

The Junction

Summer 2010

FROM THE PRESIDENT:



Well, I survived Installation. For those of you who have “been there, done that,” you know exactly what a nerve-wracking experience that can be.

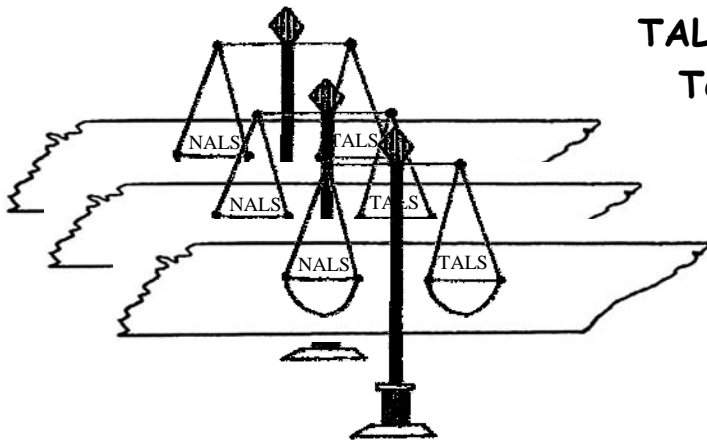
I am looking forward to serving as your President, getting to know many of you better, and learning, learning, learning; not only about the Association and how it operates, but about myself as well.

The past year has been extremely difficult financially for firms and individuals alike. At the same time, the world has been rapidly progressing on a technological level, and the legal industry is no exception. We at TALS need to be ready to meet the needs and demands these changes will place on our careers, so that we can best assist our employers and make ourselves more valuable employees. I believe that although

there is not an easy or quick way to achieve this, I feel strongly that it is something we can and must do. This Association is in a great position to be on the forefront of getting useful information and practical solutions in front of our bosses, and at the same time helping those following in our footsteps acclimate to the world of law if we will just take advantage of the opportunity. While I definitely have the “can’t-teach-an-old-dog-new-tricks” persona, I realize that I must embrace these changes. Being challenged is part of the reason I chose to work for attorneys in the first place, so now I must drag myself out of the comfort zone I have worked in for so long and take an active role in these exciting, if uncertain, times.

I look forward to seeing each of you soon.

Lita Ferrell
TALS President



TALS — Legal Professionals of Tennessee became a formal reality in 1961 with the chartering of three chapters: Chattanooga, Knoxville, and Memphis. Nashville LSA had been meeting for many years prior to that date, but did not formally join TALS until 1972. Our TALS family now has six chapters: Chattanooga, Knoxville, Memphis, Nashville, Rutherford/Cannon County and Williamson County.

VISION STATEMENT

TALS - Legal Professionals of Tennessee is one part of a tri-level association committed to the ideas of furthering the educational, informative and professional ideals of legal professionals including paralegals, secretaries and support staff. TALS' main vision is to be an important part of the legal community in order to advance the legal profession. To accomplish this goal:

TALS will offer educational seminars and training to its members and to others who are interested in growing in knowledge and advancing careers.

TALS will offer certifications (ALS, PLS and PP) to help its members and others who are interested in studying to accomplish these goals.

TALS will network with chapters in other cities and states to assist others with information necessary to accomplish their work.

TALS will be committed to the Code of Ethics and high professional standards to make the legal profession honorable.

TALS will be active on the local, state and national levels to the best of its ability to make the organization well known and proud to be part of the legal community.

MISSION STATEMENT

TALS -- Legal Professionals of Tennessee is dedicated to:

- ❖ Carrying on a program for the furtherance of education to those engaged in legal work and to cooperate with attorneys, judges, and bar associations in stimulating a high order of professional standards and ethics among those persons engaged as support staff in private law offices, trust companies, various courts, and municipal and governmental agencies.
- ❖ Promote the objectives of the National Association; and
- ❖ Organize chapters of Legal Professionals Associations throughout the state.

Members of **NALS... the association for legal professionals** are bound by the objectives of this Association and the standards of conduct required of the legal profession.



confidential information;

Promote and exemplify high standards of loyalty, cooperation, and courtesy;

Perform all duties of the profession with integrity and competence; and

Pursue a high order of professional attainment.

