

THE VERDICT



Denton County Paralegal Association

www.dentonparalegals.org

2023 OFFICERS

2023 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Kristina Chiarelli, President
kchiarelli@hbwvlaw.com

CLE, Lisa Bowles
lisa@koonfuller.com

Renita Murphy, President-Elect/Treasure
rmurphy@hbwvlaw.com

Fundraising, Nicole Smith
nsmith@hbwvlaw.com

Sharron Dowdle, Secretary
sharron@littlefamilylawfirm.com

Membership, Alicia Spencer
alicia.spencer@untsystem.edu

Jennifer Earhart, Historian
jearhart@hbwvlaw.com

Newsletter, Amy Dugger
adugger@hbwvlaw.com

Social, Kristina Chiarelli
kchiarelli@hbwvlaw.com

Scholarship, Renita Murphy
rmurphy@hbwvlaw.com

**Reach out to us with questions, suggestions or to volunteer.
We'd love to hear from you!**



**Denton County
Paralegal Association**



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Meeting Notice

The Denton Paralegal Association's next business meeting will be on Thursday, October 19, 2023 via Zoom.

Did you know....

Each year in Texas, October 23rd is recognized as Paralegal Day to honor and celebrate the paralegal community. Beginning in 2005, the Texas House of Representatives signed proclamations acknowledging October 23 as "Paralegal Day" for one or two years at a time. However, on January 22, 2009, the Texas Senate issued Proclamation No. 1144, declaring October 23rd to be Texas Paralegal Day indefinitely.

CLE Committee working hard

Special Shout out to the CLE committee for doing such a great job. Ask your attorney to consider presenting a CLE and let us know if you have any questions.



THE VERDICT

September CLE Speaker - Jim Ashmore "Mediation and Arbitration"

Mr. Ashmore attended law school at the University of Tulsa College of Law and received his Juris Doctor in 1992. While at Tulsa, he was a Visiting Scholar at the Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law. Mr. Ashmore arrived in Denton County in 1997. He currently plays an active role in the North Texas legal community, which has included being a past President of the Denton County Bar Association. Mr. Ashmore is a credentialed mediator and a certified ad litem.

Before practicing law, Mr. Ashmore spent a little more than a decade as a radio disc jockey, and he spent time working in real estate. But his true calling was the law, and the way he has handled his family law, mediation, and probate practice has resulted in receiving various honors and accolades in an industry where it's important to stand out for the right reasons.



THE VERDICT

August CLE Speaker - Sarah A. Darnell
"Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act"



Sarah is a 2006 graduate of Oklahoma City University School of Law. She has always known that she wanted to practice family law. During law school she began focusing her career in the area of family law by obtaining a limited license to practice law in the state of Oklahoma. She was also a summer law clerk for the Honorable Judge Marilea Lewis of the 330th District Court in Dallas County, Texas. In 2012 she became Board Certified in the area of Family Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. Prior to joining Lewis, Passons & Darnell in 2020, Sarah worked for several well-respected and well-known DFW area family law firms.

THE VERDICT

The Honorable Sherry Shipman - July CLE Speaker

*"Get in Touch with the 16th Judicial District Court,
Denton County, Texas"*

Sherry Shipman received her undergraduate degree from University of North Texas and her J.D. from Texas Wesleyan University School of Law. Prior to her judicial election, Shipman was a shareholder at Shipman Steppick. She began her career at the firm of Shannon, Gracey, Ratliff and Miller, L.L.P, gaining experience in that firm's civil litigation section. For two and a half years, Ms. Shipman was a Denton County Assistant Criminal District Attorney and represented the State of Texas in hundreds of cases involving criminal matters and the termination of parental rights in cases of child neglect or abuse. Since 2004, Ms. Shipman has practiced in the area of civil litigation, primarily in Denton.



THE VERDICT



Ellen Lockwood - June CLE Speaker

"Review of Ethical Canons, Violation Trends, and New Issues"

Ellen Lockwood, ACP, RP, received her Bachelor of Music degree from Southwestern University and her paralegal certificate from Southwestern Professional Institute. She is a past president of the Paralegal Division of the State Bar of Texas and Chair of the Professional Ethics Committee of the Division. Ellen is the lead author of the Division's Paralegal Ethics Handbook published by Thomson Reuters.

