

reporter

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LAPA RUN FOR JUSTICE RECAP



Setting Another Milestone With A Successful "Run For Justice"

by Don Adove – LAPA Director at Large & Pro Bono Chair

Once again the passionate LAPA members and supporters headed out to Dodger Stadium early morning of Saturday, March 16, 2024. Notwithstanding the chilly weather and notorious LA traffic for the 21st Annual "Run for Justice," organized by Public Counsel with the cooperation of LA Big 5K and McCourt Foundation. This welcoming and friendly event aims to raise funds to support all the wonderful

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Spring Forward!

by Jonathan Dang – LAPA President

Can you believe it's spring already? There has been an uptick in our productivity and I am happy to share that LAPA has had amazing results in its first quarter. LAPA has had amazing results by putting on various MCLEs, networking events, and implementing more DEIB events.

In the month of March, LAPA participated in the Los Angeles Public Counsel Run for Justice. LAPA proudly exceeded its expectations by raising \$3,175 and being a top 10 fundraising team. Other various teams included major national law firms and Fortune 500 companies. It's amazing what we can do when we all come together as a team. The funds raised will go towards Public

continued on page 2



works of the organization. Public Counsel is a non-profit public interest law firm dedicated to advancing civil rights and racial and economic justice, as well as to amplifying the power of the recipient through comprehensive legal advocacy. With so many enthusiastic supporters, LAPA was again able to fulfill its commitment of helping Public Counsel achieve its goal: to succeed in its mission in delivering justice to all; equity; and opportunity through quality pro bono legal services to underprivileged communities of Los Angeles and throughout the nation.

There were 200 registered marathoners running for Public Counsel, 50 of which are individual campaigners and 24 are teams with the common objective—to raise funds. Our team of 13 fundraisers

continued on page 3

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - cont. from page 1

Counsel's pro bono services to aid Los Angeles' most vulnerable communities including victims of domestic violence, veterans, and the unhoused.

As we roll into April, we celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. The Asian Pacific American Community is one of the most underrepresented minority groups in the legal industry. However, a recent ABA study conducted in 2023 indicated Asian American lawyers doubled from the prior year and the community makes up 6% across the nation. This month our DEIB committee will host a panel to showcase a few AAPI leaders in the community and discuss their experiences in the legal field.

This month we will also host our signature event, our Spring Career Conference. The conference will provide attendees with various tools and insight on how to obtain their dream jobs or land their first job. We will be featuring various panelists which include legal recruiters, individuals with certifications, and those who have transitioned to alternative careers. We look forward to having you attend!

Jonathan Dang is currently a Paralegal with Freeman Mathis & Gary LLP. In his diverse career, he previously worked for a fortune 100 insurance company, private law firms, and the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office. Jonathan Dang is also currently enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserves. Aside from LAPA, he also serves on the board of directors for the University of La Verne's Legal Studies Program and Mt. San Antonio's Paralegal Program.

JOIN LAPA ON...     & WWW.LAPA.ORG

LAPA REPORTER

The Reporter is published monthly by the Los Angeles Paralegal Association. The news and views presented express the authors' views and not necessarily those of LAPA. Publication of any article or advertisement does not imply endorsement of the opinions, products or services offered. LAPA assumes no responsibility for verifying facts offered by contributing authors or in reprinted articles. Readers should consider information contained in these articles as guidelines to be independently confirmed as to timeliness.

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THE ADVERTISING AND EDITORIAL DEADLINE IS THE 5TH OF THE MONTH PRIOR TO PUBLICATION.

Articles and news items should be directed to LAPA at editor@lapa.org. Inquiries about making a submission should be directed to LAPA at info@lapa.org.

Inquiries about advertising placement, applications, membership materials and address changes should be directed to LAPA at admin@lapa.org.

Articles will be published as space permits. The Newsletter Committee reserves approval and edit rights on any article submitted.

The Los Angeles Paralegal Association is a non-profit, mutual benefit corporation and is tax exempt within the meaning of section 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code. Membership dues and donations to LAPA are not tax deductible as charitable gifts, but may be deductible as related business expenses. LAPA suggests that you consult your tax advisor in this regard.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL

- 3- **LAPA Executive Board Meeting** – Conf. Call; Contact Jonathan Dang at president@lapa.org.
- 10 - **LAPA Board Meeting** – Contact Jonathan Dang at president@lapa.org.
- 16- **LAPA Litigation Committee: Exploring Crash Data Retrieval (CDR) & Understanding the Black Box (EDR) (MCLE)** – Online via Zoom; 6:00-7:00 PM; Featuring: Elvis Desai, Sr. Forensics Engineer; Go to <https://www.lapa.org/event-5624367> for more information & to register.
- 20- **LAPA Spring Career Conference** – Cal State University, Los Angeles Downtown Campus; 8:00AM-12:00PM; Go to <https://www.lapa.org/event-5670371> for more information & to register.