Every member shall:

Encourage respect for the law and the administration of justice;

Observe rules governing privileged communications and

**CELEBRATING 81 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE
IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION**

TALS -- Legal Professionals of Tennessee 2010-2011 Officers

PRESIDENT:

LITA FERRELL
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CHARLES G. WRIGHT, JR.
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Phone: 423-266-7074

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Young, McDade & Hassell
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Franklin, TN 37064

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Miller & Martin
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Chattanooga, TN 37402

FUNCTIONAL GOVERNOR -

MARKETING:

GAIL POWELL
Phone:

FUNCTIONAL GOVERNOR -

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BURR & FORMAN
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Nashville, TN 37203
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PARLIAMENTARIAN:

LINDA DAVENPORT
KIDWELL, SOUTH & BEASLEY
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Phone: 615-893-1331



PAST PRESIDENT:

DONICE ALFORD, PP, PLS
HOWARD TATE SOWELL WILSON
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150 2nd Avenue North, Suite 201
Nashville, TN 37201
Phone: 615-256-1125

TALS - Legal Professionals of Tennessee 2010 - 2011 Committee Chairs

Benevolence

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Eldridge & Blakney, P.C.
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Knoxville, TN 37901-0398

Budget / Finance

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Bylaws

LINDA DAVENPORT
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BEASLEY
112 South Maple Street
Murfreesboro, TN 37130
Phone: 615-893-1331

Audit

TBA



Annual Meeting

Memphis Chapter
GLORIA J. THOMAS, PP, PLS,
CP
Shaver & Smith, P.A.
PO Box 6
Wynne, AR 72396

Certification

Janet G. Daniel, PLS
Baker, Donelson, Bearman,
Caldwell & Berkowitz
1800 Republic Centre
633 Chestnut St.
Chattanooga, TN 37450

History Book

TBA

Nominations & Elections

GLORIA J. THOMAS, PP, PLS,
CP
Shaver & Smith, P.A.
PO Box 6
Wynne, AR 72396

Membership Directory

DEBRA (DEB) SCHWITTERS
BURROUGHS COLLINS &
JABALEY, PLS
P.O. BOX 551
KNOXVILLE, TN 37901

The Junction

Brenda Wolfgang
Waller Lansden Dortch &
Davis, LLP
511 Union St., Suite 2700
Nashville, TN 37219

Ways & Means

Pam Thomas, PP, PLS
BAKER DONELSON BEARMAN,
CALDWELL & BERKOWITZ.
1800 Republic Centre
633 Chestnut Street
Chattanooga, TN 37450-
1800

Website

Donice Alford, PP, PLS
Howard, Tate, Sowell,
Wilson & Boyte
150 Second Ave N, Ste 201
Nashville, TN 37201

TALS Scholarship

TBA

Chapter Leadership

Chattanooga

President:

Sharon White
TN Dept. of Revenue
Taxpayers Service Dept.
540 McCallie Ave., Suite
350
Chattanooga, TN 37402

Rutherford/ Cannon County

President:

LINDA DAVENPORT
KIDWELL, SOUTH &
BEASLEY
112 South Maple Street
Murfreesboro, TN 37130
Phone: 615-893-1331

Memphis

President

GLORIA J. THOMAS, PP, PLS,
CP
Shaver & Smith, P.A.
PO Box 6
Wynne, AR 72396

Williamson County

President:

Mary Pewitt
Young, McDade &
Hassell
227 Bridge Street
Franklin, TN 37064

Governor/Secretary:

Diane Hood
William Carter Conway
236 Public Sq., Suite
205
Franklin, TN 37064

Nashville

President:

VICKIE HELLMER, PLS
LEWIS, KING, KRIEG &
WALDROP, P.C.
424 CHURCH ST., SUITE
2500
NASHVILLE, TN 37219

Knoxville

President:

