

Denton County Paralegal Association

Back To School Supply Drive

By: Daphina Park

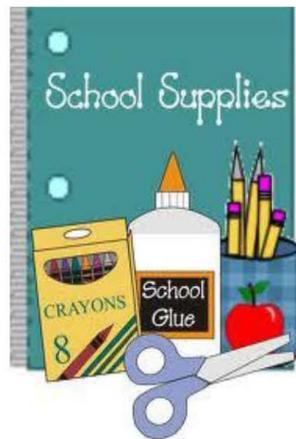
BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE FOR FRIENDS OF THE FAMILY

Special Interest Articles:

- Back to School Supply Drive
- Back to School Bash
- DCPA Scholarship
- 2016 TAPS
- Birth Announcement

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The Fundraising Committee is planning a Back to School Supply Drive to benefit Friends of the Family. The new school year will be here before we know it, and there are many children out there that will not have the necessary supplies they need to be successful. In speaking with Friends of the Family, they have indicated the following as supplies they are in most need of:

1. Spiral notebooks (wide ruled and college ruled)
2. Scissors (pointed tip for older children)
3. Compass
4. Protractor
5. Pocket Folders
6. Dividers
7. Graph Paper
8. Loose leaf filler paper
9. "cool" looking backpacks for older kids (not a necessity)

We are asking all DCPA members to bring any donations of school supplies to our July Monthly Meeting. If you have any questions, please contact, Daphina Park, Fundraising Committee Chair at 940-349-2758 or by email Daphina.Park@dentoncounty.com.

Thanks in advance for your generosity and support!!

Back To School Bash

By: LeKesha Bell

You still have time to RSVP. Please plan to join us for the Back To School Bash. There are many fun events planned.



The Denton County Paralegal Association is hosting a Back to School Bash to get this upcoming school year off to a great start!! So bring your family out for some food, fun, and sun!!

Date: Friday, July 29, 2016

Time: 6:30p.m. – 8:30p.m.

Location: Denton Civic Center Pool

515 N. Bell Street, Denton, Texas 76209

Food will be provided!!

RSVP: LaKesha Bell Phone: 940-349-2753

Email: Lakesha.bell@dentoncounty.com

We hope to see you there!!!



Scholarship Information

DCPA: The Scholarship Committee offers \$500.00 in scholarship funds to be awarded to one member for the purposes of certification; or, if not applied for, the funds are alternatively available in (2) \$250.00 scholarships for professional continuing legal education and we urge members to apply. The scholarship application is on our DPCA website for your convenience at <http://www.dentonparalegals.org/Resources/Documents/ScholarshipApplication.pdf>.



Testing Window	Deadline	Late Filing Deadline*
January	December 1	December 10
May	April 1	April 10
September	August 1	August 10

TAPS



Texas Advanced Paralegal Seminar
TAPS on Track
Journey to Excellence
(Three-Day Multi-Track CLE)
September 28-30, 2016
Wyndham San Antonio Riverwalk
San Antonio, TX

2016 Officers

Pamela Snavely, President
psnavely@hbvwlaw.com

Daphina Park, President-Elect
Daphina.Park@dentoncounty.com

Heather Walker, Secretary/Parliamentarian
heather.walker@dentoncounty.com

Lisa Pittman, Treasurer
lpittman@hbvwlaw.com

Cheryl Cooper, Historian
ccooper@dentonlaw.com

Meeting Notice

The Denton County Paralegal Association's next Luncheon will be on Thursday, **July 28, 2016** at noon at Oakmont Country Club, 1901 Oakmont Drive, Corinth, Texas.

The all-inclusive cost of lunch is \$14.00 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.

Did you know...

Payments for the CLE Luncheon can now be made online. For more information and online registration see Events/CLE Luncheon at www.dentonparalegals.org.

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED and can be made via e-mail to Lisa Pittman at lpittman@hbvwlaw.com. The deadline to RSVP is July 27, 2016 by 3:00 p.m.

