



Dear Fellows and Community Association Law Counsel,

Greetings from the Desert Southwest! It is my pleasure to provide the second quarter 2026 update on behalf of the board of governors of CAI's College of Community Association Lawyers: Daniel Miske, Elina Gilbert, Scott Weiss, Amy Tinetti, Kevin Hirzel, and Harmony Taylor.

Expanding the practice of community association law

One of the primary goals of this year's CCAL board is to grow the practice area of community association law by attracting more attorneys to the practice. The CCAL board is addressing this challenge by participating in events geared toward bringing greater exposure to CCAL and the community association law practice area. On behalf of the CCAL board, I would like to highlight some of our recent accomplishments and future initiatives.



[2026 HOA/condo legal symposium](#)

I am proud to inform you that CAI and CCAL, in partnership with Arizona State University's Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, hosted a very successful legal symposium in April. This wonderful event was designed to introduce law students, law professors, and other academics to the dynamic and growing field of community association law through a star-studded group of nationally recognized speakers, professors, and industry leaders. Thank you to everyone who participated and attended.



[CCAL presented at the 2026 CAI Annual Conference and Exposition](#)

Representatives of the CCAL board participated in the 2026 CAI Annual Conference & Exposition: Community NOW, held June 3–5 in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. The CCAL board presented a panel on important legal topics and facilitated Lawyer Shop Talk, a valuable forum where attorneys exchanged ideas and discussed issues impacting community associations.



[2027 Law Seminar: LAST Call for Presentations](#)

The CCAL board is excited to see CAI colleagues at the 2027 Community Association Law Seminar, Jan. 27-Jan 30, in Washington D.C. I urge you to join me and submit a presentation proposal. There are a variety of novel and unusual issues our clients are facing in 2026, so there is fertile ground for wide-ranging and interesting topics. Please share your knowledge and creative solutions. Click here for more information on submitting a proposal. **Deadline is June 12.**



[Best Manuscript Award](#)

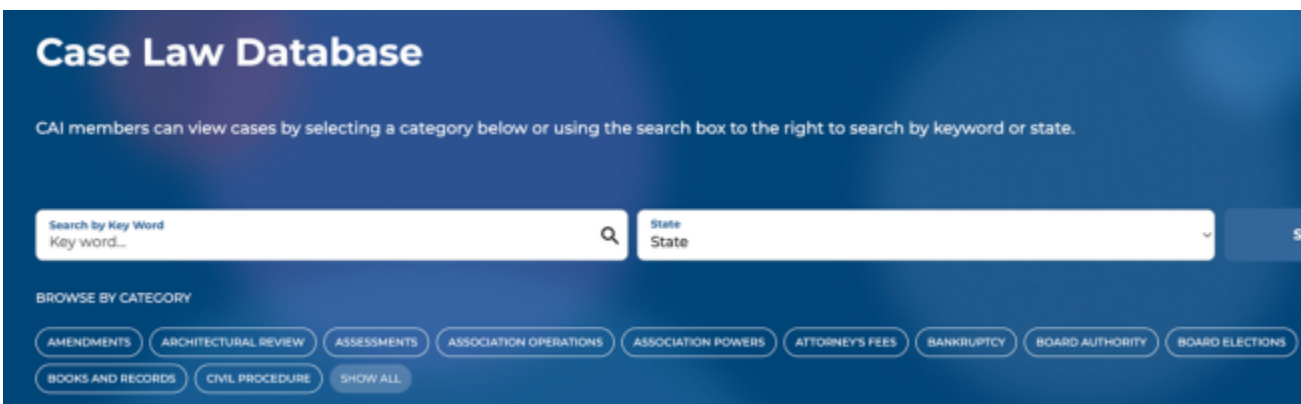
Speaking of the law seminar, the CCAL board, Law Seminar Manuscript Task Force and CCAL Law Seminar Planning Committee are pleased to announce the presentation manuscript [ICE at the Gates and Beyond: Law Enforcement Compliance Risks for Community Associations](#) by Leslie S. Brown, Esq., Sandra L. Gottlieb, Esq., CCAL fellow, and Daniel Heaton, Esq., received the 2026 Best Manuscript Award.

This is the 12th year the board of governors will present this award, which recognizes the scholarly efforts of our talented lawyers. Past recipients include David 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); Kevin Hirzel, Edward Hoffman Jr., Michael S. Karpoff, and Todd A. Sinkins (2019); Elina B. Gilbert and Kevin M. Hirzel (2020); Leah K. Burton, Noelle Hicks, and Wil Washington (2021), Leah K. Burton and Noelle Hicks (2022); Kayleigh Long and Nicholas Meinert (2023); and Lauren DeVoe, Maria C. Kao, and Bill Gourley (2024), and Nicholas R. Barnes, Timothy J. Krupnik, Ellen R. Schuster (2025).

APPLY TO THE COLLEGE OF COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION LAWYERS BY JUNE 30

[CCAL fellow applications due June 30](#)

Applicants are required to complete a minimum of eight years of legal practice with a focus on community association law, five of which must immediately precede the date of application. They also must be a CAI member and have attended at least two law seminars within the past 10 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.



[Case law update and online directory](#)

Many thanks to Jeffrey Kaman and all members of the Case Law Update team for their time-consuming work throughout 2025. The team compiled summaries from community association cases across the country that were presented at the Community Association Law Seminar. They are now included in CAI's online Case Law Database. The update takes a tremendous amount of work throughout the year by the great lawyers on the team. Their efforts are invaluable to implementing a successful Law Seminar. CAI expresses its continued gratitude for the vital role they play in keeping us informed.

Programs and Opportunities

[CAI's Developing Emerging Community Association Lawyers Network](#)

Are you a community association lawyer within the first eight years of your practice? Is your law firm a member of CAI? If yes, you are invited to join CAI's Developing Emerging Community Association Lawyers Network. CAI's DECAL Network is home for the next generation of community association attorneys and provides opportunities to expand your network and resources and grow legal skills. [Join today and share with associates in your office!](#)

[CCAL mentorship opportunity](#)

I encourage everyone to participate in the CCAL mentor program. The program helps lawyers new to the industry develop skills unique to the practice of 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 at pneseth@caionline.org to be added into this exchange group.

Stay informed of CCAL updates by following us on [Facebook](#) and [X](#) at @CCALawyers.

What's on your mind? The CCAL Board of Governors and I want to know your thoughts, comments, and ideas. Please reach out to me at ashaw@shawlines.com with any suggestions to improve CCAL, the law seminar, or improve our visibility.

My best wishes for a safe, healthy summer season.



Augustus H. Shaw IV, Esq., CCAL fellow
2026 President, College of Community Association Lawyers

