



# The Texas Docket

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July 2011  
Volume 9, Issue 1



***\*CTRL\*ALT\*DEL\****

***Reboot Texas ALP with 2011-12 President,  
Kristy Turner, PP, PLS, CLA, TSC-CL, TSC-RE***

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# The Texas Docket

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***Kristy Turner, PP, PLS, CLA, TSC-CL,  
TSC-RE, 2011-12 President***

I asked you in Kerrville as I gave my campaign speech to help me grow a better association for our members. Over the past four years, we have seen numerous changes and through those changes we have seen growth. In order to continue growing, we have to continue to embrace the ever-changing technology thrown at us. Today, I stand before you and ask you to help me reboot Texas ALP.



Ctrl-Alt-Del—Three simple words that I hope will totally change the face of Texas ALP forever!

Ctrl—by definition is to check, limit, curb or regulate; restrain. We need to check to see if we are meeting the needs of our members. Have we set limits or curbed the way Texas ALP can meet the needs of our members? Are we being held or restrained in our current state?

ALT—on a computer keyboard is used to change (alternate) the function of other keys. It is a modifier key.

DEL—discard the character ahead of cursor's position. Let's delete the programs that did not or are not working and move ahead focusing on what does or will work. Often in order to move ahead, we must look back to what has been done before.

We need to open our eyes and ears—take a chance—try something new—if we don't jump, we will never know if we can fly.

As many of you know, I have very high personal standards. Those high standards, I believe, stem from my involvement in FFA. As some of you know, FFA is structured similar to our association with local, state, and national levels. Many members join FFA in need of recognition or a need for someone to believe in them or motivate them. The FFA hopes to make a positive difference in the lives of its members by developing the member's potential for leadership, personal growth, and career success. Much like FFA, Texas ALP recognizes members' accomplishments and offers many opportunities for personal and professional growth. Involvement and accomplishments in both associations provide members with self-worth and confidence.

Texas ALP's mission is to: Promote a high standard of competence for legal support professionals. We have core values and goals to assist us in completing our mission. Although we have these things, we sometimes fall short of achieving our mission.

It is my hope for this coming year that we set reachable goals—goals that we can complete within a short period of time—goals that will help our association continue to grow.

You, the members, control the path/direction of Texas ALP as we move forward. This is your association, you own it—it is what you make of it! Ctrl-Alt-Del.

# en • gage | en'gāj |

- 1 [trans.] occupy, attract, or involve (someone's) interest or attention : *NALS offers programs to engage members in their careers helping them advance in life.*
- (engage someone in) cause someone to become involved in
  - arrange to employ or hire (someone) : *He was engaged as a paralegal.*
  - dated reserve (accommodations, a place, etc.) in advance: *She had engaged the Online Learning Center.*
- 2 [intrans.] (engage in) participate or become involved in : *NALS members engage in a variety of activities.*
- (be engaged in) *Some are actively engaged in leadership.*
  - (engage with) establish a meaningful contact or connection with : *New members can engage with local leaders in their profession.*
  - (of a part of a machine or engine) move into position so as to come into operation: *Your career will engage.*

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## Calendar of Events

**July 15-17, 2011**

NALS Region 6 Annual Conference  
Ambassador Hotel – Amarillo, Texas

**September 30-October 1, 2011**

Texas ALP Fall Education Conference  
Waco, Texas

**October 13-16, 2011**

NALS 57th Annual Education Conference  
& National Forum  
Cincinnati, Ohio



**Changed jobs?  
Changed your name?  
Moved? New Certification?  
New preferred email?**

**Please provide changes to:  
Rita Alesi, PP, PLS, TSC  
[ralesi56@yahoo.com](mailto:ralesi56@yahoo.com)**

**Do you get your email @yahoo, @google, @hotmail, or some other @ location? When was the last time you checked the email address on file with your local chapter, Texas ALP, and NALS? Are the email addresses the same or different? Which one is correct? Why do we care? Texas ALP wants to be certain you are receiving committee surveys, the call for officer nominations, the call for honorary member nominations, and when ballots for election of officers are emailed. Don't delay, check and confirm your email address today.**



This year the TALP Membership Committee would like to see everyone come together to make TALP bigger and better than ever before in the Engage 5 campaign. TALP has a great group of leaders this year and with the help of our wonderful membership, we can all succeed. This being said, the committee challenges you to do the following:

**ENGAGE:** To occupy, attract, or involve someone's interest or attention, become involved. If you become involved in your chapter, it will encourage others to become involved. Engage yourself to become more involved in your chapter. Be a committee chair or co-chair. If you get engaged, others will see you as a leader and will come to you for encouragement. Participate with your local chapter in community service events, social events, etc. Help your chapter operate to its fullest potential.

