

LEGAL STAFF **PROFESSIONALS OF SOUTH CAROLINA**



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14 Videoconference Etiquette Tips

By Robert Half on November 11, 2020

Virtual meetings are still having a moment. It's not that they weren't commonly used before the COVID-19 pandemic, but video meetings are now the rule and not the exception.

In particular, the increased use of platforms such as Zoom and Microsoft Teams have put a new focus on the importance of virtual opportunities to commit faux pas that could lead colleagues, clients or the boss to question your professionalism.

Here are 14 videoconference etiquette tips to help you steer clear of trouble:

1. Make sure everything works

Dealing with technical difficulties was cited as the top video call pet peeve, according to a recent Robert Half survey of more than 1,000 workers. Conduct a test of your technology – computer, applications, camera and microphone – to ensure it's all functioning before the meeting begins. You don't want to delay the start of a gathering because no one can see or hear you.

Get organized 2.

If you're leading a virtual meeting, stick to the agenda. It's especially easy to veer off topic in an online meeting because they can seem more informal in nature, as people are working from home in dining rooms and spare bedrooms. For the sake of productivity and focus, try to limit your agenda items and send them out to participants beforehand.

3. Be screen ready

One of the best things about working from home is being able to dress more casually. But video meetings put a limit on this to some degree. There's probably not a need for a suit, but do put on professional, clean clothing and check your appearance in the mirror before your video meeting begins. You don't want anything to draw attention away from meeting etiquette. Indeed, there are a lot more what you're saying. As a bonus, getting ready for the workday can help put you in a productive mindset. Warning: If you're wearing a professional shirt with sweatpants, don't forget to fully exit the meeting before standing up.

Check your background

The best background for video meetings is a relatively blank one that won't be distracting. Check to make sure there isn't a pile of dirty dishes or laundry in your background. Many virtual meeting platforms allow you to change or blur the background if needed. Also check to see that the lighting is adequate so people can actually see you.

Speak clearly

Enunciate your words and speak slowly during online meetings. Home internet connection quality can vary, as does the reliability of devices. Keep in mind that there's often a minor delay when someone talks, so pause after asking a question or listening to someone's response. It's all too easy to inadvertently interrupt other speakers.

POILIGH

6. Look at the camera

There's a lot to see on your screen during virtual meetings: images of yourself and your colleagues, the main presentation or an ongoing transcript of the conversation between participants. Off- screen, you might have a partner or kids at home walking around. Make "eye contact" with others in the meeting by looking at the camera when you're talking and listening.

7. Try to connect on a personal level

It's important to display empathy and to connect as human beings and not just as business colleagues, especially during challenging times like these. Managers leading virtual meetings might want to build in some time at the beginning (or the end) to check in to see how everyone is doing.

8. Find a quiet place (if you can)

Ideally, you'll be in a low-traffic room where you can close the door. If you're not able to get privacy for your video meeting, opt for an area of your home where others are less likely to be.

Explain to roommates, spouses, significant others or children that you'll be participating in a work meeting and unable to talk to them during that time. If possible, put pets in a separate room.

And remember to turn off notifications on your computer and personal devices.

9. Use the mute button

Can't find that quiet place? Enter meetings on mute. And when you're not speaking, mute the microphone so people can talk without hearing your dog bark every time a squirrel runs through the yard.

10. Pay attention when sharing your screen

If you're sharing your screen during a video meeting, minimize the number of windows and tabs you have open so it's easy for participants to see what you're talking about. Make sure you close documents you don't want to share, and temporarily disable any incoming messaging notifications while you're presenting.

11. Limit the attendee list

Thirty-eight percent of the workers we surveyed said they've experienced video call fatigue since the start of the pandemic. If it's your meeting, invite only those who truly need to participate. Smaller groups are often more engaged and productive.

12. **Message carefully**

Beware of sending messages to participants during online meetings. If you're complaining about someone during the meeting (which you shouldn't risk doing anyway), and your comment accidentally goes to the wrong person or ends up in a transcript, you could damage relationships as well as your reputation.

13. **Don't multitask**

Good virtual meeting etiquette means resisting the temptation to check the news, social media or your email inbox. It's quite clear when a participant isn't paying attention during a video meeting. And it's a universal truth that nobody wants to see or hear you eating. Even if it's lunchtime, save the sandwich or snacks for later.

14. Stay put

If you join the meeting on a mobile device, avoid walking around or shifting too much, which can be disorienting to others. Place your device on something stationary, if at all possible, and try not to fidget (even if you're overly caffeinated).

A last word of advice on videoconference etiquette tips: Remember to be kind and patient with your colleagues during online meetings. People have different levels of comfort and expertise when it comes to virtual meetings. Offering some technical assistance or reassurance, as necessary, will help everyone feel like they're supported and part of the team, even when you're not in the same place.

https://www.roberthalf.com/blog



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Spotlight
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2020-2021 Editors: Susan Church Lois J. Belle, CLP



by Meredith Lazarski, ACP, SCCP 2020-2021 President

We Are the Building Blocks of Our Association

Thank you to LSPSC for allowing me the opportunity to attend NALS 69th Virtual Annual Conference, which was held on Saturday, September 26, 2020. We had a great LSPSC presence at this year's conference with at least eight members in attendance. At one point I saw 133 virtual The virtual format NALS held the attendees online. conference on (REMO) was also easy to navigate and allowed attendees to virtually visit each other in between speakers and announcements. The keynote speakers were great and a lot of our seminars touched on current events like immigration issues, racial justice, and COVID-19. NALS 2020 Award of Excellence winner was Cathy Zackery from Michigan and the NALS 2020 Mentor Award went to Diane Berry from Michigan. Holly Mitchell from Nevada won the NALS Got Talent 2020!

