

SNAP SHOT



President's Note

Although Nevada does not require paralegals to be certified, the National Association of Legal Assistants (NALA) offers it as a career development tool. There are several benefits to becoming a certified paralegal (CP):

1. If two equally qualified candidates are applying for the same job, the applicant with the certification may have an edge in obtaining the position. I recall many years ago I was not qualified to work at a major law firm because I was not certified at that time.
2. It lets employers and clients know you are committed to your profession.
3. There is self-gratification in knowing you have joined the approximately 15,000 other people who have successfully taken and passed the Certified Paralegal (CP) exam and can add the letters CP after your name. Having passed that exam is one of my greatest career accomplishments.

Certification is a time commitment and a mental commitment, but the self-satisfaction in knowing that you have passed the test far outweighs any negatives.

SNAP continues to encourage its members to become certified and wants to provide the necessary tools to succeed in our profession. We are considering starting a CP study group in January 2012 and continuing through May 2012. We anticipate meeting once a week. Because it is a time commitment for both the leaders of the study group and its members, we need a commitment from five or more members to join the group. If you are interested in joining a CP study group, please email Susan Sunday at susan@silverman-decaria.com. Please title your subject line "CP study group".

NALA offers certification examinations three times a year – January, May and September. For more information regarding the examination description, process, and application, please go to www.NALA.org.

For those of you who are not certified, I challenge you to take your profession to the next level.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Sunday, ACP
President

This Issue:

President's Note.....	1
Executive Committee Minutes.....	2
General Meeting Minutes.....	4
NALA Report.....	5
Treasurer's Report.....	6
Job Bank.....	7
NALA New APC Course.....	8
Biographies of upcoming speakers.....	9
General Meeting Flyer.....	10

GENERAL MEETING CHANGE IN VENUE

SNAP Calendar 2011

SNAP General Meetings Every Third Tuesday at Noon (see flyer)

Palais de Jade @ 960 W. Moana Lane

November 15:

Speaker: Wendy Simmons, Chief of HCQC
Topic: How We Deliver What We Promise

December 20:

Speaker: Dr. Pinson
Topic: NV Board of Pharmacy

Officers and Chairpersons

President: Susan Sunday, ACP

1st VP/Education: Melissa Paschal, CP

2nd Vice President/Membership/Job Bank:
Amy Hodgson, ACP

Treasurer: Erin Tieslau, CP

Parliamentarian: Susan Davis, CLA, PLS

Secretary: Linda Palmer

NALA Liaison: Anna Buchner

Activities/Social Chair: Jessica Bradshaw

Newsletter & Web Site Editor: Lynda Traves

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Sierra-Nevada-Association-of-Paralegals/270576446293745?sk=wall>



Commercial Bankruptcy

New APC Course

A new Advanced Paralegal Certification (APC) course in Commercial Bankruptcy under Chapters 7 and 11 of the *United States Bankruptcy Code* is now available to paralegals seeking advanced certification in this specialty practice area.

The new course focuses on bankruptcies of business debtors. Chapter 7 provides for debt relief and liquidation of an enterprise's assets. Chapter 11 gives a business protection from creditors and a chance to prepare a plan of reorganization to pay debts and stay in business.

There are nine modules of study in the new course: 1) The Bankruptcy Estate; 2) Avoiding Powers; 3) Initial Relief; 4) Chapter 7 Cases; 5) Chapter 11, Reorganization; 6) Chapter 11, Plan Development; 7) Chapter 11, Plan Confirmation; 8) Involuntary Bankruptcy; and 9) Adversary Proceedings.

Paralegals are helpful to attorneys throughout the process of guiding clients from the time of filing a bankruptcy petition through discharge and closing the case. The new course helps prepare paralegals for specific tasks from initial client interviews to drafting various petitions, judgment searches and UCC information.

The massive load of requisite motions, agreement letters, and other correspondence with debtors, creditors, lawyers, clerks, trustees, and clients is presented in logical order in easily digested modules to help make sense of the complex world of Commercial Bankruptcy.