**INSPIRE:** To inspire someone means you fill them with the urge or ability to feel something or do something. Inspire others by helping them to believe in themselves. If someone believes, then they CAN achieve. Talk to fellow members and inspire them to do whatever it is they may desire or even something they don't even realize at this point that they desire. Inspire them to become involved in your chapter by being a leader yourself. I was inspired by some members in my local chapter to get my PLS certification a couple years ago. If they had not urged me to do this, I would have never BELIEVED that I COULD do it. Now, because of their inspiration, I not only have my PLS, but I received my PP this past March. Thank you, ladies, for inspiring me to further myself! You know who you are. Become the next person someone gives thanks to for certification inspiration. It's a good feeling; give it a try.

**ENHANCE:** To intensify, increase, or further improve the quality, value or extent of something or someone. The Membership Committee wants to inspire you to enhance your abilities this year. NALS offers multiple online education webinars—participate in them. Participate in your local chapter's education meetings. I encourage you to enhance yourself and look beyond the subject of the education opportunity.

Try not to trap yourself into thinking that if the subject is not in an area of law in which you currently are employed, it will not benefit you. Any education is beneficial, and it will show your employer that you want to improve your quality as an employee. It will also show your fellow members that you are doing something to further your abilities and enhance your knowledge base. If you know someone who would be a good speaker, let your local education chair, TALP, and NALS know. I further encourage each of you to enhance your career by becoming certified. Sit for the ALS, PLS, and/or PP exam. It is a wonderful achievement and makes you feel like you have accomplished something

**PROMOTE:** To further the progress of; support or actively encourage; give publicity to; public awareness. Promote your local chapter. Talk to the public about NALS, TALP, and your local chapter. Let the public know what this tri-level organization is all about. Talk to other legal professionals who may not be members. Hold a social networking event in a public place, publicize the event, send invitations to nonmembers, local law firms, courts, court clerks, court reporting agencies, employment agencies, anyone in your chapter area you think may be interested in your organization. Promote your local chapter to community organizations participating in community service. Wear your chapter t-shirt and get your name out there. BOOST and PROMOTE your chapter.

ENGAGE someone's interest. INSPIRE others to achieve. ENHANCE your abilities. PROMOTE NALS, TALP, and your local chapter. Many of you may have read that NALS is offering the ENGAGE 5 campaign this year. What this means is: if you sponsor five new members, when they join NALS, you complete a waiver application and NALS will waive your dues for the next year. This will be a \$98 savings to you if you pay your dues. If your firm pays your dues, NALS will give you a \$98 credit toward anything NALS offers (i.e., merchandise, Webinars, etc.)

To further INSPIRE you to PROMOTE our organization, TALP will also offer the following: If you sponsor five new members, the TALP Membership Committee will pay your registration fees for the TALP Annual Conference in San Antonio May 4-5, 2012, and you will be acknowledge at the recognition luncheon during the weekend. If more than one TALP member sponsors five new members, the committee will have a drawing for the winner.

# in • spire | in<sup>l</sup>spīr |

- 1 fill (someone) with the urge or ability to do or feel something, esp. to do something creative : [trans.] *His passion for justice inspired him to advance his career as a paralegal with NALS.*
- create (a feeling, esp. a positive one) in a person : *Their enthusiasm inspires those around them.*
  - (inspire someone with) animate someone with (such a feeling) : *She inspired her co-workers to become certified with NALS.*
  - give rise to : *The conference was successful enough to inspire people to register for the next one.*

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<u>Ad Options</u>	<u>Ad Rates</u>	
	<u>Annual</u>	<u>One Issue</u>
Full Page (9 h x 7 w)		
Half Page Horizontal (4.5 h x 7 w)	Full = \$100 Half = \$75	Full = \$50 Half = \$35
Quarter Page Vertical (4.5 h x 3.25 w)	Quarter = \$50	Quarter = \$20

## 2010-2011 LEGAL PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

*Tina Hurley, PP, PLS*  
*(Dallas Association of Legal Professionals)*



Congratulations to Tina Hurley, Texas ALP's Legal Professional of the Year!

Tina is a member of the Dallas Association of Legal Professionals, and it was so proud to nominate her for this prestigious honor. Tina joined the tri-level association in 1996 and has served in every office of Dallas ALP, including president in 2004. Additionally, she has served as chair of several committees on the state level and on the national level as a NALS Foundation Trustee, and most recently as Region 6 Director for two terms. Tina is faithful to attend almost every local, state, and national meeting that is scheduled across the country.

Tina graduated from South Garland High School in 1982 and later from the Legal Secretarial School of Dallas in 1990. She has worked as a legal secretary/assistant for over 20 years. In addition, she has pursued professional certification as part of her legal

career, achieving her PLS in 2005 and her PP in 2006. Tina has worked at several Dallas firms as a bankruptcy secretary, including Gardere Wynne Sewell and Haynes & Boone. Her work involves assisting her attorneys in representing corporate debtors and creditors.