It was great to see some on you during our virtual officer visitations. This year's visitations were simply a virtual wellness check. We are living in a difficult time and stressors from work, family, school, and the COVID-19 situation itself can overwhelm us, deplete our immune systems, and make us more susceptible to both mental and physical illnesses. We need to remember to take a break from the stress and ask ourselves "What can I do for myself right now to make myself feel a little better?" and then do something to help ourself feel a bit more in control. We cannot control the coronavirus pandemic. We can, however, control how we respond and how we feel moment to moment. Pay attention to yourself and what you need and make intentional and mindful choices throughout your day to break up the worry, stress, boredom, or isolation. Many of us went from highly structured, routine days to absolute Spend time finding something that will help ground you and keep you calm. It is far more productive in the long run than watching the never-ending stream of panic regarding the virus. If there is a hobby or activity you enjoy, see if there is an online way to participate. Or just go outside, take a breath, and relax your body and your mind.

(Continued on page 4)

(President's Report Continued)

Our Handbook Committee has finalized our less anxiety with our guided mediations, Sleep LSPSC 2020-2021 Handbook. Special thanks to Stories, breathing programs, stretching exercises, Handbook Co-Chairperson Lois Belle for all her and relaxing music. https://www.calm.com hard work. A copy has been sent to your local **Daily Yoga** - Learn the basics before diving into chapter president and is also available on our more advance classes and flows (Free 7-day trial; LSPSC website under the "Members Only" page.

Don't forget to turn in your Member Rewards Smiling Mind - Hundreds of meditations Program points for your chance to win some great organized into structured programs like Mindful prizes! Your point tally is due by the 5th of each Foundations (42 sessions), Sleep (6 sessions), month. Details on this year's rewards program Relationships (13 sessions), and Workplace (41 are in this issue of LSPSC's Spotlight.

SAVE THE DATE! Our Winter Meeting will be Stop, Think & Breathe - Create a more held in the Ndoki Lodge at the Riverbanks Zoo & deliberate, intentional mindfulness experience by Garden in Columbia on Saturday, January 23, selecting meditations based on how you feel. A 2021. Your paid registration is also your ticket progress page keeps track of how your mind and into the zoo. Please note that the Riverbanks Zoo body have been feeling over time. will be abiding by the current state and county https://www.stopbreathethink.com/ COVID-19 procedures. In addition, LSPSC will **Stand Up!** - A fun, flexible work break timer. be supplying masks and hand sanitizer for Completely customizable to your work schedule. everyone's safety. We have some great seminars Set it and forget it. Set your reminder interval to and entertainment lined up. Your Board has any five-minute increment between five minutes finalized our LSPSC PayPal account so LSPSC and two hours. can start accepting credit cards for meeting FitBit - Track activity, weight, sleep and registrations, CLE registrations, and theme nutrition and see your progress over time auction ticket purchases at our meetings. You can (Premium plan \$9.99/month). find our account on PayPal by either searching https://www.fitbit.com/us/home Legal Staff Professionals South Carolina or by FitOn - Personalized workout plans to help you our email legalstaffprofessionalssc@gmail.com. reach your fitness goals at home. https:// We look forward to seeing everyone there!

Wishing everyone a happy, healthy, safe, and can help overcome negative thoughts, stress, and blessed holiday season. I look forward seeing life's challenges. https://happify.com everyone in person in 2021!





WELLNESS-FITNESS **APPS**

Breethe - De-stress, sleep better, get happier & be top mindfulness experts. https:// healthier with guided mediations, soothing music, www.tenpercent.com/ nature sounds, masterclasses and much more. https://breethe.com

Calm - Experience better sleep, lower stress, and

Pro plan \$9.99/month). https://

www.dailyyoga.com

sessions). Most meditations are in the 5- to 15minutes range. https://www.smilingmind.com.au/

fitonapp.com

Happify - Science-based activities and games that

UCLA Mindful - Developed by the Mindful Awareness Research Center at UCLA, this app features a dozen meditations of different types in English and Spanish. As a bonus, the app also offers longer meditations (30 minutes) it calls "podcasts." https://www.uclahealth.org/uclamindful

StepsApp - Turn your phone into a simple and beautiful step counter. Just put your phone in your pocket and off you go. Synchronize and import your activity data and body measurements. https://www.raisedsquare.com/standup/

10% Happier - Meditation for a happier, healthier you. Learn to meditate from the world's

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Member Reward Program

This contest will run retroactively from May 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021.

Points are accumulated as a member completes an achievement on the following list. The points can be earned in any combination and the total number of points a member can earn is limitless.

Members will report their monthly point total with an explanation of how the points were accrued (i.e., copies of letters, membership certificates, copies of event programs, pictures, etc.) directly to me by the 5th of each month.

The winning member(s) will be announced on April 7, 2021.

Prizes*: 1st Prize: Registration & CLE to LSPSC's 56th Annual Meeting and

Educational Conference in Columbia

2nd Prize: Registration to LSPSC's 56th Annual Meeting and

Educational Conference in Columbia

3rd Prize: \$75.00 cash for the member to use any way you wish

*In case of a tie, names will be placed in a hat with the first name drawn placing 1st and the second name drawn placing 2nd, and if applicable, the third name drawn placing 3rd.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. Good luck!

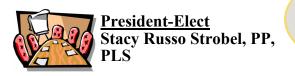
Meredith Lazarski, ACP SCCP (843) 816-3015 mlazarski@haleandhalelaw.com





Achievement List

Invite an attorney from a non-member firm to speak	
at your chapter meeting*	50 points
*Add 5 points for every legal secretary/legal assistant/	
paralegal he/she brings with him/her	
Give a membership presentation to an office in the legal community	
that does not have members	50 points
Pass a NALS Certification (or equivalent)	50 points
Enlist a new member	50 points
Attend NALS 69th Virtual Educational Conference in September 2020	50 points
Be a NALS Mentor	50 points
Renew a NALS Certification	30 points
Hold a State Board position	30 points
Serve on a National Committee	30 points
Hold a Local Board position	25 points
Bring a non-member to a state meeting	25 points
Write an article for Spotlight	25 points
Participate in Court Observance Week	25 points
Attend a state membership meeting	25 points
Attend state's CLE seminars (both seminars)	25 points
Obtain/Renew CLE Award	25 points
Bring a non-member to a local meeting	15 points
Serve on a Local/State Committee	15 points
Send a Scholarship application to a student going into the legal field	10 points
Nominate a member for the LSPSC Award of Excellence	10 points
Post upcoming chapter events on Facebook (locally and on the state page)	10 points
Send a birthday card, thank you card, etc. to a member via first class mail	10 points
Send a birthday card, thank you card, etc. to a potential or non-member	
via first class mail	10 points
Attend a local membership meeting	10 points





for an exam, you can also access study materials online through NALS Exam Study Hall, live or past webinars/CLEs and quizzes.