Notice: We must notify Oakmont of the number attending prior to the meeting and menu choices for preparation of food and adequate seating arrangements. Please note we are also required to bill those individuals who make reservations to eat 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 Grove Road/Post Oak Drive
- Turn west onto Post Oak Drive
- Turn right (west) onto Robinson Road at stop sign
- Turn left (south) onto Oakmont Drive – you will see an Oakmont sign in the median
- Turn right into Oakmont Country Club (second right)

2016 Committee Chairs

CLE, Debbie Nyarangi
Deborah@bowen-law.com

Fundraising, Daphina Park
daphina.park@dentoncounty.com

Legal Directory, Cheryl Cooper
ccooper@dentonlaw.com

Membership, Vicki Schmidt
vicki.dcpa@gmail.com

Newsletter, Lisa Pittman
lpittman@hbvwlaw.com

Social, Lakesha Bell
lakesha.bell@dentoncounty.com

Scholarship, Jenna Earhart
jearhart@hbvwlaw.com



AGENDA FOR MEETING

Date: July 28, 2016
Place: Oakmont Country Club
1901 Oakmont Drive
Corinth, Texas 76210
Time: Noon

1. Welcome members and guests
2. Speaker – Fatima Salam
3. Old Business
 - a. Approve June Minutes
 - b. Approve June Treasurer’s Report
4. New Business
5. Announcements
 - Money raised from Bingo Night at the Bridgemoor on June 14th
 - Reminder: Our Back to School Bash coming up on July 29th at Denton Civic Center Pool
 - Reminder: Collecting school supplies for Friends of the Family – can bring those to our Back to School Bash if you did not bring to meeting
6. Door Prize
7. Adjournment

President's Message

By: Pamela Snavely, ACP

The 4th of July is one of my favorite holidays. I love watching the parade wind its way through the main street of my small town with the creative handmade floats of various associations; the kids' bicycles and go-carts decorated in red, white & blue; the majestic horses with colorful bows and braided manes; our dedicated first responders tossing candy to the spectators; and the big red firetruck from our volunteer department leading the way with old glory flying from the back. It is a special day of the year when we celebrate the bond we share as fellow Americans and come together as equals. It doesn't matter where we're from, how long we've been here, or what our political ideology may be. It is a day to celebrate our freedom together. It is a day to be thankful for the courageous leaders who sought independence, and the brave souls who fought for it over 240 years ago.

As we are keenly aware, there have been several tragic events since Independence Day that have cast a shadow over the country. We have learned about the victims and their families, and felt the depth of their anguish and loss. We search for answers and pray for healing. Although it may not be an easy task to undertake, we have the fortitude and ability to determine workable solutions for the benefit of all our citizens, our communities, and our police force. Personal differences can be set aside in order to rise above the fray and have meaningful discussions. If individuals from all corners of our communities unite and work together as we did when we sought our independence, we can establish a new dynamic for the good of the whole country that will carry into future generations.

While we are working out the big picture on a national scale, there are several things that we can do in our own community that can have a positive impact:

- **Actively Listen** – when someone with a different point of view than you is speaking, are you truly listening to what they say or are you formulating how you will respond to their first few sentences? Truly listen and think about what they are saying.
- **Empathize with the Speaker** – most people have the capacity to understand or feel what another person is experiencing from the other person's frame of reference. Put yourself in their shoes to understand their perspective.
- **Check your Emotions** – highly charged emotions can derail a discussion very quickly. Use reason, logic, and patience to discern the facts of the situation and avoid making it about you personally.
- **Talk to a Mentor** – it helps to have a trusted advisor who can offer wise counsel when you are in need of guidance. A mentor can help give you clarity and help you find purpose.
- **Volunteer for a Cause** - show your support for a cause you believe in by volunteering your time and skills. You will help make a difference in your community and gain a better understanding of the process and people involved.

These are small steps that can be taken to open a dialogue, establish connection, encourage one another, and lift the morale of our community. You can make a difference. In the words of the renowned anthropologist Margaret Mead, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world: indeed it's the only thing that ever has."