Tina is proud of the fact that she is a very organized worker and enjoys keeping track of all files and making sure her attorneys have everything they need to meet the needs of their clients. She even loves to file, claiming that it is a relaxing way to end the work week by getting things in order and ready for the next week.

Tina's boss gives her very high praise in saying, "I have had numerous assistants over my 35 years of practice, and none has had all of the excellent professional and personal qualities that Tina possesses." Perhaps one of the highest compliments someone in our profession can ask for is that her attorney "attributes much of his success and reputation for excellence to Tina's support and fine work."

On a personal level, Tina has a four-legged "kid" named Teddy, a beautiful golden cocker spaniel. She also has served other organizations as diligently as she has NALS, including Hospitality Chair for The Dallas Opera Guild and Treasurer and Webmaster for Innovators of the DSOL. She is an avid Disney fan and loves lighthouses, spending her personal time traveling to enjoy these favorite hobbies.

## 2010-2011 LEGAL PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR FINALISTS

*Mary H. Bullard, ACP, TSC-RE  
(Waco LPA)*



Mary, paralegal with the law firm of Deaver & Deaver, resides in Woodway with her husband of 30 years, Andy, and a new addition to their family, Heidi, who was recently adopted from Fuzzy Friends Animal Rescue.

Organized, progressive, conscientious, committed—a few characteristics describing Mary. She has a passion for education and encourages others to obtain their certification and grow personally and professionally. In 1974 Mary obtained her Associate in Arts and Sciences from Richland College. In 1981 she received her Certificate for Legal Assistants with Specialization in Business Law from Southern Methodist University and soon thereafter became a Charter Member of the Legal Assistants Division of the State Bar of Texas. Her most recent achievement is the prestigious Advanced Certified Paralegal designation awarded by NALA, The Association of Legal Assistants/Paralegals. She completed requirements in March for advanced certification in the area of Land Use.

Mary readily accepts responsibility and is always prepared to undertake new projects. As the “everything” in a two-attorney

office, she is able to independently handle many functions. Mary has a broad knowledge of legal and administrative functions. Her professionalism and work ethic helps her deal effectively with multiple projects and enables her to change her priorities and meet deadlines.

Mary is enthusiastic about her profession and is passionate about her involvement in the tri-level association. Mary’s ability to “think out of the box” and her move-forward attitude make it a delight to serve with her on committees. Despite great physical struggles, she has served in numerous capacities with her local chapter as well as on the state level. Under her leadership as chapter president, Waco Legal Professionals Association grew in membership and unity. As TALP Strategic Planning Committee Chair, she moved our state association forward to the future with the creation of a new mission statement: *Promote a high standard of competence for legal support professionals.*

Mary truly has a sense of “paying it forward” in every aspect of her life and ensuring the future of the legal profession. She is truly an asset to our tri-level association.

In her spare time, Mary enjoys sitting on the back patio with Andy enjoying the view of Lake Waco, socializing with her neighbors, and pursuing her love of genealogy. If you have a question regarding your ancestors, just ask Mary!



*Laura McCarty, PP, PLS*  
*(Austin LPA, Inc.)*



Laura, a member of Austin LPA, Inc., has just finished her year as its president. She is employed with Thompson Coe Cousins & Irons, L.L.P. Since Laura moved to Austin (transferring from Thompson Coe's Dallas office), she has consistently been recognized for her efforts in the Austin chapter, and we are extremely proud of her. When Laura first joined Austin LPA, she immediately stepped into a leadership role. Since 2006, she has been awarded the Green but Growing Award, Outstanding Volunteer Award, and the Star Award. She has also been nominated for Austin's Member of the Year several times. Her intelligence and organizational skills truly epitomize our tri-level membership.

Angela Dunn of Strasburger & Price, one of the members who nominated Laura for Austin's Member of the Year, says that "Laura moves with grace and style while

juggling the duties as recent president of Austin LPA, Inc. She always has a smile for you, is never judgmental, and is an exceptionally understanding person."

Laura works as a legal assistant to three attorneys in three different practice groups. Laura has worked with one of her attorneys, Wade Crosnoe, for almost 15 years. He says "from day one, Laura has been a trusted and valuable assistant. She generates a high volume of quality work for me and the other attorneys she works for. Laura's professionalism and dedication to her job is also demonstrated by her certifications."

Laura is married to her very supportive husband Miles. Whenever possible, they like to relax at their cabin in the Ozarks in Arkansas. Laura also can be found working on her natural and organic product line – JereSa's Holistic Harmony.



