

# THE VERDICT

DENTON COUNTY PARALEGAL ASSOCIATION

NOVEMBER 2012

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Jennifer Stout

**WELL** guys, my reign as 2012 DCPA President has come to an end. I am a little saddened but grateful and humbled to have had the opportunity to serve our membership. I hope I did my part in the continued growth of DCPA.

Although I was extremely apprehensive and, to be honest, a little out of my element, you, the DCPA members, made me feel at ease and encouraged me despite my many fumbles and stumbles. My experiences over the past year have been exciting, scary, frustrating at times, but most of all, rewarding. It has been a great pleasure to learn more about the ends and outs of the DCPA; initiating change when needed for the growth or fluidity of the membership; carrying out decisions needed for the better good of the membership; and being a part of those who contributed to resolutions of the difficulties that arose throughout the year. The difficulties created challenges that were addressed and resolved. Difficulties bring out the best or worst in individuals; I can say I had the privilege to have worked with "the best"! I credit the resolution to the collective cooperation and input of "the best": our Executive Committee; Ria Sherman, Kim Guertler, Lisa Pittman and Vicki Schmidt. Ladies, if not for you I could not have made it this year. Your assistance, guidance, suggestions and support were invaluable; thank you!

I would like to extend my appreciation to and acknowledge the efforts of our committee chairs and their members; Lisa Bowles, Jenna Earhart, Debbie Maldonado, Priscilla Brooks and Linda Lewis, Lisa Pitman and Christy Powell. Ladies, your efforts have not gone unnoticed! Thank you for volunteering your time and striving to provide our members with the best; well done.

Last but not least, I would be remiss if I did not thank our members. If not for our members, DCPA would not be what it is. When required, our members stepped up, came through and achieved the needed outcome. It was a total membership effort and I applaud each and every one of you. I

hope that each member continues to make and give their time and 100% effort to DCPA to insure its sustainability, growth and effectiveness to our legal community.

In closing, we have a great team for 2013. I have no doubt that with this crew the DCPA will continue to grow, be creative and strive for perfection in professionalism! I hope I did my part; let's continue to be a part of, and participate in, the success of DCPA.

Thank you again. It has been a pleasure, see you around!

## DCPA 2013 OFFICERS

Ria Sherman, President  
Kim Guertler, President-Elect  
Michelle James, Secretary/Parliamentarian  
Lisa Pittman, Treasurer

## PLEASE NOTE: EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2012

**Due to the increase cost in food & beverages, and to insure there is no increase in cost to DCPA members, the DCPA monthly luncheon meetings will now be held in the smaller banquet room at Oakmont; space will be limited. Therefore, it is imperative you make your reservation to attend and eat or to attend with no lunch. And per policy if you RSVP and do not attend an invoice will be sent to cover the expense.**

## MEETING NOTICE

The Denton County Paralegal Association's next Luncheon will be on Thursday, **November 29, 2012** at noon at

Oakmont Country Club, 1901 Oakmont Drive, Corinth, Texas.

The all-inclusive cost of lunch is \$13.00 payable when you sign in. We cannot accept debit or credit cards, or make change, so please bring exact amount of cash or a check made payable to DCPA.

**RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED** and can be made via e-mail to [jennifer.stout@dentoncounty.com](mailto:jennifer.stout@dentoncounty.com). The Deadline for making your reservation is 5:00 P.M. on Monday, November 26, 2012.

**Notice: We must notify Oakmont of the number attending prior to the meeting for preparation of adequate food and seating arrangements. Those that have RSVP'd will get served and seated first. We cannot guarantee that you will have seating or food if you do not RSVP. Please note we are also required to bill those individuals who make reservations and do not attend.**

**Directions to Oakmont: Oakmont Country Club is located in Corinth off I-35 East between Lewisville and Denton.**

- Exit 461 – Shady Shores Rd/Post Oak Drive
- Turn west onto Post Oak Drive
- Turn right (west) onto Robinson Rd at stop sign
- Turn left (south) onto Oakmont Dr – you will see an Oakmont sign in the median
- Turn right into Oakmont Country Club (second right)



### AGENDA FOR OCTOBER MEETING

Date: Thursday, November 29, 2012

Place: Oakmont Country Club  
1901 Oakmont Drive  
Corinth, Texas 76210

Time: Noon

1. Welcome members and guests
2. Old Business - Approve October minutes
3. New Business –
  - a. November Treasurer's report
  - b. Committee Reports (see attached)
4. Door prizes and adjournment

### DCPA WEBSITE

Check out what's new on our website at [www.dentonparalegals.org](http://www.dentonparalegals.org). Let us know what you think, and

what you would like to see on our website in the future. If you have any changes that need to be made to your contact information, please let us know.