MAY


- 1- **LAPA Executive Board Meeting** – Conf. Call; Contact Jonathan Dang at president@lapa.org.
- 8- **LAPA Board Meeting** – Contact Jonathan Dang at president@lapa.org.

JUNE

- 5- **LAPA Executive Board Meeting** – Conf. Call; Contact Jonathan Dang at president@lapa.org.
- 12 - **LAPA Board Meeting** – Contact Jonathan Dang at president@lapa.org.

LAPA RUN FOR JUSTICE RECAP- *cont. from page 2*

dubbed as “LAPA Team for Justice” were able to raise a total of \$3,175 and are among the top 10 in the leaderboard. I am totally grateful to have the opportunity to spearhead this cause. Thank you to President Jonathan Dang, Executive Vice President Travis Chow, VP of Membership and Policy Tony Sipp, Secretary Jeffrey Stewart, longtime Member Terri Walters, LAPA members, and everyone else for giving your support. A special shoutout to our friends from the Orange County Paralegal Association Directors at Large Luigi Giovanni Guereca and E. Penny Gutierrez, and Allison Johnson. It is indeed a pleasure to be in an organization that does not only serve its members, but also cares for the welfare of the community. All this will not be possible through the generosity of the people who took part with their contributions. Thank you and you are well appreciated.

Don Adove is currently a Paralegal at Brown White & Osborn LLP. His previous work experiences include working for a financial company and family law. He is a member of the Board of Directors and Pro Bono chair of LAPA. He graduated in 2021 earning his Certificate in Paralegal Studies from UCLA Extension. 

LAPA SPRING CAREER CONF. 2024



Career Growth

by Jonathan Dang – LAPA President

Are you excited for the 2024 LAPA Spring Career Conference? The event will take place on April 20th at the California State University Downtown Los Angeles Campus. This event will be beneficial if you are a recent graduate looking a position or a seasoned paralegal looking for your dream job. This half day event will consist of professional development through various panels. The panels include a legal recruiters panel, professional certifications panel, and an alternative careers panel.

LEGAL RECRUITERS PANEL


This panel will discuss various topics including current trends, interviewing tips, and salaries.

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS PANEL

Learn about how professional certifications can impact and make you more marketable!

ALTERNATIVE CARERS PANEL

Hear from paralegals who have transitioned into alternative careers and how their skills have helped them.

A light breakfast, professional headshots (\$95 dollar value), and resume tune ups will be provided at this event. In my tenure with LAPA, this event has benefitted me and equipped me with adequate tools to tackle the profession. I have even witnessed students landing their dream job at our conference. We look forward to seeing you there! 



SPRING CAREER *Conference*

**Light
Breakfast**

**Free
Headshot***

**Resume
Tune-Up**

Meet and network with senior paralegals and top recruiters who will help you identify the next steps in your career path that are right for you.

- The Recruiting Professionals Panel will provide insight on how agencies work as part of the team with HR/Paralegal Managers to match highly qualified candidates with the right position in the right firm.
- The Professional Certification Panel will explain the impact that professional certification can make in your career.
- The Alternative Career Panel will provide tips on optimizing your skills so that you can envision yourself stepping outside the box of traditional paralegal roles onto alternative career paths.

Cal State University, 6th Floor, Los Angeles (Downtown Campus)
801 S Grand Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90017

LAPA Members Registration – \$35.00

LAPA Student Members - \$30.00

Non-Members – \$50.00

20 APRIL
2024



8:00AM-
12:00PM

***Headshot with professional photographer – a \$90.00 value!**

\$5.00 Parking In Building



A monthly column where sponsors and/or vendors share helpful hints

Spring Is The Perfect Time For A Legal Writing Makeover

by Jackie Van Dyke, MPS, CP® – Solopreneur of The Paralegal Writer™

The goal of legal writing is to communicate. Whether the paralegal is preparing a client letter, memorandum, or court brief, the rules of punctuation, grammar, and spelling apply.

Bryan Garner, the infamous legal writing expert, says, “Punctuation marks are like traffic signs.” Spring may be the perfect time to enroll in a refresher course and practice when to properly use brackets, parentheses, and dashes. Did you know there are two dashes? Hint: the em-dash signifies drama. Brackets provide clarity. Parentheses may show insignificant information.

Remember, grammar can be your friend or your enemy. Intervening words or prepositional phrases often cause problems with subject-verb agreement. A verb must agree with the subject of a sentence. The English language has collective nouns that mean a group of people and are singular. An example is the word jury: The jury has been dismissed. Poor grammar can hurt your credibility. It will stand out to your reader, your attorney(s), and the judge.

The same credibility issue affects paralegals confronted with spelling errors. Paralegals work in an environment where it may be assumed that if they cannot be trusted to spell correctly, they cannot be trusted to write the correct legal argument. We cannot depend on Spellcheck alone. We must proofread. Also, use a dictionary when in doubt.

