

July 28, 2022

**For Immediate Release**



Contact:

Jerry Lewallen  
PRIA President  
[jerry@GOePN.com](mailto:jerry@GOePN.com)  
512.590.2733

Jim Thompson  
Chief Staff Officer  
[cso@pria.us](mailto:cso@pria.us)  
919.459.2081

**PRIA Announces Ernst Scholarship Award Recipient for 2022-23**

RALEIGH, N.C. - The [Property Records Industry Association](http://www.pria.us) (PRIA) has announced the Black Knight Carl Ernst Scholarship Award recipient for the 2022-23 membership year, which begins on Aug. 1, 2022. This award was established by Ernst Publishing Co., which was acquired by [Black Knight](http://www.blackknight.com) in 2018, in conjunction with PRIA, in recognition of the late Carl R. Ernst for his contributions to PRIA and the extended property records industry. This year marks the eighth year the awards have been presented.

Lisa Petersen, Chicago Title, is the business recipient of the Ernst scholarship. She is an active member of the Wisconsin Land Title Association and the PRIA Local Wisconsin Chapter.

Her involvement with WLTA includes current Co-Chair of the Education Committee, WLTA Convention Committee member, active member and past chair of the Legislative Committee and a WLTA Past President. She is also a WLTA instructor and has twice won the President's Award.

On a local level, she and her husband own a bar and grill (The North Lake Bear Trap) and they host several fundraising events each year for a variety of local charities.

The Black Knight Carl Ernst Scholarship Award includes a one-year PRIA membership the recipient, along with conference registration and travel to one of the two PRIA conferences during the membership year. The awards are valued at \$2,000, plus the complimentary membership in PRIA.

According to PRIA President Jerry Lewallen, "The late Carl Ernst was one of the original members of the Property Records Industry Joint Task Force, the predecessor to PRIA, and a tireless advocate for the development of both eRecording and basic standards for the property records industry. We are pleased to partner with Black Knight in sponsoring this scholarship."

The award criteria, established in 2013, requires that eligible applicants have demonstrated exceptional accomplishments in their chosen fields, been active in their communities and proven to provide service consistent with the mission and values of PRIA.

“PRIA continues to be the preeminent advocate for the collaboration of business and government throughout the public records industry,” states Richard Gagliano, president of Origination Technologies for Black Knight. “Increased membership and participation will only stand to further strengthen the association. Black Knight is proud to support these scholarships, and we congratulate this year’s award recipients.”

Scholarships are awarded annually assuming valid application submissions by qualified candidates.

###

*PRIA develops and promotes national standards and best practices for the property recording industry by identifying opportunities for collaboration among industry stakeholders; developing recommendations for standards and best practices; encouraging the adoption of such standards and practices; providing a clearinghouse for property-records-related information; and educating members, stakeholders and the public about the property records industry.*

*For more information, visit [www.pria.us](http://www.pria.us).*