She is also a past president of the Alamo Area Paralegal Association and a frequent speaker and writer on paralegal ethics. In 2008, Ellen was honored to receive the San Antonio Paralegal of the Year award and the Paralegal Division's Award of Excellence. She has more than thirty years paralegal experience, including 17 years in-house. She is currently a trademark paralegal with Schwegman, Lundberg & Woessner.

THE VERDICT

HAPPY

BIRTHDAY

April

Priscilla Brooks
Melissa Hopkins
Christi Leija
Miranda Miller

May

Kristina Chiarelli
Jennifer Cline
Alice Hawes
Linda Lewis
Ali Silva
Dara Warren

June

Alicia Spencer

July

Martha Gallegos
Lily Lord
Donna Miller

August

LaKeshia Bell
Melissa Boyd
Melody Brackeen
Denise Davis
Diana Dillinger
Tina Gamez
Janene Koiner
Aurora Moreno
Haley Tarango
Landra K. Turner
Kyra Wright

September

Madison Duehr
Jennifer Earhart
Estina Reynolds
Nicole Smith
Ethan Thames
Shannon Worley



THE VERDICT

Upcoming Events

DENTON COUNTY
BAR ASSOCIATION

DENTON COUNTY
PARALEGAL ASSOCIATION

*Happy Hour

&

PUMPKIN DECORATING
Contest

TO RESERVE YOUR PUMPKIN, PLEASE EMAIL KRISTINA CHAMBERLAIN AT
KCHAMBER@DENTONCOUNTYBARASSOCIATION.COM

SPONSORED BY
VICKI ISAACKS
DISPUTE RESOLUTION

OCTOBER 12, 2023

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

THE DIVE

3350 UNICORN LAKE BLVD

DENTON, TX



THE VERDICT

Upcoming Events

The Denton County Paralegal Association
Presents

HALLOWEEN

Paralegal Day Celebration



MON 10/23/23

Beginning at 5:30 pm



THE PARKER HOUSE

8550 W University Drive, Denton, TX 76207

Please join us to celebrate National Paralegal Day.
Music, Food, Drinks, Fun, and a Costume Contest!

Open to DCPA members and non-members

WIN A PRIZE FOR THE BEST COSTUME, MOST CREATIVE COSTUME, FUNNIEST COSTUME, AND THE LEAST EFFORT COSTUME!



PLEASE RSVP BY OCTOBER 16TH TO ENSURE AN ACCURATE HEAD COUNT

RSVP online at <https://www.dentonparalegals.org>
Direct any questions to Kristina Chiarelli at
kchiarelli@hbwvllaw.com

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Past Events Wellness Day

Wellness Day at Lifetime Fitness in Alliance was a rejuvenating time, participating in yoga, lunch, pickleball and more.



COOKIE DECORATING WORKSHOP

Kim Durbin's Cookie Decorating Workshop was also a hit, complete with kits to make our own Easter cookies that tasted as good as they looked!



THE VERDICT

PARALEGALS OF THE MONTH

DCPA Member of The Month



Ali Silva

Court Administrator | 442nd District Court | Denton County.

Ali Silva is the Court Administrator for the 442nd Judicial District Court of Denton County, Honorable Tiffany Haertling presiding. She has served in this capacity since January of 2015. Prior to that, Ms. Silva was Judge Haertling's paralegal at Holmes, Diggs & Eames, where she was employed for five years. Ms. Silva graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Public Relations from the University of North Texas, Mayborn School of Journalism before going on to obtain a Paralegal Certificate from the University of North Texas, Professional Development Institute. She completed the Professional Development Program (PDP) and continued to become a Certified Court Manager (CCM) through the National Center for State Courts in 2018. She is engaged and together they have one elderly German Shepard mix and Dallas Stars Hockey Season Tickets. Go Stars!



