

The Official Publication of the
Montgomery County Paralegal
Association

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

PAGE 2
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

PAGE 3
DID YOU MISS: CLE RECAP

PAGE 4
SAVE THE DATE: GALA

NEW MEMBERS

CREDENTIAL REMINDER

PAGE 5
NFPA STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP
ESSAY TOPIC

COFFEE & QUESTIONS WITH A
PARALEGAL

EDITORS CORNER

PAGE 6
WHO WE ARE

PAGE 8
WHERE TO FIND US

EDITOR:
VICTORIA MOLLOY
(VMOLLOY@EASTBURNGRAY
.COM)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY JENNIFER ECHIKSON

Hello folks! It's April, and that means SPRINGTIME! With springtime comes warmer weather (we're getting there) and, for the more ambitious of us, spring cleaning! And spring cleaning shouldn't just include our windows and kitchen floors—we should also spring clean our desks and offices.

As paralegals, I know we're all extremely busy, and those "should-do" lists—the stuff that's important but not essential—tend to get placed to the side. Those items can stack up, and then we don't know where to even begin!

To begin, let's focus on the benefits of keeping your electronic files organized. As more law firms and companies are transitioning to a paperless environment, it's crucial to ensure your digital files are in order. Regularly reviewing your files not only ensures all contact and case information is up to date, but also helps you locate documents quickly, eliminates duplicates, and maintains a clutter-free digital workspace.

Now, let's shift our attention to your physical workspace. A cluttered desk and disorganized files can hinder your productivity. Take a moment to tidy up your desk, dust off your keyboard, and sort out your paperwork. This simple act can help you find what you need faster and work more efficiently.

Finally, take a quick look at your to-do list. Does it need updating? Can you cross off a few things? Checking off that item will do you a world of good!

Good luck with the spring cleaning, and enjoy the warmer weather.



Court Reporting
WITH MAGNA LEGAL SERVICES

- ✓ Nationwide Coverage
- ✓ Experienced Court Reporters
- ✓ 24/7 Online Scheduling
- ✓ Virtual Depositions
- ✓ Reliable Service
- ✓ Competitive Rates

866.624.6221
magnals.com

FAST & SIMPLE
Record Retrieval

- Retrieve any type of record
- Secure, user-friendly online portal
- Real-time order tracking
- Dedicated customer service
- Prepayment of release fees

MAGNA
LEGAL SERVICES

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Assist with an upcoming Name Change Clinic on 4/24 from 4pm-6pm. The clinic is entirely virtual on Zoom. This is a one-time commitment and no follow-up is required after the clinic. If you are able to help, please email me directly and I will get you registered. Thank you!!

For more information or to sign up to volunteer please email Kelly Bresadola at kabresadola@yahoo.com by April 17, 2024, end of day.



DID YOU MISS...

BY KELLY BRESADOLA

On March 8, 2024, The Montgomery County Paralegal Association hosted a CLE on Chat GPT Generative AI in the Law 101, presented by William J. Simmons, Esq. Attorney Simmons works at Littler Mendelson practicing Labor & Employment Law.

What is Chat GPT & Generative AI? Machine learning, deep learning, natural language processing generative.

You are already using "AI" in many of your routine tasks. For example, when your I-phone predicts the next word while drafting a text-that is AI. Specifically, machine learning, using simple language models to understand the input and make predictions.

GPT stands for Generative Pre-Trained Transformer – which is a language model. It is the fastest growing tech in history, with over 100 million users. They are up version GPT 4, GPT 4 is 40% more likely to provide correct responses than GPT 3.5. Attorney Simmons showed a demo using GPT 3.5.

There are many types of "Chat GPT's" and they are rolling out into window apps. Meta Llama 2 you can download onto your computer. GPT is not just text anymore, it can produce pictures. You can tell it to show you a King Charles Cavalier wearing an elf hat and will produce pics of dogs wearing elf hats. There's new tech- SORA, it's not open to the public yet.

Attorney Simmons showed several examples of what Chat GPT can do. He told us about a case where a lawyer used Chat GPT and was sanctioned because the judge could not find the case law the lawyer used. AI tools can be helpful but should not be relied on. He then went over all the pros and cons of Generative AI use.

He rounded out his presentation with: What does the future hold? Will AI take my job? The emerging technologies, commercial products aggressively marketed specifically to legal, and federal/state and local regulations.

This was an informative presentation on a hot topic in the law today. The Montgomery County Paralegal Association would like to thank Attorney Simmons for his presentation.

The Montgomery County Paralegal Association hosts a free CLE to its members monthly between September and June. Need credits for certification? Sign-up for the next CLE.



Forensic Consulting, Technology & Animation. Unparalleled Experience, Period.

215-659-2010 |
toll free 800-332-6273
forensicdjs.com

DJS
a s s o c i a t e s





SAVE THE DATE

The Gala will be held on
October 17, 2024
6:30 pm – 9:30 p.m.
at the
William Penn Inn, Gwynedd PA

Additional details are forthcoming.

