

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN
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Never Stand Alone

By
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CASD is an organization that is stronger than ever. Our mission, while several fold, revolves around preserving the right to trial by jury, educating our members and servicing the public whose rights and safety under our justice system would be in jeopardy without our work. We speak for those who cannot speak for themselves and devote our careers to preventing unfairness. We do together what we none of us can do individually. We advocate for safer laws, for greater consumer protection, for safer roadways and safer products, for fair workplaces and equal opportunity for all. One might believe then that it is our unity of purpose that binds us together. It certainly does, but there is so much more. The support of our members for one another has created solid and lasting friendships among us, and in the process, has made us better lawyers.

Cicero once said that "Friendship makes prosperity more shining and lessens adversity by dividing and sharing it." I think that sums up the benefits we are all receiving from our participation in CASD. Not only are we backed by one another in our efforts to represent our clients, but we have the support of our Consumer Support Members and that of CAOC and AAJ. We are stronger because we do not stand alone.

As the year passes by, this strength, created through such valuable CASD relationships, continues to grow. It is easy to list the "member benefits" of CASD. These of course include, our stellar educational opportunities, the ***Trial Bar News***, access to the Brief Bank, Deposition Bank and list serve, the social mixers, the list serve parties and so many others. Behind all of the success of these benefits, however, is our membership. We are over 750 strong. Our strength lies in the fact that our members want to be the best they can be. Our members also want the rest of our members to be their best. And so, we've got each others' backs. How great it is to know that there is a member out there willing to cover a court appearance for you (at no charge) just because you need help. What a comfort it is to know that several of your CASD friends will meet you to brainstorm or informally focus your case, just because you ask for help. How helpful is it to obtain suggestions for experts and obtain feedback about them within hours of your request. What about the defense experts? How many of us have gotten the good, the bad and the rest of the story, within hours of an inquiry? And then there are the copies of prior depositions and trial transcripts . . . and so much more. The benefits of our CASD relationships are too numerous to list. But we know for sure that our CASD relationships do help to lessen our adversities, by allowing us to divide and share them. Our

members never stand alone.

We are also enhanced by our 20 plus Consumer Support Members. In particular, AJL Litigation Media, Inc. (www.AJLMedia.com), American Asset Finance, LLC (www.amasset.com), Aztec Imaging (www.aztecbm.com), Brodshatzer, Wallace, Spoon and Yip (www.bwsy.com), CP LegalMed Consulting (cpaine@cox.net), Demanski Legal Nurse Consulting (vdemanski@aol.com), Integrity 1st Funding Group (Mike Ciriello-www.integrity1stfundinggroup.com), Judicate West (www.ajudicateinc.com), Knox Attorney Service (www.knoxservices.com), Lambert Photo (www.lambertphoto.com), LawCash (www.lawcash.net), Lawrence Lievens (Lawrence.Lievens@verizon.net), MEA Forensic Engineers & Scientists, Inc. (www.meaforensic.com), North County Graphics & Litigation Services (www.exhibits4court.com), Penny Bail Bonds (pennybailbonds.com), Peterson & Associates Court Reporting, Inc. (www.petersoncsr.com), Remas Group (www.remasgrp.com), Ringler & Associates (mjvaldez@ringlerassociates.com), Shelburne Sherr Court Reporters, Inc. (www.sscourtreporters.com), Strategic Capital (www.StrategicCapital.com), Summit Settlement Services, Inc (settlepro@aol.com), and Walker Advertising, Inc. (LarryC@Walkeradvertising.com). Their services and commitment to our organization are invaluable. Please check out our website at www.casd.org for more information about the services offered by these members. Better yet, check out **their** websites and see how they can help you in your next case. Let's continue to support our supporters!

In this regard, no discussion of the value of support to our membership would be complete without a huge thank you to Ray Boucher, President of CAOC , our friends at AAJ, and those who are working so hard with him and those organizations to avert that which would threaten the rights of the consumers we represent, to change that which currently results in unfairness within our system and that which will enhance our ability to serve our clients going forward into the future. With them in our corner, and by our side, we, as an organization, will truly never stand alone.