

**NALA AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS
ANNUAL MEETING
THURSDAY JULY 11, 2024
LOUISVILLE MARRIOTT DOWNTOWN
LOUISVILLE KENTUCKY**

NALA CEO Vanessa “Vinnie” Finley, MBA, CAE (“Moderator Finley”) served as moderator of the annual meeting. She opened the meeting with the introduction of Affiliated Associations Director Sharon D. Jones, ACP (“Director Jones”). Director Jones called the 2024 Annual Meeting of the NALA Affiliated Associations to order at 3:22 PM EST.

Director Jones welcomed and thanked all attendees in person and virtually for attending the 2024 Affiliated Associations Annual Meeting. She covered a few housekeeping items to help make the meeting run smoothly.

Director Jones introduced and introduced the Affiliated Associations Team (“AA Team”): Affiliated Associations Secretary Richard (Rich) Hahn, ACP (served 2023-2024), NALA Membership Coordinator Cate Bengé, Brittney Edgehill, Member Services Representative - Partner Relationships. She also extended special thanks to the 2023 Minutes Review Committee Consisting of Caroline Wilkerson, ACP, FRP from the Central Florida Paralegal Association; Ashley Miller, CP, from the Western Dakota Association of Legal Assistants; and Erin Tieslau, CP, of the Sierra Nevada Association of Paralegals for volunteering to review and approve the minutes for the 2023 Affiliated Associations annual meeting.

Director Jones then appointed Caroline Wilkerson, ACP, FRP, Central Florida Paralegal Association; Angel Younger, ACP, Nebraska Paralegal Association; and Nicholas Guzowski, ACP, Orange County Paralegal Association to review and approve the minutes of the 2024 Affiliated Associations Annual Meeting.

Director Jones, then appointed Bridget Stuhr, ACP, At-Large Director, and immediate past Affiliated Associations Director to serve as Parliamentarian for the 2024 Affiliated Associations Annual Meeting.

Director Jones, the introduced NALA President Debra L. Overstreet, ACP, NALA President-Elect Cheryl J. Nodarse, ACP, and NALA CEO Vanessa “Vinnie” Finley, MBA, CAE who were in attendance.

Director Jones, acknowledged first time attendees and new NALA Liaisons along with welcoming NALA’s three new Affiliated Associations: the Illinois Paralegal Association, New Lenox, IL; Volusia County Paralegal Association, Daytona Beach, FL; and the Rocky Mountain Paralegal Association, Denver, CO. She then recognized affiliated associations who were celebrating milestone anniversaries of affiliation with NALA this year.

20 Years

- Houston Paralegal Association
- Legal Assistants/Paralegals of Southern West Virginia

Director Jones reminded affiliates of important deadlines. The annual report is due on January 15th, the mid-year report is due on June 8th, and membership renewal fees are due annually on October 1st. She also reminded affiliates about the following items:

- To submit the CLEs for NALA approval three weeks before their event
- The NALA Liaisons Guidebook is available on the NALA Presidents and Liaisons page of the NALA website.
- The Town Halls for Affiliates
- The Sunday Add-On session to address issues Affiliates are facing.
- The new Affiliated Associations Agreement worked on by an Affiliated Associations Task Force, which eliminates any conflicts between and Affiliated Associations Bylaws and NALA's Bylaws, which was approved by the NALA Board of Directors at their special meeting in June.
- That two new task forces were appointed by President Overstreet. The second task force will determine if a standing committee is needed regarding Affiliated Associations.

Director Jones then reminded the Affiliated Associations that one of the benefits of being affiliated with NALA includes one visit from a NALA representative per calendar year NALA Board members made visits to the following affiliates this year:

- Houston Paralegal Association-Paralegal Day
- Montana Association of Legal Assistants-Annual Meeting & CLE
- Legal Assistants /Paralegals of Southern West Virginia-20th Annual Meeting & Seminar
- St. Louis Paralegal Association-Paralegal Day
- Paralegal Association of New Jersey-Swearing In/Installation of their newly elected Board of Directors.
- San Francisco Paralegal Association-Paralegal Day.

Directors Jones then asked if there were any questions from the floor. There were no questions.

Director Jones, proceeded to the election portion of the meeting which was handled by NALA CEO and annual meeting moderator Finley.

Moderator Finley described the criteria for each position and announced the results thereof as follows:

The candidate for the office of Affiliated Association Director must be a NALA Active member in good standing and a member in good standing of an affiliated association during their term as Affiliated Associations Director. The candidate must have successfully completed the CP exam

and maintained current CP status. The Affiliated Associations Director will also serve on the NALA Board of Directors during their term. The term of office is for one year.

As there was only one candidate for the office of Affiliated Associations Director Moderator Finley announced that Sharon D. Jones, ACP was elected Affiliated Associations Director for the 2024-2025 term.

The candidate for Affiliated Associations Secretary must be a NALA Active member in good standing and a member in good standing of an affiliated association during their term as Affiliated Associations Secretary. The term of office is one year.

Moderator Finley announced that Melissa Klimpel, ACP (who was not in attendance to make a statement due to travel issues) was elected Affiliated Associations Secretary for the 2024-2025 term.

After the election results were announced the meeting continued with the awards presentation.

Affiliated Associations Secretary Richard (Rich) Hahn (“Secretary Hahn”) presented the following awards, and the recipients came up and made statements following the announcement of their award:

NALA Pinnacle Award: Stephanie Elliot, of the Metrolina Paralegal Association
Affiliated Association of the year Award: Charleston Paralegal Association.

After those two awards were presented Brittney Edgehill, NALA Member Services Representative - Partner Relationships presented the NALA Affiliate Awards. The following were recipients of the 2024 NALA Affiliates Award:

1. Kimberly G. Tillman, CP, - Alabama Association of Paralegals, Inc.
2. Caroline Wilkerson, ACP, FRP, -Central Florida Paralegal Association.
3. Taren M Black, CP- Central Oklahoma Association of Legal Assistants.
4. Kerrie M. Specht, ACP- Charleston Association of Legal Assistants.
5. Los Angeles Paralegal Association Newsletter Committee-Los Angeles Paralegal Association.
6. Norma J. Franco, CP-Maricopa County Paralegal Association.
7. Jessica M. McArdle, ACP-Nebraska Paralegal Association.
8. Jennifer L. Arnold, ACP-Oklahoma Paralegal Association.
9. Joi Randall Millett-Orange County Paralegal Association.
10. David A. Dewell, ACP- Paralegal Association of Florida, Inc.
11. Angela DeSaracho-San Diego Paralegal Association.
12. Wendy MacDonald, CP-South Carolina Upstate Paralegal Association.
13. South Dakota Paralegal Association Education Committee-South Dakota Paralegal Association.
14. Kati M. Wheatley, ACP-Smokey Mountain Paralegal Association.
15. Jessica Hayes-Tennessee Paralegal Association.
16. Candace “Candy” Schafer-Western Dakota Association of Legal Assistants.

The awards presentations concluded the election and business portion of the meeting and Secretary Hahn introduced Amy McGuigan, ACP of the San Francisco Paralegal Association and Tony Sipp of the Los Angeles Paralegal to present the 2024 Affiliates Exchange program titled “The Benefits of Collaboration”.

After the Affiliates Exchange presentation questions were taken and an answered.

Directors Jones then thanked the San Francisco Paralegal Association and the Los Angeles Paralegal Association for their Affiliates Exchange presentation.

Director Jones adjourned the meeting at 4:35 PM EST.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard (Rich) Hahn, ACP

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2023-2024 Affiliated Associations Secretary