KPA’S 2015-2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION & COMMITTEE VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP

VOTING: Voting is now open for the Kentucky Paralegal Association’s 2015-2016 Board of Directors. KPA Active/Voting members may vote for one candidate for each of the open Officer and Director positions. Election of the Director of Ways and Means position is by write-in vote. In the event there is more than one write-in candidate and there is no majority, a special election will be held for this position. Open positions and candidates are as follows:

- **Vice-President (President Elect)**
  - Heather S. Davis, CKP
  - Leslie Miles Smith

- **Secretary**
  - Lauren Asher, CKP
  - Sherry A. Ramsey, CKP

- **Treasurer**
  - Tammy Rhodus, CKP

- **Director of Member Relations**
  - Debby Ewen, CKP

- **Director of Student Relations**
  - Lauren Asher, CKP
  - Melanie Chenot, CKP
  - R (Vasu) Vasudevan MBA, PMP, CKP

- **Director of Professional Development**
  - Tammy Smith, CKP

- **Director of Public Relations**
  - Mary Campbell, CKP
  - Jessica J.M. Knowles, CKP

- **Director of Ways and Means**
  - Write-In Vote

Descriptions of the KPA Officer and Director responsibilities are listed below with candidate bios for the open positions.

Voting is being conducted by SurveyMonkey which allows votes to remain confidential. The Election Ballot was sent to KPA Active/Voting members on May 13, 2015. The deadline for voting is Friday, May 29, 2015. If you are an Active/Voting Member and did not receive an email with an Election Ballot and Voting Link, please contact KPA Nominations Chair Melissa Reynolds, CKP, at mreynolds@louisvilleprosector.com.

COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS: If you would like to sign up for a KPA Committee or would like to be contacted to learn more about serving on a committee, please provide your name, email, location and interests using this link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DJ7RB9V.

If you have any questions or problems using the links, please contact KPA Nominations Chair Melissa Reynolds, CKP, at mreynolds@louisvilleprosector.com.
The KPA Board of Directors is comprised of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Director of Certification, Director of Members Relations, Director of Student Relations, Director of Professional Development, Director of Public Relations, Director of Ways and Means and Local Association Liaisons. All Board Positions are voting positions.

All Officers and Directors must meet the requirements to maintain continuous Active membership during their term on the Board of Directors. With the exception of the Director of Certification and the Local Association Liaisons, Officers and Directors are elected by the Active members of the KPA on an annual basis by ballot and hold office for one year from July 1 to June 30. There is no limit on successive terms on the Board of Directors, with the exception of the President who is limited to two successive one-year terms of office.

Each Officer and Director, with the exception of Local Association Liaisons, chairs and/or coordinates committees that report directly to them and are responsible for recruiting committee members. The KPA Committees for the year are determined at the Board’s annual transitional meeting or are created by the Board upon necessity.

The President is the Chief Executive Officer of the KPA and serves as the “Face of the KPA.” The President presides at all meetings of Board and KPA membership, has general and active management of the business of the KPA and sees that all orders and resolutions of the Board are carried into effect. The President also serves as Chair of the KPA’s Executive Committee and as the Association’s liaison to the Kentucky Bar Association.

The President of the KPA may concurrently serve as an officer of a local paralegal association, but may not serve as the president of a local paralegal association and President of the KPA concurrently. Candidates for President must have served one term on the Board of Directors prior to seeking nomination.

The Vice-President serves as the KPA’s President-Elect and serves as KPA President at the conclusion of the current President’s term of office. The Vice-President serves as the KPA’s Assistant Chief Executive Officer and works with the President in all aspects of the management of the KPA. The Vice-President also serves on the KPA’s Executive Committee, coordinates the KPA’s Nominations and Founder’s Award Committees and serves as the KPA’s liaison to the national paralegal associations. Candidates for Vice-President must have served one term on the Board of Directors prior to seeking nomination.
CANDIDATES FOR 2015-2016 VICE-PRESIDENT (PRESIDENT-ELECT)

HEATHER S. DAVIS, CKP

Heather S. Davis has been a Paralegal at Fowler Bell PLLC since November of 2001. Heather works mainly in the Bankruptcy Department and assists attorneys with corporate bankruptcy filings and practice, as well as individual Chapter 7 and Chapter 13 bankruptcy filings. Heather also assists, as needed, in various other areas, including Real Estate, Corporate Litigation, Financial Workouts and Collections. This experience has provided her with a multi-faceted knowledge of the law, in addition to a tremendous depth of knowledge within the area of bankruptcy law.

