



2023 Q2 CCAL Board of Governors President's Message

Dear Fellows and Community Association Law Counsel,

It is my pleasure to provide the following second-quarter 2023 update on behalf of the Board of Governors of CAI's College of Community Association Lawyers (CCAL): Brendan Bunn, Elina Gilbert, Daniel Miske, Laurie Poole, Augustus Shaw, and Amy Tinetti.

I returned from the 2023 CAI annual conference in Dallas in May. I had the great privilege of teaching the M-204 with CCAL Fellow Ursula Burgess. Fifteen and a half hours in the same room with Ursula...? Seriously, we had a blast, and I know attendees left with a ton of useful information about how to be better community managers. Not surprisingly, I also learned a lot from the experience. Personal collaboration is part of the reason that attending Law Seminar is essential in creating a committed community of practitioners to share their wisdom.

[2024 Law Seminar— Call for Presentations.](#) I am so excited to see my CAI colleagues at the 2024 Community Association Law Seminar, Feb. 14-18 in Las Vegas. I urge all of you to join me and submit a presentation proposal. I'm sure many of you, like me, have faced client issues surrounding new ways to use technology, conduct business, manage, and govern community associations. Please share your knowledge and creative solutions. Click [here](#) for more information on submitting a proposal—deadline is **June 30, 2023**.

[Best Manuscript Award.](#) The CAI Law Seminar presented by the College of Community Association Lawyers is the premier continuing legal education conference exploring trends and practices in community association law. In 2023, more than 20 sessions were offered to community association lawyers from around the United States. Each seminar is required to have a manuscript accompanying the presentation.

In 2014 the CAI College of Community Association Lawyers established the Best Manuscript Award. A committee of dedicated attorneys scrutinizes every manuscript submitted and selects one that best reflects the dedication of the presenters and the quality of education provided at the Law Seminar. The Best Manuscripts serve as benchmarks for Law Seminars to come. This year Lynn Krupnik, Esq., CCAL, Krupnik & Speas, PLLC, Anthony Rafel, Esq., CCAL, Rafel Law Group, and Kim O'Halloran-Perez, Esq., CCAL, Rees Broome, graciously served as CCAL's Best Manuscript Committee – reviewing over twenty manuscripts. Thank you!

[This year the Committee selected “Not So Fast: Combating Marketable Title Acts to Preserve Community Restrictions” by Kayleigh Long, Esq., Hirzel Law, and Nicholas J. Meinert, Esq., Kaman & Cusimano, to receive the 2023 Best Manuscript Award. Congratulations, Kayleigh and Nicholas!](#)

The CCAL Board of Governors and Law Seminar Planning Committee congratulates this group of attorneys for their hard work and dedication to CCAL's Law Seminar.

[CCAL Fellow Application Requirement Updates and June 30 Deadline.](#) After great thought and consideration, the CCAL Membership Committee and Board of Governors has approved the following changes to the current CCAL Application:

- CAI's Community Association Law Seminar attendance requirement has now been changed to “attendance at two (2) Law Seminars in the prior 10 years, and one (1) of which has been in the last 5 years.”



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- A new line item in the CCAL application scoring matrix has been added. If you have attended six (6) or more Law Seminars in the last 10 years, this will be counted .5-1 point towards industry involvement.

The next CCAL membership application deadline is June 30. Applicants must have completed a minimum of eight years of legal practice with a demonstrated focus in community association law, five of which must immediately precede the date of application. They also must be a member of CAI and have attended two CAI Law Seminars in the last ten years, with one in the last five years, and demonstrated significant leadership and involvement in the provision of legal services to community associations through the attainment of 12 out of a possible 15 points in the evaluated application categories.

CCAL Mentors. I encourage everyone to volunteer to participate in the CCAL Mentor program. The program helps lawyers new to our industry develop skills unique to community association law, provides networking opportunities, and guides lawyers toward completing their application to become a CCAL fellow. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Phoebe Neseth at pneseth@caionline.org.

CAI Lawyer's Exchange. CAI developed an online community for participation by all community association lawyers. Please contact Phoebe Neseth, Esq., at pneseth@caionline.org to be added into this Exchange group.

What's on your mind? The CCAL Board of Governors and I want to know how we are doing and any thoughts, comments, or ideas you have. Please reach out at any time to me at dgraf@moellergraf.com.

My best wishes for a safe and healthy summer.



David Graf, Esq., CCAL
President, College of Community Association Lawyers (CCAL)