Know A Paralegal Who Would Benefit From Joining MCPA?
Share A Newsletter With Them So They Can See What We Are All About!
Then, They Can Visit www.montcoparalegals.org/members/

MCPA Professional and Student members enjoy the benefits of:

The MCPA's Newsletter, MCPA Today•

Access To The MCPA Job Bank•Access To Other Professional Paralegals For Advice And Assistance In All Areas Of Practice•Monthly Meetings And CLEs Dealing With Topics That Affect Paralegals Today•Network With Paralegals And Other Members Of The Legal Community•Stay On Top Of Local And National Trends In Your Career• Automatic Membership In The National Federation Of Paralegal Associations (NFPA)•Subscription To The National Paralegal Reporter, The Official Magazine Of The NFPA

NEW MEMBERS:

Keri Ross, Allstate Insurance Company

Joseph Hughes, Mazaheri Law, LLC

Jennifer DeLucca, Allstate Insurance Company

**MCPA welcomes paralegals from neighboring counties that do not have their own association.
Please feel free to share this newsletter and invite them to become members!!!**

ATTENTION!!! Credential Renewal Reminder NFPA PACE Registered Paralegals

NFPA CRP Certified Registered Paralegals

Pa.C.P. Credentialed Paralegals

Are your credentials expiring in

APRIL, MAY or JUNE?

NOW is the time to submit your renewal application and proof of CLEs.

For more information, visit:

RP and CRP – www.paralegals.org or Pa.C.P. – www.keystoneparalegals.org





NFPA 2024 STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY TOPIC IS ANNOUNCED

For more information on the 2024 NFPA Student Scholarship Essay please [CLICK HERE](#)

Why do you want to become a paralegal? Describe your ideal paralegal program and what education do you most value and why? What emphasis would you place on ethics and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion? What courses would you change or add and why?

All applications must be submitted via the online form on or before July 1.



The Student Affairs and Mentoring Committee of Montgomery County Paralegal Association invites current students and newly graduated paralegals to an informal session on April 20, 2024, beginning at 10:00 AM. Two seasoned paralegals will attend, who are open to sharing their work experience with you.

Questions are welcome!

Coffee and pastries will be provided; kindly RSVP to vmolloy@eastburngray.com before April 17, 2024. Being held at Eastburn and Gray, PC, 60 E. Court Street, Doylestown, PA 18901. Parking and access to the conference room is from the lot behind the building, off of Broad Street.

EDITOR'S CORNER

Do you have an idea or article that could be used or published in an upcoming newsletter? Please get in touch with me at vmolloy@eastburngray.com



WHO WE ARE

OFFICERS

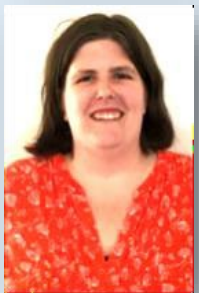


Jennifer L. Echikson, Pa.C.P. — President

Materese Family Law, P.C.

MCPApres@gmail.com

Jenn is a Family Law Paralegal at Materese Family Law, P.C. She graduated from Peirce College in 2009 with a Bachelor of Science in Paralegal Studies and became a certified paralegal through the Keystone Alliance of Paralegal Association in 2015. Jenn is co-chair of the MCPA Planning Committee, is MCPA's secondary delegate to the National Federation of Paralegal Association, and serves as Vice President and membership chair of the Family Law Paralegals of Pennsylvania.



Dana Jorna, Pa.C.P. — Vice President

Kane Pugh Knoell Troy & Kramer, LLP

MCPAvp@gmail.com

Dana is a Paralegal at the law firm Kane Pugh Knoell Troy & Kramer, LLP. She has been a member of the Montgomery County Paralegal Association since 2013, and a board member since 2018. More recently, she has become the National Federation of Paralegal Association secondary delegate, and chair of the Community Outreach & Pro Bono committee. Former President 2020-2021.



Trista Davis — Treasurer

Grim, Beihn & Thatcher, P.C.

MCPAbursar@gmail.com

Trista is an Trust and Estate Paralegal at the law firm of Grim, Biehn & Thatcher, P.C. She attended Central Pennsylvania College completing the Paralegal Program and graduated in 2009. In 2014, she received her Pa.C.P. certification through the Keystone Alliance of Paralegal Association. Trista lives in Douglassville with her husband and two children.



Kelly A. Bresadola — Secretary

Liberty Mutual Insurance Company

MCPAsteno@gmail.com

Kelly is a paralegal at Liberty Mutual Insurance Company. She does insurance defense work. Kelly has been a member of the Montgomery County Paralegal Assoc. for 4 years and part of the planning committee for the last 3 years. She lives in Montgomeryville with her husband and 2 of her 3 children

DIRECTORS



Jennifer Kozlowski

Jen earned her Associates Degree in 2011 from LCCC's Paralegal Studies Program. She has experience with estates and real estate law and also previously worked in litigation, municipal law, and juvenile dependency. Jen joined the MCPA in 2020 and has been on the Board since 2022. She has recently taken over the role of Co-chair of the Planning Committee. Outside of work, Jen is the mother of 2 boys, wife and best friend to Andy, and dog-mom to Ruby.



