

Dear CCAL Fellows and Community Association Law Counsel,

After a successful and engaging Community Association Law Seminar, it is my pleasure, on behalf of your CCAL Board of Governors Edward Allcock, Brendan Bunn, David Graf, Julie Howard, David Kaman, and Laurie Poole, to provide you the following first quarter CCAL update.

### **CCAL Law Seminar 2019**

My sincere thanks to everyone who presented programs at the Community Association Law Seminar. It is not lost on us that the Law Seminar would not exist without your contributions. Your time, insight, and preparation were well-received and are still being applauded by those who attended. I also acknowledge and thank the great work of the Law Seminar Planning Committee and its Committee Chair Brendan Bunn, who has passed the torch to the competent team of Elina Gilbert and Andrew Terrell. We look forward to great things from this inspiring team and to seeing all of you at the [Community Association Law Seminar 2020, January 15<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>, in Las Vegas.](#)

**Case Law Update and Online Directory:** Many thanks to David Kaman, Jeffrey Kaman, and the case law update team for their work throughout the year. The team compiled community association case law from across the country to present at the Law Seminar and to use in CAI's online case law database, which is available at <https://www.caionline.org/Advocacy/LegalArena/Pages/caselaw.aspx>.

**Welcome New CCAL Fellows:** In January, we welcomed the following new CCAL fellows: Todd Billy, St. Louis; Gregory Chandler, Indianapolis; Robert DeNichilo, Irvine, Calif.; Jeffrey Kaman, Columbus, Ohio; Erin Maloney, Riverside, Calif.; and Lisa Tashjian, Woodland Hills, Calif.

**Congratulations Ron Perl:** It was my honor to present Ronald L. Perl of Hill Wallack, LLP, with the Don Buck Lifetime Achievement Award. The award recognizes community association practitioners who have made extraordinary contributions to community association law and practice. The award is a very fitting and well-deserved acknowledgement of Perl's significant involvement in CAI and the community association industry for so many years.

**Best Manuscript Award:** The Law Seminar Manuscript Committee is working to identify the 2019 Best Manuscript Award. This is the sixth year the CCAL Board of Governors will present this award, which recognizes the scholarly efforts of our talented lawyers. Past recipients include: David J. Graf and Steven S. Weil (2014); James H. Slaughter (2015); Marion A. Aaron and Allen B. Warren (2016); Daniela Burg, Edward Hoffman, Jr., and Gerald C. Wigger (2017); Matt Ober and Amy Tinetti (2018).

**CCAL Fellow Applications Due June 30.** The next CCAL membership applications deadline is June 30. Applicants are required to have completed a minimum of seven years legal practice with a demonstrated concentration in community association law, five of which must immediately precede the date of application; be a member of CAI and have attended at least one Law Seminar within the past five years; and have 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. An application guide, along with updated evaluation criteria, can be found here [https://www.caionline.org/Advocacy/LegalArena/CCAL/Documents/ccal\\_application.pdf](https://www.caionline.org/Advocacy/LegalArena/CCAL/Documents/ccal_application.pdf).

**CCAL Mentors:** I encourage everyone to participate in the CCAL Mentor program. The goals of the program are to assist new lawyers in developing skills unique to the practice of community association law, to provide a networking opportunity for new lawyers, and to guide industry lawyers in working toward and completing their CCAL application. For more information, contact Phoebe Neseth at [pneseth@caionline.org](mailto:pneseth@caionline.org). Applications for mentors or mentees are available [here](#).

**Amicus Activity:** CAI's amicus curiae involvement is expected to be extremely active under the leadership of committee co-chairs Robert Diamond and Gary Kessler. CAI's amicus efforts were most recently reflected in *ORCHARD ESTATE HOMES, INC. v. ORCHARD HOMEOWNER ALLIANCE* (2019) Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup>, where the Court ruled in favor of the Association on a petition for judicial approval to reduce the percentage of affirmative votes required to amend the CC&Rs. This position was supported in the brief submitted by Laurie Poole on behalf of CAI. Details of this submission, along with information and updates on all amicus curiae activity, can be found at <https://www.caionline.org/Advocacy/Amicus/Pages/default.aspx>.

**Community Association Young Lawyers Now Forming:** Get involved in the inaugural year of this exciting new committee of lawyers who are new to the practice of law or to community association law. As we announced at this year's Law Seminar, this committee of young professionals will work alongside the CCAL Board of Governors to further pave the way for involvement—either through development of programs at Law Seminar or in some other capacity throughout the year. This is an excellent opportunity for you to connect with other community association practitioners throughout the country as you develop your own community association law practice. Contact Committee Chair Brendan Bunn at [bbunn@chadwickwashington.com](mailto:bbunn@chadwickwashington.com) or Dawn Bauman, CAE, senior vice president of government and public affairs at CAI at [dbauman@caionline.org](mailto:dbauman@caionline.org) for more information.

**What's on our mind?** As we progress through the year, the CCAL Board of Governors and I want to know how we are doing. We want to hear your thoughts, ideas, or concerns about the College. Please reach out at any time. Contact [Matt@richardsonober.com](mailto:Matt@richardsonober.com).

Best,



Matt Ober, Esq.  
President, College of Community Association Lawyers (CCAL)