# en • hance | en'hans |

[trans.] intensify, increase, or further improve the quality, value, or extent of :  
*Her dedication and involvement will enhance her career. | Continuing legal education enhances the value of employees.*

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### Upcoming Sessions in the Online Learning Center (free to members) and NALS WebEd

#### Online Learning Center:

July 20	Recertification (General Law)
July 27	Nominations & Elections
August 3	NALS Foundation
August 17	Corporate Law CLE
September 7	Estate Planning

#### Online Study Group:

August 2	Written Communications–Part 1
August 9	Office Procedures/Legal Knowledge–Part 2
August 16	Ethics/Human Relations–Part 3
August 23	PLS Legal Knowledge–Part 4
August 30	PP Substantive Law Review
September 6	ALS Review
September 13	PLS Review
September 20	PP Review
September 21	Test-Taking Tips

#### Webinars (\$35 each for members, \$50 for nonmembers):

July 7	Fair Credit Report Act ( <b>free to members</b> )	August 10	What You Need to Know About Serving at the National Level
July 14	Closing Time: The Paralegal's Role in Closings	August 11	A Bluebook Guide
July 21	Estate Planning/Family Law	August 15	Nuts & Bolts III: Prepositions, Conjunctions, Plurals, Possessives
July 28	Managing Your Team ( <b>free to members</b> )	August 18	Promoting Your Team
August 1	Nuts & Bolts I: Verbs & Capitalization	August 22	Nuts & Bolts IV: Interjections & Negatives
August 4	InterAction		
August 8	Nuts & Bolts II: Pronouns, Adjectives, Adverbs		



## **TALP 2010-2011 Certification Award Winners**

The Texas Association of Legal Professionals' 2010-2011 Certification Award Winners were presented at the Recognition Luncheon held April 30, 2011, at the Annual Education Conference in Midland. The awards recognize the chapters having the highest number and percentage of ALSs, PLSs, and Professional Paralegals newly certified during 2010-2011.

**The awards and winners are:**

### **ACCREDITATION (Number) AWARD:**

HOUSTON ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL PROFESSIONALS

### **ACCREDITATION (Percentage) AWARD:**

HOUSTON ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL PROFESSIONALS

### **CLARA LAGOW PLS (Number) AWARD (a tie):**

NALS OF AMARILLO and HOUSTON ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL PROFESSIONALS

### **CLARA LAGOW PLS (Percentage) AWARD:**

NALS OF AMARILLO

### **PROFESSIONAL PARALEGAL (Number) AWARD (a tie):**

CORPUS CHRISTI ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL PROFESSIONALS and  
MIDLAND ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL PROFESSIONALS

### **PROFESSIONAL PARALEGAL (Percentage) AWARD:**

MIDLAND ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL PROFESSIONALS

# **CONGRATULATIONS!!!**

# Meet Your Newest Texas ALP Officers:

## Patricia T. Heaney, PLS 2011-12 Treasurer



Patti grew up in a small town on Eastern Long Island in New York, the oldest of eight children (which may explain the occasional bossiness and control issues). She and Jerry, the boy who sat across the aisle in 10<sup>th</sup> grade biology, will be married 33 years in November. She is the proud mother of two children, David (28) and Katherine (23). Katherine has accepted a college internship at Disney World beginning in August, which makes Patti happy because that means they get to visit “the happiest place on earth” often this year.

Patti and Jerry love great Danes, but now the dog they have, Riley, has not grown as much as her predecessors, so they do not consider her a great Dane, she is just a good Dane.

Having been a Girl Scout for 14 years and the leader for Katherine’s troop from kindergarten until the girls graduated from high school, she is a Life-Time Girl Scout. Patti was also one of those crazy soccer moms for nearly 20 years while David and Katherine played the sport.

Patti has been in the legal profession 33 years and is currently a legal assistant with Van Osselaer & Buchanan LLP. She has been a member of its staff since the firm’s inception in 2003. She joined her local chapter in 1994 and received the NALS PLS certification in 1996. She served as president of Austin LPA, Inc., for two years, served as co-president for another year, and has served in virtually every office and chair for her local chapter. In addition to being treasurer for Texas ALP, she will also serve as director for Austin LPA again this year.

No stranger to volunteering on the state level, Patti has been the awards chair, bylaws and standing rules chair, nominations and elections chair, and a member of the roster committee and the continuing education committee.

Her volunteer efforts have not gone without recognition, even though that is not why she volunteers. Patti believes in taking what you learn and passing it on. She shares what she has gained with her peers. She is on the advisory board of a local business school and quickly gives credit to the association when it comes to top-notch training and networking. Awards Patti has received include Austin LSA Member of the Year (twice), the Texas ALP Legal Professional of the Year, and the President’s Call to Service Award, presented by President George W. Bush.

Evolving is important to Patti, and she believes that as the practice of law evolves, so should professional legal staff. New and younger members, the future of Texas ALP, are driving the evolution that members need to embrace. She believes Texas ALP needs to promote our high standard of competence to those coming down the pike by offering free, flexible, and relevant online CLE.