Prior to moving to Kentucky in 2001, Heather completed her Paralegal Studies with Columbus Technical College in Columbus, Ga.

Heather joined the Kentucky Paralegal Association in November 2010. By successfully completing the Certified Kentucky Paralegal examination in Ethics on November 13, 2010, she earned the distinction of being designated a Certified Kentucky Paralegal.

Although she leads a successful and busy career as a paralegal, Heather maintains a strong commitment to her family life. She is married to Hon. Christopher M. Davis, who practices law in Winchester, Kentucky. Together they have four beautiful children, ages 24, 20, 8 and 5. She and her family attend First Fire Church and are very involved in their local community. Moreover, Heather has become a more active and involved member of the KPA and KPACC committee. She is currently serving as Membership Chair, and looks forward to continued involvement with the organization.

LESLEY MILES SMITH

Leslie Miles Smith is a Paralegal with Cetrulo, Mowery & Hicks, in Edgewood, Kentucky and has been with this firm since 2006. Her career began in a law office as a legal secretary, after graduating from high school, which encouraged her to become a paralegal in 1997. Leslie graduated from Sullivan University with an Associate’s Degree in Paralegal Studies. In 1998, she began working as a paralegal for her mentor, Norman R. Lemme, Esq. until his retirement in 2003. While working for Mr. Lemme, she was fortunate to be given the opportunity to work in many different areas of the law, including personal injury litigation, criminal, probate, real estate, municipal and traffic offenses. She next worked for Givhan & Spainhour in Shepherdsville, KY before moving on to work for Blackburn, Hundley & Domene (now Blackburn Hundley and Burchett) in Louisville. At that firm, she sharpened her skills with nursing home litigation defense and insurance defense cases involving automobile accidents.

After meeting her husband at a Reds game in 2004, Leslie relocated to Northern Kentucky in 2005 and began her career at Cetrulo, Mowery & Hicks. Her current Paralegal position allows her to work closely with Susanne Cetrulo, Esq., who is licensed in both Kentucky and Ohio, and litigates automobile accident cases in both states. Leslie’s current responsibilities include: drafting answers, discovery, motions, and correspondence with clients and attorneys; researching expert
witnesses; reviewing and summarizing medical records and discovery responses; summarizing depositions; locating and interviewing witnesses and police officers; preparation of client files for trial; preparation of trial pleadings and exhibits; and assisting at trial.

Leslie’s outside associations include serving as the Kentucky Paralegal Association Vice President and Northern Kentucky Association of Paralegals President; as well as serving as a member of the Citizen’s Foster Care Review Board in Kenton County.

Leslie and her husband, Gregg, reside in Florence, Kentucky with their children. Her daughter, Katelyn, is finishing up her second year at the University of Kentucky and her son, AJ, is a second grader. In her spare time, Leslie enjoys spending time with family and going to football games to cheer on the University of Kentucky. Go CATS!

SECRETARY

The Secretary is responsible for keeping a record of all KPA Board, Executive Committee and general membership meetings and answers Association correspondence as the President or Board may direct. The Secretary maintains the KPA Bylaws, Policies and Procedures and Corporate Documents. The Secretary also serves on the KPA’s Executive Committee.

CANDIDATES FOR 2015-2016 SECRETARY

LAUREN ASHER, CKP

Lauren Asher is currently a Paralegal at Goldberg Simpson in the Domestic Division. She has worked under the supervision of Louis I. Waterman and Emily A. White since August of 2013. Prior to that, Ms. Asher worked for the Prizant Law Office in the areas of personal injury, criminal law and domestic relations. While earning her Associates degree in Paralegal Studies and Bachelor of Science in Political Science, Ms. Asher worked as a Program Assistant at the University of Louisville, School of Public Health and Information Science’s Biostatistics and Bioinformatics Department. She completed her degrees in December 2010.

Ms. Asher is a member of the Louisville Association of Paralegals and recently joined the LAP’s Board of Directors. She is also a member of the Kentucky Paralegal Association and became a Certified Kentucky Paralegal in November 2014.

