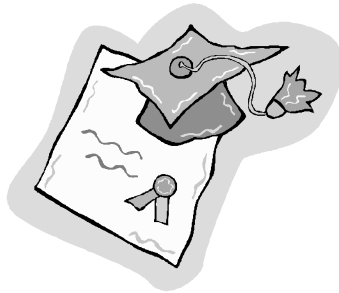


- Graduation/Awards Ceremony
- Judy Grant - Volunteer Center of Orange County
- Top 10 Reasons to Attend a Paralegal Conference
- Summer Courses
- Governor's Proclamation

SAVE THE DATE!

Graduation/Awards Ceremony

June 20, 2006 (Tuesday) - 6:00 p.m.



For those individuals who earned their paralegal certificate during the time period of Summer 2005 through Spring 2006, please make plans to attend the all-UC Irvine Extension certificate program Graduation/Award Ceremony. Family and friends are invited to join the graduates in recognizing their accomplishments. A reception will be held immediately after the ceremony.

Judy Grant, UC Irvine Extension Paralegal Certificate Graduate, is Now Associate Director at the Volunteer Center of Orange County



Judy Grant received her paralegal certificate from UC Irvine Extension in 1983. As was typical of many students in paralegal programs at the time, she had been a legal secretary for many years and obtained her certificate as a natural progression. During her paralegal career she worked for sole practitioners and various law firms, sometimes as a temp, sometimes as a paralegal and sometimes as a legal secretary but always in the litigation area. About three years ago, Ms. Grant "quit the law" and became involved with the Volunteer Center of Orange County. The Volunteer Center of Orange County serves as a conduit gathering volunteer opportunities from the community and then making them available on the website for people of all ages (youth, adults and senior) looking to volunteer, supporting nonprofit organizations in being successful in their work and connects people to information and resources that lead to effective community service delivery.

Ms. Grant is now Associate Director of the Nonprofit Resource Center, the "educational" arm of the Volunteer Center and is responsible for developing the curriculum, coordinating over 80 workshops per years, preparing the quarterly catalogue, overseeing the library, researching funding and serving as membership coordinator. She has also served as a volunteer career counselor for the Women's Opportunities Center on the UCI campus. Her background as a paralegal is called upon when someone is interested in the paralegal profession and she is asked to talk to them about the field. Ms. Grant loves her current position and says it lets her have the people contact she missed as a paralegal.

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If It's Summer There's An Educational Conference Near You

– The Top 10 Reasons Why You Should Attend a Paralegal Educational Conference

10. You have an opportunity to travel to a fun place – and don't have to do the research about where to go, when, etc.

If you attend a National Association of Legal Assistants ("NALA") convention the site varies from year to year – NALA holds its annual educational conference/convention in July and holds it in the eastern part of the United States and then the next year in the middle part and then it moves to the western part. Past sites have been Reno, San Antonio, Washington D.C., and Kansas City. This year NALA convention attendees will "Make Tracks to Tampa" from July 25 – July 29, 2006. Details can be found on NALA's website – www.NALA.org.

CAPA (the California Alliance of Paralegal Associations) also hosts an educational seminar which coincides with California Paralegal Day. This year the venue is San Luis Obispo and the date is Saturday June 24, 2006. You can register on-line or view the programs offered at www.CAPAraregal.org

To round out the programs, OCPA's educational conference is set for Saturday September 16, 2006. You won't have to travel far because it will be held in Newport Beach.

9. You receive continuing education credits on diverse topics.

Under California Business & Professions Code section 6450, California paralegals must earn continuing education credits after they have received their paralegal certificate – four hours of general/substantive law every three years and four hours of ethics every two years. Attending these conferences is an easy, painless way to get these credits.

8. You meet colleagues from across the nation, across the state or across the street.

The sense of community you get from meeting paralegals from across the nation and across the state is amazing. We are more alike than we are different. It doesn't take long to renew friendships with former classmates or to meet new friends. What a great resource for networking too.

7. You gain insight into how different paralegal professional organizations work.

Many of the organizations have a business meeting that coincides with the timing of their educational conference. NALA hosts its annual meeting during convention. CAPA has a board meeting on the Sunday following its conference. Visitors are welcome at these meetings. It is amazing to watch the professional organizations in action.

6. You applaud the award recipients.

At the NALA convention awards are announced recognizing achievements by paralegals across the nation. The Los Angeles Paralegal Association awards its annual "Lifetime Achievement Award" at its educational conference.

