

NC ADVOCATES FOR JUSTICE CONVENTION 2019

REVITALIZING + RETOOLING OUR COMMUNITY

JUNE 20-23, 2019 / HOTEL BALLAST, BY HILTON / WILMINGTON, NC

A SPECIAL NOTE FROM THE NCAJ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear NCAJ Members:

It's that time of year! Time for NCAJ's Annual Convention. I wanted to take a few moments to outline some of the changes that are being made to Convention. Overall attendance at Convention has been decreasing while costs to host events outside of NCAJ's building have been increasing over time. Understanding how important Convention is to our membership, a new format will occur in 2019 to address these realities and adjust accordingly. The new format also seeks to celebrate the community that is NCAJ regardless of practice area.

Traditionally, Convention is a time for those in attendance to receive quality CLE, share best practices and tips, network and socialize, and recharge and refresh before all return to their various parts of the State for another year. It is my hope that the new Convention format will only heighten these opportunities for our membership.

Some of the most notable changes include:

Shortening time commitments

Convention will be held over four days (Thursday-Sunday) with the President's Gala being held on Saturday night. Many members have expressed an inability to attend Convention during the work week. Aligning the Convention closer to a weekend will allow those in busy practices to step away for an informative and fun weekend in Wilmington.

Providing warm welcomes to new faces

NCAJ will host a first-time attendees "meet and greet" on Thursday evening. New members need to feel welcome and be afforded an opportunity early at Convention to network with other members so they see familiar faces as they move through the weekend.

Inviting all members to participate

Legal assistants will be provided the opportunity to attend the President's Gala. For far too long, legal assistants have not been fully included in Convention. This change will engage all members of the NCAJ community.

Celebrating NCAJ

Friday morning will involve a three-hour session on the "business of NCAJ." It will include the NCAJ Annual Meeting, NCAJ Awards Presentation, and a State of the Association report. It will also be an opportunity for those dignitaries in attendance to speak to our membership. Convention has historically been packed with events that allow minimal to no downtime to reconnect with colleagues, family and friends. This year Convention will start with all news and updates about NCAJ and the legal community of North Carolina, before heading into invaluable CLE programming. This will allow attendees to better plan their time in Wilmington and enjoy the extended weekend.

Streamlining and focusing program content

Masters in Advocacy seminar will no longer be tied to the Convention and will be held at a separate date and time in the spring of every year, as many members have either attended only Masters or Convention. This change will maximize members' ability to participate in both programs.

Updates and workshops will no longer take place as individual tracks to alleviate the issue of overlapping programming that restricts members' ability to participate in pertinent learning. Rather, NCAJ will hold a concurrent Civil Law Update and Criminal Law Update.

Sections, divisions and caucuses will begin Convention with one another and focus on their area of practice and then turn their attention to the overall NCAJ community. Of course, any section, division or caucus can arrange an informal get together of its members in or around the hotel throughout the weekend.

Offering board orientation

Sunday board meeting will include a welcome from the NCAJ President, an overview of his agenda, and an official board orientation. Orientation at Convention will get the new fiscal year off to a great start and allow the next NCAJ leadership team to hit the ground running on behalf of the organization.

NCAJ is in a time of transition. With transition, comes constant evaluation and modification. Some of these changes may work; others may not work so well. However, better to change and change again than do nothing at all. NCAJ is an amazing membership organization but a membership organization, nonetheless. We can no longer remain stagnant and expect to remain relevant. We must be brave enough and bold enough to implement new ideas. Although difficult at times, change is necessary in order to remain healthy and vibrant as an organization.

What can you do to help?

I ask each of you to attend this year's Convention with an open mind and a warm heart. Let's celebrate one another and this organization. Let's focus on what we do and why we do it. Let's come together on behalf of the people of North Carolina and fulfill the tenet of our mission, ***Protecting People's Rights.***

I look forward to seeing you on June 20-23, 2019 in Wilmington!

Sincerely,



Kimberly Crouch
NCAJ Executive Director

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NCAJ CONVENTION 2019 SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 2019

2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Registration Desk - Exhibitor Set-Up and Attendee Check-In

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

New Lawyers Division Meeting

Business meeting of the New Lawyers Division. All lawyers licensed fewer than 10 years are welcome.