SHERRY A. RAMSEY, CKP

Sherry A. Ramsey has been a member of the Kentucky Paralegal Association since 2005 and is currently serving on the KPA Board as the SKAP Liaison. She is a member of the founding committee for the Southern Kentucky Association of Paralegals (SKAP) and has served as its President since its inception in 2013. Sherry is also a member of the National Federation of Paralegal Associations.
Sherry received an Associates Degree in Business Administration in 1987 and an Associates Degree in Paralegal Studies in 1997. In 2010, she completed the Certified Kentucky Paralegal examination and earned the distinction of being designated a Certified Kentucky Paralegal.

During her early career in Owensboro, Kentucky, Sherry worked in small law firms wherein she gained a vast knowledge of many areas of the law including estate planning, probate law, trust administration, taxation, real estate, and civil litigation. In 2006, she moved to Bowling Green, Kentucky, and joined the law firm of English, Lucas, Priest & Owsley, LCC where her work continues to focus on estate planning, probate and trust administration, and taxation.

Nominee Statement: I am honored to accept the nomination for Secretary of the Kentucky Paralegal Association (KPA). If elected, I will carry out the duties of Secretary of the Kentucky Paralegal Association and serve its members to the best of my ability. Thank you for your consideration.

TREASURER

The Treasurer has custody of the KPA’s funds, keeps full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements, deposits all monies in the name and to the credit of the KPA, disburses KPA funds, keeps written reports of all transactions and the financial conditions of the KPA and prepares and maintains the KPA’s budget. The Treasurer also serves on the KPA’s Executive Committee and coordinates the KPA’s Finance Committee.

CANDIDATE FOR 2015-2016 TREASURER

TAMMY RHODUS, CKP

Tammy Rhodus is a litigation paralegal working at Reed Weitkamp and Schell. She is a graduate from Eastern Kentucky University with a degree in Paralegal Studies. Tammy has more than 13 years of experience in the legal field and has also worked in the areas of medical malpractice, probate, corporate and insurance defense. She has been on the board of directors for the LAP since 2011.

DIRECTOR OF MEMBER RELATIONS

The Director of Member Relations is responsible for reviewing all membership applications for eligibility, processing all online new member applications and membership renewals, maintaining the KPA’s online membership directory, coordinating membership recruitment and retention and coordinating all KPA membership benefits, including the Job Bank. The Director of Member Relations also serves as the Association’s liaison to Active and Associate members.
CANDIDATE FOR 2015-2016 DIRECTOR OF MEMBER RELATIONS

DEBBY EWEN, CKP

Debby Ewen is a paralegal with Stoll Keenon Ogden PLLC in its Louisville, Kentucky office, and has been with the firm since 2002. Debby began her career in the legal profession in 1985 in Los Angeles, California. Since 1996, she has practiced in the area of public finance working on multi-million dollar transactions for 501(c)(3) entities, utilities, airports and transportation, convention centers, sports facilities, education facilities, healthcare facilities, industrial development facilities, solid waste facilities and public buildings and structures.

Debby graduated from the University of West Los Angeles, School of Paralegal Studies in May 1995 with an Associate Degree in Paralegal Studies majoring in the areas of Corporate and Litigation. In November 2010, she received her Certified Kentucky Paralegal certification.

Debby has been a member of the Louisville Association of Paralegals since 2002. She has been on the Board of Directors of the Louisville Association of Paralegals Board since 2013 and serves as Chair of the Technology Committee. She has been a member of the Kentucky Paralegal Association since 2011.

Debby resides in Louisville with her husband, Rick. She loves to read, garden and crochet in her spare time.

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT RELATIONS

The Director of Student Relations serves as the KPA’s liaison to its Student and Adjunct members and coordinates the Association’s annual Student Scholarship Committee.

CANDIDATES FOR 2015-2016 DIRECTOR OF STUDENT RELATIONS

LAUREN ASHER, CKP

Lauren Asher is currently a Paralegal at Goldberg Simpson in the Domestic Division. She has worked under the supervision of Louis I. Waterman and Emily A. White since August of 2013. Prior to that, Ms. Asher worked for the Prizant Law Office in the areas of personal injury, criminal law and domestic relations. While earning her Associates degree in Paralegal Studies and Bachelor of Science in Political Science, Ms. Asher worked as a Program Assistant at the University of Louisville, School of Public Health and Information Science’s Biostatistics and Bioinformatics Department. She completed her degrees in December 2010.