Keep your sentence structure mostly short. Drafting sentences of varying lengths, however, will create interest. Even one-word responses such as ‘Yes’ break up reading monotony. Try to omit prepositional phrases. Write in the active voice. Avoid sentence fragments. It is acceptable to begin a sentence with ‘and’ or ‘but.’

Keep your paragraphs concise. An average paragraph is three to eight sentences. Begin with a topic

sentence. A good topic sentence tells your reader what the paragraph will be about. Include well-developed, supportive facts. Ask yourself if using a quote relates to the topic. Try to avoid long quotations. Paraphrase when possible. End the paragraph with a concluding statement. Every paragraph should have a beginning, a middle, and an end.

You may be preparing a persuasive memorandum for opposing counsel. Begin with a hook!

Catch your reader’s attention at the beginning. Connect first on an emotional level and follow with reason. Present your strongest argument first. Use charts or graphs to show impressive stats. Include transition words to help your paragraphs and thoughts flow. Ask the if question and answer the why question. Use repetition for emphasis.


If writing demand letters, be firm but not abrupt. Be specific about your call to action.

Using all caps is usually too harsh, but it creates a sense of urgency. You may cite authority in the demand letter but hold off on arguing the case until trial, should it become necessary.

Keep your writing simple and readable. As paralegals, we are familiar with fancy words and unnecessary phrases in legal writing. Thankfully, in the last several years, the trend has been toward writing in plain language. Write clearly, get to the point, and write as you speak. Legalisms may confuse your clients and irritate the judge. If you use acronyms in your legal writing, explain what they mean the first time you introduce them.

Last, a professional tone is always paramount. Know your audience and coordinate your word choice accordingly. Do not use slang. Be confident in your writing, but do not exaggerate. Support arguments and facts with the law. Write objectively and avoid subjective adjectives and adverbs.

Spring is about new beginnings. We enjoy bringing out lighter linens and brighter pillows, and our yards get a makeover. The same should be true for our legal writing.

Jackie Van Dyke, MPS, CP®, is a Professor of Legal Research and Writing at the USD School of Law Paralegal Studies Certificate Program. She is the Solopreneur of The Paralegal Writer™ and creator of the signature courses Pen A Memo™ and Legal Scribble Sessions™. Email: jackie@theparalegalwriter.com | Website: <https://www.theparalegalwriter.com>. 



Certificated vs. Certified Paralegal: Understanding the Distinction


by Travis Chow – LAPA Executive Vice President

In the words of Mike Ross from *Suits*, “The rules dictate that you must be precise as the law is a precise endeavor.” Paralegals have been careless in their use of both “Certificated” and “Certified.” It’s time to put an end to the confusion once and for all.

Certificated indicates that a Paralegal has acquired practical skills and legal knowledge through coursework offered by one of the 33 currently approved California ABA Paralegal Programs. Upon completion, the Paralegal receives a certificate from the educational institution. Some of these programs may also confer an associate or bachelor’s degrees. Maintaining good standing requires Paralegals to fulfill ongoing education requirements specifically outlined in the *Business and Professions Code*.

Certified denotes Paralegals who have successfully passed a rigorous examination administered by an independent national entity like the National Association of Legal Assistants (NALA). NALA offers certifications such as Certified Paralegal and Advanced Certified Paralegal, each with its own eligibility and renewal criteria established specifically by the organization.

Confusing these terms isn’t merely an embarrassing oversight for Paralegals; it poses a serious risk of misrepresentation, especially when seeking new job opportunities. Résumés that carelessly interchange the terms are promptly relegated to the ‘no’ pile as they signal a fundamental misunderstanding of the distinctions and a lack of attention to detail.

Travis Chow is currently the Paralegal Coordinator at Collins + Collins LLP. Before that, he freelanced at several private practice firms in Southern California. He has been a Paralegal for over fifteen years. He is a Certified Social Media Intelligence Expert and Certified Cyber Intelligence Professional. He is also a California Licensed Realtor and Notary Public. With the help of Walter T. Shatford and San Gabriel Valley Bar Association Legal Scholarship, he earned his Paralegal Certificate from Pasadena City College along with an associate degree in Social Behavioral Science, Humanities and Paralegal Studies. He then earned his Paralegal Certificate and bachelor’s degree from the University of La Verne in Legal Studies. 



Looking Forward Despite COVID-19

by Deena Bowman

Living with the COVID-19 virus has changed our means of enjoying recreational and cultural pursuits. However, good times can still be experienced –albeit in different ways. April is Arab American Heritage Month, and the advent of Spring brings wildflower super blooms back to Southern and Central California.




CELEBRATE ARAB AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH AT THE SANTA MONICA LIBRARY

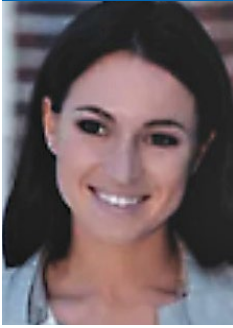
The Santa Monica Library is celebrating Arab American Heritage Month throughout April. For details on fun events for all ages, go to <https://www.santamonica.gov/blog/2024-arab-american-heritage-month-celebrating-culture-and-contributions>.