As the year is coming to an end it's hard to believe the trials and tribulations that many of us have been going thru this COVID pandemic and we're making it thru a little more each day with faith and prayers. We are all hoping for the clouds to start opening up and this virus being put in its place in 2021.

The Officer's Retreat was held in July at the Clark's Inn in Santee. Considering the circumstances, things were productive, and we had lots of discussions about today's technology and how we may have to proceed with virtual meetings during this time. If you are not technically savvy, you sure will be after all of this. I'm still learning the ins and outs and it hasn't been that bad so don't be afraid of it: Embrace it!

I look forward to seeing everyone in January 2021 at the Riverbanks Zoo. It's going to be a great time with the CLE's, and the special day planned for our Winter Membership Meeting.

In the meantime, be safe and be well. We'll see you soon!

Functional Director of Certification/Education Katherine R. Helms, PP, SCCP



As you know, our certification exams (ALP, CLP, PP) are on-line. Proper internet connection, microphone/webcam are needed to complete the online exams. Online registration information can be found on the NALS website. If you would like to take the paper exam in Columbia, please reach out to me.

LSPSC currently offers, to our members, free access to the online study materials for the exams, so if you are looking to start studying, please let me know. Once you are registered

All of our local chapters are hosting SCCP and NALS accredited seminars, so please join us and earn your credits. If you are looking for additional CLE credits please attend the NALS' Online Membership Meetings. Be sure to log your CPE hours with NALS and the SC Bar and remember that you must recertify every five years.

If you have not updated your NALS profile with your current certifications, please do so.

We currently have 3 ALPs, 22 CLP/PLSs, 20 PPs, 1 Specialty and 13 SCCPs.

I am looking for speakers for our Annual (April) Meeting, so if you have a specific speaker or subject that you would like to hear, please reach out to me.

I hope to see you all in January!

<u>Functional Director of</u> <u>Membership and Marketing</u> Traci Wolfe, PP



Overall, our membership continues to grow, despite the Covid-19 pandemic. As we gain an understanding of what our members are looking for in membership, and work around the present challenges, with your support, we will continue to grow our organization. These past few months we have created and updated our social media presence so that our members can stay connected to other people they know, so please check us out and like our pages on Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram, and don't forget to share with your colleagues. Thank you for your continued support and encouragement this year in allowing me to help grow this wonderful organization.



Immediate Past President Tara Jean Brown, PP, PLS, SCCP

personally and LSPSC related. By the time you all read this you will have celebrated your Thanksgiving holiday hopefully safely with your family and or friends. I hope to see all of you in Columbia for the Winter Meeting at the Riverbank Zoo, President Meredith, has a wonderful winter meeting planned, so I hope you will make plans to attend. Our winter meeting will be jam packed with things going on. We hope to close out the 2019-2020 year, by awarding the recipient of the 2020 Award of Excellence, the 2020 Scholarship recipient and passing the gavel to name a few things. I can't wait to see all our Legal Staff Professionals of South Carolina members. It has been too long! I look forward to continuing to lend my support to President Meredith and the 2020-2021 LSPSC Board as they serve this association.

This certainly has been an odd year both

Happy Holidays everyone and I hope that you have a very Merry Christmas. Stay safe.

Annual Meeting Report Debra H. Bailey, CLP

Legal Staff Professionals of the Midlands will host the 2021 LSPSC Educational Conference and Membership Meeting in April in Columbia. We are looking at several venues to host the event and will bring a report to the January 2021 Winter Meeting. We are trying to think "outside the box" to make this a fun weekend for everyone.

As always, we are reaching out to all of our chapters for any goodie bag items, sponsors, or any assistance you can provide. If you have any questions, feel free to call or email me, our Chapter President Katherine Helms, or any of our chapter members. We look forward to bringing you additional details soon.

Award of Excellence Report Jasmine Williams, co-chair Lauritza S. Hill, co-chair (803) 707-4059 lauritzahill@sclegal.org



Please remember to select someone for the Award of Excellence from your chapter. I should have at least six applications or more to send to the judges because I know there are a lot of Award of Excellence material in our organization. The deadline to submit the application is March 15, 2021. So, get a head start on thinking of someone to submit. Jasmine and I look forward to working on this committee and should have a selection of Judges by our January meeting. Please feel free to contact me or Jasmine, if you have any questions. Be safe everyone.

Community Service Committee Sonia L. Hunt Jamie I. Early, PP, PLS-SC Corporate, SCCP

As always, we thank you for your loyal support of our community service projects with your generous contributions. Our charity for the LSPSC Winter Membership Meeting is the South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (SCCADVASA). SCCADVASA is the statewide coalition of organizations providing intervention services to victims and survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault and offering primary prevention programs to students and communities across the state.

SCCADVASA works toward ending domestic and sexual violence in South Carolina and engaging individuals and communities in advocacy, collaboration, and education for the transformative social change that will result in a society free of violence. SCCADVASA's hope and commitment is to prevent sexual and domestic violence from occurring in the first place and to focus on the building of healthy relationship practices, rather than the aftermath of violence.

A wish list is published herein and, as always, monetary donations are accepted and much appreciated. Please make checks payable to SCCADVASA.