Patti is a leader who knows when to follow. She has a clear and exciting vision for the future of Texas ALP.



## **Samantha Tandy, PLS** **2011-12 Secretary**

You might be asking yourself who is Samantha Tandy? If you have been to any association meetings since 2006, you know she is full of energy and excitement about her membership in Texas ALP. But what do you know about her personally? At the young age of 10, she began singing and was in a pops group in high school. Before she found our association, Samantha was a member of the United States Navy, and while stationed on the East Coast she developed a love for blue crabs. Her favorite food is pizza, especially when topped with salami and mushrooms.

She loves to watch movies, especially romantic comedies. She also enjoys action, drama, and animated films. She has been married to her husband Jason for four years, and they are parents to three female hairless cats. Their first date was at a Putt-Putt golf course, a game they still play today. This proud parent is quick to whip out a photo of her children.

When she has free time, she works in her garden and spends time with her “children.” She also attends church regularly and has a strong faith.

Before Samantha joined the local Midland chapter, she received the NALS ALS certification. In 2006 she signed on with the Midland Association of Legal Professionals because she had the desire to be a part of something that was greater than herself. She received her NALS PLS certification in 2009 and is currently studying for the NALS Professional Paralegal certification.

In the Midland chapter, Samantha has been available to the members as their secretary, president, and director. She has also been the membership chair, and during her tenure there was a sharp increase in the number of members from Midland. Midland members have become fired-up and excited under her leadership.

When Samantha attended her first NALS Professional Development Conference, members in attendance saw her spark. Not one to ever meet a stranger, she made fast friends, and became a member of the YLP subcommittee of the NALS membership committee during that meeting.

Before running for and her election to serve as Texas ALP’s newest secretary this year, Samantha chaired the TALP professional development committee during the 2009-10 year. She won the 2010 TALP Spirit Award. She served as membership chair in 2010-11 and invited all local chapter vice presidents to become members of the committee. She also served as co-chair for the 2011 Annual Conference in 2010-11.

When asked why she wanted to be a state officer, she said one of the reasons she wanted to be an officer was “to show members that anyone can be a leader if they set their mind to do it.” Her enthusiasm will take us far.



# WHO IS SHE, AND WHERE DID SHE COME FROM?

My name is Daniele Mitchell, and I have the honor and privilege of serving as the 2011-2012 TALP marketing chairman. I have been a member of Lubbock LPA, TALP, and NALS since 2008, and during that time I have served as Lubbock LPA’s corresponding secretary, vice president/membership chairman, and parliamentarian, and I was the 2009-2010 Legal Professional of the Year for Lubbock LPA. Currently, I am Lubbock LPA’s director and historian. I tell you all of this not to brag or boast about myself, but to introduce myself to you and to try to qualify myself for my first position with TALP.

Kristy surprised me when she asked me to be the marketing chairman for TALP. I certainly feel under-qualified for such a huge responsibility; however, I am committed to putting 110 percent of my effort into serving TALP to the best of my ability. I am looking forward to getting to know all of you and becoming more involved in this wonderful association.

I would like to invite and encourage you to get involved and help me and TALP by sending me all of your great ideas for marketing our association. The more, the better, and I promise to give everyone credit for their ideas and suggestions! You can contact me and send me your ideas any time to [danielemitchell1020@yahoo.com](mailto:danielemitchell1020@yahoo.com). Thank you for this opportunity to serve our association!

## pro • mote | prə'mōt |

- 1 further the progress of (something, esp. a cause, venture, or aim) ; support or actively encourage : *Speciality area education helps promote advancement.*
  - give publicity to (a product, organization, or venture) so as to increase sales or public awareness : *The NALS docket is used to promote NALS members and their accomplishments.*
  - chemistry act as a promoter of (a catalyst).
- 2 (often be promoted) advance or raise (someone) to a higher position or rank : *She was promoted to senior paralegal after she was certified by NALS.*

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**The Midland Association of Legal Professionals Annual Conference  
Committee would like to thank the following sponsors, vendors, chapters,  
and members for making the Texas Association of Legal Professionals  
56th Annual Education Conference a HUGE success!  
We could not have done it without you!!!**

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**We would also like to thank the TALP Marketing Committee, Leslie Stokes, and Julie Abernathy, for taking on the task of preparing and publishing the Annual Conference program.**



## ***Create A Professional Development Plan***

Mary Bullard, ACP, TSC

Do you have a professional development plan? Just as a strategic plan provides an organization with a map of the road to success, a professional development plan can help the legal support professional identify career objectives and take steps to achieve those objectives.

It is important to realize that you are responsible for your professional development. You are the person best suited to create the professional development plan that will help you achieve your career goals. Whether your objective is to become more effective in your current position or you are working towards a promotion, a professional development plan will be of benefit to you.

