



2020 Q3 CCAL Board of Governors President's Message

Dear CCAL Fellows and Community Association Law Counsel,

On behalf of the Board of Governors of CAI's [CAI College of Community Association Lawyers \(CCAL\)](#), whose members are Brendan Bunn, David Graf, David Kaman, Daniel Miske, Matt Ober, and Laurie Poole, I'm pleased to provide you with a brief update for the third quarter.

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to dominate our lives and our unique and specialized law practices. While the health impact has been devastating, it has certainly kept community association practitioners busy tracking the ever-changing executive orders and related legislation, while providing advice to our clients. Many of us are exhausted and overwhelmed with work, but we will get through this. If there is anything the Board of Governors can do to help your practice, whether it is educational programming, legislative or amicus support, please do not hesitate to reach out.

On a positive note, I think that the pandemic has the possibility to transform our practices and the industry for the better. The use of technology will allow us to attend meetings virtually, saving all of us valuable time traveling from one destination to another. The virtual platforms now allow us to routinely communicate face-to-face with clients and other industry professionals, instead of by phone.

More importantly, the prospect of virtual meetings and elections have the potential to eliminate apathy, which is a problem that has plagued our industry for years. We have seen greater participation in annual meetings and elections through virtual online platforms. It is often said that that the response to a crisis is more important than the cure and I hope that organizing virtual and hybrid meetings going forward will transform our industry for the better.

Along those lines, the board conducted a virtual networking session with the Young Lawyers Network in September. The program was well-received, and it is our hope to continue this virtual program and perhaps implement other similar networking programs through 2021.

I also want to congratulate Laurie Poole, who has been selected to serve as our president-elect for 2022 following David Kaman, our 2021 president-elect.

[Save the Date: 2021 Community Association Virtual Law Seminar.](#) Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the CAI 2021 Community Association Law Seminar, is going virtual. This was not an easy decision, but ultimately the health and safety of our attendees, sponsors, speakers, and staff led all parties to conclude that cancelling the face-to-face meeting was the responsible action.

This virtual event will have the same great content that CAI and the College of Community Association Lawyers had planned for La Quinta, only now we will be connecting from the comfort of our homes and/or

offices. The online program will be held a few hours every day over five days of learning and will include renowned speakers, real-time participation, and continuing legal education credits.

Thank you to committee chairs Elina Gilbert, Tom Murray, and Andrew Terrell for their leadership throughout this unprecedented Law Seminar planning process. [Register today](#) for the 2021 Community Association Virtual Law Seminar, January 25-29.

CCAL Young Lawyers Network. Over the past several years, the Board of Governors has explored engaging the next generation of community association attorneys. To connect with this group, we created the CAI Young Lawyers Network as a way for these attorneys to network with current CCAL Fellows. Anyone who is in the first eight years of their practice in community association law and interested in this initiative should contact Brendan Bunn at bpbunn@chadwickwashington.com.

Congratulations to Our New CCAL Fellows. The Board of Governors welcomed six outstanding CCAL Fellows from the summer 2020 class of applicants to the College. Join me in congratulating Clinton Faber Brown (Roberts Markel Weinberg Butler Hailey, PC), Edward Hoffman, Jr. (Barrow|Hoffman), Laura V. Kwiatkowski (Law Office of Laura V. Kwiatkowski), Anthony Rafel (Rafel Law Group, PLLC), Todd A. Sinkins (Rees Broome, PC), and David C. Swedelson (SwedelsonGottlieb). [CCAL Fellows](#) now total 156, a select and impressive group.

CCAL Washington Post Column. CCAL Fellows continue to be featured in *The Washington Post's* Real Estate section, writing about a variety of common interest community topics. You may recall that CCAL fellow Benny Kass, who passed away in March 2019, started the column in 1972. He developed the column into a resource for community association residents. Calling all CCAL fellows interested in participating in this incredible opportunity, please contact Phoebe Neseth, Esq. at pneseth@caionline.org

Call for Don Buck Lifetime Contribution Award Nominations: The Board of Governors is considering presenting the Don Buck Lifetime Contribution Award at the virtual 2021 Community Association Law Seminar. This award, named after and in honor of Gurden "Don" Buck contributions recognizes preeminent attorneys who demonstrate the following:

- An active and positive presence in the common interest community industry for at least 20 years;
- Contributions in the areas of drafting governing documents, developing sensible legislative proposals, producing scholarly articles or treatises on common interest communities, or lecturing on common interest community issues;
- Service in local, regional and/or national organizations promoting or affiliated with land use and common interest communities;
- Commitment to the local community, including but not limited to, local government participation, affordable housing, and pro bono legal initiatives; and
- Exhibits a willingness to share his or her time, talents, and knowledge with the next generation of lawyers.

The Board of Governors invites you to submit a nomination for a community association lawyer colleague who is worthy of this prestigious award. Please send your nominees, along with a description of their accomplishments and reasons they should be considered to Phoebe Neseth, Esq at pneseth@caionline.org

Case Law Update and Online Directory: One of the most compelling reasons to attend the Community Association Law Seminar is the invaluable opportunity to listen to dozens of appellate cases. [Click here](#) for a preview of the Case Law Update from the 2020 Law Seminar. As a CAI member you have access to our online [case law database](#).

What's on Your Mind? The Board of Governors and I appreciate your feedback, thoughts, ideas, or concerns about the College. Please reach out any time.

Best,



Edmund A. Allcock, Esq.

2020 President, College of Community Association Lawyers (CCAL)

eallcock@meeb.com