Victoria Molloy, Pa.C.P.

Vic is a paralegal at Eastburn & Gray, PC, in Doylestown, PA. She graduated from Manor College and has spent the last two decades primarily working in Bucks County; however, she has also supported attorneys overseas while living on a military base. Vic's experience has a broad range and is not limited to having supported attorneys who litigate and practice estate planning, employment discrimination, municipal, school, and special education law. She lives in Montgomeryville with her husband, two sons, and sweet, bowtie-wearing dogs.



Mary Oliver, RP, Pa.C.P.

Mary is a paralegal at the Law Office of Edward J. Gilson, Jr., focusing mainly on estate planning and estate litigation. She also moonlights as a freelance paralegal for various attorneys in the Greater Philadelphia area. Mary earned a bachelor's degree in Legal Assistant Studies and holds designations as a PACE Registered Paralegal and a Pennsylvania Certified Paralegal. She lives in Southampton with her dog and cat.



Denise L. Wallace, Pa.C.P.

Denise serves as the Manager of Corporate & Fiduciary Legal Services and Corporate Secretary for Pitcairn Trust Company, a multi-family office, investment advisor, and trust company. She received her paralegal certification from Pennsylvania State University and has been a Montgomery County Paralegal Association member since 2010. Denise lives with her husband, Ken, and their two pups in Bucks County.



Jennifer E. Yost

Jennifer earned her paralegal certificate from Villanova in 2015 and has experience in litigation, estate planning, and administration work. Jennifer has been a family law paralegal at Dischell Bartle & Dooley since 2022. Outside the office, she loves reading a good book, taking her dog, Tucker, for long hikes, and spending time with family and friends.



COMMITTEE CHAIRS

BAR LIAISON	<i>Kelly Bresadola</i> kabresadola@yahoo.com
CLE COORDINATOR	<i>Tracey L. Barnes, RP, Pa.C.P.</i> tbarnes@dbdlaw.com
COMMUNITY OUTREACH & PRO BONO	<i>Dana Jorna, Pa.C.P.</i> djorna@kanepugh.com
HOSPITALITY & EVENTS PLANNING	<i>Denise Wallace</i> d.wallace@pitcairn.com <i>Kelly Bresadola</i> kabresadola@yahoo.com
JOB BANK COORDINATOR	<i>Victoria Molloy, Pa.C.P.</i> vmolloy@eastburngray.com
KEYSTONE ALLIANCE DELEGATES	<i>Primary:</i> <i>Nancy Piechota, Pa.C.P.</i> npiechota@mansionprior.com <i>Secondary:</i> <i>Kelly Bresadola</i> kabresadola@yahoo.com
MARKETING	<i>Victoria Molloy, Pa.C.P.</i> vmolloy@eastburngray.com
PUBLIC RELATIONS	<i>Jennifer Echikson, Pa.C.P.</i> jechikson@mflpa.com

MEMBERSHIP	<i>Tracey L. Barnes, RP, Pa.C.P.</i> tbarnes@dbdlaw.com
NEWSLETTER	<i>Victoria Molloy, Pa.C.P.</i> vmolloy@eastburngray.com
STUDENT AFFAIRS & MENTORING	<i>Victoria Molloy, Pa.C.P.</i> vmolloy@eastburngray.com
NFPA DELEGATES	<i>Primary:</i> <i>Dana Jorna, Pa.C.P.</i> djorna@kanepugh.com <i>Secondary:</i> <i>Jennifer Echikson, Pa.C.P.</i> jechikson@mflpa.com
SOCIAL MEDIA/WEBMASTER	<i>Christopher Gregg, Pa.C.P.</i> cgregg@kanepugh.com

STUDENT LIAISONS	<i>Pierce College:</i> OPEN POSITION <i>Bucks County Community College:</i> OPEN POSITION <i>Lansdale School of Business:</i> OPEN POSITION <i>Villanova University:</i> OPEN POSITION
-------------------------	---

WHERE TO FIND US

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PARALEGAL ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 1765
BLUE BELL, PA 19422

Click [here](#) to email MCPA directly.

Website: www.montcoparalegals.org

 www.facebook.com/MCParalegals?ref=settings

 www.linkedin.com/in/mcpa-paralegals-79034b70/

Direct Links: [Membership](#)
[Contact](#)
[About Us](#)
[Upcoming Events](#)
[Newsletter](#)
[Committees](#)

[Benefits of Membership](#)
[Legal Links](#)
[News](#)
[Our Sponsors](#)
[BECOME A SPONSOR](#)