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Women's Caucus Meeting

Business meeting of the Women's Caucus. All female attorneys are welcome.

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Professional Negligence Section Meeting

Business meeting of the Professional Negligence Section. All section members are welcome.

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Workers' Compensation Section Meeting

Business meeting of the Workers' Compensation Section. All section members are welcome.

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Auto Torts and Premises Liability Section Meeting

Business meeting of the Auto Torts and Premises Liability Section. All section members are welcome.

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Criminal Defense Section Meeting

Business meeting of the Criminal Defense Section. All section members are welcome.

5:00 pm – 5:30 pm

First-Time Attendees Meet & Greet

One of the most valuable opportunities of Convention is networking and meeting other legal professionals from around the State. Begin Convention by networking with other first-time Convention attendees and members of the NCAJ leadership.

5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Edwards Kirby Opening Reception

Sponsored by Edwards Kirby, LLP and Thomson Reuters

Join us on the Riverside Terrace and relax after a day filled with travel and section, division and caucus meetings. Spend time catching up with friends from around the State with host bar and hors d'oeuvres.

FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 2019

7:00 am – 8:15 am

Workers' Comp Discussions @ Dawn

Join Vernon Sumwalt and other die-hard Workers' Comp practitioners for an early morning conversation about cases, recent decisions and best practices.

7:30 am – 5:00 pm

Registration Desk/Exhibit Hall Open

Visit exhibitors or stop by and pick up your Convention registration packet.

8:30 am – 11:30 am

Opening of Convention 2019

Breakfast sponsored by Sawyer Consulting, LLC

Opening of Convention 2019

Join us for a continental breakfast as NCAJ President, Mary Pollard, opens Convention 2019 with an update on the accomplishments of her presidency.

NCAJ Annual Meeting

During the business meeting of NCAJ, new members of the Board of Governors and NCAJ leadership will be elected by the attendees.

NCAJ Awards Presentation

The annual awards presentation is a perennial favorite and is one of the most inspiring parts of Convention.

State of the Association

NCAJ Executive Director, Kim Crouch, will offer an update on the exciting work and progress that the organization has made during fiscal year 2018-2019.

11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Buffet Lunch

Sponsored by Lawyers Mutual Liability Insurance Company of NC
Spend time catching up with colleagues from across the State and visit our Convention exhibitors and sponsors over lunch.

1:00 pm – 4:15 pm

Unifying Juries in a Dangerously Divided World

David Ball, Ph.D., Malekpour & Ball, Durham

Artemis Malekpour, Malekpour & Ball, Chapel Hill

All Convention attendees will come together for a three-hour session focusing on trial skills with nationally renowned trial consultants David Ball and Artemis Malekpour. Malekpour & Ball is the nation's only trial consulting team qualified and certified to advise attorneys on Reptilian methods and techniques. During this segment attendees will learn:

- Charisma for Credibility and Persuasion
- Key Tools and Techniques
- The (Trump) World's Effect on Trials

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

PAC Reception – Invitation Only

Sponsored by Abrams & Abrams, P.A., The Law Offices of Wade E.

Byrd, P.A., and The Law Offices of John M. McCabe, P.A.

This reception honors individuals who contribute to NCAJ's Political Action Committee.

SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2019

7:00 am – 7:45 am

Whitfield Bryson & Mason 5K Fun Run/Walk

This is a FREE event for anyone looking for an early morning challenge on a scenic course along the riverfront and through historic downtown Wilmington. Runners and walkers are welcome.

7:30 am – 8:45 am

Workers' Comp Discussions @ Dawn

Join Vernon Sumwalt and other die-hard Workers' Comp practitioners for an early morning conversation about cases, recent decisions and best practices.

7:30 am – 10:45 am

Continental Breakfast

7:30 am – 8:30 am

President's Advisory Council Breakfast

NCAJ past presidents gather over breakfast to receive an update from Executive Director, Kim Crouch.

7:30 am – 1:00 pm

Registration Desk/Exhibit Hall Open

Visit exhibitors or stop by and pick up your Convention registration packet.