### MEMBERSHIP

Please encourage those paralegals and others in the legal field, whom are not currently members, to join. If you know of anyone who would like to join, please contact Priscilla Brooks at [Priscilla.brooks@dentoncounty.com](mailto:Priscilla.brooks@dentoncounty.com), (940) 349-2758 or Linda Lewis at [linda@dentonfamilyattorneys.com](mailto:linda@dentonfamilyattorneys.com), (940) 591-1191.

### BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE DENTON COUNTY PARALEGAL ASSOCIATION INCLUDE:

- ❖ Receipt of the monthly issue of *The Verdict*
- ❖ Free Accredited CLE at monthly meetings
- ❖ Continuing Legal Education seminars on various topics
- ❖ Job Bank
- ❖ Motivation
- ❖ Networking with other paralegals in Denton County
- ❖ Professional growth through participation
- ❖ Communication and promotion of professional conduct and responsibility
- ❖ Continued individual and professional growth as paralegals
- ❖ Fulfillment that is received from being involved in the direction of the paralegal profession

### BIRTHDAYS!



Our members with December birthdays are:

Ava Watson (Dec 5)  
Ria Sherman (Dec 20)  
Erin Pack (Dec 21)  
Carla Neal (Dec 30)  
Ivon Duenes (Dec 31)

Hope each of you will have a **Happy Birthday!**

### EVENTS/NEWS



Do you have a recipe, informative tip/idea, or joke, etc. that you would like to share with your fellow DCPA Members? If so, please submit your idea to Jenna Earhart at [jeahart@hbvwlaw.com](mailto:jeahart@hbvwlaw.com). Thank you!

**DCPA ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY**

Our DCPA Holiday Party is set for December, 6, 2012, 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 pm. at Prairie House located at 10001 Hwy. 380, Crossroads, Texas.

We will enjoy an ornament gift exchange - \$5.00 limit, as well as the company of each other. Please plan to join us!

**DCPA FUNDRAISER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

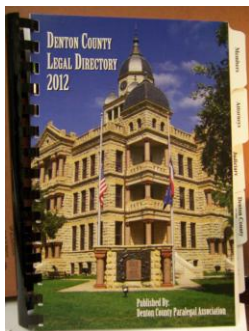


Thanks to our Members who participated this month in donating can goods! With the monetary donations we received and money from our Silent Auction, we were able to purchase enough food for at least SEVEN families as well as gift-cards towards turkeys for each family - Thank you again for your generosity!

**CACDC CHRISTMAS FAMILY**

CADC Christmas children lists are attached. CADC family Christmas donations can begin being delivered any time before our Holiday Party, but all final donations will be due on **Monday, December 3rd.**

All donations can be delivered to Hayes, Berry, White & Vanzant at 512 W. Hickory, Suite 100, Denton, Texas 76201, starting now. If you have any questions, please email Jenna Earhart at [jeahart@hbwvlaw.com](mailto:jeahart@hbwvlaw.com) or call at (940) 387-3518. Thank you!!



Members, please get your 2012 Legal Directory if you haven't already picked it up! This latest directory has been updated to include some of the newest attorneys in Denton County. The cost of the directory is \$25.00 each. If you have an old directory, turn it in for a \$2.00 rebate on the purchase price. See attached Order Form.

This is a great resource! Get yours today! For more information contact Lisa Pittman at (940) 387-3518 or [lpittman@hbwvlaw.com](mailto:lpittman@hbwvlaw.com).



**SUPPORT OUR SUSTAINING MEMBERS**

**Our Sustaining Members give so much to our Association, please be sure to think of them when you are in need of services that require their**

- Jay Freeman @ Accurate Concept Insurance
- Dana Miller @ Zenith Investigations
- Cheryl Perlich @ The Reporting Professionals
- Bruce Stewart @ Stewart Process Service Inc
- Janel Stoffels @ Stoffels & Associates Inc.
- Blake Owens @ US Legal Support

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

If you have an open position in your office or know of another office that has an opening and would like to e-mail it to the members and have it posted in the next newsletter, please contact Lisa Pittman at (940) 387-3518 or [lpittman@hbwvlaw.com](mailto:lpittman@hbwvlaw.com).

**TIP OF THE MONTH**

Holiday Bowmaking Tip:

- 1 block floral foam or styrofoam (10"x3"x2")
- 2 (6") lengths of 1/4" dowel or other diameter
- Ribbon as desired
- 1. Push dowels into foam about 5" apart. Holding ribbon end on top of base, wrap dowels at least 3 times (for larger bows 4-6 times).
- 2. Cut Ribbon end. After wrapping dowels cut ribbon leaving 8 inch tail; slip tail of ribbon underneath loops; continuing to hold starting end of ribbon.
- 3. Tie a center knot. Secure the loops by tying the ribbon ends firmly into a knot in center of loops. slide bow loops off dowel.
- 4. Attach to package and arrange loops. Tie bow atop intersecting ribbons that wrap around package. Separate and fluff bow loops. Fold ribbon ends in half and trim as desired.