Our local chapters also serve their communities in various ways. LSP of the Midlands has

continued its monthly doughnut donations to the elderly residents of Finlay House and sent Thanksgiving cards to the Finlay House residents since the traditional dinner was cancelled due to the coronavirus. LSPM will also celebrate Christmas at the Hannah House with refreshments and decorations for the residents. Other charitable events included the roadside trash pickup and fundraising golf tournament for the Kenny Wolfe Foundation, in which several members participated. One member's firm sponsored a gratis BBQ and fish fry to raise awareness in voting during the elections and also wore shirts to support a staff member in her battle against cancer.

No matter what you support or where you give, it's always just a "good thing" to do so. Keep up the good work, LSPSC members, and hope to see you in January 2021. May you and yours have a blessed Christmas and joyous New Year!

Employment Joanna Albertson

Please forward me any new Employment opportunities and I will send those out as soon as possible to all the chapters. My E-mail address to send those requests to is

joanna@wisemanlawfirmhhi.com.

<u>Finance Projects Report</u> Sonia L. Hunt and Deborah J. Reynolds, PP, PLS, SCCP

We are looking forward to seeing everyone in January for the Winter Membership Meeting. Since we were not able to have the last meeting, thoughts have been turning to what to plan for the Winter Meeting. With the COVID 19 Pandemic things sure have looked different for the 2020-2021 year, so let's do a little "mask-erading" this time. If anyone has made, found, or purchased unique or comfortable masks, please be prepared to share. We know some of our

crafty people have come up with great ideas for masks and, unfortunately, it looks like they are going to be around for a while! Bring your favorites to show them off.

Let's have some auction fun by bringing some of your favorite things. These items can be things you like to drink, things you have baked, homemade jellies, jams, craft items you have made or anything else that is something that is your "favorite" item. Whatever you decide to bring and contribute to the theme auction fundraiser will be greatly appreciated and we are sure that your fellow LSPSC members would love to spend some money for a chance to win the items.

We look forward to seeing you all for the Winter Membership Meeting.

Handbook Committee Lois J. Belle, CLP & Meredith Lazarski, ACP, SCCP



Our 2020-2021 LSPSC Handbook is complete. You can locate a link to the Handbook under the "Members Only" section (Password required) of the LSPSC website (www.lspsc.org) or your local chapter President has access to it as well.

Let me know <u>lois.belle@wbd-us.com</u> if you have any updates (i.e., change of address, employment, phone number, etc.) so that we can reach out to each other throughout the year.

UPDATES:

- Hilton Head: **JoAnna Albertson** correct email is joanna@wisemanlawfirmhhi.com [in Hilton Head Elected and Appointed Officers list]
- Orangeburg: WELCOME New member:

A'Netra Hardy 2012 Hydrick Avenue Orangeburg, SC 29118 (803) 730-1716

South Carolina Legal Services Post Office Box 1646 Orangeburg, SC 29116 (803) 533-0116 Office (803) 531-5102 Fax E-mail: AnetraHardy@sclegal.org.

 Orangeburg meetings should be third Monday of the month.

NALS Foundation Susan L. Olmstead, PLS



NALS FOUNDATION – WAYS TO GIVE

MASKS: What a great way to show your support for NALS Foundation by shopping on the NALS Foundation Gear link and purchase one or more of their designer masks.

Congratulations to our NALS Got Talent and Quilt Raffle winners!

At the 69th Annual NALS Conference on September 26, 2020, the NALS Foundation announced the winners of two fundraising events: NALS Got Talent and the NALS Music City Quilt Raffle. The winners of these are:

• NALS Got Talent: Holly Mitchell

• Ouilt Raffle: Patricia Infanti

(NALS FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER)

Monetary Contributions

The NALS Foundation has established recognition circles for individuals or organizations who are interested in maximizing the potential of today's legal professional and the legal professional of the future. These Annual Investment Circles are a taxdeductible opportunity for you to support the NALS Foundation's efforts to expand educational and networking opportunities for all legal professionals. You can also make a monetary contribution to the NALS Foundation as a gift, earmarked for the program of your choice, in memory or honor of a NALS member, student, relative, friend, etc. Your support of the NALS

Foundation qualifies as a charitable contribution and is deductible for federal income tax purposes to the

maximum extent provided by law. Whichever way you decide to give, the NALS Foundation will put your dollars to work for you!

Full Circle Donor Program » https://www.nals.org/donations/fund.asp?id=16791

We are asking 360 of our #NALSPALS to become 'Full Circle' Donors! Pledge your support the NALS Foundation for 12 months, giving only \$30 per month. Get recognized for supporting the continual goals + efforts of the NALS Foundation!

One-Time Monetary Donation » https://www.nals.org/donations/donate.asp?id=10744

The NALS Foundation has established recognition circles for individuals interested in maximizing the potential of today's legal professional and the legal professional of the future.

Organizational Circle Donation » https://www.nals.org/donations/donate.asp?id=11093

The NALS Foundation has established recognition circles for organizations interested in maximizing the

potential of today's legal professional and the legal professional of the future.

Honorary and Memorial Gifts » https://www.nals.org/donations/donate.asp?id=11094

You can make a gift, earmarked for the program of your choice, in memory or honor of a NALS member, student, relative, friend, etc.

Gifts In Kind>><u>https://www.nals.org/donations/donate.asp?id=11914</u>

In conjunction with NALS' national conference, held in the fall, the NALS Foundation hosts "Sweepstakes" and "Auction" events, during which member-donated gifts in-kind are raffled off to lucky winners!

AmazonSmile

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support the NALS Foundation every time you shop, at no cost to you! When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you will find the exact same low prices, vast selection, and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the

added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. On your first visit to AmazonSmile, charitable organization select Foundation) to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchase to the **NALS** Foundation. AmazonSmile will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation. **Donations** made are the AmazonSmile Foundation and are not tax deductible by you.

Click here to register for AmazonSmile https://smile.amazon.com/gp/chpf/homepage/ref=smi_chpf_redirect?ie=UTF8&ein=75-6415081&ref=smi_ext_ch_75-6415081_cl

Facebook Fundraising

The NALS Foundation is an approved non-profit on Facebook. This means you can get involved by dedicate any day to encouraging your family and friends to give towards this career-changing nonprofit.