8:30 am – 4:45 pm

Summer Conference for Paralegals

See page 6 for more information.

9:00 am – 12:15 pm

Civil Law Update: Straight from the Source

Jon Moore, Brown, Moore & Associates, PLLC, Charlotte

Jon Moore has pulled together the most significant appellate cases that have impacted civil practice over the past year. In this three-hour session, hear first-hand from the attorneys of record and take home best practice tips for implementing the appellate case law in your practice. The cases will cover various practice areas including general negligence, auto torts, premises liability, medical negligence, insurance law, and workers' compensation. Leave this session with the important case updates you have come to expect from Convention with the added bonus of hearing from attorneys involved in the litigation.

9:00 am – 12:15 pm

Criminal Defense: Demystifying State and Federal Post-Conviction Work and Why the Work You Do Matters

David S. Rudolf, Rudolf Widenhouse, Charlotte

Theresa A. Newman, Duke University School of Law, Durham

Jamie T. Lau, Duke University School of Law, Durham

Join Duke University School of Law professors Theresa Newman and Jamie Lau for a nuts and bolts approach to post-conviction work at the state and federal level. Newman and Lau, who run the law school's Wrongful Convictions Clinic, will lead us from investigations to federal habeas. Immediately following their presentation, hear from criminal defense attorney David Rudolf in a presentation that drives home the importance of criminal defense work. Do not miss this opportunity to learn from an engaging faculty and recharge for the coming year.

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Ethical Dilemmas for Busy Litigators: How to Spot Tricky Ethical Problems Before It's Too Late

Judge Richard Dietz, North Carolina Court of Appeals, Raleigh

Judge Robert N. Hunter Jr., North Carolina Court of Appeals, Raleigh

Earn an ethics hour through this interactive program led by two of this year's NCAJ Outstanding Appellate Judge recipients. In this session, attendees will spot issues and discuss ethical rules through a series of hypotheticals.

6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Law School Alumni Reception

Reconnect with law school classmates and meet other alumni. All North Carolina law schools have been invited. There is also a reception open to everyone that did not attend law school in North Carolina.

7:00 pm – 11:00 pm

President's Gala – Mary Pollard & Vernon Sumwalt, Presiding

The grand finale of Convention and passing of the gavel will occur at this event. The Gala begins with a hosted reception followed by dinner and dancing. The Ocean Boulevard Band is certain to delight and entertain members of all ages.

SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 2019

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Board of Governors Meeting

Vernon Sumwalt will preside over his first NCAJ board meeting and share his vision for the coming year. Ed Lazarus, principal with Winning Works, LLC, will facilitate an orientation for board members.

CONVENTION CO-CHAIRS

Adrienne S. Blocker, Law Offices of Adrienne Blocker, PLLC, Durham

Darrin Jordan, Whitley, Jordan & Inge, P.A., Salisbury

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GENERAL INFORMATION

REGISTERING IS EASY

Register online at www.ncaj.com/annualconvention or complete the form on the last page of this document and email the form to info@ncaj.com; or mail to NCAJ, 1312 Annapolis Drive, Raleigh, NC 27608.

DEADLINES

Register by May 10 and SAVE! All registrations must be received by June 12. After this date, registration closes and you can only register on-site (beginning Thursday, June 20 from 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm and continuing through Convention).

REFUNDS

Cancellation requests received by June 3 will be refunded less a \$75 service fee. No refunds will be honored after June 3.

SEMINAR MATERIALS

We are 100% digital! All seminar materials are provided via electronic link, which will be emailed one week prior to Convention.

HOTEL INFO | MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS

We have reserved room blocks at these locations. Be sure to mention the NC Advocates for Justice for discounted rates!

Hotel Ballast – Both river view and historic downtown city view rooms available. Call **910.763.5900** to reserve. Run of the house – \$189/night. There are a limited number of one-bedroom suites available at \$269/night. **Group rates available until May 19, 2019.** Rates are subject to applicable state/local taxes; overnight parking fees (\$12/day or \$16/day valet).

Riverview Suites – One-bedroom suites with river views located one-half block from the Hotel Ballast. Call **910.772.9988** to reserve. \$189/night. **Group rates available until May 19, 2019.** Rates are subject to applicable state/local taxes; overnight parking fees (\$12/day or \$16/day valet).