CONGRATULATIONS DCPA MEMBER OF THE MONTH



MARTHA GALLEGOS

ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER
MISDEMEANOR DIVISION
DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE



Ever since Martha was young, she was fascinated by the law. It just so happened that she became interested in criminal law. She wanted to be part of the system that brought justice to all affected by crime and violence either by experiencing it directly or indirectly. She attended undergraduate school at St. Edwards University in Austin, Texas majoring in Criminal Justice. She later journeyed to obtain her Paralegal Certificate at the University of North Texas, Professional Development Institute.

She began her career at the Terry County Sheriff's office in warrant communications and a licensed Deputy Reserve Officer. Relocated to the DFW area and then began her adventure with Denton County in 2005. She is currently an Administrative Manager for the Misdemeanor Division, Denton County Criminal District Attorney's Office. She feels extremely proud to be part of Paul Johnson's team seeking justice for the people of Denton County.

She has served in the Executive Committee as Secretary for the Denton County Paralegal Association and has volunteered with the many fundraisers, social events and CLE throughout the years. She is involved with the PKD Foundation-North Texas Community as a team leader for the annual PKD 4K Run. She is also a devoted crusader for Donate Life America and Donate Life Texas, an association that is very dear to her heart.

She was born and raised in a small town in west Texas. She loved the close-knit atmosphere growing up in that small town where the focus of life was relationships. Everyone knew everybody and the closeness of the community built a strong support system. Which is why she and her husband wanted to raise their children in a small town. They have lived in Ponder for 33 years and happy to call it home. She is a very proud mother of 3 adult children and 3 adorable grandchildren. She loves being their mom and grandma more than anything in this world. She is happy to say they will be celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary this July.

THE VERDICT

PARALEGALS OF THE MONTH

CONGRATULATIONS
TOYA
BROWN-PHILLIPS



PARALEGAL OF THE MONTH



Toya Brown-Phillips is a family law paralegal at Coker, Robb & Cannon, PC. She is celebrating her 12th "workiversary" at the firm this month. Prior to joining Coker, Robb & Cannon, Toya was a deputy clerk in the Denton County District Clerk's Office for four years. She has been passionate about family law for many years. She loves and appreciates the opportunity to help clients navigate through challenging times and into their next best chapter.

She earned a Bachelor of Arts and Sciences in Political Science at the University of North Texas and minored in Criminal Justice. She initially began her time at UNT as a music major, but quickly fell in love with the Political Science department and jumped ship. Political Science wasn't the only thing she fell in love with- she also met her husband of 20 years at UNT.

If you know anything about Toya, then you know she is a very proud mother to three amazing kids. Her son is following in her footsteps as a UNT Eagle, while her daughter will soon begin her first year as a SMU Mustang. She hopes her youngest child will choose a college close to home as well, but has several years before that time comes.

Toya has been a sports and band mom for many, many years. It keeps her busy, but she loves it! When she is not being the loudest person in the stands of a football game or on the sideline of a volleyball court, she's quietly tucked away on the chaise section of her favorite sofa, eating sweet-n-salty popcorn, lost in a good book. She is currently reading "Becoming" by Michelle Obama and taking suggestions for the next best read!




Diana Dillinger joined Hayes, Berry, White & Vanzant, LLP as a probate, estate planning and bankruptcy paralegal in December of 2017. Prior to joining Hayes, Berry, White & Vanzant, LLP Diana was a personal injury litigation paralegal in Tucson, Arizona. She also has prior paralegal experience in immigration law.

Diana has over 12 years experience as a paralegal, but unlike many seasoned paralegals in DCPA, she first pursued a career in the hospitality industry. She graduated from Niagara University in 1990 with a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Hotel, Travel and Tourism Management. Starting in hotel sales, then banquet and catering director positions at top hotels in Washington, D.C. Diana then obtained her dream job as a Meeting and Event Planner for a fortune 500 company in N.Y.C. where she was traveling and booking meetings and events all over the U.S. and Europe.