SPRING HERALDS THE SUPERBLOOM

Find the best locations to experience wild flower super blooms in Southern and Central California by calling the 2024 Wild Flower Hotline. New reports are released every Friday, from March through June. Call (818) 768-1802, ext. 7, to hear weekly recorded wild flower reports narrated by actor Joe Spano. For more information, see <https://theodorepayne.org/learn/wildflower-hotline/>

Deena Bowman is a Senior Legal Analyst at the State Compensation Insurance Fund in Glendale, California. Deena earned her paralegal certificate from the University of West Los Angeles, and she was a former Director at Large with LAPA. 



A monthly column where sponsors and/or vendors share helpful hints

The Paralegal's Role in Contract Lifecycle

Management (CLM)

by Julie Enez – Director of Legal Operations, Beyond Paralegals, LLC

When Beyond Paralegals first opened our doors in 2006 our mission was to leverage technology to improve the delivery of legal services. Never did we think we would be using our tech skills to work with fortune 500 companies and managing their contracts and CLM tools.

When we hear people talking about contract management, we often think about the role attorneys play in drafting, reviewing, negotiating, and managing contracts. But rarely do we think about the other players, like the paralegals who play a key role in supporting the contract management process and the CLM systems they use.

Contract managers have become increasingly common in many businesses, particularly those that need detail-oriented individuals to manage an ever-increasing volume of contracts. And learning the skillsets required in managing contracts can set a paralegal up for advancements and maybe even a future career change.

THE CONTRACT MANAGEMENT PARALEGAL

As technology continues to play a bigger role in the day-to-day practice of law, lawyers are seeking experienced paralegals who not only possess legal knowledge and administrative ability, but those who are also technologically proficient to manage their organization's CLM systems as the designated subject matter expert.

With the vast amount of CLM training available to paralegals these days, it is a natural progression for paralegals interested in technology to gain specialization in contract management and oversee all stages of the contract lifecycle.

HOW PARALEGALS SUPPORT THE CLM PROCESS

- Overseeing the complete lifecycle of the contracts: from initial request to final signature and contract distribution.
- Assigning contracts to contract reviewers: whether manually, via email, or through a CLM system.
- Upgrading and managing contract repositories and templates.
- Inspecting and drafting a variety of complex legal agreements.
- Obtaining contract signatures and approvals; and
- Assisting in the implementation and training of the CLM systems used by the organization.

Paralegals interested in this legal field must continue to hone their project management and system management skills to stay competitive in this market. This is a highly specialized area of law and includes acquiring certifications, developing specializations, attending continuing education courses, and staying current with legal and non-legal technology.

<https://beyondparalegals.com>. 

SAVE THE DATE

for

LAPA'S Annual October Conference!

"NAVIGATING YOUR CAREER PATH"

When : Saturday, October 19, 2024

Time : 8:30am – 3:30pm

Location : Omni Los Angeles Hotel
251 South Olive Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012



We look forward to seeing you.
Mark your calendar and stay tuned for further details!



Be a Part of the LAPA Newsletter

Book Reviews
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New Legal World Trends
Tell Us About Recent Events
and More!

Visit: <https://www.lapa.org/news>
to see previous publications.

Questions or Submissions please send to
Mariana Lui at mariana.s.lui@gmail.com.

Deadline to submit Articles or Ads is
the first of the month by 9pm to be considered
for the following issue.



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

NOTICE TO ATTORNEYS

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

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Media Relations
publicinfo@lacourt.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
January 31, 2024

NEW ELECTRONIC FILING PROCEDURE FOR PROPOSED ORDERS IN CIVIL DIVISION CASES EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 5

Beginning February 5, in accordance with [California Rule of Court 3.1312 \(c\)](#), all parties electronically filing (efiling) proposed orders for Civil Division cases, except for small claims cases, must submit the proposed order as both a Portable Document File (PDF) and as a separate editable word-processing file, such as a Microsoft Word document.

Specifically, parties submitting proposed orders in applicable cases must efile the following documents at the same time:

- The *Proposed Order Cover Sheet* ([Form EFS-020](#)) and the proposed order, combined into a single PDF document;
- An editable version of the proposed order.

Editable versions of the proposed order are not required for proposed orders located on either Judicial Council of California or Los Angeles Superior Court approved forms.

The above procedure will be included in future proposed changes to Los Angeles Superior Court Local Court Rule 3.4 (a), regarding Mandatory Electronic Filing.

**Save BIG
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medical premium.**

**Compare
your plan
right now.
It's fast, easy
and free.**

LAPA has teamed up with UIP – United Insurance Partners to offer you affordable quality insurance that addresses your health care needs in simple, easy to understand terms.

