

Capital Area Paralegal Association – May 2019

On May 3, 2019, the Austin Bar Association voted to allow paralegal membership, and it passed 80% in favor! The Capital Area Paralegal Association through various members, Board members, and past presidents have worked towards this goal for years and we were honored to be granted membership with our city's bar association this year. We are looking forward to what is in store! Photo: Carli Collins, TBLS-BCP, Past-President and Brittany Posadas, MBA, TBLS-BCP, President-Elect with Adam Schramek, President of the Austin Bar Association.



The Capital Area Paralegal Association has a flourishing Pro Bono Committee that has been working on major overhaul on the Pro Bono Program. The Pro Bono Committee has 9 members who meet regularly to monitor the Association's pro bono service activities and establish a plan of projects for the year. The CAPA Pro Bono Chair sits on the Board of Volunteer Legal Services of Central Texas and she is a member of the Austin Bar Association Pro Bono Committee. She reports back to the Committee on paralegal pro bono needs for legal clinics and other pro bono events going on in the Austin area. The Pro Bono Committee has been hard at work recruiting and organizing paralegal volunteers for pro bono activities. In the first quarter of 2019 alone, CAPA members have provided over 200 hours of pro bono

service. The main pro bono projects that CAPA members have participated in during the last year are:

Austin Young Lawyer Association's Communities First Clinics, CANLAW Estate Planning Clinic (for cancer patients), Travis County Law Library and Self-Help Center Pro Se Family Clinic, The University of Texas at Austin's Richard and Ginny Mithoff Pro Bono Program, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), Volunteer Legal Services of Central Texas (VLS) in-take clinics, Texas AFL-CIO Citizenship Application Clinic, Austin Bar Association's Veterans Project, and RAICES (sending paralegals as interpreters to the Karnes Detention Center to assist pro bono attorneys in providing legal assistance to detainees). Photo: CAPA members at a CANLAW event.