Membership News

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

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 Vicki Schmidt at vickidcpa@gmail.com

Birthdays

Our members with August Birthdays are:

- Stephanie Smith (8/2)
- LaKeshia Bell (8/3)
- Landra Turner (8/3)
- Beverly Rezadad (8/7)
- Margie Mohr (8/11)
- Michael McNeil (8/12)
- Michele George (8/22)
- Janene Koiner (8/23)
- Lindsay Nixon (8/27)

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

CLE GUEST SPEAKER



Our speaker this month is Fatima Salam with Salam & Associates, who has over 23 years of experience in personal injury cases. Ms. Salam graduated from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas with degrees in Sociology, Journalism, and Criminal Justice. She obtained her Juris Doctor from Southern Methodist University in 1991.

Ms. Salam worked with the Dallas firms of Hughes & Luce, Hal Monk & Associates, and served as the Texas counsel for the Belli Law Firm of California. She worked on many large personal injury and celebrity cases, including that of Zsa Zsa Gabor. In 1992 Ms. Salam formed her own law firm and has provided legal assistance to hundreds of clients in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Ms. Salam will give an overview of personal injury cases and discuss how distractions, such as cell phones, have increased the numbers of personal injury cases over the past few years.

Birth Announcement



Member Jennifer Earhart is proud to announce the birth of her grandson, Caus David Earhart, who was born on July 13th weighing in at 6lbs 13 oz. The proud parents are Cody & Corey Earhart. Aww...what a sweet photo of dad and son!

Support Our Sustaining Members

Please help 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 a low cost.

Stewart Process Service, Inc.

Bruce G. Stewart

110 Sheraton Place

Denton, Texas 76209

Phone: 940-367-4643

Fax: 940-484-0999

Email – stewartprocess@verizon.net

County Process Service

Fred Bowles

159 Sunny Side Lane

Valley View, Texas 76272

Phone: 940-390-0914

Fax: 940-484-6054

Email – fbowles@ntin.net

Stoffels & Associates, Inc.

Janel M. Stoffels

207 W. Hickory St., Ste. 304

Denton, Texas 76201

Phone: 940-565-9797

Fax: 940-565-9197

Email – jmstoffels@aol.com

Minutes

1. President Pamela Snavelly called the meeting held on June 23, 2016 to order at 12:10 p.m. at Oakmont Country Club in Denton. President Snavelly welcomed 9 attendees all of which were members.

OLD BUSINESS

2. President Snavelly asked for a vote on the May 2016 meeting minutes. A motion for approval was presented by Julie Christman and seconded by Lakesha Bell. The motion carried by unanimous vote.
3. President Snavelly asked for a vote of approval for the May Treasurer's report. A motion for approval was presented by Vicki Schmidt and seconded by Kim Guertler. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS

4. A special election for President-Elect was held at the meeting. Kim Guertler formally made the nomination to have Daphina Park placed on the ballot and Julia Christman seconded. Ballots were disbursed, votes were tallied, and it was a unanimous vote. Daphina Park is now the President-Elect of DCPA for the 2016 year.
5. CLE committee reported that a seminar is in the works with more information to come.
6. Daphina Park advised that fundraising currently has a balance of \$330. She is currently working on a Back to School Supply Drive asking that members bring donations to the July meeting.
7. President Snavelly presented Cheryl Cooper's report for the Legal Directory Committee, which is in the final phase of proofing and hopes to get the directory to the printer soon.
8. No updates to report for Membership or Newsletter.
9. Scholarship Committee advised that they currently have a \$500 scholarship for testing and if no one applies for the scholarship the 2 \$250 scholarships will be awarded towards attending the TAPS conference. Applications are currently being accepted.
10. Lakesha Bell advised that the fundraiser Bingo Night held on June 14th raised a total of \$347.50; \$322.50 for bingo + \$25.00 from the sales of Nothing Bundt Cakes with \$0.00 out of pocket expenses. A check for \$161.25 will be presented to Friends of the Family from the proceeds of Bingo Night.

A Back to School bash will be held on Friday, July 29th from 6:30pm – 8:30pm. RSVP's need to be made no later than July 11th for food purposes.

11. Heather Walker was the winner of the door prize.
12. There being no further business, President Snavelly adjourned the meeting at 12:39pm.

**Denton County
Paralegals Association**

PO Box 2641
Denton, TX 76206

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[https://www.facebook.com/pages/
Denton-County-Paralegal-
Association](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Denton-County-Paralegal-Association)

