

PRIA IN TOUCH

February 22, 2021



President's Message

Dear Members:

Top on my mind this month is our Virtual Winter Symposium, which kicks off tomorrow with the opening session and keynote address featuring Meagan Johnson, “Zap the Gap: Generational Differences Reexamined.” There are 230 registered attendees, a 20 percent increase in registrants over the August Annual Conference, and more than 55 are first-timers. This Winter Symposium also boasts the highest number of government attendees ever to attend a PRIA conference, at 167.



The Winter Symposium Planning Committee has met bi-weekly for three months to design the educational program, select the speakers and panelists and plan ways to engage the attendees in the virtual environment. Being in a virtual environment does have its challenges when it comes to networking, but for the Winter Symposium, there are 45-minute time slots on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, from 1-1:45 p.m., Eastern Time, when attendees can join a Zoom session and over a beverage of choice can connect with other attendees on a variety of topics. There is no formal program for these Zoom Networking Breaks but each session will have a host to welcome you and manage the discussion.

On Wednesday evening (February 24), beginning at 6 p.m., Eastern Time, the committee has designed a Drop-in Virtual Happy Hour with several themed chat rooms. Don your PRIA socks, bring your packet of hot chocolate and join Joe DeLuca, CSC, as he demonstrates the technique for making the perfect cup of this chocolaty beverage. Feel free to provide your own enhancements. Then you can choose one of a number of chat rooms for conversation with a smaller group. You'll learn about people's fascination with the latest kitchen tools, who loves bourbon, pets and wine. Lots of choices...and you can jump in and out of all the chat rooms.

If you are registered for the Winter Symposium, you received a “final reminders” email from PRIA on Friday with instructions about accessing the conference platform via the web or with a mobile device. A second announcement about the app, [Eventessential](#), was distributed on Saturday. It's important for your conference experience to log onto the platform where you can select the sessions you plan to attend (Zoom links included for access), visit the sponsors, meet the speakers and connect with other attendees.

I hope you'll plan to attend the PRIA Membership Meeting on Thursday afternoon (February 25), beginning at 4 p.m., Eastern Time. PRIA hosts a membership meeting at each of its two in-person conferences where members and non-members can learn about the association's financial status, understand the current membership metrics, see the

latest PRIA publications and hear about projects currently in process. There's an opportunity for you to offer your comments and suggestions to the board.

If you have additional questions about our Winter Symposium, contact [Mallory Robinson](#).

Jerry Lewallen
President



PRIA President's Circle Member CSC

(First in a series of articles highlighting the PRIA President's Circle members.)

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The CSC eRecording network covers nearly 85 percent of the entire U.S. population, and our technology is indispensable in the industries we serve. CSC is honored to have the opportunity to continue supporting the rapid adoption of eRecording as more and more document submitters and recorders come to enjoy the operation and process enhancements that eRecording provides.

For more about how you can fast-track your document recording, visit erecording.com.

PRIA and ALTA Announce Shared Redaction Resources

PRIA and the American Land Title Association (ALTA) have combined efforts to publish several documents to aid members facing redaction legislation statutes in their states. These resources are designed to help members navigate conversation about these issues with state lawmakers and other stakeholders involved in the redaction discussions. While legislators may be well-intended in wanting to provide protection to vulnerable populations, they frequently do not have all the information they need to consider the short-and-long-term consequences of redaction laws, nor do they consider the cost involved in redacting public records.

Members are encouraged to download these materials from the PRIA website Resource Library; search keyword "redaction." If you have input to offer on these materials, please contact [Stevie Kernick](#), PRIA chief staff officer.

As a reminder, last month PRIA announced the approval of a state-by-state redaction legislation guide, which is also available in the Resource Library.



Notary News Is Now Legislative News

PRIA members have always been able to access the latest notary legislative news from the members' side of the website. These notary updates are courtesy of the Pennsylvania Association of Notaries and generally are updated weekly while state legislatures are in session. More recently, a general legislative update has been added to the notary news page, courtesy of CSC, thus the name change for this section of the website.

Navigate to the Members menu and click on the Legislative News tile to access.



New Policies Approved by Board

Over the past two months, the board has approved two new policies, which are recapped below:

Advocacy Policy

Purpose: To establish a policy to guide the PRIA Officers and Board of Directors when considering advocacy efforts.

Background: Advocacy has been interwoven into the way PRIA operates since its incorporation in 2002.

Process: PRIA may choose to take a position on industry-related issues by educating and sharing knowledge or research with legislators, regulators, and the judiciary. These advocacy efforts may come from a member request, from an industry partner, or be initiated by PRIA in response to proposed actions affecting the property records industry.

Transparency Policy

Purpose: To affirm PRIA's intent to maintain openness and transparency in all actions taken by the Board of Directors and to communicate approved board actions directly to the membership.

Background: PRIA brings together participants in the property records industry, including government officials, associations and businesses which provide processes or services relating to the functions of recording and maintaining documents affecting real estate and the taxing of property.

Process: The PRIA Board of Directors strives to:

- Provide information reflecting the wishes and needs of the membership.
- Make information available about plans, decisions, policies, standards and performance.
- Provide information about PRIA governance, finances and actions taken monthly by the Board of Directors.
- Make information easy to find, relevant, accurate and, wherever possible, self-explanatory.

Approved policies are housed in the PRIA Operating Rules, which are currently under review by a sub-committee of the Governance Committee.



Did Your State Elect New Recorders in November 2020?

If your state elected new recorders during the most recent election cycle, please send an updated list of all recorders to [Mallory Robinson](#).

How does PRIA use these lists? While members receive regular communications from PRIA, non-members are contacted only with what is considered pertinent information. For instance, PRIA would reach out to non-member recorders in the state, and surrounding states, in which a conference is being held so they would be aware of an opportunity for education close to home; or in the event a publication is approved that would be of significance to a particular government audience.

In the next month, PRIA will announce a special resource for newly elected recorders, which will include a day-by-day, week-by-week guide of what to do when, along with a glossary of property-speak terms that every new recorder needs to know.

The preferred format for the recorder lists is Excel and should include name, mailing address, phone and email address.

PRIA's Own Ava August Begins Quest To Become Next American Idol

In August 2019, Ava August, now 15, hailing from Southern California, performed for PRIA Annual Conference attendees in Colorado Springs. It was a fun evening as Ava August entertained the crowd by singing and playing the ukulele, keyboard and guitar with a mix of original and cover songs. At the time, Ava August was 13 and coming off being the youngest ever to perform on NBC's *THE VOICE*. Now, two years later, Ava August begins her quest to become the youngest person ever to perform on ABC's *AMERICAN IDOL*. Please tune in and watch Ava August's journey with the other contestants as they battle to impress the star-studded celebrity judges: Katy Perry, Luke Bryant and Lionel Richie.

Ava August recalls fondly her time at PRIA in August 2019, "The PRIA family is not just a nice cliché. It is so true. Being invited and having the privilege to perform before the PRIA membership was an honor and a highlight of my career! The PRIA members are so kind and genuine! Thank you PRIA for all your support!"

To hear more of Ava August's songs go to her website, which has links to all her social media accounts: www.avaaugust.com

More information about American Idol can be found:

<https://abc.com/shows/american-idol>

[https://twitter.com/AmericanIdol?
ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor](https://twitter.com/AmericanIdol?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor)

Welcome New Members

PRIA welcomed these new members in January.

Government

Benton County, Kennewick, WA
Sedgwick County, Wichita, KS

Business

Preservica, Boston, MA

Total paid membership as of January 31, 2021, is 713.

MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS 2020-21

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

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