Diana met her husband while building her first career in Washington, D.C. Diana and her husband have lived in five different states across the U.S. In 2004, Diana became a mother and soon realized that traveling as a meeting/event planner was no longer where she wanted to be. With her husband's demanding career in federal law enforcement, Diana decided to pursue a new career that would allow her to maintain steady work hours, did not require travel, and allowed her to be the dedicated mother she wanted to be. She graduated with Honors from The George Washington University in 2011 with a Master's Degree in Paralegal Studies, where she was also inducted into The George Washington University Chapter of the National Honor Society in Paralegal/Legal Assistant Studies.

Diana has been an active member of local and state paralegal associations since 2011. She is a member of the State of Texas Paralegal Division. Prior to moving to Texas, she served as the Mentorship Chairperson for the Tucson (Arizona) Paralegal Association from 2012 to 2014. A member of DCPA since 2018, Diana has served as a Social Committee Member and as the Fundraising Committee Chairperson from 2019-2020 and continues to be an active member.

Congrats!



DIANA
DILLINGER

PARALEGAL OF THE MONTH

THE VERDICT

PARALEGALS OF THE MONTH



PARALEGAL OF THE *Month*

Sharron Dowdle is currently employed with Little & Logue, PLLC as their senior paralegal. She was born in Show Low, Arizona and moved frequently while growing up as the daughter of an Immigration and Naturalization agent. Sharron is the mother of two children, the joy and love of her life. She also provides much service to her community, as well as several years serving on the Executive Committee as Secretary for the Denton County Paralegal Association, and the SBOT-Paralegal Division District 12 Webinar sub-chair. Sharron practiced as a Surgical Assistant for six years before changing careers into the legal field. Her legal experience began in 2002 as a self-employed discovery service and continued forward to ultimately obtain her Paralegal Certificate. Sharron has since worked for attorneys in Colorado, Arizona and Texas, specializing in Criminal Law, Appellate Law, Family Law, Probate Law, Guardianship Law, Estate Planning and services establishing small corporations since 2010. She enjoys the detailed and intense work environment that being a successful paralegal requires. She looks forward to continued success in the legal arena. Sharron enjoys the outdoors and sports - both as a participant and an audience- reading, cooking, and spending time on the beach!



SHARRON DOWDLE

THE VERDICT

Employment Opportunities



LAW OFFICE OF
DAVID S. BOUSCHOR, II, P.C.
FAMILY LAW - GUARDIANSHIP - PROBATE

WE ARE HIRING FOR...

Family Law Paralegal

3+ YEARS
EXPERIENCE
PREFERRED

STRONG APPLICANTS :

- / Time & case management skills
- / Enjoys work with a team
- / Enjoys solving complex issues
- / Effective communication skills

SUBMIT YOUR
RESUME



OFFICE@DSBLEGAL.COM

WHY HERE? Just to name a few...

- Health/ dental/ vision insurance
- PTO & retirement with match
- Paid CLEs/ events/ trips
- Challenging cases & work/life balance
- Competitive Salary + Bonuses

FOR FULL ANNOUNCEMENT:

[CLICK HERE](#)

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US!

TEL · 940-323-1300



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Sustaining Members

Support our Sustaining members by calling them when you have a project that needs outside support. Remember it is through their continued support and generosity that DCPA is able to provide social events at low cost.



Board-Certified Texas Law Firm

Texas Attorneys with More than 200 Years of Combined Experience
Serving Clients throughout the Denton, Tarrant, Collin, and Cooke Counties,
our firm delivers effective advice and advocacy in several legal practice areas, including

Denton Office

512 West Hickory, Suite 100

Denton, Texas 76201

Phone: 940-387-3518

Fax: 940-383-4387

THE VERDICT

Sustaining Members

Support our Sustaining members by calling them when you have a project that needs outside support. Remember it is through their continued support and generosity that DCPA is able to provide social events at low cost.



Darcy Loveless
1300 Fulton Street
Denton, Texas 76201
940-387-3776
<https://cmloveless.com/contact/>

GIT-R-SERVED

121 N. 2nd Street #330, Krum, TX 76249
gitrserverd@gmail.com

469-733-3136-Lori
469-358-1717-Corey

THE VERDICT

Sponsorship

Our goal is to provide each sponsor a value through marketing and direct involvement with our legal community here in Denton County. We look forward to getting to know you!