Karen Van Dyke
8400 Country Club Way,
L-23
Knoxville, TN 37923

TALS - LEGAL PROFESSIONALS OF TENNESSEE 2010-2011 SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Location</u>
July 31-August 2, 2009	Region 4	Asheville, NC
August 7, 2010	TALS Summer Meeting	Nashville, TN
October 8-11, 2009	NALS 59th Annual Education Conference and National Forum	Branson, MO
*September 30, 2010	Deadline for Fall Junction Edition	
November ____, 2010	TALS Seminar/Fall Meeting	Rutherford/Cannon/Williamson
*December 31, 2010	Deadline for Winter Junction Edition	
February ____, 2011	TALS Seminar/Winter Meeting	Chattanooga
*March 31, 2011	Deadline for Spring Junction Edition	
April ____, 2011	TALS Seminar/Annual Meeting	Memphis

*DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

TALS - LEGAL PROFESIONAL OF TENNESSEE

Mary Pewitt
Recording Secretary
Young, McDade & Hassell
227 Bridge Street
Franklin, Tennessee 37064

(615) 791-0058 (office)

(615) 414-2150 (cell)

(615) 791-0129 (fax)

mpewitt@ymhlawgroup

.com

TO: Chapter Governors, for distribution to all TALS Members
TALS Executive Committee

FROM: Mary Pewitt
TALS Recording Secretary

DATE: June 24, 2010

RE: Notice of TALS Summer Meeting

In accordance with Article V, Section 1, of the Bylaws of TALS - Legal Professionals of Tennessee, notice is hereby given of the Summer Meeting to be held on Saturday, August 7, 2010, beginning at 1:15 PM at the Hotel Preston, 733 Briley Parkway, Nashville, Tennessee.

Each Governor should prepare a report to be included in The Junction and bring sufficient copies of any/all updates to the meeting for distribution to the membership.

Governors, please forward this Notice to all members of your local chapter.

**TALS - Legal Professionals of Tennessee
Summer Meeting
August 7, 2010**

**Hotel Preston
733 Briley Parkway
Nashville, TN 37217
Phone: (615) 361-5900**

Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Chapter: _____

Please check appropriate boxes:

TALS Officer	[]	First Time Attendee	[]
Governor	[]	CLA	[]
PLS	[]	ALS	[]
CPS	[]	Other _____	[]
PP	[]		

Mini-Seminar:	TALS Member	\$25.00	\$ _____
	Non-Member	\$50.00	\$ _____

(The seminar has been approved for CLE.)

Luncheon	\$15.00	\$ _____
TALS Meeting Registration	\$10.00	\$ _____

(Seminar and meeting fees waived for first-time TALS member attendees)

TOTAL	\$ _____
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PLEASE RETURN REGISTRATION FORM AND CHECK PAYABLE TO **TALS** TO:
(payment MUST be returned with registration):

Donice Alford, PP, PLS
Howard, Tate, Sowell, Wilson, Leathers & Johnson, PLLC
150 2nd Avenue North, Suite 201
Nashville, Tennessee 37201

MEETING REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS August 2, 2010.

Dress for the mini-seminars and state meeting is business casual.

**The basket theme is "Survivor"
Pack an auction basket with goodies that will help us "Survive the Summer"!**

Rates at the Hotel Preston are \$109.00 plus taxes and fees per night. Refer to "TALS" when you call for registration in order to get this rate. **Room registration cutoff date July 23, 2010.** Rooms will be released after this date.

DIRECTIONS TO Hotel Preston

From Nashville Airport (East) to Hotel Preston: Follow signs to I-40W – Nashville; keep right at the fork to continue towards I-40W; take exit 215A to Briley Parkway/State Hwy. 155, take a right at the stop light at Karen Drive, watch for the Hotel Preston sign; take an immediate right into the Hotel's driveway. **From downtown Nashville (West):** Head East on I-40 towards Knoxville, take exit 215A Briley Parkway/State Hwy. 155; take a right at the stop light at Karen Drive, watch for the Hotel Preston sign, take an immediate right into the Preston's driveway.

