

THE DAILY RECORD

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Paralegal PERSPECTIVES

PAR's new website has arrived

The Paralegal Association of Rochester ("PAR") is happy to announce that a new website was launched as of January 2017. Our new site allows us to update all pertinent information, including news, events, sponsorships and membership information, on an immediate basis. This allows PAR to communicate with our members, sponsors and the community on a more streamlined basis. It also allows our members to be more interactive with their profiles and provides greater ease of use to all interested parties.

In February 2017, we are rolling out our members-only section, which will provide all members — whether student, affiliate or voting — access to that portion of our site containing such information as job postings, National Federation of Paralegal Associations, Inc. ("NFPA") news and information, paralegal certification details and pictures galleries. One of the many beneficial features of our members-only site will now include the members directory that can be searched not only by name, but also by practice area. This will allow for greater access to a network of paralegal professionals in a wide variety of practice groups.

We are currently working on enhancing our membership application to allow for online completion and submission, updating all officers' and directors' email addresses and online registration for events. In addition, discussions are underway for implementing online bill pay options. Please contact VP of Website/Employment Bonnie Brooks at



By **BONNIE BROOKS**
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Columnist

bbrooks@woodsoviatt.com with any website questions, inquiries or job listings.

In addition to our website, we have several upcoming events we are excited to announce. On Jan. 19, PAR is hosting a seminar entitled *Paralegal Profession: Where We are Headed*. Our speakers are Deborah J. Wilcox Mabry

of Nixon Peabody, PAR board member and primary representative to NFPA and ESAPA, and Jill A. Warner, RP of Legal Med, PAR board member and VP of Education/Programming. Ms. Mabry and Ms. Warner will discuss regulation of the paralegal profession, non-lawyer practice, certificate vs. certified and LLLT, PACE and PCCE exams and designations.

On Jan. 27, we are offering all PAR members and non-members to take a tour of the Monroe County Crime Lab. The tour includes an overview of DNA screening and analysis, fire debris/trace evidence analysis, firearms and digital evidence and drug chemistry analysis. This event is free to all, but you must RSVP by Jan. 20 to PAR's president, Dina Beaudette, at dbeaudette@merzbachlaw.com.

PAR's Trust and Estate Section will be attending the annual meeting with the Monroe County Surrogate's Court on

Wednesday, Feb. 1, at the Hall of Justice. PAR T&E Section's Chair Jane M. Gorski indicated that this annual meeting is a great opportunity for the two groups to meet face to face and discuss changes to the court procedures, reminders of document submissions and processes and also provides a forum to share information with regard to unique matters and circumstances regarding the Surrogate Court proceedings. Jane also said: "We are so grateful for the hard work and efforts of Mark Annunziata (chief clerk), Sarah Sennett (assistant chief clerk) and all of the court clerks. It is important to share the knowledge and maintain a strong line of communication so that the court process can run efficiently and effectively through a collective effort."

PAR is hosting a CLE on Feb. 8 entitled Medicaid/Long-Term Planning. We are pleased to have Richard Marches, Esq. of Woods Oviatt Gilman LLP as our guest speaker. He will cover such topics as long-term care insurance, fundamentals of Medicaid Planning, protections for spouses, exempt resources and planning involving divestiture of assets through use of trust. We are excited to have Mr. Marchese as a speaker and ask that you see PAR's website for registration information or contact any board member.

Bonnie S. Brooks is a paralegal at Woods Oviatt Gilman LLP and PAR's VP of Website/Employment. She can be reached at bbrooks@woodsoviatt.com.