Sponsorship Level:

Diamond Sponsor- \$1500.00

- Sustaining membership subscription period for 1 year.
- Full access to all events, meetings, newsletters, and online resources.
- Your firm or company name, logo, contact information, your services, and biography will be listed and displayed on our website, social media page, and event.
- Your firm or company name will be named as a sponsor to our website.
- Opportunity to list up to four ads in our quarterly newsletter "The Verdict."
- Custom banner with your firm or company on display at the Spring CLE.
- Invitation to the 2023 Spring CLE as a VIP guest.
- Special shoutout by President Kristina Chiarelli at the Spring CLE which will be hosted at the Denton County Courthouse on May 5, 2023.
- Two complimentary invitations to our annual Christmas Social.
- Two complimentary invitations to each of our social events.
- Recognition at each of our social events.

Platinum Sponsor- \$1000.00

- Sustaining membership subscription period for 1 year.
- Full access to all events, meetings, newsletters, and online resources.
- Your firm or company name, logo, contact information, your services, and biography will be listed and displayed on our website, social media page, and event.
- Opportunity to list up to four ads in our quarterly newsletter "The Verdict."
- Custom banner with your firm or company on display at the Spring CLE.
- Invitation to the 2023 Spring CLE as a VIP guest.
- Special shoutout by President Kristina Chiarelli at the Spring CLE which will be hosted at the Denton County Courthouse on May 5, 2023.
- Two complimentary invitations to our annual Christmas Social.
- Two complimentary invitations to each of our social events.
- Recognition at each of our social events.

THE VERDICT

Gold Sponsor- \$750.00

- Sustaining membership subscription period for 1 year.
- Full access to all events, meetings, newsletters, and online resources.
- Your firm or company name, logo, contact information, your services, and biography will be listed and displayed on our website, social media page, and event.
- Opportunity to list up to two ads in our quarterly newsletter "The Verdict."
- Custom banner with your firm or company on display at the Spring CLE.
- Special shoutout by President Kristina Chiarelli at the Spring CLE which will be hosted at the Denton County Courthouse on May 5, 2023.
- One complimentary invitation to our annual Christmas Social.
- One complimentary invitation to each of our social events.
- Recognition at each of our social events.

Silver Sponsor- \$500.00

- Sustaining membership subscription period for 1 year.
- Full access to all events, meetings, newsletters, and online resources.
- Your firm or company name, logo, contact information, your services, and biography will be listed and displayed on our website, social media page, and event.
- Opportunity to list up to one ad in our quarterly newsletter "The Verdict."
- Custom sign with your firm or company on display at the Spring CLE.
- Special shoutout by President Kristina Chiarelli at the Spring CLE which will be hosted at the Denton County Courthouse on May 5, 2023.
- Recognition at each of our social events.

Bronze Sponsor- \$250.00

- Sustaining membership subscription period for 1 year.
- Full access to all events, meetings, newsletters, and online resources.
- Your firm or company name and logo will be listed and displayed on our website, social media page, and event.
- Custom sign with your firm or company on display at the Spring CLE.
- Special shoutout by President Kristina Chiarelli at the Spring CLE which will be hosted at the Denton County Courthouse on May 5, 2023.
- Recognition at each of our social events.

If you are not interested in sponsoring at any of the tiered levels mentioned above, please consider donating to the Denton County Paralegal Association on a different level. Community sponsors are the primary source of funding and will help ensure our success!

THE VERDICT

Sponsor Name: _____

Sponsor Address: _____

Sponsor Email Address: _____

Enclosed is my one-time donation to the Denton County Paralegal Association in the amount of:

\$50.00 \$100.00 \$150.00 \$200.00

Other amount: \$ _____ (specify)

I have a door prize and/or a gift certificate/card(s) to donate. Please have someone contact me.