GOVERNOR'S REPORTS

TALS – LEGAL PROFESSIONALS OF TENNESSEE

GOVERNOR'S REPORT

Date : June, 2010
Chapter : Knoxville

Knoxville Association of Legal Professionals (KALP)

MEETINGS / LEGAL EDUCATION

- April : No speaker. Five members present and 1 guest. Held our KALP annual election. Cindy Andrews was elected President; Judy Woodson was elected Vice President; Karen Parr was elected Secretary; Gayle Sutton was elected Treasurer and Deb Schwitters was elected Governor. Also discussed finalizing plans for TALS annual meeting. Discussed holding our first “lunch and learn” to be held in June and sending invitations to all law office administrators.
- May : No speaker. Held installation of incoming officers. Discussed potential speakers and planned our first lunch and learn.
- June : No speaker. 1 guest. Short business meeting only due to our first lunch and learn to be held the next week. Chris McCarty from Lewis, King will be our speaker.

MEMBERSHIP

We currently have 7 members.

WAYS AND MEANS

We do not have any active fundraising projects.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

KALP volunteers continue to deliver food for the Mobile Meal's program.

/s/ Deb Schwitters
GOVERNOR : Deb Schwitters
P. O. Box 551
Knoxville, TN 37901
(865) 342-1040



LEGAL PROFESSIONALS OF TENNESSEE

Governor's Report

Date: June 25, 2010

Chapter: Memphis

MLSA elected officers at the April meeting. We are excited about a new year of education and community involvement.

Additionally, MLSA has had three new members; two are new (Sheila Griesheimer and Deborrah Pugh) and one is a transfer of membership (Melissa Hinote).

MLSA is continuing their involvement with Memphis Area Legal Services' (MALS) Saturday legal clinics. This gives MLSA an opportunity to not only interact with attorneys in all areas of the law along with helping clients that do not always know just what to do and where to turn when their world has crashed in, but to continue to give back to our community. There were 30 attorneys for 65 clients at the Saturday Legal Clinic in June.

MLSA volunteered again this year for Law Week in April. Several of our members worked the Law Week Launch Party.



MLSA had two members attend the TALS annual meeting held in Knoxville on April 24, 2010.

ADDITIONAL MEETING DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Region IV Conference – Ashville, NC – July 31-August 1, 2010
- TALS Summer Meeting – Nashville, TN – August 7, 2010
- NALS Education Conference and National Forum – Branson, MO – October 21-24, 2010



Have you visited the NALS website lately? Visit NALS at www.nals.org and see what you can find.

Theresa Estopare, PP, PLS and Mary Vickers, PP, PLS remain on the NALS Certifying Board until March, 2011.

NALS Foundation - Each region is to decorate a bag for the NALS Foundation to auction in Branson at the National Conference and Education Forum October 21-24, 2010.



Region 4 Conference will be in Ashville, North Carolina July 31-August 1, 2010.

Mary S. Vickers, PP, PLS
Governor, Memphis Chapter

**W. C. L. P.
WILLIAMSON COUNTY LEGAL PROFESSIONALS**

GOVERNOR'S REPORT

Date: June 30, 2010
Chapter: Williamson Co.

2010-2011 Officers

Mary Pewitt, President
Beth Smith, Vice President
Amanda Brown, Secretary
Ronnie Schuppan, Treasurer
Diane Hood, Governor

Members: 5

We continue to discuss dates and speakers for future lunch and learn seminars at our monthly meetings as well as ideas for fund raising projects.

President Mary attended the TALS Annual Meeting in Knoxville. Congrats to Mary upon being elected TALS Recording Secretary for the new year.

Williamson County, in conjunction with Rutherford/Cannon County will be hosting the TALS Fall Seminar and Meeting here in Franklin, November 6, 2010. More details to follow later.

/s/ Diane Hood, Governor
236 Public Square, Ste. 205
Franklin, TN 37064
(615) 794-1700
dianehood@bellsouth.net

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Reach for Greater Heights at the NALS Region 4 Conference in Asheville, North Carolina

July 30 – August 1, 2010

Holiday Inn Asheville – Biltmore West
(See information below)
435 Smokey Park Highway
Asheville NC 28806
Toll Free 1-800-678-2161

Please make checks payable to
"NALS Region 4" and mail to:

Lisa Mitchum, PLS
Smiley Bishop & Porter, LLP
1050 Crown Pointe Parkway
Suite 1250
Atlanta, GA 30338
Tel. (770) 829-3847
lmitchum@sbpllaw.com