View how to start your Facebook Fundraiser on the following items: Mobile/Device https://www.youtube.com/watch?

v=Swt0YPAoX8Y&feature=youtu.be

Payment can be sent to the below lockbox: NALS Foundation
Dept. # 172
PO BOX 701683
Tulsa, OK 74170

Nominations and Elections

Naomi W. Nation, PP, PLS, CLA, SCCP and Tabitha Hanna

The call for nominations of elected officers of Legal Staff Professionals of South Carolina was made November 4, 2020. The nominations came to a close on November 20, 2020. Copies of the nomination forms were sent to the membership via email. Nominees will receive an Acceptance/Declination Form via email and should return it to me no later than December 5, 2020. If sending by U.S. mail, please mail by Tuesday, December 1, 2020.

Currently, there are five positions to fill: President -Elect, Treasurer, Secretary, Functional Director of

Marketing and Membership, and Functional Director of Certification and Education. Please review the qualifications for filling these positions and know that each nominee has to be a member of Legal Staff Professionals of South Carolina and in good standing.

Ballots are scheduled to be emailed to the membership February 1, 2021. We will announce the deadline for returning your ballots at the January Winter Meeting and within the ballot email. We are looking to have a great slate of officers for 2021-2022.

If you have any questions regarding nominations and elections, feel free to give me a call at 843 958 -1945, or you may email me at naomi@scsolicitor9.org. You may also email Tabitha Hanna – hannaflr@aol.com.

As always, thank you for participating in this process.

Technology Tara Jean Brown, PP, PLS, SCCP Katie Johnson

The Legal Staff Professionals of South Carolina website has been updated as well as the member only page. Hopefully, by the time you read this report the Winter Meeting forms will be posted as well.

If you see anything that needs to be updated or changed please don't hesitate to send me an email. Once we have some updated pictures of the 2020 Award of Excellence recipient, the 2020 Scholarship recipient and the passing of the gavel we will get those posted as well.

Happy Holidays everyone and I hope that you have a very Merry Christmas. Stay safe.



LEGAL STAFF PROFESSIONALS OF SOUTH CAROLINA NOMINATION FORM AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

<u>Eligi</u>	bility	Requirements: Must be a member of the tri-level association		
		Must be active in the legal profession in accordance with the By-laws and Standing Rules of LSPSC		
		Must have a minimum of three years service to a local chartered chapter, LSPSC, or NALS		
Dead	dline:	March 15, 2021		
Subr	<u>mit to</u> :	Lauritza S Hill LSPSC Award of Excellence Chairperson Post Office Box 1646 Orangeburg, South Carolina 29116 Telephone: (803) 533-0116 (o) Telephone: (803) 707-4059 (cell) Facsimile: (803) 531-5102 E-mail: lauritzahill@sclegal.org		
Nom	inee: _	Home Phone:		
Addr	ess:	Office Phone:		
City/9	State/	7in.		
		Zip:		
Loca	l Chap	oter Affiliation:		
Date	:	Date Received by LSPSC Chairperson:		
1.	Exp	erience and Achievements (NALS, LSPSC and Local Chapter)		
	A.	Years of Experience in legal profession:		
	B.	Years of membership in NALS:		
	C.	List of elected or appointed positions held in a local chapter:		
D. List all elected or appointed positions held in LSPSC:				
	E.	List all elected or appointed positions held at the national level:		

SPOTLIGHT 12 December 2020

2.	Professional Achievements (including years attained)	
	A. Professional Designation	s/Certifications:
	B. Awards or recognitions re	eceived from any level of the tri-level organization
	C. Recommendation (250-w	ord limit)
Awa	I believe the above-name ard of Excellence for the follo	ed person should be considered for the LSPSC owing reasons:
		Signature:
		Name/Title:
		Firm Name:
		Address:
		Chapter:
		Telephone:

2021 Winter Membership Meeting



RIVERBANKS ZOO & GARDEN columbia south carolina



NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS OF LEGAL STAFF PROFESSIONALS OF SOUTH CAROLINA

NOTICE is hereby given that the 2020-2021 Winter Membership Meeting will be held on Saturday, January 23, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.

At:

Riverbanks Zoo & Gardens 500 Wildlife Parkway Columbia, SC (Dress is business attire)

Exact meeting information is available on the meeting registration form

Legal Staff Professionals of South Carolina

|s| Ann Marie Minerva

Ann Marie Minerva, PP, SCCP Secretary





Legal Staff Professionals of South Carolina 2021 WINTER MEMBERSHIP MEETING & CLE REGISTRATION FORM Saturday, January 23, 2021

Riverbanks Zoo, Ndoki Lodge, 500 Wildlife Pkwy, Columbia, SC 29210*

Deadline for Registration: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 (Add \$10.00 if payment is not postmarked by this date) NO REFUNDS AFTER JANUARY 15, 2021

*Your paid registration is your ticket into the Riverbanks Zoo

<u>MEMBERSHIP MEETING</u> (*FULL REGISTRATION DOES NOT INCLUDE CLE) PLEASE NOTE THAT THE RIVERBANKS ZOO WILL BE ABIDING BY THE CURRENT STATE AND COUNTY COVID-19 PROCEDURES. IN ADDITION, MASKS AND HAND SANITIZER WILL BE PROVIDED FOR EVERYONE'S SAFETY.

