



REGION 1 REPORTER

July 2017

Messages from Our Region 1 Representatives

Dear Fellow ALA Members:

As our summer days are passing by, we hope you are enjoying every minute of it!

As your Region 1 team, we continue to focus on our organization and want to increase our communication to our members. One way to do this is to adapt to the current technology we have at our fingertips. With that in mind, we have some bitter — but sweet — news, as this will be our last Region 1 Newsletter.

We want our members to be able to constantly share information with other chapters and a great way to do that is via our social media channels. For your convenience, we have provided the links to the Region 1 Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn pages below.

We invite you to please come and join us by liking our Region 1 Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter pages.

More information to follow!

Thank you!

Your 2017–2018 Region 1 Team

twitter.com/ALARegion1

www.facebook.com/ALA-Region-1-1931668270381592/?hc_ref=PAGES_TIMELINE&fref=nf

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8614521>

Region 1 of the Association of Legal Administrators includes Connecticut, Delaware, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont; the Canadian Provinces of Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island and Quebec; and the Cyber Chapter.

Messages from Our Region I Representatives

KAREN GLOWACKI

Reflections on Serving as Region I Director

It's hard to believe my three-year term as Region I Director has ended, but looking back over the last three years, I am very proud of our team's work, and the experiences and wonderful memories we made together! I want to thank each and every ALA member I've met along the way for your support of the Region I Team, and for your friendship. As I look back on my experience as a member of the board, I will remember the friends I made (for life!) and the challenges and successes we all faced together as a team. I hope I made a difference along the way by visiting some of our chapters, working with chapter leaders and chapter members, and by contributing to the overall success of our Association. I thank all of you so very much and look forward to seeing you at the next ALA event.

Many people have asked what I'll do with all my free time now that my term has ended. Well, I plan to work on my photography, exercise more and volunteer at an animal shelter in the fall.

And, as J.R.R. Tolkien wrote: "All those who wander are not lost." I plan to do more wandering.



Photo: Karen and daughter Kathleen — one of their many selfies.

PATRICIA ISAACSON

Reflections on Serving as a Region I Representative

ALA has been a major part of my life since the very day that I joined law firm management. My first exposure was back in the 80s while I was at Thelen Marrin Johnson & Bridges as the New York City Office Manager of a California firm. Having New York City offices was a new arena for national firms, so I organized a "branch office managers" group within the New York City Chapter. Everyone was hungry to share their issues related to this, and I still maintain friends from that group some 25 years later.

Kim Swetland nominated me for the New York City Board and the rest is history. I served as chairs of Education and the Business Partner Committee and, eventually, as President. After the New York City Board tenure, I was looking for my next challenge. I had been on the Regional Nominating Committee, and thought that there were things that I could change. Now those two years are up, and I honestly feel that I made a difference. I am on the 2017 Regional Legal Management Conference Planning Committee and still active in New York City as much as I can be. However, I now focus on my energy on the New Jersey Chapter, my home chapter.

Now my primary focus is my two grandchildren, James and Melody. They are my joy from dawn to dusk — especially now that they sleep through the night! I made so many lifelong friends, especially my regional teammates, Gigi, Brenda and Audrey. I was privileged to work with Karen Glowacki as the Region I Director and Mark Bridgeman as At-Large Director, and then Katie Bryant. They helped me grow and develop professionally. I will count the people that I met, and the friends I made as the greatest gifts that I received from ALA.



Photo: Proud Grandmother with James and Melody!

REGION 1 REPORTER

2017–2018 Chapter Presidents

For the past couple years, we have been highlighting the Chapter Presidents in this newsletter so that we can get to know our leaders. Here, they shared their ideas on ALA.

How does ALA elevate your position in your firm and/or professional standing?

ALBANY



Lisa Thomas — Being part of ALA allows me to bring back to my firm, and often implement, the ideas and resources we share within our ALA Chapter.

BOSTON



Christopher O'Sullivan, CLM — I am privileged to be in a firm that views me as an equal to the partners. This is largely due to the education and leadership skills I have acquired over the past 20 years through my involvement with ALA, the Boston Chapter and becoming a CLM®.

CENTRAL PA



Robin Meisenbach — My position as President has given me more confidence in myself, which carries through in my day-to-day tasks at the firm.

REGION 1 REPORTER

2017–2018 Chapter Presidents

How does ALA elevate your position in your firm and/or professional standing?

CYBER



Shahily Negron-Falcon — ALA elevates my role in my firm by providing me with knowledge and resources. ALA is the go-to place to learn about the trends in the legal industry. You always hear it first at ALA!

DOWNEAST



Charlie Corbett — ALA has enhanced my knowledge and skills in the industry through their conferences and great networking opportunities. Being a Board Member and now President in my local chapter has helped me get out my comfort zone and do something I wasn't sure I could do. It has not only helped me professionally, but personally as well.

FIRST STATE



Kellie Snyder-Roncace — Filling my networking circle with the most talented legal administrative professionals has improved my personal and professional confidence. In turn, it has allowed me to present creative contributions not only to chapter membership and business partners, but also has afforded me the opportunity to stand-out before my firm's administrative and executive management.

REGION 1 REPORTER

2017–2018 Chapter Presidents

How does ALA elevate your position in your firm and/or professional standing?

GRANITE STATE



Silvia McCarron — By providing access to information/knowledge about issues I need to know about to make better decisions; by offering professional development opportunities to keep me from becoming “stale,” and by providing outstanding networking opportunities.