Enclosed is my check

Please charge my Visa MasterCard American Express Discover

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Billing Address: _____ Security Code: _____

Signature: _____

You can also pay using our website at <https://www.dentonparalegals.org/>

The Denton County Paralegal Association would like to thank you in advance for your support!

Please e-mail your company logo to kchiarelli@hbwvlaw.com

Please mail forms and checks to: Questions:
(**all donation receipts will be sent by email) Kristina Chiarelli, President
Denton County Paralegal Association 940-341-2362
P. O. Box 2641 Tax Exempt#02-0778532
Denton, Texas 76201

THE VERDICT

DCPA MINUTES

March 16, 2023

President Kristina Chiarelli called the meeting held on this date to order at 12:02 p.m. via Zoom. President Chiarelli welcomed 20 members, 6 guests and Speaker Paul Leopold.

Old Business

1. Motion for February minutes to be approved by Cheryl Cooper; 2nd motion for approval-Nicole Smith; unanimously approved.
2. President Chiarelli reiterated the need for volunteers to help with venue for in-person monthly meetings, socials, etc.
3. President Chiarelli reminded members of outgoing membership renewals being sent out monthly.
4. President Chiarelli reminded members of the Scholarship Deadlines for each certification/association.

New Business-President Chiarelli announced the following:

1. Ad-Hoc Committee- will convene and begin revisions of By-Laws and Standing Rules for review.
2. Fundraising: Pasta fundraiser **has started** March 1st. Cookie Decorating Social/Fundraiser still has available spots to attend.
3. Caitlin Harris was presented as the Paralegal of the Month for March 2023.
4. The Verdict newsletter will be distributed soon- this will be a quarterly newsletter this year.
5. Recognition of March member birthdays

President Chiarelli introduced Paul Leopold as our CLE speaker today. Mr. Leopold's topic was "Discovery: How to Get What you Need". A link to Mr. Leopold's handouts was emailed to attending members after the CLE presentation.

Door Prize: Samantha Stewart won a \$15 Amazon gift card.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:02 p.m.


Kristina Chiarelli, President


Sharron Dowdle, Secretary

DCPA MINUTES

April 20, 2023

President Kristina Chiarelli called the meeting held on this date to order at 12:00 p.m. via Zoom. President Chiarelli welcomed 20 members, 1 guest and Speaker Sarah Cary.

Old Business-President Chiarelli announced the following:

1. Motion for March minutes to be approved by Sharron Dowdle; 2nd motion for approval-Cheryl Cooper; unanimously approved.
2. Motion for Treasurer's report and Committee Chair Quarterly Report Approval by Lisa Bowles; 2nd motion for approval-Sharron Dowdle; unanimously approved.
3. President Chiarelli reiterated the need for volunteers to help with venue for in-person monthly meetings, socials, etc.
4. President Chiarelli reminded members of outgoing membership renewals being sent out monthly.
5. President Chiarelli reminded members of the Scholarship Deadlines for each certification/association.
6. Ad Hoc Committee has been formed, and will be meeting in the coming week to begin revisions to DCPA Bylaws and Standing Rules.
7. National Chip & Dip Social was a huge success!
8. Cookie Fundraiser/Social was a huge success! DCPA raised 572.78.

New Business-President Chiarelli announced the following:

1. Spring CLE will be May 5th in the Jury Room at the Denton County Courthouse. Flyer and speaker line-up will be forthcoming.
2. Cheryl Cooper has been nominated and approved as sub-chair on the CLE Committee.
3. Fundraising: Pasta fundraiser has started March 1st and is ongoing.
4. Jenny Harris was presented as the Paralegal of the Month for April 2023.
5. The Verdict newsletter has been distributed- this will be a quarterly newsletter this year. 5th person to correctly answer the random question will receive a \$10 gift card.
6. Recognition of April member birthdays

President Chiarelli introduced Sarah Cary as our CLE speaker today. Ms. Cary's topic was "CPS in Family Law". A link to Ms. Cary's PowerPoint was emailed to attending members after the CLE presentation.

Door Prize: Lisa Bowles won a \$15 Amazon gift card.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:56 p.m.