SATURDAY SCHEDULE

8:45 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.	Registration		Registration & Lunch
9:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	Seminar	\$15 Members	ship Meeting Only
10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Break		
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Seminar		
12:30 p.m. –1:30 p.m.	Lunch		
1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Membership Meeting and Th	eme Auction	
**************************************		******	*********
9:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	TOPIC: DOGS AND TORTS Speaker: Eliza Lynch, Esquir	e of Jove Law Firm	
Ms. Lynch will be discussi	ing SC dog laws and dog owner	responsibilities, dog owner l	iability/dog bite claims, being a voice for involved with various animal advocacy
	TOPIC: PREMISES LIABII Speaker: Michael Montgome		av Stenn & Laffitte, LLC
Mr. Montgomery will spea of Riverbanks Zoo.	ık on general defense premises l	iability and will discuss some	e relevant cases during his representation
		he future) the registrant's imo	es constitutes an agreement by the regis- ige or voice in photographs, videotapes, d activities.
I will be attendin	ng the following seminans:	MEMBER	NON-MEMBER
I will be attending the following seminars: Dogs and Torts		\$20 for one CLE	\$25 for one CLE
Premises	s Liability Defense	\$30 for both CLEs	\$40 for both CLEs
*******	*****	********	**************************************
		TOTAL AMOUNT:	\$
NAME:		EMAIL:	
CHAPTER:		PHONE #:	
Please make check payable		e Dender, Treasurer	ompleted form to:
		ast Stone Avenue	
		nville, SC 29609	
	michell	e@chancelaw.com	
The state of the s		LCDCCD DI	

To pay by credit card please visit our LSPSC PayPal account either by searching Legal Staff Professionals South Carolina or our email legalstaffprofessionalssc@gmail.com

Legal Staff Professionals of South Carolina is an affiliate of NALS...the association for legal professionals – dedicated to enhancing the competencies and contributions of members to the legal services profession.

Seminars qualify for a total of 3 CPE credits by the South Carolina Paralegal Certificatio

SPOTLIGHT 15 December 2020

Winter Meeting-Community Project



Link to https://www.sccadvasa.org/

SOUTH CAROLINA COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT WISH LIST

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Lotion

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Blankets

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Tampons

Pads

Feminine Wipes

<u>Garments</u>

Socks

Underwear

Sweatpants

T-shirts

Toiletries

Toothpaste

Toothbrushes

Hair Brushes

Shampoo

Conditioner

Body Wash

Soap

Deodorant

LSPSC 2021-2022 SLATE OF OFFICERS

President Stacy Russo Strobel, PP, PLS (Charleston)

President-elect Katherine R. Helms, PP, SCCP (Midlands)

Secretary OPEN

TreasurerOPEN

Functional Director - Certification/Education OPEN

Functional Director - Membership/Marketing OPEN

Immediate Past President Meredith Lazarski, ACP SCCP (Hilton Head)

**Nominations for the open positions will be taken from the floor at our Winter Meeting in Columbia on Saturday, January 23, 2021 and voting will then be had on the four positions.



How Lovely 'Tis To Take This Time

How lovely 'tis to take this time To greet our dearest friends, To wish them health and happiness Before the old year ends. Darkness comes late afternoon And winter lies ahead, But friendship is a glowing fire When all seems cold and dead. Just as in some vacant barn. Unnoticed in the night, The whole of human history turns, So we, too, make things right. We must keep alive the flame Though darkness grip the Earth; For in the love we find in friends Is our chance for rebirth.

Copyright by Nicholas Gordon



BY EUGENE FIELD

Why do the bells of Christmas ring? Why do little children sing?

Once a lovely shining star, Seen by shepherds from afar, Gently moved until its light Made a manger's cradle bright.

There a darling baby lay, Pillowed soft upon the hay. And its mother sung and smiled: "This is Christ, the holy Child!"

Therefore bells for Christmas ring, Therefore little children sing.



Legal Staff Professionals of Greenville Tara Jean Brown, PP, PLS, SCCP LSPG 2020-2021 President



The Greenville Chapter has been meeting virtually during this pandemic. However, we were able to meet in June to do our Installation of the 2020-2021 Officer's in-person. We were finally able to attend our first in-person meeting since our officer's installation in November. We met at the Poinsett Club and enjoyed a virtual meeting with our state officers and those members who could not attend in person.

Our virtual meetings/CLEs included the following speakers:

- In July Michael Meilinger, CPA/ABV, CMA, CFF, MAFF, CFE - Topic Forensic Accounting
- In August Nela Laughridge, Mediator/ Guardian Ad Litem - Topic Overview of GAL Role
- In September Christy Kellerhals Topic Insurance and Personal Injury

Although we have not had any new members during COVID, we are trying to maintain the ones we have. We did a membership social, which was held on October 29, 2020 at Up On The Roof in downtown Greenville (see pictures next page). Everyone enjoyed the good food and great views.

Our Charity for 2021 is Safe Harbor.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the Winter Meeting. Stay safe and Merry Christmas!

<u>Legal Staff Professionals of the Lowcountry</u> Naomi W. Nations, PP, PLS, CLA, SCCP 2020-2021 President

This would be one of those times when it is appropriate to say, "I'm glad this year is over!" January 2020 seems like a decade ago; so many things have changed. Yet, this is also the season of giving thanks, showing appreciation to

family and friends, and joyfully focusing on all the beauty in our lives.

Legal Staff Professionals of the Lowcounty (LSPL) finally gave up the torch of sponsoring the 55th Annual Meeting for Legal Staff Professionals of South Carolina. Covid-19 brought much of our planning and enthusiasm to a halt. Since that time, it has been difficult arranging meetings in-person and virtually. For this reason, we are grateful to the state officers for planning the November 17, 2020, virtual officer visitation meeting for LSPL. A historical moment!

Congratulations again to our own Cheryl LeGrand for completing her paralegal studies with the University of South Carolina on July 2, 2020. KUDOS Cheryl!

Also, we again welcome Shaniqua Green and Lee O'Neal to Legal Staff Professionals of the Lowcountry. They became members even during a pandemic.

Until we meet in January 2021 at the zoo, wear your mask, wash your hands, and practice social distancing. We will come out of this together safely.

<u>Legal Staff Professionals of the Midlands</u> Katherine R. Helms, PP, SCCP-President

In July, James L. Bell, Esq., spoke on "How to Handle Client Confidentiality."

In August, we heard from Sarah Cox, Esq., of Burnette Shutt & McDaniel, PA, on "Grandparents' Rights."

Beth Branham, Esq., from Beth Branham Law spoke regarding "Fathers' Rights in Custody Cases" in September.

