

## **DISTINGUISHED PARALEGAL OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The Paralegal Division of the Utah State Bar and Legal Assistants Association of Utah are proud to sponsor Utah's fourth annual Distinguished Paralegal of the Year Award. This award will be presented at the Paralegal Day Luncheon on May 21, 2009, in Salt Lake City, to a Utah paralegal who, over a long and distinguished career, has by their ethical and personal conduct, commitment and activities, exemplified for their fellow paralegals and the attorneys with whom they work, the epitome of professionalism; who has also rendered extraordinary contributions that coincide with the purposes of the Paralegal Division and/or the purposes of LAAU as set forth in the Bylaws of each organization as follows:

### **AMENDED AND RESTATED BYLAWS OF THE PARALEGAL DIVISION OF THE UTAH STATE BAR ARTICLE I, SECTION 1.2. PURPOSES OF THE PARALEGAL DIVISION**

- (a) To assist the Utah State Bar (the "Bar") with its mission to serve the public and the legal profession by promoting justice, professional excellence, civility, ethics, respect for and understanding of the law.
- (b) To assist the Bar in increasing access to lower cost, affordable legal services through the increased utilization of paralegals by the Bar in the delivery of legal services.
- (c) To assist the Bar in the protection of the public from harm from unqualified persons seeking to provide legal assistance to unrepresented persons, thereby engaging in the unauthorized practice of law.
- (d) To serve the legal profession through education of the Bar, attorneys and the legal community, concerning the proper and effective utilization of paralegals.
- (e) To assist the Bar in improving the quality and efficiency of the delivery of legal services and the practice of law.
- (f) To enhance Members' participation in the administration of justice, professional responsibility and public service in cooperation with the Utah State Bar.
- (g) To enhance the legal profession by facilitating communication between the paralegal community and the Bar.
- (h) To provide forums for membership discussions of issues and trends affecting the legal profession.
- (i) To provide continuing legal education to Members of the Division, the paralegal profession and the legal community.
- (j) To foster and promote professional competence and excellence throughout the paralegal profession.
- (k) To provide mutual support, encouragement and establish good fellowship among the members of the paralegal profession and the legal community.

- (1) To further promote the purposes and objectives of the Division, the Board and Committees shall encourage the active participation of its Members in the leadership of the Division, in events sponsored by the Division and by the Bar, and to work with professional organizations to promote the paralegal profession and the Division.

**BYLAWS OF LAAU  
ARTICLE II  
OBJECTIVES & PURPOSES**

- A. To inform the legal community and the general public of the functions and capabilities of the legal assistant;
- B. To provide further education for legal assistants;
- C. To establish standards of professional and ethical conduct; to encourage a high order of ethical and professional attainment;
- D. To provide mutual support and encouragement among the members of the legal assistant profession; to establish good fellowship among Association members, the National Association of Legal Assistants, Inc., and members of the legal community;
- E. To aid in the advancement of employment opportunities for legal assistants;
- F. To cooperate with the bar associations;
- G. To support and carry out the programs, purposes, aims and goals of the National Association of Legal Assistants, Inc.;
- H. To promote and support the legal assistant profession in general.

Nominations will be accepted from paralegals and attorneys. Please note that no self nominations will be accepted. Nominations are submitted to the Nomination Selection Committee consisting of three attorneys, a representative of the Paralegal Division, and a representative of LAAU, including Billy Walker, N. Adam Caldwell, Suzanne Potts, and Lorraine Wardle.

**NOMINATION FORM**

Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

*Nomination made by:*  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBMIT WITH THIS FORM, A STATEMENT DESCRIBING THE NOMINEE'S LEGAL EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING, PUBLIC SERVICE AND ORGANIZATION INVOLVEMENT, AND WHY YOU FEEL THE NOMINEE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED FOR THIS AWARD. THIS STATEMENT IS WHAT THE SELECTION COMMITTEE WILL REVIEW, PLEASE INCLUDE ALL RELEVANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR NOMINEE.**

If needed, refer to the Canons of Ethics and Guidelines for the Utilization of Paralegals located at <http://www.utahbar.org/sections/paralegals/info.html> or [www.laau.info](http://www.laau.info) for additional information.

**ALL NOMINATIONS ARE DUE ON OR BEFORE APRIL 20, 2009.**

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Mail: Suzanne Potts

Paralegal

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