

EMILY FOLSUM



Hello! My name is Emily Folsom. I am currently working at Pakis, Giotes, Burlison & Deaconson, P.C., in Waco, Texas. I am a litigation paralegal. I have been with Pakis since 2018. In 2013, I graduated from Bryant and Straton College Online with a degree in paralegal studies. I was working for the government at the time, and was tired of being furloughed, so I applied for my first legal position in 2015. I am currently working on obtaining my professional paralegal (PP). I am half-way there; I only have two more parts to pass. I always knew I wanted to go into litigation, yet we recently started to become involved with intellectual property. This is an area of law that I never thought I would enjoy or even remotely understand, but I am finding that these are becoming my favorite.

I am turning 40 this year and I have been married for 16 years. We have two kids, Logan (13 turning 14) and Hailey (11 turning 12)...yikes....where did the time go? When I am not working, I am driving them to their many different events and hobbies.

I have met so many amazing people and have made friendships that will last a lifetime. It is so great to be around people who love their job as much as I do (even though we could quit some days). This is my career; I am so blessed and excited to be part of Texas ALP. I cannot wait to see where this organization takes me.

RESPONSES TO CANDIDATE FOR SECRETARY QUESTIONS

1) Explain your involvement with other associations?

Currently, I am President of Waco Legal Professionals Association. I have been a member since 2018, in that time I have been treasurer (twice) and president.

In the past, I was involved in 4-H, which is an organization that is run by the members of the clubs. This allows kids to be president, secretary, treasurer and so on. I was part of that organization from the age of 8 to 18. I was in all major roles associated with the club.

2) How would you describe your organizational skills?

I am a litigation paralegal...so what can I say... I am borderline crazy with my organizational skills (depending on who you talk to).

3) Are you familiar with Robert's Rules of Order?

I had not ever heard of this until this form, however; when I googled it, I saw that it is the rules in which a meeting and organization should conduct their meetings. I am not familiar with this per se, but I am aware of how a meeting should be run.

4) Have you ever prepared minutes for other organizations/associations?

I have had the opportunity to prepare minutes for Waco Legal Professionals and my 4-H club.

5) There are times when EC confidentiality can cause conflicts with other members, how do you think you would handle this conflict?

Well, conflict can be handled with the listening and communication that it lacked to create the conflict. I am a firm believer in listening to all sides and then figuring out a solution that works for both sides. I have never turned away from a conflict; I believe that communication is key. You can solve a lot with effective communication.

6) Can you get along with others even when you have different opinions on a particular issue?

Yes, I have done this most of my life. I have always been an out of the box thinker and will question almost everything. If I don't understand or if I am just wanting someone to explain more in depth, I will always ask questions to see if I can understand their point of view or help them to see mine. Sometimes it is about putting your differences aside to provide a better outcome for everyone.

7) What has motivated you to be nominated for the EC at this time?

I attended my first in-person conference in the last couple of years and to see what this organization has provided for me and those who have been here for a time, it is amazing. It made me want to get involved, because I finally was surrounded by people who felt the same way as I did. This is my career, not just a job, and the best way to get better at something is to step out of your comfort zone and be a part of something amazing. I hope to be able to provide the EC with creative ideas to help this organization continue and grow.