In October, Jack Swerling, Esq. spoke on the ABA Law Day topic "Your Vote, Your Voice, Our Democracy: The 19th Amendment at 100." We also recognized our Boss of the Year Award

winner, Mary Kate Kaminksi, nominated by Jane Berger, ALP (please see our Happy Gram).

In November we heard from our Director of Education, Cassandra Furtick, CMS, on "HIPAA and HITECH Tips and Tricks." Due to COVID-19." Our annual Thanksgiving dinner service at Finlay House was cancelled, so instead we are encouraging our members to forward a card, kid's drawings, etc., to the residents of Finlay House.

LSPSC Officer Visitation will be in December. Later in the week, we will be serving light hors d'oeuvre for dinner at Hannah House and then have a campfire with s'mores, along with collecting donations and items from their needs list.

We look forward to seeing you all at the Winter Meeting at the Riverbanks Zoo!

<u>Legal Staff Professionals of Orangeburg</u> Lauritza S. Hill, Chapter Liaison

Congratulations to our officers for 2020-2021: President, Sonia Hunt, President-Elect, Lauritza Hill, Secretary-Treasurer, DeeDee Prickett, FD of Education, Mary Kay Oliver, and FD of Membership, Jasmine Williams. I neglected to put the officers in my last report.

The pandemic has put a damper on many things, but we continue to fight through it. We have been meeting most months and are practicing social distancing. Our chapter's birthday was in August. We have had some great local CLEs. We had speakers in September and October: Robert F. McCurry, Jr. of Horger Barnwell & McCurry spoke on 1031 Tax-Free Exchanges at the September meeting, and at the October meeting, Lewis C. Lanier, Esquire gave us some encouraging words on the, "Differences between Education Wisdom, and the differences Acquaintances and Friends." We also got some great quotes of Winston Churchill. Mr. Lanier's presentation was very encouraging in a time when we needed it. In November, we will have a virtual Officer Visitation meeting. We look forward to that.

Our charity has been the Samaritan House, a homeless shelter for the last few months. They opened in August 2020. Our chapter decided to continue to collect a while longer for their cause.

Everyone wear your mask in public places, social distance, and please stay safe. Have a Merry Christmas.

Greenville Membership Social at Up On The Roof

Left to right - Lois Belle, Patti Bacon, Camilla Pitman, Tara Brown, Stacy Davis









SPOTLIGHT

ADVERTISEMENT FORM

A publication of Legal Staff Professionals of South Carolina

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HAPPY GRAMS

MAKE SOMEONE

HAPPY

BY PURCHASING A HAPPY GRAM

Congratulate, recognize, or encourage your fellow chapter members in the *Spotlight* and support Legal Staff Professionals of South Carolina while sending out good thoughts to those who deserve them.

 Business Card
 \$ 5.00

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Submit Happy Gram <u>camera ready</u> to

Functional Director of Marketing at: <u>Twolfe@burnetteshutt.law</u>

2. Submit payment and this form by mail to: Functional Director of Marketing

Traci B. Wolfe, PP

Burnette Shutt McDaniel, PA 912 Lady Street, Suite 200

Columbia, SC 29202

Deadline for Happy Grams: November 15, 2020

	Thanks for making someone's day a happy one.
Name:	
Chapter:	
Email:	
Size:	
Enclosed Pay	ment.

HAPPY GRAMS



Susan J. Mano NALS of PA Past President Education Director

ALS... the association for legal professionals

104 Curtis Court Wayne, PA 19087 610.971.9200 • 610.971.2491 (fax)

susanmano@verizon.net



2020 BOSS OF THE YEAR

MARY KATE KAMINSKI

Director of Human Resources Nelson Mullins Law Firm

Submitted by: **Jan W. Berger, ALP**









Hilton Head Legal Staff Professionals wishes you all the joys of the season.

May you be blessed with peace, love, and joy.



BURNETTE SHUTT & MCDANIEL IS PLEASED TO SUPPORT THE LEGAL STAFF PROFESSIONALS OF THE MIDLANDS.



And we're proud of our own Traci Wolfe, PP

- President-Elect, Legal Staff Professionals of the Midlands
- Functional Director of Marketing and Membership , Legal Staff Professionals of South Carolina

Traci's skills, dedication and commitment help us daily as we work toward our goal of moving law forward in our state.

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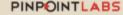
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Tim Thames is the eDiscovery Director managing end-to-end eDiscovery services from the Columbia office. With more than 28-years of litigation experience, he is ready to assist with your case. Tim is licensed by the State of South Carolina to collect and analyze electronic data. He has CCO and CCPA certifications for digital forensic examinations and multiple certifications for cloudbased software applications.

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MINUTES LEGAL STAFF PROFESSIONALS OF SOUTH CAROLINA

No Annual, Spring, or Summer 2020 Meeting Minutes due to COVID-19.

Respectfully submitted,

s/Ann Marie Minerva Ann Marie Minerva, PP. SCCP 2020-2021 Secretary, LSPSC

Approved:

s/Meredith Lazarski
Meredith Lazarski ACP, SCCP
2020-2021 President, LSPSC









NALS AFFINITY PROVIDERS

Benefits For Members

Through outside sources NALS is able to provide our members with many discounted services that otherwise would be substantially more expensive. Below is an overview; to access pertinent member-only information required to take advantage of these benefits.

