As a new member I began slowly getting involved by attending the monthly CLE luncheons. Shortly after, I decided to volunteer as the Programs Committee Chair. This was a bit overwhelming because as a new paralegal I felt unsure about my abilities but I enjoy stepping outside my comfort zone and learning new things. The board and chairs were incredibly supportive and I really enjoyed that role. It gave me the opportunity to meet a lot of CAPA members and to learn about many other aspects of law beyond my own field. If you have ANY inkling or desire to get more involved with CAPA I strongly recommend taking that leap and volunteering as a chair, co-chair or doing some pro-bono work.

As any good board will do, they actively recruit willing participants, hence my new role as Secretary. Once again, I find myself outside of my comfort zone and getting ready to dive into a brand new adventure. And once again, I've got the support of a fantastic group of paralegals.

I've been working as a real estate paralegal for 2½ years now at Hancock McGill & Bleau. Call me if you have any real estate related questions! In my previous career I was an Inclusion/Special Education Teacher – a transition to working with lawyers seemed natural. 😊 I spent 15 years living overseas in Hong Kong, Singapore, Australia and Saudi Arabia but have called Austin home since 2011. In my spare time I love to travel, discover the best margaritas & queso in town, and pamper my French Bulldog, Eloise.

~ Ariane

COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT

JOB BANK



Amanda Garcia

CAPA's Job Bank is a valuable resource for paralegals and employers alike, to explore professional options in the legal field. Whether it's a part-time, entry level position, or a full-time, experience-desired opportunity, CAPA's Job Bank turns the often stressful task of job-seeking into a more tolerable experience by bringing job openings from varying legal fields to one convenient forum. The Job Bank Committee will also assist with formatting the post and offering suggestions for the job ad as needed, to help employers connect with potential candidates!



Laura Kliman

New jobs are listed every week and the Job Bank is completely free for employers and members to search and post.

Have questions? Feel free to email the Job Bank Committee, Amanda Garcia and Laura Kliman, at job_bank@capatx.org!

[Click to view the Job Bank](#)

August 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 CAPA Board Meeting	8	9 CP Study Session (south)	10
11	12	13  International Left-Handers Day	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 Lunch & Learn CLE Event	23 CP Study Session (south)	24
25	26	27	28 August Meeting & CLE luncheon	29	30	31

UPCOMING EVENTS

(Click the links for details/registration)

- Aug 06 [TAPS 2019 Early Bird Registration Deadline](#)
- Aug 07 [August Board Meeting](#)
- Aug 09 [CP Study Session \(south location\)](#)
- Aug 22 [CAPA and Paralegal Division District 4 Lunch & Learn CLE Event: "How Cloud Automation is Revolutionizing Legal Technology"](#)
- Aug 23 [CP Study Session \(south location\)](#)
- Aug 28 [August Membership Meeting and CLE Luncheon: "The Power of the Past: The History/Policy-Making Relationship"](#)
- Sep 04 [September Board Meeting](#)
- Sep 15 [CASA Superhero 5k](#)

August birthdays



Theresa Ann Alba
Kaci Barker
Brittany Bartlik
Casandra Bishop
Jennifer Brenner
Julie Callis
Sidney Cameron
Lauren Flores
Stephania Garcia
Nikita Glass
Amber Haney
Terra Kinard
Laura Kliman
Eric Lin
Tammie Marrs
Jo Ann McCarty
Connor McQuage
Garrett Meyer
Mark Mueller
Jackson Poe
Heather Porter
Jennifer Quinlan
Lynda Radford
Jennifer Rogers
Brittany Rosborough
Christina Schildgen
Birdie White

Did we miss your birthday? [Log in and update your member profile](#), or [let us know](#).

ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEWS

Capital Area Paralegal Association

Nancy McLaughlin Scholarship

Deadline to apply: August 30th, 2019 by 5:00pm
Email Applications to: Scholarship@capatx.org

\$250 Scholarship

Visit the CAPA website for more information!

Now Accepting
Applications

for the fall 2019

\$250 SCHOLARSHIP

**Application Deadline:
August 30, 2019, 5:00 pm CDT**

See the [Scholarship page](#) on our website for the application form and details on the scholarship fund.

EST. 2019

TBLS STUDY GROUP

Stay tuned for more info on CAPA's
TBLS Study Group for Personal Injury
Trial Law and Civil Trial Law



ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEWS

August CLE luncheon

THE POWER OF THE PAST: THE HISTORY-POLICY RELATIONSHIP

Strategic Leadership & Historical Thinking, How Historical Thinking Uses the Past to Imagine a New Future & How Strategic Leaders Emphasize the Historically Important Over the Crisis of the Moment

JEREMI SURI
UT AUSTIN - PROFESSOR
OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS & HISTORY

Wed, August 28 @ Chez Zee American Bistro
Register at: www.capatx.org
TBLs pending / NALA approved



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Online Order & Tracking

Online Billing available

Computer Dispatching

Two way radio & Telephone contact

Uniformed Personnel

MASTERCARD/VISA/AMEX

PRO BONO COMMITTEE



FEATURED ARTICLE



Introducing the Pro Bono Committee

By Sarah Vahle

My name is Sarah Vahle and I'm an over-committed volunteer. I've been a CASA for three years, I work the Veterans Law Clinic once a month, and I'm a 4H volunteer. I'm also part of CAPA's newly minted Pro Bono Committee, though my husband argues I really don't need one more volunteer position. (I tend not to listen to him about things like this.)