Kristina Chiarelli, President


Sharron Dowdle, Secretary

DCPA MINUTES

June 15, 2023

President Kristina Chiarelli called the meeting held on this date to order at 12:00 p.m. via Zoom. President Chiarelli welcomed 15 members, 1 guest and Speaker Ellen Lockwood.

Old Business-President Chiarelli announced the following:

1. Motion for April minutes to be approved by Sharron Dowdle; 2nd motion for approval- Pam Snavey; unanimously approved.
2. Motion for Treasurer's report and Committee Chair Quarterly Report Approval by Melissa Boyd; 2nd motion for approval- Pam Snavey; unanimously approved.
3. President Chiarelli reiterated the need for volunteers to help with venue for in-person monthly meetings, socials, etc.
4. President Chiarelli reminded members of outgoing membership renewals being sent out monthly.
5. President Chiarelli reminded members of the Scholarship Deadlines for each certification/association.
6. Ad Hoc Committee for revisions to DCPA Bylaws and Standing Rules have begun the process, and changes are under review.
7. National Chip & Dip Social was a huge success!
8. Cookie Fundraiser/Social was a huge success! DCPA raised 572.78.

New Business-President Chiarelli announced the following:

1. DCPA website has an app for event announcements and administrative app for EC.
2. Spring CLE held on May 5th in the Jury Room at the Denton County Courthouse had a great turnout.
3. Sponsorship for the DCPA is on the rise- we currently have a Diamond level sponsor. Talk to your firms about sponsoring!
4. Fundraising: Pasta fundraiser started March 1st and is ongoing.
5. Friends of the Family Back to School Fundraiser- details will be announced at a later date.
6. DCPA Social Event- Wellness Day at Lifetime Fitness Center in Alliance- still time to register!
7. Ali Silva was presented as the Member of the Month for May 2023. Martha Gallegos was presented as the Member of the Month for June 2023.
8. The Verdict- Melissa Ruden was the 5th person to correctly answer the random question and has won the \$10 gift card.
9. Recognition of May and June member birthdays

President Chiarelli introduced Ellen Lockwood as our CLE speaker today. Ms. Lockwood's topic was "Review of Ethical Canons, Violation Trends, and New Issues". A link to Ms. Lockwood's PowerPoint was emailed to attending members after the CLE presentation.

Door Prize: Joni Lee won a \$15 Amazon gift card.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:57 p.m.


Kristina Chiarelli, President


Sharron Dowdle, Secretary

DCPA MINUTES

July 20, 2023

President Kristina Chiarelli called the meeting held on this date to order at 12:00 p.m. via Zoom. President Chiarelli welcomed 18 members, 1 guest and Speaker Honorable Judge Sherry Shipman.

Old Business-President Chiarelli announced the following:

1. Motion for June minutes to be approved by Donna Miller; 2nd motion for approval- Jenna Earhart; unanimously approved.
2. President Chiarelli reiterated the need for volunteers to help with venue for in-person monthly meetings, socials, etc.
3. President Chiarelli reminded members of outgoing membership renewals being sent out monthly.
4. President Chiarelli reminded members of the Scholarship Deadlines for each certification/association.
5. Ad Hoc Committee for revisions to DCPA Bylaws and Standing Rules have begun the process, and changes are under review.
6. President Chiarelli reminded members of the Wild Apricot App.

New Business-President Chiarelli announced the following:

1. Sponsorship for the DCPA is on the rise- we currently have a Diamond level sponsor. Talk to your firms about sponsoring!
2. Fundraising: Pasta fundraiser started March 1st and is ongoing.
3. DCPA Social Event- Special Thank You to Diana Dillinger for putting together Wellness Day at Lifetime Fitness Center in Alliance!
4. Toya Brown was presented as the Member of the Month for July 2023.
5. Recognition of July member birthdays

President Chiarelli introduced Judge Sherry Shipman as our CLE speaker today. Ms. Shipman's topic was "16th District Court".

Door Prize: Melissa Boyd won a \$15 Amazon gift card.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.


Kristina Chiarelli, President


Sharron Dowdle, Secretary