Ms. Asher is a member of the Louisville Association of Paralegals and recently joined the LAP’s Board of Directors. She is also a member of the Kentucky Paralegal Association and became a Certified Kentucky Paralegal in November 2014.
MELANIE CHENOT, CKP

Melanie Chenot began her career in 1989 at a small town law office in Batavia, Ohio. Over her 25 year career, Melanie has worked in various law firms in the greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky areas. Since 2004, Melanie has worked with brothers, Donald Ruberg and Michael Ruberg, in who specialize in the areas of Education/School Law, Estate/Probate, Estate Planning, Corporate and Real Estate. The firm of O’Hara, Ruberg, Taylor, Sloan & Sergent is located in Crestview Hills, Kentucky.

Melanie became a Certified Kentucky Paralegal in 2011. She is an active member of the Northern Kentucky Association of Paralegals and holds the positions of Vice President/Treasurer, as well as she is NKAP’s liaison to the Kentucky Paralegal Association, where she also is a member.

What Melanie loves most about her work: The variations in each case or situation we work with. Things are never routine or monotonous. Hobbies and Interests: Listening to music, reading, genealogy research, child advocacy, photography, watching her children play soccer and writing. Favorite Quotes: “Justice consists not in being neutral between right and wrong, but finding out the right and upholding it, wherever found, against the wrong.” & “Speak softly and carry a big stick.”~ Theodore Roosevelt. If Melanie wasn’t a paralegal, she would be: Traveling, genealogy research, enjoying the great outdoors, spending time with family and friends and writing a book!

R (VASU) VASUDEVAN MBA, PMP, CKP

During the last twenty four years, R (Vasu) Vasudevan has played a key role in Information Technology, Consulting and Project Management in both Private and Public Sectors on various IT projects covering a wide range of spectrum that includes Application Development, Quality Assurance Management, Release Management and Project Management. ‘Vasu’ as he likes to go by, has a multi-country and a multi-cultural exposure that includes working in various positions in India, Singapore, Malaysia and United States.

Mr. Vasudevan has been serving in various volunteer positions that includes currently serving as a Board of Director in the EKU International Alumni Board. Vasu is also concurrently serving as a Board of Director in PMI Bluegrass Chapter as AVP – Planning. Vasu has volunteered in numerous camps organized for visually challenging individuals in India. Vasu is passionate about community service and quality education for all including the less privileged and physically challenging.

By becoming Board of Director of the Kentucky Paralegal Association (KPA), Mr. Vasudevan would like to enhance and support the current KPA members and also has a goal to network and collaborate external entities on various strategic planning activities by laying out a plan and vision for the next several years.

Mr. Vasudevan, in addition to his Certified Kentucky Paralegal (CKP) credential and Project Management Professional (PMP) credential, holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Electronics and Communication Engineering and an MBA from Eastern Kentucky University, and also obtained legal background as a Paralegal from Eastern Kentucky University.
Mr. Vasudevan lives in Frankfort, Kentucky with his wife and two young daughters.

**DIRECTOR OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

The Director of Professional Development coordinates the KPA’s continuing legal education and professional development programs, including the KPA’s Annual Conference and other CLE programs during the year. The Director of Professional Development also serves as the KPA’s Liaison to non-KPA CLE providers and is responsible for disseminating information to KPA members regarding non-KPA CLE providers and upcoming seminars.

**CANDIDATE FOR 2015-2016 DIRECTOR OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**TAMMY SMITH, CKP**

Tammy Smith, formerly Tammy Penn, is happy to have been nominated as the 2015 Director of Professional Development for the Kentucky Paralegal Association (“KPA”) and will serve the members to the best of her ability if elected to the position. She thoroughly enjoys the paralegal profession and has worked to promote it locally and at the national level.

Tammy began working in a law firm in 1993, but did not complete her Paralegal Degree until nearly a decade later. She graduated Summa cum Laude, September 2002, with her Associate Degree in Paralegal Studies from Sullivan University, then continued and graduated Summa cum Laude, December 2003, with her Bachelor of Science Degree in Paralegal Studies. She has been a Paralegal at Fowler Bell PLLC since 2004, and works in areas of Real Estate, Foreclosure, Bankruptcy, Corporate Transactions, Contracts, and Collections.