To create a professional development plan, begin by writing a short description of your position. Next, create a list of the skills and knowledge required for your position. After studying the list, consider your own strengths and weaknesses in those areas. Identify the areas where you believe you should develop new skills or determine whether you have existing skills that can be strengthened through further development.

For the next step, you should think about your long-term career goals. Where would you like to be in your career in two or three years? Answering that question will help you prioritize the areas you have identified for development. After you have prioritized the areas for development, evaluate whether development can best be achieved through continuing education, professional development classes, legal educational conferences, or formal education. When you have made that determination, it is time to create a timeline.

The timeline will guide you while you complete the tasks and activities necessary for your development plan and help you stay focused on your goals. When creating the timeline, set realistic times for each of the tasks or activities. Then, as you accomplish each task or activity, you will feel one step closer to reaching your objective. That sense of accomplishment will help you stay motivated to complete the plan.

Like a strategic plan, a professional development plan is a flexible document. It is a good idea to refer back to your plan periodically to determine whether you should incorporate new ideas or make revisions to the plan.

A professional development plan can help you assess your professional needs and evaluate the activities and education that will help you reach your career goals. Take responsibility for your professional development and create a professional development plan.

## 2011 TALP FALL EDUCATION CONFERENCE EDUCATION AND FUN!

Waco LPA is excited to host the 2011 TALP Fall Education Conference here in Waco on September 30-October 1. We look forward to TALP members attending for continuing legal education and fun. On the agenda are:

### **CLE:**

Adoption Procedures by John Palmer, Esq.

Appellate Brief Tips by Chief Justice Tom Gray, 10th Court of Appeals

Consumer Protection by David Teakell, Esq.

Distracted Drivers, Aaron Mutnick, Esq.

DuPuy Hip Replacement Litigation by Zollie Steakley, Esq.

Ethics by Karen Matkin, Esq.

**FUN:** Murder Mystery Dinner on Friday night.

The registration form is attached which includes hotel information. Hope each of you will join us in Waco!

Donna K. Dendy, PP, PLS, CLA, TSC, Co-Chair  
Brenda Atteberry, Co-Chair

**You are cordially invited to  
attend a murder mystery party . . .**

**CORPORATE CHAOS  
the MURDER at**

**WORLDWIDE PRESTIGE, INC.  
CONFERENCE**



You may recognize some of the actors, but will you know who the murderer is?



engage  
inspire  
enhance  
promote

Need to update your address? Need to update your firm name due to a job change? Look no further than your keyboard and fingertips. NALS' Web site has the ability for you to be in control of your personal information, register for conferences, and attend sessions in the Online Learning Center. Below are the instructions on how to login to the system and access your profile. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Sandra Bates, NALS Membership Services Manager, at [bates@nals.org](mailto:bates@nals.org) or 918.582.5188 ext. 15.

Go to [www.nals.org](http://www.nals.org). Hover your mouse over the "Welcome" tab, and it will give you a Member Login link. Once you are at the login screen, follow the directions below to gain access. If you are an existing user, enter the Login Name and Password you set up previously. Login Name and Password are always case sensitive. If you do not know or if you are an existing user and have forgotten your username and/or password, click on the forgotten password link, and enter your email address. Your login name and password will be reset to the default explained below, then emailed to you.

If you are not an existing user, click on the "sign up here" link.

- \* Login Name is your member or constituent number. (Note: Member or constituent numbers are found on membership cards, renewal notices, and magazine address labels.)
- \* Password is the first three letters of your last name plus your membership or constituent number, where the first letter of your last name is capitalized.

Example: John Jones (#01234) gained access the first time using the following:

Login Name = 01234

Password = Jon01234

Enter all required information. You will get added to our database as a new user, then you will be prompted to create a new login name and password. Once you have logged in you will see a "Welcome Jane Doe" and on the left side are links for access to member benefits. Take your pick and away you go to accessing your membership benefits to their fullest.

### **CODE OF ETHICS**

Members of NALS are bound by the objectives of this association and the standards of conduct required of the legal profession.

Every member shall:

- \* Encourage respect for the law and the administration of justice;
- \* Observe rules governing privileged communications and confidential information;
- \* Promote and exemplify high standards of loyalty, cooperation, and courtesy;
- \* Perform all duties of the profession with integrity and competence; and
- \* Pursue a high order of professional attainment.

Integrity and high standards of conduct are fundamental to the success of our professional association. This Code is promulgated by NALS and accepted by its members to accomplish these ends.



A Major Change to the NALS Conference Schedule...Sessions are Focused in Four Main Areas of Law. Session titles are color coded to show which area of law they are in.

