



The Foundation of ALA Announces 2026-2027 President & Board of Trustees

The Foundation of ALA is excited to announce that Emily C. Spehar of Wicker Smith in Naples, Florida, has been named the Foundation's 2026-2027 President.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHICAGO, IL – April 3, 2026 – The Foundation of the Association of Legal Administrators is pleased to announce the election of its new President, Emily C. Spehar, along with the 2026-2027 Board of Trustees. Spehar was elected by the Foundation of ALA’s Board of Trustees and will serve as President for the upcoming term.

Spehar has been actively involved with the Foundation of ALA since being named an inaugural fellow of the Susan L. French Emerging Leaders Fellowship Program in 2019 and later joining the Board of Trustees in 2025. She brings more than a decade of experience across boutique, AmLaw 100 and mid-size firms, and currently serves as Office Manager at Wicker Smith.

“Serving as President of the Foundation of ALA is both a privilege and a homecoming. As a Susan L. French Fellowship recipient, I’ve experienced firsthand how this Foundation transforms careers. Through scholarships, mentorship and educational programs that support legal management professionals at every stage, the Foundation is a powerful tool for succession planning and elevating the visibility of our profession,” said Spehar. “None of this is possible without the generous support of our business partners, whose investment directly translates into opportunities for our members and the next generation of legal management professionals. With a new strategic direction on the horizon, we are committed to expanding that impact together.”

Joining Spehar on the Foundation of ALA’s Board of Trustees are:

Sarah E. Cramer, Baker Sterchi Cowden & Rice, LLC, Kansas City, Missouri

Carole J. Gandera, CLM, Telios Law, PLLC, Monument, Colorado

William MF Davis, The Legal Aid Society of Rochester, Rochester, New York

Eryn Carter, CAE, Association of Legal Administrators, Chicago, Illinois

Karen Michelle Beasley, Thompson Miller, PA, St. Petersburg, Florida

Julie S. Logan, SPHR, SHRM-SCP, Thompson Coburn LLP, St. Louis, Missouri

Kathryn N. Scourby, CBCP, CCRP, KNS Consulting, LLC, Richmond, Virginia

Jessica L. VanTroost, Jacksonville, Florida

Together, the Board of Trustees will help guide the Foundation's strategic priorities, fundraising efforts and program development in the year ahead.

“Emily Spehar is a collaborative, forward-thinking leader with a deep commitment to mission-driven impact. Her ability to inspire trust, bring people together and focus on long-term sustainability will strengthen the Foundation's work and expand its reach. We are confident her leadership will guide the Foundation into an exciting and impactful new chapter,” says the Foundation of ALA Executive Director, Trustee and ALA Executive Director Eryn Carter, CAE.

For more information about the Foundation and its leadership, visit the [Foundation of ALA's website](#).

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About the Foundation of ALA

The Foundation of the Association of Legal Administrators was formed by the ALA Board of Directors in 1981 to serve as the charitable affiliate of ALA. Since that time, the Foundation has contributed over a quarter-million dollars in grants, programs and sponsorships to support its mission and strategic objectives. The Foundation is recognized as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Our mission is to help educate, mentor and inspire current and future legal management professionals in inclusive ways that foster the development and increase awareness of the profession within the legal industry and our communities.

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