This new offering brings the total APC program to 19 courses:

Alternative Dispute Resolution
Business Organizations: Incorporated Entities
Contracts Management/Contracts Administration
Criminal Litigation
Discovery
Land Use
Social Security Disability
Trial Practice
Trademarks
Personal Injury and/or

Individual certifications in the following PI practice areas:

- Automobile Accidents
- Entity Medical Liability
- Individual Medical Liability
- Intentional Torts
- Premises Liability
- Product Liability
- Workers' Compensation
- Wrongful Death

For further information, visit the NALA web site (www.nala.org) Certification/Advanced Paralegal Certification. (or <http://www.nala.org/APC-comm-bankruptcy.aspx>)

Washoe County Law Library

75 Court Street, Room 101, Reno, NV

(775) 328-3250

<http://www.co.washoe.nv.us/lawlib/hoursloc.htm>

Nevada Legal Resources

Class at Washoe County Law Library

http://www.co.washoe.nv.us/index/display_outreach.html~details=8895

Washoe Legal Services

299 South Arlington Avenue
Reno, NV 89501

Telephone: (775) 329-2727

Fax: (775) 324-5509

Free legal services in Washoe County, Nevada

<http://washoelegalservices.com/>

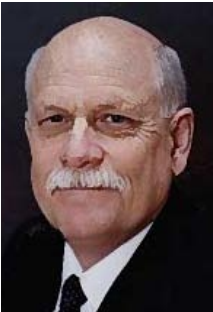
State of Nevada Bar

<http://www.nvbar.org/>

Speaker Biographies



For November, Wendy Simons is Chief of the Bureau of Health Care Quality and Compliance (HCQC), the health facility regulatory agency for the Nevada State Health Division, will be speaking on role of the HCQC in protecting public health and safety. A native Nevadan, her career in the health care industry spans 38 years. She has operated assisted living facilities, founded national industry boards, served on elder abuse committees, Governor appointed boards and commissions, as an expert witness in several court cases in two jurisdictions on elder issues, and filled a role of compliance consultant for the state prior to becoming Bureau Chief.



For December, Dr. Larry Pinson will be our speaker. He is a graduate of the University of California at San Francisco in 1973, practiced pharmacy for 32 years prior to being selected for the position of Executive Secretary of the Nevada State Board of Pharmacy. He owned and operated his own pharmacy, Silverada Pharmacy, in Reno for 22 years after practicing clinical pharmacy at St. Mary's Hospital for 5 years.

Dr. Pinson was appointed by two governors to serve the maximum of 9 years on the Nevada Board of Pharmacy, presiding over the Board for more than 8 or those years, as well as being appointed by Governor Guinn for a second term on the Nevada State Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.

During his tenure as Board President, the Board developed and implemented one of the first controlled substance abuse prevention task forces in the nation to combat 'Dr. shopping' and improper prescribing practices in Nevada. Under his direction, the Board initiated an "inspection for safety" program to better ensure safe pharmacy practices in Nevada. He has held an adjunct professorship for Idaho State University since 1989, and serves as a preceptor for pharmacy students for both North Dakota State University and Creighton University.

Besides serving as a consultant pharmacist and committee member for numerous facilities and organizations over the years, he currently is the President of the Alumni Association for UCSF. Dr. Pinson received the Bowl of Hygeia for the state of Nevada in 1984 and was selected "Pharmacist of the Year" by the state association in 1999.

SNAP General Meeting Luncheon Tuesday, November 15 at Noon

SPEAKER: Wendy Simons, Chief of The Bureau of Health Care Quality and Compliance (HCQC) of the State of Nevada

TOPIC: How We Deliver What We Promise: the role of a licensing/regulatory agency in protecting public health and safety.

PLACE: Palais de Jade
960 W. Moana Lane near Lakeside

COST: \$18.00 – Members & Guests \$15.00 – Student Members

Name: _____

Office: _____

Phone/Email: _____

Member

Student

Guest

Menu - Chinese Family Style
Sweet and Sour Chicken, Vegetable Chow Mein and Steamed Rice

Please mail your reservation form and payment to:
SNAP, P.O. Box 2832, Reno, NV 89505-2832

ALL RESERVATIONS WITH PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED
BY FRIDAY, November 11, 2011

Email reservations accepted at:
jessica@silverman-decaria.com

