

December 11, 2008

**Via E-mail**

Karolan Ohanesian  
Chair, SC Bar Paralegal Task Force  
Furr, Henshaw & Ohanesian  
P.O. Box 2909  
Myrtle Beach SC 29578

RE: South Carolina Bar Association Task Force on Paralegal Registration

Dear Ms. Ohanesian:

Thank you for contacting Palmetto Paralegal Association, Inc. ("PPA") requesting its position on paralegal registration in South Carolina. Please allow this letter to serve as PPA's initial position statement on this very important issue.

PPA greatly appreciates (and wholeheartedly supports) the initiative of the Bar's Task Force to investigate the important issue of paralegal registration. By way of background, PPA is a self-regulating organization, meaning that we maintain and monitor the educational requirements set forth in our bylaws. Our bylaws contain specific educational and CLE (7 hours per year) requirements which must be attained for initial membership and maintained to sustain voting member status. Our membership feels that these requirements are necessary to achieve the professional level required to call oneself a paralegal.

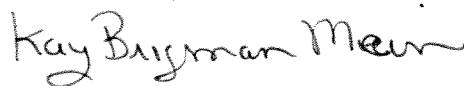
We believe educational requirements are an integral element of any registration process and that the educational requirements set forth for PPA membership are a reasonable guide for the Task Force to use as a starting point. We acknowledge that a "grandfathering" period may be required and would ask that this period be reasonable. Likewise, while we anticipate and understand the need for a fee to be required as part of the process, we would ask that any registration fee be kept at a reasonable amount that will neither dissuade paralegals from participating in the registration process, nor put an undue burden on law firms that may pay the fee on their paralegals' behalf.

Finally, we propose the use of the American Bar Association's definition of a paralegal and believe it should be incorporated into any registration policy that may be developed. It is PPA's position that supporting registration enhances the growth of the paralegal profession, which in turn improves the legal profession as a whole.

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Again, we would be happy to provide any additional opinions or clarifications on specific aspects of this very complex issue if the Task Force so desires. Should you have any questions or wish to inquire further on our position, please feel free to contact us.

Very Truly Yours,



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cc: Flo Lester Vinson, SC Bar President (via U.S. Mail)  
PPA Board (via E-mail)