**Litigation/Civil Law** | **Corporate Law** | **Estate Planning/Family Law** | **General Practice**

*Preliminary Schedule – Topics are Subject to Change*

### **Thursday, October 13**

7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

**Registration**

**Coffee Break**

**Welcome & Opening Keynote Speaker – Vicki Voisin**

*Exploring the Mystery of Ethics and Technology: Ethics Lessons for Legal Professionals It's a Mystery!!! The Senior Partner at a prestigious law firm has been murdered. Who killed him and why? Carolyn, a paralegal in the Litigation Department, suspects there are clues within the firm's web of technology that will help bring the scoundrel to justice. You will enjoy this unique approach to ethics education as you explore the ethical perils of the world of law firm technology, including eDiscovery, metadata, web sites, blogs, e-mail, cell phones, faxes and more.*

**Marketplace Open**

**Can You Own An Idea?**

**Environmental Alphabet Soup**

**Making Plans Before the Crisis**

**Corporate Sponsor Session – Avery**

**Exhibitor Luncheon**

**The Death Penalty – Capital Punishment**

**First Drops in a Perfect Storm: Investment Fraud Cases**

**International Abduction of Children**

**The Latest and Greatest in Court Reporting**

**Marketplace Open**

**Heparin Litigation**

**Avoiding Common Corporate Filing Mistakes**

**Protecting Granny – Nursing Home Litigation**

**Sex Slaves – The Teen Trade**

**NALS Foundation Silent Auction Closing and Live Auction**

**Regional Meet-up**

**Welcome Party**

10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.

1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

### **Friday, October 14**

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Registration**

**Coffee Break**

**Criminal Defense in the Military System**

**You Can't Take My Property**

**The Ins and Outs of Medicaid Eligibility**

**Women Leaders – You Are Needed**

**Marketplace Open**

**Shattered Dreams: Birth Trauma Litigation**

**First Drops in a Perfect Storm: Investment Fraud Cases**

**Divorce, Military Style**

**General CLE Session – TBA**

12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.  
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.  
6:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.  
6:45 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.  
7:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

**Marketplace Open**  
**The Wonderful World of Employment Law**  
**A World of Opportunity**  
**Before You Leap: Taking the Fifth & Prenuptial Agreements**  
**Social Networking and the Courts**  
**Get Fast Access to Your Cash!**  
**Top Title Pitfalls**  
**IRS Myths & Misconceptions**  
**Shutting Down the Pill Mills**  
**Marketplace Closing and NALS Foundation Fundraising Closing**  
**Regional Meetings**  
**Young Legal Professionals Reception**  
**NALS Foundation Gala Event**

## **Saturday, October 15**

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.  
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.  
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.  
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.  
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.  
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.  
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**Registration**  
**Coffee Break**  
**TV or Not TV, That is the Question**  
**What the Future Holds**  
**Adoption vs. Foster Care**  
**Don't Get Scammed!**  
**Litigation/ Civil Law Session – TBA**  
**How to Reduce Your Property Taxes**  
**Divorce's Smoking Gun**  
**Online Social Cruelty**  
**Recognition Luncheon**  
**Everything I Know About Cross-Examination I Learned in the Movies**  
**Corporate Law – TBA**  
**How Can I Give My Money Away?**  
**The Last Free Man In America Meets the Synthetic Subversion**  
**Closing Keynote Speaker – Alanna Moravetz, JD**  
*Professional Satisfaction: The New Science of Happiness*  
*In this interactive session we will explore what the new science of positive psychology and research on happiness has to teach us about our effectiveness and well-being in our work in the legal profession. We'll focus on questions such as "What is the role that positive emotions play in our ability to sustain our careers and thrive in our organizations?" You will learn strategies and techniques that you can use immediately to build your resilience and sustain your career.*  
**Celebrations Riverboat Cruise**

5:15 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

## **Sunday, October 16**

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. **BONUS SESSION: Social Media – Join the Conversation**

**Early Registration Deadline is *July 1, 2011!***  
**The room block is filling up fast...so call and reserve yours today.**

### **Hotel Information**

Hyatt Regency Cincinnati, 151 West 5th Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202  
Rate: Single/Double – \$115; Triple – \$140; Quad – \$165  
For reservations, call 1-800-233-1234  
*Tell them you are with NALS Education Conference and National Forum*

## Texas ALP 2011-12 Leadership Roster

### Officers

President	Kristy Turner, PP, PLS, CLA, TSC-CL, TSC-RE—kristyalt@gmail.com
President-elect	Cheryl Wenzel, PP, PLS—cheryltalp@gmail.com
Treasurer	Patti Heaney, PLS—pattitalp@gmail.com
Secretary	Samantha Tandy, PLS—sltandy@dgclaw.com
Parliamentarian	Kathie Jean Keys, PP, PLS—kathietalp@gmail.com

