Dear CCAL Fellows and Community Association Law Counsel,

On behalf of the CAI College of Community Association Lawyers (CCAL) Board of Governors, Edward Allcock, Brendan Bunn, David Graf, Julie Howard, David Kaman, and Laurie Poole, I’m pleased to provide you with a brief third quarter update.

**CAI Law Seminar 2020**

The 2020 Law Seminar Committee completed its panel selections and is putting the final touches on what promises to be an outstanding event. Among the overwhelming number of submissions, the committee selected 17 of the most current or legally significant programs, taking special care to offer a diverse range of topics and presenters from across the country. This year’s seminar offers something for everyone. We are bringing back the widely praised women’s panel focusing on “Practicing in Your Personality: How to Thrive as a Community Association Lawyer.” We will also host the popular Law Firm Management Program on Wednesday afternoon. Finally, we are excited to offer programming dedicated to our CCAL Young Lawyers Division, including a restructured L-100 curriculum “Essentials of Community Association Law,” along with some opportunities for our new lawyers to connect with those of us more “seasoned.”

**Law Seminar Community Service:** Continuing the success of last year’s program, CCAL will join The United Way of Southern Nevada to build reading packs for Clark County elementary school kids. Clark County is the fifth largest school district in the country, with 324,093 students filling 336 schools. Law Seminar attendees will be able to provide books, which will be used to build reading packs for the students. This effort provides a great opportunity for community association lawyers to give back.

Thanks to committee chairs Elina Gilbert and Andrew Terrell for their leadership throughout the Law Seminar planning process. Make sure to mark your calendars for the CAI Law Seminar 2020, Jan. 15–18, at the Aria Resort in Las Vegas.

**CCAL Commits to Civility.** Throughout this year, the CCAL Board of Governors has explored ways to spotlight the heightened emotions in the communities we represent. In an effort to bring about civil discourse in our town halls, board meetings, and neighborhoods, the board adopted last month the Community Association Commitment to Civility, which will be released soon. The Commitment to Civility is not intended to be a mandate, policy, or rule imposed upon community members. Think of it as an idea or concept or a pledge, if you will. A commitment to fostering a climate of open discussion and debate, mutual respect, and tolerance between all who live in, work in, and visit the community. By drawing attention to the way we interact with each other, perhaps we can turn down the rhetoric and discover a path toward civility in our communities. I am extremely proud of the board’s work on this effort and look forward to launching the campaign to CAI membership soon.

**CCAL Outreach.** Despite what many of us know to be a rapidly expanding area of law, common interest development law is either not addressed in our law schools or is touched upon in passing. Notwithstanding the rising numbers of law school graduates, many of us struggle to find quality community association lawyers to join our ranks. We are exploring an outreach initiative where CCAL Fellows reconnect with their
law schools to draw attention to the practice of community association law. We hope that each CCAL Fellow can serve as CAI’s liaison to their law school and, over time, become that school’s community association law and practice resource. We will begin by providing CAI’s Community Association Law Reporter newsletter and other CAI resources. Stay tuned for more details as we roll this out. Anyone who is interested in CCAL’s outreach initiative should contact David Graf, Esq., CCAL fellow, at dgraf@moellergraf.com.

Congratulations to our New CCAL Fellows. The Board of Governors welcomed three outstanding CCAL Fellows from the Spring 2019 Class of Applicants. Join me in congratulating Ursula K. Burgess (Rees Broome, Virginia), Howard J. Perl (Becker & Poliakoff, P.A., Florida), and Ellen A. Shapiro (Goodman, Shapiro & Lombardi, Massachusetts). With the addition of Ursula, Howard, and Ellen, CCAL Fellows total 155, a select and impressive group.

CCAL Washington Post Column. CCAL Fellows continue to be featured in The Washington Post’s Real Estate section on a variety of common interest development topics. You may recall that CCAL Fellow Benny Kass, who passed away in March, started the column in 1972. He developed the column into a resource for community association residents. Attorneys interested in participating in this incredible opportunity should contact Phoebe Neseth at pneseth@caionline.org.

Case Law Update & Online Directory: CAI’s online case law database is available at https://www.caionline.org/Advocacy/LegalArena/Pages/caselaw.aspx.

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,

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