As an over-committed volunteer, I'm really excited that CAPA saw a need and took the initiative to form this committee. I'm also really excited to introduce you to our committee and tell you a little bit more about what we do. I would have loved something like this when I was a new CASA or 4H volunteer.

I remember the first time I walked into the Veterans Law Clinic. It was definitely a bit daunting – my coworker and I had no idea where to go and no idea what we were going to be doing. We were half an hour early and there was already a long line of Veterans waiting outside the door. Some even started asking us questions. And while I'm very grateful to have had that experience, figuring out my place at the clinic was not what this introvert would describe as an easy process. I use this story to remind myself of the goal of our committee: we're here to help make your volunteering go as smoothly as possible.

So what does the Pro Bono Committee actually do? Firstly, we drink a lot of wine. I think that's a prerequisite for any CAPA Committee. Lest you worry our meetings aren't productive, I can assure you we're very motivated to do our jobs while also drinking wine.

CAPA gets a lot of volunteer requests because there's a lot to do in our community. We also have a very talented and capable member pool, so it's no surprise that organizations seek us out for volunteers. Realistically, the plethora of requests are too much for one person to handle. We also don't want to spam you with every volunteer request we get either. Realistically, we need a group to sift through all these requests and make sure we're supporting legitimate organizations.

The Pro Bono Committee also wants to ensure that individuals volunteering on our behalf aren't put in compromising or uncomfortable situations. This brings me to our committee's idea of boots on the ground. Our goal is to have committee liaisons for every volunteer position we promote. Our liaisons are either experienced volunteers at their designated event or have worked closely with the event planners. Liaison have a good idea of what's going to happen and will be your point person for any questions, comments, or concerns. We want to talk the nitty gritty with you: where to go, what to do, who to talk to, who NOT to talk to, and anything else you can think of.

We also want your feedback. If you know of an event that needs volunteers or if you have a great experience volunteering somewhere, let us know. And if you're interested in learning more about a specific volunteer opportunity OR if you have lots of spare time and want to spend it making a difference, [email us](#). We can't wait to talk to you!

FLOWER FUND



2019-2020



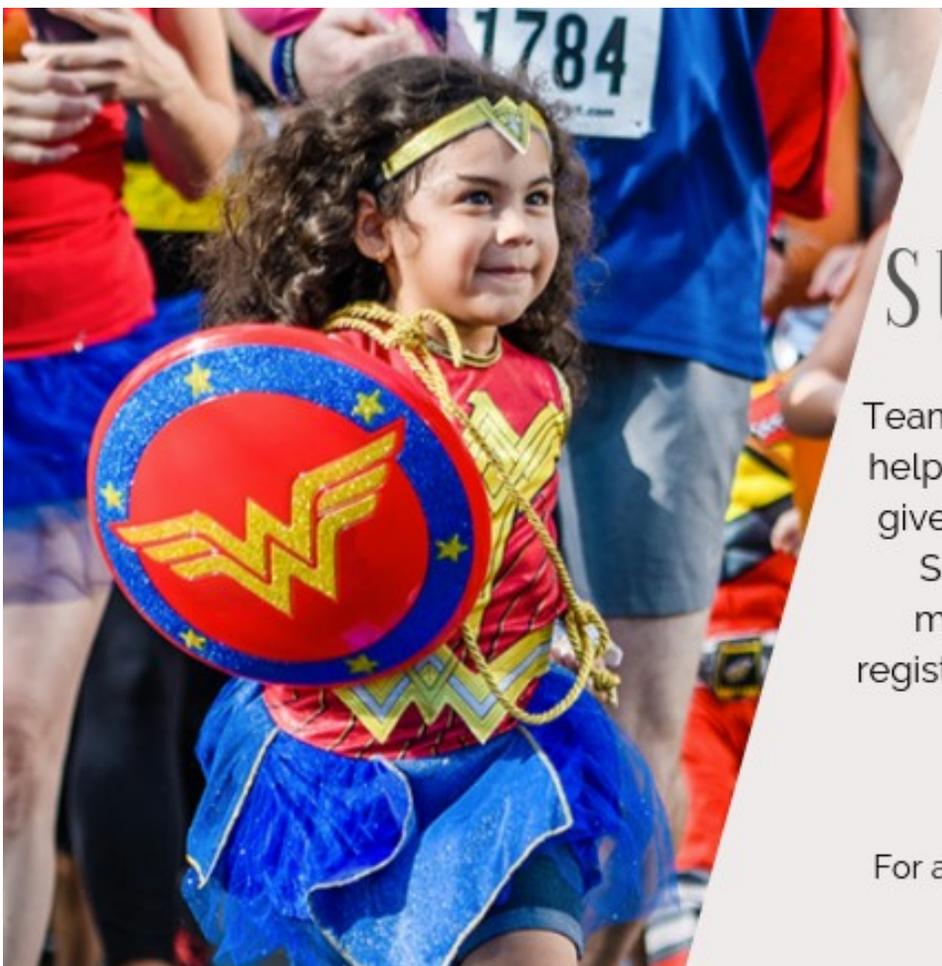
KIND (Kids in Need of Defense)
supportkind.org

September 15th, 2019 | 7:00 am

CASA SUPERHERO RUN

Team CAPA: Super Paralegals needs your help to support this wonderful cause and give back to children in need! Join us on September 15th as we take on a 5K marathon benefiting CASA. You can register to join our super team or donate, if you can't make it to the run, at casasuperherorun.com.

For any questions regarding this event, please email probono@capatx.org





PET OF THE MONTH



GOAT

"Happy 4th from me and Goat!
No autographs, please. Biscuits only. Fame doesn't come easy. It took him hard work to get here."

Submitted by Drew Travis, SHIP Global IP

CAPA Members! Submit a pet photo to publications@capatx.org. If your pet is featured, we'll send you some CAPA swag!

ONGOING COMMUNITY SERVICE DRIVES

2019-2020 Flower Fund



At each CAPA luncheon, flower pots are on the tables to collect your donations to the designated "Flower Fund" charity. CAPA will match donations collected for the year (up to \$250.)

Drop your change, bills, or checks into the flower pot on your table at the monthly luncheon, or [donate online](#).

The 2019-2020 Flower Fund beneficiary is [Kids In Need of Defense](#).

Soda Can Tabs for Ronald McDonald House



Bring us your Soda Can Tabs! Collecting soda can tabs is a great way to teach kids about philanthropy and the importance of recycling while raising funds to help children and their families at the same time.



Box Tops for Education

CAPA is collecting Box Tops to benefit low income elementary schools without PTA support. Clip Box Tops for Education "Box Tops" from the packages of hundreds of purchased participating products and bring them to the monthly luncheon.

SPOTLIGHT SUSTAINING MEMBER(S)



SUSTAINING MEMBERS:

Want to be featured as a spotlight vendor
(at no cost)?

Contact the
Sustaining Member Liaisons at
SUSTAINING@CAPATX.ORG

STAY UP-TO-DATE ON ALL THINGS CAPA ↓



Keepin' it Weird

HI, HOW ARE YOU

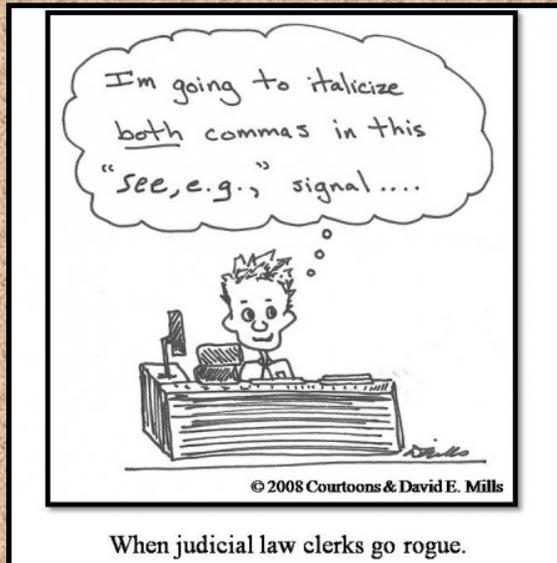


FUN FACT

Ann Landers said "Nobody ever drowned in his own sweat."



Maybe so, but we definitely come close here in Central Texas! It's August and undeniably H-O-T! I'm not sure Ms. Landers ever had the pleasure of spending an August in Austin, Texas or she may have rethought her statement.



Monthly Dose of
WEIRDNESS

Interesting fact: August is also related to the word "auger", a hole digging tool, because farmers dug for next season at this time every year. Speaking of farming...

Anyone who's ever had a vegetable garden with zucchini knows that this is the time when the plants are making dozens (or even hundreds) of baby squash! If not picked, the zucchini can grow humongous! The Guinness Book of World Records states that the heaviest zucchini ever grown weighed 64 pounds and was grown in the United Kingdom in 1990. In honor of the summertime motherload of zucchini, Pennsylvanian Tom Roy created "National Sneak Some Zucchini onto Your Neighbor's Porch Day." Put that on your calendar for August 8! In the meantime, if you are a gardening cat "mom" or "dad" and have a surplus of zucchini before or after August 8, you can try seeing how kitty reacts to a zucchini randomly left nearby your cat.



For inspiration (or if you just need a good laugh), check out the viral YouTube video Cats vs . Cucumbers Compilation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aqi4geKb8v8>

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