INDEPENDENCE



Diane Burkhardt — Many Office Administrators at Lewis Brisbois are ALA members, and our firm is very supportive of our involvement. LBBS realizes the value of the continuing education and networking that we get from ALA are important in keeping us up to date on current trends in law firm management.

LONG ISLAND



Cara McNamara — As an ALA member, I am viewed more as a professional in my firm than I would be otherwise. My connection to other administrators in well-respected, high-profile firms is a source of pride for the partners and attorneys that I work with. Knowing that I can reach out to my fellow members for advice when an important issue comes up at work gives me a stronger sense of confidence in myself.

REGION 1 REPORTER

2017–2018 Chapter Presidents

How does ALA elevate your position in your firm and/or professional standing?

NEW JERSEY



Kurt Brown — ALA is an acknowledged leader in the business of law within my firm. I am fortunate in that my Managing Partner recognizes the value of the organization and supports me in my endeavors throughout the entire legal community.

NEW YORK CITY



Tanya Duprey — Having been a member for more than 14 years, I have learned tremendously from my peers and have grown from a novice to an expert in multiple areas. Much of my career growth is directly attributed to my active involvement in ALA and our local ALANYC Chapter. With so much that I have received, the best way I could express my appreciation was to serve my chapter to the best of my ability. As a result, I am honored to have been elected this year's ALANYC President.

NUTMEG



Catherine Mingoello — I continually strive to educate myself professionally, in a manner that allows me to develop and enhance a philosophy of continued improvement and refinement, which earns me credibility and respect with my firm.

REGION 1 REPORTER

2017–2018 Chapter Presidents

How does ALA elevate your position in your firm and/or professional standing?

PHILADELPHIA



Marlys Hickman — Being a member of ALA brings with it many opportunities — both educational and networking — and provides a valuable benefit to me in my role as an Office Administrator at Fox Rothschild. Having this network that our senior management team knows that I can turn to makes me a go-to person and that, in turn, elevates my role within the firm.

OTTOWA



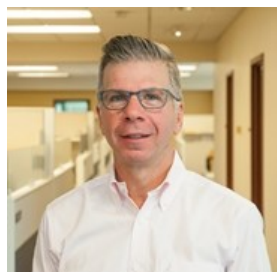
Neale Chisnall — ALA elevates my role in our firm by giving me the ability to network with peers in other firms when we need to share/gather information, and in general by garnering the confidence to speak publicly. The various skills learned in particular at the Chapter Leadership Conferences has also been valuable in my career.

PITTSBURGH



Gregory Rush — As a 20-year member of ALA, I been around long enough to have attended many education conferences, business partner exhibits, membership meetings, education sessions and social gatherings. I have found the experiences have made me a more well-rounded and knowledgeable administrator.

WESTERN & CENTRAL NEW YORK



Lewis Migliore — ALA elevates me by providing key resources to be successful today and for the future.

Unavailable at time of publication: Westchester County

Important Dates for Educational Events - 2017

Regional Legal Management Conference – West (Regions 4, 5, & 6)

September 7–9, 2017

Las Vegas, Nevada

Regional Legal Management Conference – East (Regions 1, 2, & 3)

October 12–14, 2017

Nashville, Tennessee

Large Firm Principal Administrators Retreat

August 3–5, 2017

Boston, Massachusetts

Intellectual Property Conference for Legal Professionals

October 5–6, 2017

Chicago, Illinois

Finance and Law Practice Management Conference for Legal Professionals

October 5–7, 2017

Chicago, Illinois

Human Resources Conference for Legal Professionals

October 5–7, 2017

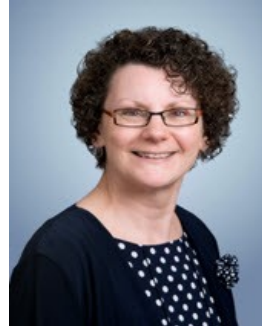
Chicago, Illinois

REGION 1 REPORTER

Region 1 Leadership



Joseph A. Samarco, MBA
Region I Director
Director of Revenue Accounting
Operations
Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP
Joseph.Samarco@dbr.com



Brenda A. Syle, CLM
Region I Representative
Administrator – Finance &
Operations
Coughlin & Gerhart LLP
bsyle@cglawoffices.com

Focus Chapters: New Jersey,
Albany, Downeast, First State



Stacy Joyce, CLM
Region I Representative
Administrator, New York
Office
Locke Lord LLP
sjoyce@lockelord.com

Focus Chapters: Nutmeg,
Independence, Westchester



Audrey M. Serban
Region I Representative
Office Manager
Fisher & Phillips LLP
aserban@laborlawyers.com

Focus Chapters: Philadelphia,
Central PA, Cyber, Western &
Central New York



Virginia R. Wentzel
Region I Representative
Law Firm Administrator
Saidis, Sullivan & Rogers
gwentzel@ssr-attorneys.com

Focus Chapters: Pittsburgh,
Granite State, Ottawa, Long
Island



Katie Bryant, CLM
At-Large Director
Udall Shumway, PLC
kjb@udallshumway.com

Focus Chapters: Boston and
New York City

Region 1 of the Association of Legal Administrators includes Connecticut, Delaware, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont; the Canadian Provinces of Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island and Quebec; and the Cyber Chapter.