Visit LAPA's Benefits section and see the wide array of quality insurance providers now available to you through this exclusive arrangement with UIP and start saving today.



**<http://lapa.healthinsurance.com/hi/>
or call Armando at (800) 707-2360**

UIP United Insurance Partners
Specialists in Sponsored Insurance Programs

Insurance products are available to qualified LAPA members through United Agencies and its affiliates including UIP Insurance Services.
CA Lic #0252636

NALA THE PARALEGAL ASSOCIATION CERTIFICATION NEWS



SHOW OFF YOUR CP® DIGITAL BADGE

CPs, do you know how to make your digital badge work for you? After you accept your badge, update your social profiles and email signature to feature your new accomplishment. This can help you if you are:

- looking for a new role at your organization
- interested in being contacted about job opportunities
- looking for new skills and credentials

[Credly](#) provides a plethora of information about the paralegal field and its opportunities. At the bottom of your badge profile, click "Insights" to see available jobs, salaries, job locations, and much more!

RETIRING SOON?

If, after many years of service to the paralegal community, you are nearing retirement, please remember to submit the [CP® Retired Form](#) to NALA so you do not lose your hard-earned credential. Your certification status will be updated to "CP® Retired," and you will no longer be required to earn CLE. If you have any questions, please contact us at cle@nala.org.



LHH

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CAREER EDUCATION

PARALEGAL

Fullerton College's ABA-approved Paralegal Studies Program provides the education and skills necessary for graduates to work under the supervision of an attorney as a critical member of the legal support team in all areas of law. Our program aids students in finding employment in this ever-growing, fast-paced, and challenging field.



PLEASE NOTE:

The Fullerton College ABA-approved Paralegal Studies Program does not prepare students for law school or the practice of law. Under California's Business and Professions Code, Section 6450 (et seq.), a paralegal may not market his or her services to the public, but must work under the direct supervision of an attorney licensed to practice law.

DEGREE/CERTIFICATE OFFERED

We offer both an Associate Science degree and Certificate in Paralegal Studies. Visit our website to view the degree and certificate requirements.

→ ENROLL ONLINE AT:

<https://admissions.fullcoll.edu/>

→ VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

START HERE:

PLEG 101 F -
Introduction to Paralegal Studies



QUESTIONS? CONTACT:

 **(714) 992-7032**



buscis@fullcoll.edu



<https://buscis.fullcoll.edu/>

Proud Supporter of LAPA



TRIAL PRESENTATION

MOCK TRIALS

LEGAL GRAPHICS

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EQUIPMENT RENTAL

FOCUS GROUPS

INTERACTIVE TIMELINES

JURY RESEARCH

Contact us to see how we can assist with your upcoming Trial.

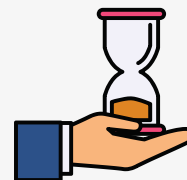
Ph: (805) 705—7777 | alicia@aquinotrial.com

www.aquinotrialservices.com

Child Welfare in Los Angeles County



As of January 2021, there are 38,243 children/youth in the Los Angeles Child Welfare System.



Most children are in the child welfare system for about 2+ years.

Black & Hispanic children encompass



of children/youth in care.

High turnover rates in child welfare professions create gaps in knowledge and care, and limit youths' access to consistent and appropriate supports.



In an overwhelmed system, L.A. County professionals face the daunting task of making complex, life-changing decisions about a child/youth's overall well-being.

The Solution? The Essential History Program!

The Essential History Program aims to help social workers, attorneys and judges make trauma-informed decisions about the young people they serve. Through this program, a CASA volunteer reviews the entirety of a child/youth's case file and produces an objective and comprehensive report that highlights key historical events for the young person while in the system.



Program Goals

- Reduce time youth is in the child welfare system
- Improve outcomes for youth in the areas such as: permanency, mental health, education and social supports
- Ease changes/transitions for service providers
- Reduce burnout and compassion fatigue for child welfare professionals
- Consolidate information to observe data trends in the child welfare system
- Create systematic change towards healthier and equitable systems