Tammy has been an active member of the KPA since 2004, and has worn a few different hats. She is the current Professional Development Chair, and has served on the 2010 Conference Committee, was Co-Chair of the 2011 Conference Committee, served as KPA President in 2012 and 2013, Chaired the Conference Committee in 2014, and served on the KPACC Committee in 2014 and 2015. She also spoke at the National Federation of Paralegal Associations (“NFPA”) Regulation Conference in 2012 and to a paralegal class at Sullivan University, Lexington on the Certified Kentucky Paralegal Program, where she has served on the Legal Advisory Board.

With her local association, Greater Lexington Paralegal Association “GLPA”, Tammy has worked with the Special Events Committee, Newsletter Committee, and assisted with various activities supporting the Association over the years, such as participating in the Student Panels at EKU. She Co-Chaired the Continuing Legal Education Committee in 2009, served as 2010 Secretary, served as 2013 Treasurer, and served as a NFPA Representative in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014.

As NFPA Representative for the GLPA, Tammy was allotted the opportunity to attend national conferences and to network and with paralegals throughout the nation. With NFPA she served as Regulation Review Coordinator in 2013, and on the 2012 ad hoc committee regarding exempt and non-exempt status.
Tammy is an avid believer in continuing education and promoting our great profession and believes that it is essential for professional growth as well as to maintain a level of competency required in the legal field. She obtained her CKP status in November 2010, and promotes our voluntary certification at any opportunity that presents itself. Tammy would consider it a great privilege to continue on the KPA Board and be the Director of Professional Development.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

The Director of Public Relations coordinates the KPA’s IT Committee, Website and Social Media Committees, One Voice Newsletter Committee, KPA article publication and social events.

CANDIDATES FOR 2015-2016 DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

MARY CAMPBELL, CKP

Mary Campbell is a litigation paralegal at McBrayer, McGinnis, Leslie & Kirkland. She graduated from Eastern Kentucky University with a Bachelor’s Degree in Paralegal Science, Associates Degree in Paralegal Studies and minor in Criminal Justice. She has been a practicing paralegal for a little over 9 1/2 years and has worked in various areas such as litigation, corporate and real estate. She is a Certified Paralegal, NFPA Secondary on the GLPA Board and the Website/Newsletter Chair for the Kentucky Paralegal Association. She joined the KPA Board last year and has combined with AdHoc Information Group to revamp and update the KPA website to include such wonderful features as online registration, online search engines, CKP registration and information, etc. She hopes to continue to move forward with the website and its advancement and progress forward to bring the KPA into the ever advancing technology world and keep our members informed and up to date on what the KPA can do for them.

JESSICA J.M. KNOWLES, CKP

Jessica J.M. Knowles, CKP, moved to Kentucky after receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in Music & Entertainment Business from the University of Colorado at Denver. She currently works as a paralegal to solo practitioner, David S. Mejia, concentrating in Criminal Defense, both Federal and State. She is a Certified Kentucky Paralegal and member of the Kentucky Paralegal Association. She has worked as the Social Media/Marketing Director at several law firms and enjoys using new technology and social media to network. Ms. Knowles believes that new media is a great way to maintain effective and efficient communication in a business environment.

Nominee Statement: As the Director of Public Relations, my first goal would be to update and integrate the website with other social media platforms such as Facebook and LinkedIn. Increasing online awareness of the KPA will not only draw more members to the association, but will also increase attorney awareness that such an association does exist – and hey! Maybe we will all get raises! I would also strive to increase the sense of community within the association by implementing an online platform for conversation, regularly sending newsletters, and planning social events.
DIRECTOR OF WAYS AND MEANS

The Director of Ways and Means coordinates KPA fundraising, sponsorship, marketing and merchandising efforts, and serves as the KPA’s liaison to its Sustaining members.

CANDIDATE FOR DIRECTOR OF WAYS AND MEANS – WRITE-IN VOTE

LOCAL ASSOCIATION LIAISONS

Local Association Liaisons are elected or appointed by each local paralegal association within the Commonwealth of Kentucky recognized by the Board of Directors. The Local Association Liaisons act as the liaison between the KPA Board and the members their local associations for dissemination of KPA Information. The Local Association Liaisons also serve on KPA’s Membership Committee for KPA member recruitment.