### Standing Committees

Annual Education Conference (2012)	Christina (Christy) Coats, PLS—ccoats@coxsmith.com Barbara Perez, PLS—bperez@coxsmith.com
Awards	Mary Teague, PP, PLS—mary@namanhowell.com
Bylaws/Standing Rules	Rebecca Widner—rhwidner@dgclaw.com
Certification	Leslie Stokes, PP, PLS, TSC-CL—legal1superstar@yahoo.com
E-Distributor	Rita C. Alesi, PP, PLS, TSC—ralesi56@yahoo.com
Education	Karen Moss, PP, PLS—kmoss@wphk-law.com
Fall Education Conference (2011)	Brenda Atteberry—bjatteberry@centxlitigation.com Donna Dendy, PP, PLS, CLA, TSC-RE—dkd@pakislaw.com
Finance/Fundraising	Cheryl Moseley, PLS, CP, TSC-CL—cmoseley@qscclpc.com
Financial Review	Faynell Poe, PP, PLS—chattelone@yahoo.com
Marketing	Daniele Mitchell—Danielemitchell1020@yahoo.com
Meetings Coordinators	Donna Dendy, PP, PLS, CLA, TSC-RE—dkd@pakislaw.com
Membership	Leatha Kopech, PP, PLS—lkopec@albmlaw.com
Nominations and Elections	Betty Wells, PP, PLS, TSC—bettytalp@gmail.com
Professional Development	Mary Bullard, CLA, TSC-RE—msbullard@grandecom.net
Region 6 2011 Annual Meeting	Tina Hurley, PP, PLS—tina.hurley@haynesboone.com
Roster	Rita C. Alesi, PP, PLS, TSC—ralesi56@yahoo.com
Strategic Planning	Julie Abernathy, PP, PLS—julie.abernathy@haynesboone.com
The Texas Docket	Tina Hurley, PP, PLS—tina.hurley@haynesboone.com
Webmaster	Betty Wells, PP, PLS, TSC—bettytalp@gmail.com



TEXAS ALP FALL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

Waco, Texas ♦ September 30, 2011 – October 1, 2011

Early Registration Deadline is August 31, 2011

REGISTRATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Certifications

- ALS PLS PP CLA
CLAS/ACP TSC RP Other

Local Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Current Texas ALP Position Held \_\_\_\_\_

Current Local Position Held \_\_\_\_\_

- NALS Life Member
This is my FIRST Texas ALP meeting!
Special dietary request (contact Registration Chair)
I want to be a Texas ALP Pal

REGISTRATION FEES

The Regular and Late registration fee includes ALL events

Regular - postmarked on or before August 31, 2011

- Texas ALP Member \$110
Nonmember \$130
Student \$70

Late - postmarked after August 31, 2011.....Add \$25

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

- Education only (member; lunch not included) \$80
Education only (nonmember, lunch not included) \$100
Education only (student, lunch not included) \$65
Friday Welcome Lunch \$20
Friday Dinner \$30
Saturday Lunch \$20

GUEST REGISTRATION

- Friday Welcome Lunch \$20
Friday Dinner \$30
Saturday Lunch \$20

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Mark each event you will attend:

Note: CLE topics are subject to change

Friday, September 30, 2011

- 10:00 am - 11:00 am Open Forum
11:30 am - 1:00 pm Welcome Lunch/CLE - Appellate
1:30 pm - 3:00 pm CLE - Ethics
3:30 pm - 5:00 pm Business Meeting
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm Committee Meetings
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Murder Mystery Dinner

Saturday, October 1, 2011

- 9:00 am - 10:00 am CLE - Adoption Procedures
10:30 am - 11:30 am CLE - Consumer Protection
11:45 am - 1:30 pm Professional Development Lunch
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm CLE - Distracted Drivers
3:30 pm - 4:30 pm CLE - DuPuy Litigation

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Total Due: \$\_\_\_\_\_ (due with registration form)

Please make check payable to:

Waco LPA Special Meeting Account (Tax ID: 74-6064252-7)

- A \$30 fee will be assessed for returned checks.
Refunds requested and confirmed in writing will be made until August 31, 2011 (less a \$25 fee)

If you have any questions, please contact the Meeting Chair:

Annual Meeting Co-Chairs:

Brenda Atteberry, 254.399-9400, bjabatteberry@centexlitigation.com
Donna Dendy, 254.297-7300, dkd@pakislaw.com

Mail Registration Form to:

Mary Bullard
Deaver & Deaver
200 West Highway 6, Suite 501
Waco, Texas 76712
254.761.5970; mary\_bullard@agtitle.com

HOTEL INFORMATION

Reservations should be made directly with Holiday Inn Express, 1801 Development Blvd., Waco, Texas 76705 (254.799-9997; fax: 254.799-5272)

The room block is held under Texas Association of Legal Professionals until August 31, 2011

Room rates: \$99 (Executive Double/King) ♦ \$109 (Suite Upgrade)