First Time Attending Region 4 Educational Conference Yes No

Member Non-Member ALS PLS PP

Name: _____ Name for Badge: _____

Chapter: _____ NALS Member Number: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Company Name _____

Address: _____

Phone Number (Home): _____ (Business): _____ (Fax): _____

Email Address: _____

If currently serving as National, State or Chapter Officer, please specify capacity:

National Officer: _____

NALS Foundation: _____

State: _____ State Officer: _____

Chapter: _____ Chapter Officer: _____

Early Bird Registration (before May 15):	Member: <input type="checkbox"/> \$110.00	Non-Member: <input type="checkbox"/> \$125.00
Regular Registration (before June 30):	Member: <input type="checkbox"/> \$125.00	Non-Member: <input type="checkbox"/> \$140.00
Late Registration (after June 30):	Member: <input type="checkbox"/> \$140.00	Non-Member: <input type="checkbox"/> \$155.00

If you are bringing guests with you, please list their names:

HOTEL INFORMATION

Please contact the **Holiday Inn Asheville – Biltmore West** at 1-800-678-2161 and state that you are with the "NALS Region 4" conference group. Room rate is \$99.00 plus 11.75% tax per night. This rate will be available three (3) days prior and post meeting. The hotel rate will be available three days before the conference and three days after the conference if you would like an extended stay, based on availability.

HOTEL DEADLINE IS JUNE 30, 2010!!!



[Join the NALS Group at LinkedIn!](#) LinkedIn is a professional networking site similar to the social sites like Facebook and MySpace but it focus on making professional connections.



[NALS is on Facebook!](#) Join our group today!

Think Big



*Make your plans to visit the Ozark Mountains
next fall for the 59th Annual Education
Conference & National Forum*

Register at www.NALS.org!

October 21-24, 2010
[Chateau on the Lake](#)
Branson, MO

Hotel Information

Chateau on the Lake Resort & Convention Center
415 North Highway 265
Branson, Missouri
1-888-333-5253 (L-A-K-E) | www.chateauonthelake.com

Room rate for doubles \$119
\$20 each additional person.

Cut off date for room reservations at group rate is September 21st or when block is full.

Known as the "Live Music Show Capital of the World," Branson, Missouri, is truly a one-of-a-kind family vacation destination — and an incredible value — with more than 50 live performance theaters, three pristine lakes, 12 championship golf courses, an international award-winning theme park, dozens of attractions and museums, shopping galore, a full range of dining options, and a host of hotels, motels, resorts and meeting and conference facilities.

In 2010, Branson is celebrating 50 years of family entertainment! Silver Dollar City is celebrating 50 years of entertaining families with events throughout the year and a new \$7 million ride — Tom and Huck's RiverBlast. The Shepherd of the Hills Outdoor Drama also celebrates its 50th anniversary this year.

To help you better understand how you can get to where you want to go in Branson, below is a list of airports. I hope this helps you in your planning as we travel to Branson, Missouri for the 59th Annual NALS National Forum and Education Conference.

Branson Airport website: www.flybranson.com
Springfield – Branson Airport website: www.flyspringfield.com
Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport website: www.flyxna.com
Little Rock National Airport website: www.fly-lit.com
Tulsa International Airport website: www.tulsaairports.com

Certified Excellence

AT-LARGE

M. Patricia Wilson, PLS

CHATTANOOGA

Janet G. Daniel, PLS, CPS

Pamela M. Thomas, PP, PLS

MEMPHIS

Theresa D. Estopare, PP, PLS

Mary Ann Filler, PLS

Lisa Foster, PLS

Regina D. Graham, PLS

Vicky C. LaPradd, PP, PLS

Gail Powell, PLS

Virginia P. Roper, PLS, CPS

Gloria J. Thomas, PP, PLS, CP

Mary S. Vickers, PP, PLS

NASHVILLE

Donice Alford, PP, PLS

Delone Anderson, PLS

Tina L. Boone, PLS

Wyndi Brock, PLS

Celeste Dillehay, PLS

Dolores K. Foster, PLS

Chris Galyon, PLS

Nanette M. Green, PLS

Sarah Gwaltney, PLS

Vickie Hellmer, PLS

Bonnie H. Huettig, PLS

Sandy Hughes, PP, PLS

Katrina Hunley, ALS

Michelle Irick, PLS

Theresa Marchese, PLS

Sandi Reilly, PP, PLS

Vernice Nance Syers, PLS

B. Teresa Smith, PLS

La'Crisha Taylor, ALS

Trudy J. Tierney, PLS

Amelia W. Workman, PLS

Professional Paralegal Exam Update

To provide the highest quality of certifications NALS and the Certifying Board are constantly monitoring the certification examinations and their processes to make sure that they meet the needs of both the examinees and the industry.