- Aflac: NALS is making Aflac's accident, cancer/specified-disease, and dental insurance policies available to its
 members. Aflac offers a distinct type of protection. Unlike major medical health insurance, Aflac pays you
 (unless otherwise assigned) not the doctor or hospital. You control the cash benefits and spend them as you like
 to help with financial challenges an accident or illness could have to your standard of living.
- Avis Car Rental: We are pleased to announce that Avis is now a supplier of rental car services for members of NALS. NALS members can enjoy special member rates, considerable value-added discounts and the latest in technology, products, and services to make your car rental experience better than ever. Some of Avis' programs include: Complimentary Preferred® Service Enrollment, Where2TM GPS, and Avis e-Receipt.
- Email Marketing by Constant Contact®: Are you looking for an easy, effective, and highly affordable way to get your message out to your members and build strong, successful, and lasting relationships with them? With Email Marketing by Constant Contact, you'll create high-impact email newsletters and promotions in minutes, no technical expertise necessary. With more than 400 easily-customized templates, a simple point-and-click tool, and award-winning free customer support, you can create professional, compelling messages your audience will act on. And we make it easy for you to manage your contact lists, sign up website visitors, track your clicks and open rates, and send automated communications to new subscribers.
- FedEx® Advantage Program: By participating in the FedEx® Advantage Program, NALS members are eligible
 for the following discounts:
 - Up to 16% off select FedEx Express® U.S. shipping
 - Up to 12% off select FedEx Ground® shipping
 - Up to 20% off select FedEx Office® services
- Hertz Car Rental: Take advantage of special discounts available through NALS Hertz Member Savings program.
- Liberty Mutual Insurance: Liberty Mutual has partnered with NALS to offer member-exclusive savings on quality auto and home insurance. (*Discounts and savings are available where state laws and regulations allow, and may vary by state. To the extent permitted by law, applicants are individually underwritten; not all applicants may qualify.)
- **Hosted~FTP~:** Want more from FTP? Move to the Cloud! Hosted~FTP~ is an easy, secure way for businesses to share files and replace their FTP servers. Visit our website at hostedftp.com and take a Speed Test! Try it free for 21 Days. No credit card required, upgrade anytime.
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LSPSC OFFICERS 2020-2021

President
President-elect
Secretary

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Functional Director - Certification/

Education

Functional Director - Marketing/

Membership

Immediate Past President

Meredith Lazarski, ACP, SCCP Stacy Russo Strobel, PP, PLS Ann Marie Minerva, PP, SCCP Michelle Dender Campbell

Katherine R. Helms, PP, SCCP

Traci B. Wolfe, PP

Tara Jean Brown, PP, PLS, SCCP

LSPSC COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2020-2021

Annual Meeting ·······Debra H. Bailey, CLP Award of Excellence ·····Lauritza S. Hill and ·····Jasmine Y. Williams

Bar Liaison ······Tara Jean Brown, PP, PLS, SCCP Community Projects ·····Jamie I. Early, PP, PLS-SC Corporate,

SCCP and Sonia L. Hunt Credentials Debra H. Bailey, PLS Employment Joanna Albertson Finance Sonia L. Hunt and

·····Deborah J. Reynolds, PP, PLS, SCCP

Financial Review ······Christine Vandenberghe and

.....Meredith Lazarski, ACP, SCCP

Historian/Standing Rules and ByLaws ·····Tara Jean Brown, PP, PLS, SCCP

NALS Foundation · · · · · Susan L. Olmstead, PLS

Nominations and ElectionsNaomi W. Nation, PP, PLS, CLA,

.....SCCP and Tabitha Hanna

Publication ·····Susan Church, and Lois J. Belle, CLP

.....Betty M. Parks

.....Tara Jean Brown, PP, PLS, SCCP





Legal Staff Professionals of South Carolina 2020-2021 Calendar

TO S

*subject to change

May 2020 1 American Bar Association Law Day Theme: "Your Vote, Your Voice, Our Democracy: The 19 th Amendment at 100" 12 Deadline – LSPSC Chapter Rosters to NALS 15 Deadline – NALS Award of Excellence 25 NALS closed for Memorial Day June 2020	November 2020 1 Call for Nominations – 2021-2022 LSPSC Officers 15 Close of Nominations – 2021-2022 LSPSC Officers 16 Deadline – LSPSC Spotlight (December) 25 Nominations Acceptance and Qualification forms for 2020-2021 sent to qualifying nominees 26-27 NALS closed for Thanksgiving December 2020
 Open Registration for NALS 69th Virtual Educational Conference and National Forum (September 26) Deadline – LSPSC Spotlight (July) Deadline – Renew SCCP Accredited Sponsorship 	5 Deadline to return Nominations Acceptance and Qualification Forms for 2021-2022 LSPSC Nominees 23-31 NALS closed for holidays
July 2020 4 NALS closed for Independence Day 13 NALS Online Membership Meeting 17-19 LSPSC Officer Retreat (Clark's Inn, Santee)	January 2021 1 NALS closed for holiday 8 Deadline – Registration for LSPSC CLE Seminars and Winter Membership Meeting in Columbia 22 LSPSC Winter Board Meeting in Columbia 23 Distribute – 2020-2021 LSPSC Scholarship Award Application 23 Distribute – 2020-2021 LSPSC Award of Excellence Application 23 LSPSC CLE Seminars and Winter Membership Meeting at the Riverbanks Zoo in Columbia
August 2020 21 LSPSC Summer Board Meeting in Summerville 21-22 LSPSC 55 th Annual Meeting & Education Conference (rescheduled date due to COVID-19 pandemic) 23 LSPSC Summer Meeting in Summerville	February 2021 5 Prepare official ballots for mailing (If applicable) 15 Deadline to Return/Vote Ballots (if applicable) 15 Deadline – LSPSC Spotlight (March)
September 2020 7 NALS closed for Labor Day 15 Deadline – File IRS Form 990N 26 NALS 69 th Virtual Educational Conference and National Forum	March 2021 1 Deadline – Submit 2020-2021 LSPSC Scholarship Award Application 1 Deadline – Submit 2020-2021 LSPSC Award of Excellence Application
October 2020 12 NALS Online Membership Meeting 12-16 NALS Court Observance Week Theme: TBD	April 2021 9 Deadline – Registration for LSPSC 56th Annual Meeting and Educational Conference [TBD] (hosted by Midlands) 23 LSPSC Outgoing Board Meeting and Incoming Board Meeting 24 LSPSC 56 th Annual Meeting and Educational Conference and 2021-2022 Officer Installation 25 LSPSC Spring Membership Meeting



NALS 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.

LEGAL STAFF PROFESSIONALS OF

Attn: Susan Church Post Office Box 10208 Greenville, SC 29603



TO: