



Paralegal Division Membership Benefits

by Candace Gleed

Having been a member of the Division for several years, it wasn't until recently that I learned of all the benefits membership to the Paralegal Division of the Utah State Bar provides. It is clear while talking with peers, that the benefits of membership is not well known to paralegals in our communities. Division membership benefits not only paralegals, but the attorneys and law firms where paralegals work as well.

An obvious benefit to membership of the Paralegal Division is networking with paralegal peers. The Division membership includes paralegals practicing in a wide variety of areas who have years of experience to draw expertise from. A unique opportunity exists for members to meet through the educational opportunities offered through the Division and make lasting friendships and contacts. In addition to the educational events offered through the Division, several social media outlets and other resources exist to assist members in connecting with peers.

Annual membership dues are \$75 and are typically renewed in June. This is a relatively small cost for all the benefits membership provides. Those fees are used to directly support the Division. In fact, one of the main goals of the board of directors of the Paralegal Division each year is to stretch those fees as far as possible to provide direct benefits to the members.

Additional benefits of Paralegal Division membership are:

Casemaker: Casemaker is a legal research program that is available to members free of charge. Casemaker libraries include all Federal Supreme, Circuit, District and Bankruptcy decisions, and more. This service also includes CaseCheck+, CasemakerDigest, and CiteCheck in the subscription.

E-mail Notifications: Stay in the loop about continuing legal education and issues that affect the profession in general by receiving announcements, newsletters and other critical information distributed by the Utah State Bar and the Division.

Blomquist Hale Employee Assistance: Blomquist Hale Employee Assistance Program is a voluntary, work-based program that

offers free and confidential assessments, counseling, referrals, and follow-up services for members of the Bar and their families who may have personal and/or work-related problems. Without cost to the member, appointments can be made with therapists to address issues relating to stress, alcohol/substance abuse, depression, relationship or family problems, financial, grief, etc. The counseling services are provided by licensed therapists and offices are located in Salt Lake City, Ogden, Logan, and Orem. They also staff an urgent 24/7 crises line.

Insurance: Group discounts for insurance are available as a member of the Utah State Bar. Plans are offered for health insurance, automotive and home insurance, long-term care, long-term disability, pet insurance, supplemental life insurance, and non-insurance discount plans for dental and vision.

Automotive: Discounts and group rates for financing and re-financing automobiles, discounted auto parts and accessories, automobile purchase programs, roadside assistance programs, car rentals, and car sharing.

Education: Free and discounted educational programs for Pre-K through 12, test preparation, student loan refinancing, tuition savings, brain games, and training.

Electronics: Discounted prices on computers, software, accessories, and audio & visual.

Entertainment: Discounted prices and packages for amusement parks, live events, movie tickets, ski tickets, and other tourist attractions around the country.

CANDACE A. GLEED works as a litigation paralegal at the law firm of Eisenberg, Gilchrist & Cutt, primarily on plaintiff's personal injury and medical malpractice cases. Candace serves on the board of directors of the Paralegal Division and is a member of NALA.



Distinguished Paralegal of the Year Award

The Distinguished Paralegal of the Year Award is presented by the Paralegal Division of the Utah State Bar and the Utah Paralegal Association to a paralegal who has met a standard of excellence through his or her work and service in this profession.

We invite you to submit nominations of those individuals who have met this standard. Please consider taking the time to recognize an outstanding paralegal. Nominating a paralegal is the perfect way to ensure that his or her hard work is recognized, not only by a professional organization, but by the legal community. This will be an opportunity to shine! Nomination forms and additional information are available by contacting Jodie M. Scartzina, ACP at jodie@accuplan.net.

The deadline for nominations is April 28, 2017. The award will be presented at the Paralegal Day Celebration held on May 18, 2017.



Every couple of years the Paralegal Division of the Utah State Bar collects feedback from the paralegals in our state. This data is gathered to assist the board of directors to help set our goals for the division. Our goal is that through our great CLE programs and educating attorneys on proper utilization we can help show the value of a paralegal in the legal field. The survey results are only as good as the amount of people that reply.

We would like to invite ALL paralegals (not just division members) to participate in the 2017 Paralegal Salary Survey! We will be posting the link on our Facebook page and website.

Annual Paralegal Day Luncheon

For all Paralegals & their Supervising Attorneys

Keynote Speaker: Judge Dale Kimball

May 18, 2017 • Noon to 1:00 pm

Location: To Be Announced

1 Hour Ethics/Civility Credit