EXHIBIT HALL

Be sure to spend time in the Exhibit Hall! It's your first stop at Convention: Pick up your Convention materials, visit with our sponsors and exhibitors and grab a bite to eat. Exciting drawings and giveaways will take place in the Exhibit Hall throughout Convention, and you must be present to win!

Sponsors and exhibitors are an important part of Convention and help underwrite many of the Convention events! They will be on hand throughout Convention to showcase their products, services, and solutions that can improve your business and help you run an efficient and productive practice.

Hot coffee and breakfast will be served in the Exhibit Hall on Friday and Saturday; lunch for Convention attendees will be offered on Friday. Much of the Convention CLE will be offered in the Exhibit Hall this year.

EXHIBIT HALL HOURS

Thursday, June 20 | 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Friday, June 21 | 7:30 am – 5:00 pm

Saturday, June 22 | 7:30 am – 1:00 pm

FELLOWS

The NCAJ Allen A. Bailey Endowment is offering NCAJ members licensed between one and ten years the opportunity to apply for a fellowship to attend Convention 2019. The fellowship includes one Convention registration and hotel accommodations. Up to five Allen A. Bailey Endowment Fellows will be selected. Applicants will be evaluated and selected on the basis of NCAJ membership status, demonstrated financial need, diversity and letter of recommendation. Applications are available at www.ncaj.com/fellowship and are due before May 10.

QUESTIONS

Call NCAJ at 800.688.1413 or 919.832.1413.

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SUMMER CONFERENCE FOR PARALEGALS

THIS IS HOW WE “ROLE” | SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2019
6.0 CPE HOURS (INCLUDING 1.0 ETHICS HOUR)

The Summer Conference for Paralegals is held concurrently with NCAJ's Convention 2019. Paralegals, legal assistants, and anyone on the legal support staff will benefit by attending this seminar. Plus, this seminar satisfies the annual CPE requirement for the paralegal certification!

8:40 am	Welcoming Remarks – Program Chair Sherry Bolens, NCCP, Comerford Chilson & Moser, L.L.P., Winston-Salem
8:45 am	Planes, Trains, and Automobile Claims – A Paralegal's Role in a Personal Injury Practice Daina Delgado Byrd, Law Offices of Wade E. Byrd, P.A., Fayetteville
9:45 am	When They Are Never Ever Getting Back Together – A Paralegal's Role in a Family Law Practice Brandy Jo Lea, Shipman & Wright, LLP, Wilmington
10:45 am	Break
11:00 am	I've Fallen at Work and I Can't Get Up – A Paralegal's Role in a Workers' Comp/Social Security Disability Practice Wendie Roberts, Law Offices of James Scott Farrin, Durham
12:00 pm	Lunch and Legal Assistants Division Meeting
1:30 pm	Some Things are Better the Second Time Around – A Replay of "Using Technology to Try Cases More Efficiently and Move Towards a More 'Paperless' Approach" Sherry Bolens, NCCP, Comerford Chilson & Moser, L.L.P., Winston-Salem
2:30 pm	A Lien by Any Other Name Would Still Be a Lien Brooks Miller, NCCP, Sanford Thompson PLLC, Raleigh
3:30 pm	Break
3:45 pm	Ethics: #youaretransparentonsocialmedia – Dealing with Social Media in the Practice of Law Victoria B. Cook, Whitley Law Firm, Raleigh
4:45 pm	Adjourn

REGISTRATION FEE FOR NCAJ LEGAL ASSISTANT DIVISION MEMBERS – \$185 (if registering by May 10)

The Summer Conference for Paralegals registration fee includes:

- Seminar materials (electronic link)
- Continental breakfast (Saturday)
- Luncheon & Legal Assistants Division Meeting (Saturday)
- President's Gala (two tickets included)
- 6.0 CPE hours (including 1.0 ethics hour) – the annual requirement for the paralegal certification

NOTE: The \$185 registration fee is for the Summer Conference for Paralegals only. An additional fee applies if you wish to attend Convention 2019, which runs from Thursday, June 20 through Sunday, June 23. See registration form for fees for Convention.