TOP 10 REASONS TO ATTEND (Contd.)

5. You can let down your hair, relax and have some fun.

After the classroom learning is done you'll find the paralegals exploring the fun "in-places" in the conference community -- whether its finding good local jazz music or going to the local amusement park or historical monument, or even enjoying a meal and drinks with your new found partners in the profession.

4. You exchange ideas to take back home.

A lot of the benefits of attending the conferences comes from finding out how someone else or some other organization handles something. It is a great way to conduct informational interviews or factual research on salaries, procedure, and even job opportunities.

3. You can learn (or relearn) other areas of law.

Maybe your dream is to be a paralegal in a different area of law than you are practicing or where you are headed. The variety of courses at the conventions allow you to explore these areas.

2. You have an opportunity to visit legal vendors.

At most conferences vendors of legal services have exhibitor booths. Not only do you make invaluable contacts, but many have door prizes that you have a chance to take home by simply leaving a business card with them.

1. You feel proud to call yourself a paralegal and be a student or graduate from UC Irvine Extension.

Once the educational conference is over you'll probably be exhausted but proud to be a paralegal and proud to be from UC Irvine Extension. Usually after your first convention you become hooked and eagerly watch for details on the next year's conventions.

June 23, 2006

California Alliance of Paralegal Associations

On behalf of all Californians, I am pleased to offer my warm greetings as you celebrate *California Paralegal Day*.

Paralegals are instrumental to our justice system, fulfilling vital duties in administration, research and communication in the legal profession. They provide primary points of contact between lawyers and their clients and utilize deep knowledge of legal concepts in many proceedings including bankruptcy, foreclosures, estate planning and business and family law.

I salute you for your efforts to acknowledge and celebrate paralegals' contributions to the law profession in California. I offer my congratulations to the CAPA for your support and recognition of these distinguished professionals.

Please accept my best wishes for every continued success.

Sincerely,



Arnold Schwarzenegger

June 24, 2006 is California Paralegal Day

National Paralegal Associations Websites

American Alliance of Paralegals, Inc.
<http://www.aapipara.org>

National Association of Legal Assistants (NALA)
<http://www.nala.org>

National Federation of Paralegal Associations (NFPA)
<http://www.paralegals.org>

California State Association Website

California Alliance of Paralegal Associations (CAPA)

<http://www.caparalegal.org>

Orange County Paralegal Association Website

<http://www.ocparalegal.org>





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*Paralegal Post story ideas welcome.
Please submit your ideas for future
articles to paralegal @ unx.uci.edu*

Request for Certificate - All requests should be filled out when you are completing your final course. Please allow three to four weeks after grades are in for certificate processing. To request your certificate, complete a Request for Certificate form and return it to the Paralegal Program Office.



REMINDERS:

Certificate Requirements - Candidates for the certificate must be officially admitted into the program and complete a total of 30 units (300 hours) of instruction with a grade of "C" or above in all courses. Certificate candidates must complete the program within five years of taking their first course.

NOTE: A "C-" or below is not a passing grade.

Free Career Counseling and Workshops Available - Paralegal certificate candidates (both men and women) are eligible for free career counseling and workshops through the Women's Opportunity Center. Call 949.824.7128.

Certificate Candidacy - Certificate candidates must apply for admission into the program before completing the third course in which they enroll - applications are available on the web.

All Paralegal Certificate Program forms are available online at:
www.extension.uci.edu/courses/certificate/paralegal.asp

Summer 2006 Schedule Announced

- Legal Admissions Meeting
Mon. 6/12/2006
RSVP 949.824.5528
- Fundamentals of Legal Assistantship
Mon. 6/19-8/21/2006
- Legal Writing
Wed. 6/21-8/23/2006
- Civil Litigation I
Thurs. 6/22-8/24/2006
- Civil Litigation III
Tues. 6/20-8/29/2006
Holiday 7/4/2006
- Corporate Law
Thurs. 6/22-8/24/2006
- Ethics for the Legal Assistant
Sat. 7/15-7/29/2006
- Family Law
Wed. 6/21-8/23/2006
- Paralegal Internship
Mon. 6/19; 7/24; 8/21/2006
- Torts
Tues. 6/20-8/29/2006
Holiday 7/4/2006

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

UC Irvine Extension Paralegal candidate students and recent graduates who want to receive information about job opportunities should send their e-mail address to vonessa.low@unx.uci.edu.