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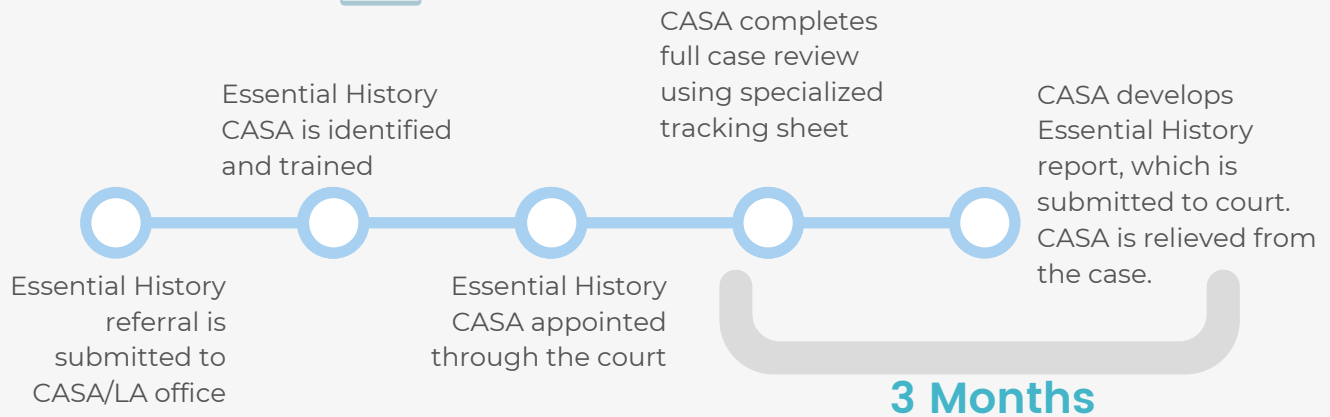
Essential History Program



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Process & Timeline



The Report

Objective & Neutral Language

Information is retrieved from case documents with no additional bias/interpretation.

Strengths-Based

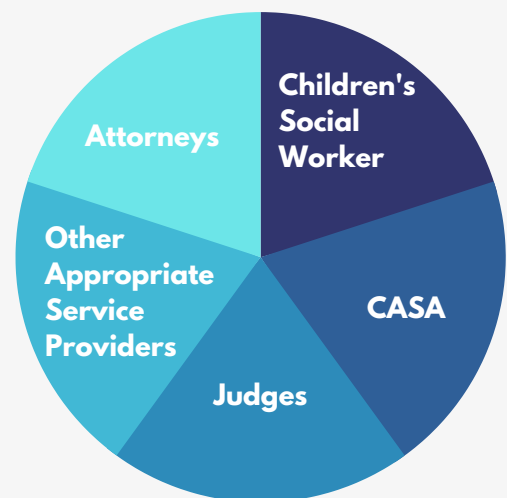
Focus is kept on not creating a negative perception of the youth

Report Content

Report Covers Risk & Protective Factors in the areas of:

- Permanency
- Physical Health
- Mental Health
- Education
- Family & Social Supports

Who Can Access the Report?



Questions?

essentialhistory@casala.org
Visit Us! www.casala.org



The Los Angeles Paralegal Association (LAPA) reflects the diverse nature of Southern California, and we strive to be as inclusive as possible. As an organization of legal professionals, we hold the ideals of equality and justice in the highest regard. The injustices experienced by the communities of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color are a stark reminder that equality and justice are ideas that have yet to reach fruition in this country. We, as a nation, must do better. LAPA stands in solidarity with the families and friends of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery. It is our sincerest desire to see justice is done as the law requires for their tragic deaths.

Diversity and inclusion are LAPA's initiative for 2022. We hold firm in striving to be more inclusive and diverse to reflect the community that we serve and represent. Moreover, LAPA will continue to steadfastly advocate and create initiatives to prepare and support our paralegals.



Housing + Community Investment Department

Attention: City of L.A. Tenants & Landlords

Coronavirus: What You Need to Know
about *L.A.'s Eviction Protections*
visit: hcidla.lacity.org





FREE COVID-19 TESTING

Now available to all Los Angeles residents.
Get more information and sign up:
Coronavirus.LACity.org/Testing

L.A. CARES Corps

Connecting L.A. Businesses to Federal SBA Loans during COVID-19

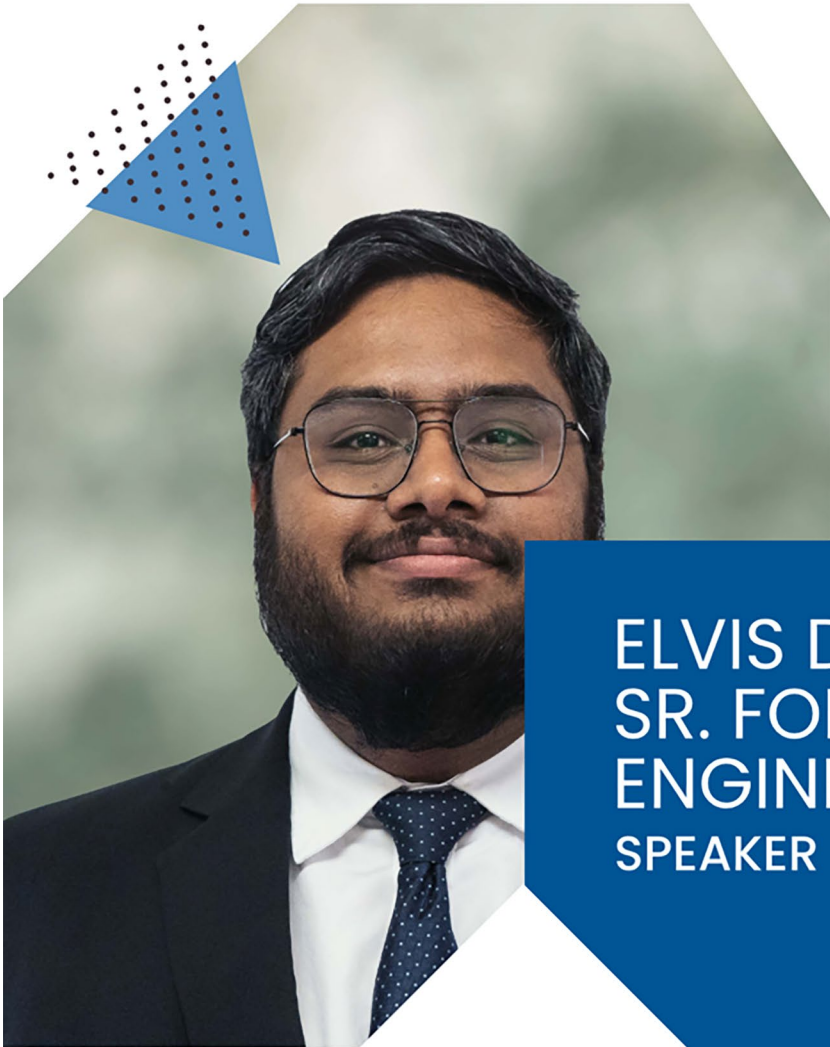
Attention
LAPA Voting Members

FREELANCE PARALEGAL LISTING

Available Online Now
for Voting Members Only
\$60.00 for Six Months



**LAPA LITIGATION SECTION
PRESENTS: MCLE - EXPLORING
CRASH DATA RETRIEVAL (CDR)
AND UNDERSTANDING THE
BLACK BOX (EDR)**



**16 APR,
2024**

6:00 - 7:00PM

**ELVIS DESAI,
SR. FORENSICS
ENGINEER
SPEAKER**



**Members \$20
Student Members \$15
Non-Members \$40**

**Unlock Your Potential:
Become a “Certified Paralegal”**
College of the Canyons is offering study courses for the NALA CP Exam

The courses are noncredit and FREE to California residents!

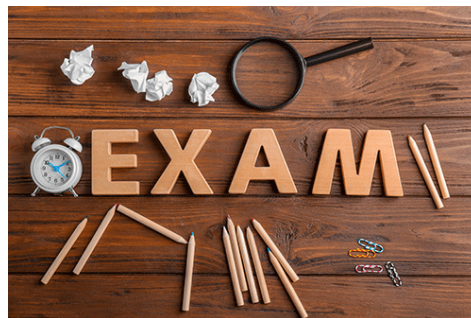
Course	Dates	# Wks	Days/Times	Modality
NC.PLGL-001 Knowledge	2/26/24 – 5/06/24	10	Mondays 6:00 – 8:00 pm	LIVE/via Zoom
NC.PLGL-001 Knowledge	2/26/24 – 5/11/24	10	Online	Online
NC.PLGL-001 Knowledge	3/18/24 – 5/30/24	10	Online	Online
NC.PLGL-002 Skills	2/10/24 – 3/30/24	8	Saturdays 9:00 – 11:00 am	LIVE/via Zoom
NC.PLGL-002 Skills	4/13/24 – 5/25/24	7	Saturdays 9:00 – 11:20 am	LIVE/via Zoom

Location: Virtual/LIVE/via Zoom or Online (Guided Self-study)

Registration: Free to California residents

To Register: www.canyons.edu/freeclasses

Assistance with registration: Call (661) 362-3304 or email freeclasses@canyons.edu



These study courses are noncredit, and are not affiliated with the ABA-approved Paralegal Studies program. The ABA stresses that paralegals may not provide legal services directly to the public except as permitted by law.

Members Only Benefits

Regional and Networking Sections

LAPA has many opportunities for meeting and connecting with your paralegal colleagues and other legal industry professionals. Such opportunities include seminar and networking events based on geographical locations such as Downtown (Los Angeles), South Bay, West L.A., the San Fernando Valley, Santa Clarita, and more. LAPA also provides educational seminars in various legal specialties, including, but not limited to, Litigation, Probate Law, Intellectual Property Law, Corporate Law, Immigration Law, and Ethics. Additionally, with the support of our legal industry partners, LAPA also hosts other networking and charitable events and mixers. Your participation in LAPA is encouraged, so be sure to reach out to a LAPA Section or Committee Chair, develop your leadership and networking skills, and make LAPA an even better association.

Vital Savings

This benefit provides LAPA members a discount program for dental and vision services, long term care, as well as many pharmaceuticals. LAPA has been able to obtain special pricing of Vital Savings discount cards through Aetna. By using the discount cards and Aetna approved providers, LAPA members can save dramatically on the services provided by these professionals. For more information, please visit LAPA's website, www.lapa.org.