To comply with industry standards the Professional Paralegal examination process has incorporated an employer statement(s) in the application process. The statement will verify that the minimum experience

requirement for the performance of paralegal duties is met. This change will take effect immediately but will not affect those applications already in process such as those already received or applicants in retake status.

Please note due to this change there will no longer be an online application so pay particular attention to application deadlines to allow time to mail/fax your application.

If you have any questions please contact www.nals.com.

**Online Study Group
2010-11 Schedule (Tuesday)
ALWAYS CHECK NALS.ORG FOR UPDATES**

August 10, 2010	8:00 p.m. Central Time	Written Communications
August 17	8:00 p.m. Central Time	Office Procedures/Legal Knowledge
August 24	8:00 p.m. Central Time	Ethics, Human Relations
August 31	8:00 p.m. Central Time	Legal Knowledge
September 7	8:00 p.m. Central Time	ALS Review
September 14	8:00 p.m. Central Time	PLS Review
September 21	8:00 p.m. Central Time	PP Review
January 11, 2011	8:00 p.m. Central Time	Written Communications
January 18	8:00 p.m. Central Time	Office Procedures/Legal Knowledge
February 1	8:00 p.m. Central Time	Legal Knowledge
February 8	8:00 p.m. Central Time	ALS Review
February 15	8:00 p.m. Central Time	PLS Review
February 22	8:00 p.m. Central Time	PP Review

Online Learning Center
Earn CLE Credit (1 hour) (Tuesday or Wednesday)

August 4, 2010	8:00 p.m. Central Time	Future Leader Development
August 18	8:00 p.m. Central Time	PP Review - Concentration on Substantive Law
September 1	8:00 p.m. Central Time	Membership
September 22	8:00 p.m. Central Time	Test Taking Tips
October 6	8:00 p.m. Central Time	Marketing Community Service Projects
October 27	8:00 p.m. Central Time	Understanding the Bluebook
November 3	8:00 p.m. Central Time	Behind the Scenes of Updating the Manuals
November 17	8:00 p.m. Central Time	New Federal Regulations of Debit, Prepaid & Gift Cards
December 1	8:00 p.m. Central Time	Current Trends in Regulation
December 15	8:00 p.m. Central Time	Identity Theft - What You Need to Know to Protect Yourself & What you Need to Do if You are a Victim
January 5	8:00 p.m. Central Time	Membership
January 19, 2011	8:00 p.m. Central Time	Employment Discrimination - Overview of Topic & Laws
February 2	8:00 p.m. Central Time	Future Leader Development
February 23	8:00 p.m. Central Time	Test Taking Tips



2010-2011

Board of Directors

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Patricia E. Infanti, PP, PLS (PA)

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Certification Director
Doris Compton, PP, PLS (AR)

Education Director
Jeannie Shaw, PP, PLS (MS)

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Karen McElroy, PP, PLS (AZ)

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Karen R. Becker, PP, PLS (CA)

NALS Immediate Past President
Julie Abernathy, PP, PLS (TX)

NALS Foundation Chairman
Faynell Poe, PP, PLS (TX)

NALS Executive Director
Tammy Hailey, CAE (OK)

The Junction is the official publication of *TALS, Legal Professionals of Tennessee*.

Publication submissions should be addressed to Brenda Wolfgang, Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis, LLP, 511 Union Street, Suite 2700, Nashville, Tennessee 37219 or brenda.wolfgang@wallerlaw.com.

Material must be received by the publication deadline announced at the quarterly TALS meeting, printed in *The Junction* or as listed on the TALS website (www.talstn.org).