

2025 Q3 CCAL Board of Governors President's Message

Dear Fellows and Community Association Law Counsel,

It is my pleasure to provide the third 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, and Kevin Hirzel.

This is the best of seasons, not just because football has started but because annual meetings and budgets are due. These events provide us with an opportunity to reconnect with our boards and explain one of the few and best things directors and officers can do for themselves and their associations—budget for education. This can include annual CAI dues, state or local CAI events or CAI's Annual Conference & Exposition: Community NOW. Officers and directors of associations make better decisions when they better understand their duties. CAI helps provide this education. Associations also should consider adding line-item amounts for local or state legislative action committees. Just a few \$250 contributions can go a long way. Go Pack Go!!!

CAI's 2026 CCAL Board of Governors President-Elect. I am thrilled to announce Amy Tinetti of Hughes Gill Cochrane Tinetti in Walnut Creek, Cali. has been elected as the 2026 president-elect of the CCAL Board of Governors. CCAL Board of Governors elections for 2026 will open in the coming weeks for all current and active CCAL fellows. Be on the lookout for an electronic ballot in your inbox and please join me in congratulating Amy on this well-deserved appointment!

2026 Community Association Law Seminar. Of course, we have the usual excitement building to see our CAI colleagues at the 2026 Community Association Law Seminar, Jan. 14-16, in San Diego at the Hilton San Diego Bayfront Hotel. The Law Seminar is the premier continuing legal education conference exploring trends and best practices in community association law annually. Keeping it fresh is easy in our constantly evolving practice area.

After attending CAI's Law Seminar, you will:

- Be better prepared to deal with the pressing issues facing condominium and homeowners associations.
- Know how to plan for the next five years in the practice of association law.
- Have a valuable, supportive network of colleagues across the country.
- Receive a copy of the law seminar proceedings and materials.

We encourage all community association attorneys, insurance agents, CEOs, and industry leaders to join me and your peers in California for this one-of-a-kind event. **Register Today!**

Congratulations, New CCAL fellow! The board of governors welcomed one truly outstanding CCAL fellow from the Summer 2025 class of applicants. Join us in congratulating Noelle Hicks of RMWBH Law in Houston. Find a CCAL fellow in your state via CAI's CCAL Directory.

<u>CCAL Fellow Applications Due Sept. 30</u>. The CCAL membership applications deadline is Sept. 30. Applicants are required to complete a minimum of eight years of legal practice with a focus in community association law, five of which must immediately precede the date of application. They also must be a CAI member and attended at least two Law Seminars within the past 10 years, with one in the last five years, and demonstrated significant



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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.

<u>CAI's Developing Emerging Community Association Lawyers Network.</u> Are you a community association lawyer within the first eight years of your practice? Is your law firm a CAI member? If so, 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 to grow your legal skills. <u>Join today and share with associates in your office!</u>

<u>CAI's Amicus Curiae Program.</u> 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 legal opinion, consider completing an amicus brief submission request. Click <u>here</u> for more information on submission procedures. Contact Phoebe Neseth at <u>pneseth@caionline.org</u>.

<u>CCAL Mentorship Opportunity.</u> 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. It also 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.

<u>CAI Lawyers' Exchange.</u> CAI developed an online community for all community association lawyers. Please contact Phoebe Neseth at <u>pneseth@caionline.org</u> to be added to this exchange group.

Honoring CCAL fellow Robert M. Meisner, who passed away in July. He was the principal founding member of Meisner Law in Michigan, and the first lawyer in Michigan to be inducted into CCAL. He was a co-drafter of the 1978 Michigan Condominium Act, as well as the 2001 amendments to the act. He provided testimony over the years regarding proposed condominium legislation to both the Michigan legislature and the U.S. Congress. Additionally, he was a frequent speaker at CAI chapter and national events. He also was an adjunct professor at both the Cooley Law School and Michigan State Law School. He will be missed.

Stay informed of CCAL updates by following us on Facebook and X.

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, law seminar, or improve our visibility.

My best wishes for a safe, healthy fall season.



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