



2025 Q1 CCAL Board of Governors President's Message

Dear Fellows and Community Association Law Counsel,

It is my pleasure to provide the first quarter 2025 update on behalf of the board of governors of CAI's College of Community Association Lawyers: Brendan Bunn, Augustus Shaw, Elina Gilbert, Scott Weiss, Amy Tinetti, Kevin Hirzel, and Daniel Miske.

As I am sure you know, the CTA seems to be taking its last breaths. This allows us to spend time on how we can improve things in our lives. For me that comes through faith, family, and the enjoyment of our work. On March 11, my son was released from prison. After many years, it is so good to have him home. We have been spending time learning how iPhones work and getting a driver's license. Things that used to frustrate me now make me smile as I watch (and sometimes help) him work through the same problems we all struggled with for years.

My goal for this year is to increase the visibility of CCAL and its lawyers. We are starting with writing a law review article for Arizona State's Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law. Thanks to Augustus Shaw and Kevin Hirzel for getting this started. I am asking fellows to please participate by talking about CCAL and making sure that during speeches and in writings you reference CCAL. As an organization that offers time, talents, and knowledge, I believe we can do more for community associations through greater visibility. I am extremely proud of CCAL and what we do. As fellows, let's celebrate and broadcast that success.

2025 Community Association Law Seminar. My sincere thanks to everyone who presented at the 2025 Community Association Law Seminar. Every individual involved with this year's event was critical to its success. The Law Seminar would not exist without the contributions of so many talented – and busy -- lawyers. Your time, insight, and preparation were well received and applauded by attendees. This year's event had a record number of 767 attendees-- most of those were community association attorneys. Other professionals in the community association industry also attended, including 111 managers and 99 insurance professionals.

I'd like to acknowledge the diligent and inspiring work of the Law Seminar Planning Committee and thank co-chairs Susan Tarley, Anthony Rafel, and Lydia Chartre. We look forward to seeing everyone next year for the 2026 Community Association Law Seminar Jan. 13 –16 in San Diego. More information on this event will be released in the coming weeks.

UPDATED [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 2024. The team compiled case law summaries from community association cases across the country that were presented in depth at the Law Seminar and 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, and 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.



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Congratulations to Steve Weil, the Don Buck Lifetime Award Recipient. It was an honor to present Steve Weil 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 a well-deserved acknowledgement of Steve's significant involvement with CAI and the community association industry for so many years.

Best Manuscript Award. The Law Seminar Manuscript Committee is working to identify the 2025 Best Manuscript Award. This is the 11th year the CCAL Board of Governors will present this award, which recognizes the scholarly efforts of 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).

2025 CAI Annual Conference and Exposition: Community NOW – Register Today! CAI is proud to announce the 2025 Annual Conference and Exposition: Community NOW May 7-10 at Rosen Shingle Creek in Orlando, Fla. The CCAL Board of Governors is presenting an education session titled "Hot. Legal. Topics – Presented by CCAL. Please join CAI's College of Community Association Lawyers to learn about the current legal issues that are impacting – or are likely to impact – community associations."

Join us for the ultimate gathering of community association managers, homeowner board members, and business partners at the 2025 CAI annual conference. Connect with old friends and meet new ones at spectacular networking events, inspiring education sessions, and the world-class exhibit hall showcasing the latest technology and solutions for community associations.

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 (DECAL). CAI's DECAL Network is home for the next generation of community association attorneys, providing opportunities to expand your network and resources to grow your legal skills. [Join today and share with associates in your office!](#)

CAI's Amicus Curiae Program. CAI files amicus curiae briefs for cases of significant importance in community association law. CAI's amicus efforts enable CAI to share advocacy and expertise to educate a court about the legal issues in a case from a policy perspective. If an association you represent is faced with a poorly formulated



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legal opinion, consider completing an amicus brief submission request. Click [here](#) for more information on submission procedures. Contact Phoebe Neseth at pneseth@caionline.org for questions.

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 dmiske@kamancus.com with any suggestions to improve CCAL, the law seminar, or improve our visibility.

My best wishes for a safe, healthy spring season.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniel Miske".

Daniel Miske, Esq., CCAL
President, College of Community Association Lawyers