Working Advantage

LAPA members may join a program that offers discounts up to 60% on tickets, travel, shopping, and more. LAPA helps you save money on items from clothing to theater tickets to flowers. This benefit is available by logging onto the LAPA website "Members Only" section.

United Insurance Partners

LAPA has teamed with UIP - United Insurance Partners - to bring LAPA members the opportunity to purchase health, dental, and/or vision insurance. When you access UIP through the link provided on the Benefits webpage, you will find an array of insurance products available for you to purchase with companies such as Blue Cross, Aetna, and many other top insurance companies. Please visit LAPA's website, www.lapa.org, for more information.

NALA Affiliation

LAPA is an affiliated member of the National Association of Legal Assistants. NALA is the nation's leading professional association for paralegals. As a member of an affiliated association, the initiation fee for individual membership in NALA is waived for LAPA members. NALA boasts some of its own benefits. Access its NALA Campus Live for online continuing legal education, self-study courses, and preparation for the CLA/CP Exam. Its annual educational convention in July allows you to expand your network beyond your state's borders as you network with other paralegals from around the country, attend educational institutes and member related activities.

Freelance/Contract Paralegal Listing

LAPA provides a "Freelance Paralegals" section on its website to assist LAPA members who are freelance, contract, or independent paralegals, as defined by California Business and Professions Code Section 6450. For a nominal fee of \$60, you can post your contact information on LAPA's website for six months. You can sign up online through the Members Only section of the website.

Membership Database

Available only to LAPA members, the Membership Database is a valuable tool in locating other paralegals or legal professionals with whom you have worked or networked. The Membership Database also provides up-to-date contact information as well as members' legal specialties and geographical areas.

Credit Union

LAPA members are eligible to join Southland Credit Union. Southland Credit Union, with over \$435 million in assets, offers an online presence, a new full-service branch in downtown Los Angeles, an upgraded ATM network and five new proprietary ATMs. Southland Credit Union has expanded its product line by introducing a new high-yielding certificate of deposit, a Rewards Plus program and a market-leading high interest yielding checking account. Southland Credit Union prides itself on outstanding service to its members and has recently earned a 95 percent Member Service satisfaction rating.

Lorman Education

LAPA is dedicated to providing efficient and readily-available continuing education opportunities that meet the needs of our members and enhance their skills, knowledge, and competencies. LAPA has partnered with Lorman Education to provide continuing education in a variety of topic areas. LAPA members receive a 20% discount on all orders.



Join one of the nation's premier paralegal associations:
The Los Angeles Paralegal Association
Please visit www.lapa.org for detailed information about LAPA membership benefits.





Bet Tzedek Needs **YOUR** Help!

Intake Services Volunteers Sought

Bet Tzedek's Intake Services volunteers conduct pre-screening assessments in order to determine the appropriate course of action for individuals who call seeking legal assistance. Our volunteers are often the first contact our community has with our organization, and we rely on our volunteers to handle a high volume of calls from a diverse population of individuals with a broad range of needs.

Gain Issue Spotting and Client Interview Experience

Under attorney supervision, volunteers develop foundational legal skills, including learning to spot legal issues; to conduct telephone interviews with potential clients dealing with challenging, stressful situations; determining what information provided by the caller is relevant; and to begin to develop judgment of potential cases in a wide array of legal areas. Volunteering with Intake Services also provides first-hand knowledge of the landscape of legal services available in Los Angeles County and exposure to and understanding of the issues faced by the communities we serve.

Commitment: 40+ hours. During the school year, we ask that volunteers commit to working in the Intake Center for 8-10 hours/week for 8-10 weeks. During certain periods, such as winter break, we may be able to accommodate schedules that include a higher number of hours per week for fewer weeks. Work must be completed during normal business hours (M-F, 9am-5pm).

To Apply: Email volunteer@bettzedek.org or call (323) 549-5839 with any questions. Spanish language skills are highly preferred, but not required.

WELCOME NEW & RENEWING LAPA MEMBERS

The following is a listing of legal professionals and paralegal students who joined or renewed their membership in Los Angeles Paralegal Association within the last 30 days. The employer and work telephone number also are included when available. If any information is incorrect, please fax corrections to 866-460-0506, call LAPA at 866-626-LAPA or e-mail updates to info@lapa.org.

VOTING

Brenda Andjelic	Freelance Paralegal	b_andjelic@outlook.com
Serena Burnett	The Legal Edge	serena.burnett@verizon.net
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Ariel Chen	Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles	
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Shannon Chomyn	SCECG LLC	shannon.heliker@gmail.com
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VOTING cont.

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Discount program information is subject to change.

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SAVE THE DATE
for
LAPA'S Annual October Conference!
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When : Saturday, October 19, 2024

Time : 8:30am – 3:30pm

Location : Omni Los Angeles Hotel
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We look forward to seeing you.
Mark your calendar and stay tuned for further details!