THIS SEMINAR WILL ALSO BE WEBCAST LIVE

If you can't attend in person, join us online. Watch the seminar from the comfort of your home or office with no travel time, no traffic hassles. To register for the live webcast go to www.ncaj.com/summerconferencewebcast or call 866-702-3278. Please note that if you register for the Live Webcast, you will NOT be registered to attend the seminar in person.

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1. REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email (for confirmation/seminar materials) _____

Attending Spouse/Guest (for badge) _____

Attending Spouse/Guest Email (for announcements, event details, etc.) _____

YES, this is my first Convention

2. CHOOSE YOUR CATEGORY

	Early by 5/10	Advanced by 6/12	On-site after 6/12	
CONVENTION June 20-23				
<input type="checkbox"/> NCAJ Member	\$455	\$475	\$495	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> NCAJ Associate Member	\$345	\$360	\$375	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> NCAJ Public Service Member	\$275	\$285	\$295	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> First-Time Attendee (must be NCAJ member)	\$295	\$310	\$325	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> NCAJ Law School Student	\$75	\$75	\$75	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member	\$555	\$575	\$595	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> NCAJ Legal Assistant Member*	\$185	\$205	\$225	\$ _____

*NOTE: This fee is for attendance at the Convention only. See below to register for the Summer Conference for Paralegals.

SUMMER CONFERENCE FOR PARALEGALS | Saturday, June 22

<input type="checkbox"/> NCAJ Legal Assistant Member	\$185	\$205	\$225	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member Paralegal/Legal Assistant	\$235	\$255	\$275	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Paralegal Student (Full-time)	\$40	\$40	\$40	\$ _____

3. EXTRAS – SPORTS+SOCIALS

SOCIAL EVENTS

Opening Reception (Thursday) – NO CHARGE

guests (Adults) _____ # guests (Kids) _____

President's Gala (Saturday)

Convention registration fee **includes TWO (2) tickets** to the Gala. For planning purposes, please indicate if you plan to attend the Gala. If you need tickets beyond the TWO included in the Convention registration fee, you may purchase additional tickets here.

Gala attendance (up to 2) # _____

Additional tickets # _____ x \$80 = \$ _____

SPORTS EVENTS

5K Fun Run/Walk (Saturday) – NO CHARGE # _____

2. CATEGORY TOTAL \$ _____

3. EXTRAS TOTAL \$ _____

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

HOW TO REGISTER

Online at www.ncaj.com/annualconvention

Mail form to NCAJ, 1312 Annapolis Drive, Raleigh, NC 27608

Email form to info@ncaj.com

SEMINAR MATERIALS | WE'RE 100% DIGITAL

All seminar materials are **provided via electronic link**, which will be emailed one week prior to Convention.

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS

Requests for special dietary needs will be accommodated, if possible. Contact Amy Smith at amy@ncaj.com at least two weeks in advance to make arrangements.

YOUR REGISTRATION INCLUDES

CONVENTION (June 20-23)

Seminar materials (electronic link), breakfasts (Friday and Saturday), Opening Reception (Thursday – attendee & guests), Luncheon (Friday-attendee only), Law School Alumni Reception (Saturday), President's Gala (Saturday – 2 tickets), 6.0 CLE hours.

SUMMER CONFERENCE FOR PARALEGALS (Saturday, June 22)

Seminar materials (electronic link), breakfast (Saturday), President's Gala (Saturday – 2 tickets), 6.0 CPE hours (inc. 1.0 ethics hour).

DEADLINES

Deadline for the deepest discounts is May 10! All registrations must be received by June 12 at noon. After this date, registration closes and you may only register on-site (beginning Thursday, June 20, 2:00 – 5:00 pm and continues through Convention).

REFUNDS

Cancellation requests received by June 3 will be refunded less a \$75 service fee. No refunds will be honored after June 3.

4. METHOD OF PAYMENT

Check enclosed
Charge my: Visa Mastercard AMEX

Account Number _____

Expiration _____

Signature _____

QUESTIONS?

Call NCAJ at 800.688.1413 or 919.832.1413