

PRIA IN TOUCH

October 2021



President's Message

Dear Members:

Each year, the PRIA president assembles a Council of Advisors consisting of members with a long-standing history of leadership within the association. This year is no exception and I am pleased to name the following members to this year's Council of Advisors:



- Marc Aronson, Pennsylvania Association of Notaries, former board member
- Charlie Epperson, Evolve Mortgage Services, former board member
- Carol Foglesong, retired, Orange Co., FL, comptroller's office, past president
- Mark Ladd, ICE Mortgage Technology, past president
- Steve McDonald, retired
- Kelly Romeo, ALTA, past board member and treasurer
- Diane Swoboda Peterson, Woodbury Co., IA, past board member and secretary

Among my other duties as president is assuring that each of PRIA's standing committees has both a government and business co-chair, and one or more board liaisons. The board liaisons act as advisors to the committee co-chairs when they have questions or concerns about their committee's operations.

Communications Committee – Co-chairs: Michael Miller, Charleston Co., SC, and Christie Adams, eRecording Partners Network. Board Liaisons: Sharon Martin, Washington Co., WI; Elizabeth Blosser, ALTA.

Education Committee – Co-chairs: Dan Crank, Butler Co., OH, and Brent Blankenship, Granicus Inc. Board Liaisons: Kyle Quackenbush, Orange Co., FL; Dan Shmukler, Harris Recording Solutions.

Governance Committee – Co-chairs: Staci Hoffman, Jefferson Co., WI, and Ryan Crowley, Pioneer Technology Group. Board Liaisons: Teresa Kiel, Guadalupe Co., TX, and Penny Reed, Wells Fargo.

Membership Committee – Co-chairs: John Murphy, Dubuque Co., IA, and Liz Kelly, Black Knight - Ernst Fee Service. Board Liaisons: Brandon Krause, Bay Co., MI, and Brian Ernissee, Nationwide Title Clearing.

Standards & Best Practices Committee – Co-chairs: David Rooney, Orange Co., FL, and Nakia McFarland, Kofile Technologies. Board Liaisons: Sharon Blount-Baker, Crawford Co., AR, and Jana Miyasaki, CSC.

If you are interested in becoming a committee co-chair, I'd love to talk with you about future opportunities.

Have a good month,

Jerry Lewallen

President

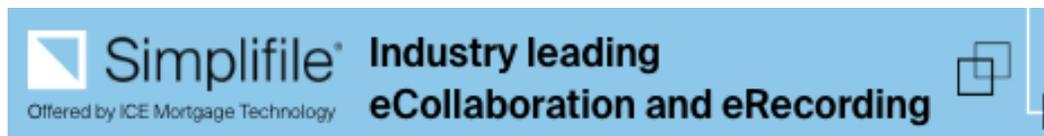


PRIA Publishes Updated Best Practices for eRecording

PRIA's eRecording Best Practices Work Group announces the publication of an updated document on *eRecording Best Practices for Recordors*. The original paper was published in December 2016 and although the 10 best practices did not change, the procedures to meet the best practices have been reviewed and revised.

eRecording has been steadily growing throughout the United States since first being utilized in 1998. Recordors, end-user submitters, eRecording technology business partners (TBP), e.g., eRecording vendors and portals, and Land Records Management System (LRMS) vendors, have tested multiple approaches and strategies over the years. This paper sets forth the consensus reached on 10 eRecording best practices for recordors. PRIA recognizes there may be differences in adoption by recording jurisdictions due to statutory/regulatory specifications or LRMS system capabilities.

To access this paper, and all PRIA publications, visit the website [Resource Library](#) and type in keyword "eRecording."



GIS Work Group Publishes Article on Proof of Home Ownership

The GIS Work Group, chaired by David Rooney, Orange Co., FL, and Brent Jones, Esri, recently published an article on U.S. Property Records: *Sometimes a Disaster - Geographic Information Systems Can Help*. Read the article below.

A recent *Washington Post* article, [The real damage](#), highlighted a problem in the US land records system: if you can't prove ownership of your property, you may not have access to certain services. The framers of the U.S. Constitution believed property ownership was a cornerstone of a free democracy. They were right, but not all property owners are treated equally. The U.S. land records system is quirky. It's essentially an 1850s system with some automation built around it, but no real modernization like many other advanced countries. In most of this country, recording property transactions is not required. It is voluntary. Land can pass from generation to generation without any government assistance or intervention. This undocumented transfer is considered an informal land transfer, much the same way in which property is passed from owner to owner in many parts of the developing world.

To read the complete article, click [here](#).



Tips To Remember During Cybersecurity Awareness Month

October is Cybersecurity Awareness month. Here are a few tips to better secure your systems and devices.

- Keep all software up to date, including your operating systems, browsers and apps.
- Strengthen your logins by ensuring you're using complex and unique passwords for your online accounts and have enabled multi-factor authentication whenever available.
- Use tighter privacy settings with your social media accounts and assume that everything you post online could be made public.
- Limit app permissions and be selective about granting access to information such as your photos, locations, contacts, etc.

Visit the Cybersecurity Infrastructure and Security Agency (CISA) [website](#) for additional tips.



PRIA Extends Sincere Thanks to the Annual Conference Sponsors

PRIA has posted a public thank you to all 2021 Annual Conference sponsoring companies. A group of recorders who attended the conference, either in-person or virtually, took a few minutes to let the sponsors know how much their support is appreciated.

View the sponsor thank you video [here](#).

Register for the October 28 Webinar

"The Essential Recorder: Communicating Your Value" is the topic for the Thursday, October 28, webinar scheduled for 3 p.m., Eastern Time. This webinar piggybacks on a breakout session from the 2021 Winter Symposium and features Amber Bougie, recorder, Hennepin Co., MN, and Scott Moore, Fidler Technologies.

Consider the value of your office to your constituents and the risks of not communicating that value. This session will address the best ways to assure the significance of your office is known and respected.

PRIA webinars are complimentary for members; non-members pay \$25, which can be applied to a PRIA membership during the month following the webinar.

To register for this webinar, click [here](#).

Registrations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis until all seats are filled.

Welcome New Members

PRIA welcomed 12 new members in September.

Government

Arenac County, Standish, MI
Dickenson County, Iron Mountain, MI
Floyd County, Charles City, IA
Grundy County, Morris, IL
Lake County, Madison, SD
Merrimack County, Concord, NH
Pennington County, Rapid City, SD

Tuscola County, Caro, MI
Wasco County, The Dalles, OR
Weber County, Ogden, UT

Business

Property Insight, Denver, CO
Software Management LLC, Lexington, KY

Total paid membership in PRIA as of September 30, 2021, is 522.

MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS 2021-22

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

CSC
eRecording Partners Network
ICE Mortgage Technology
Notarize Inc.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

American Land Title Association

PLATINUM

Kofile Technologies
Property Insight

GOLD MEMBERS

Black Knight - Ernst Fee Service
Computing System Innovations
Esri Inc.
Fidelity National Title Group
Nationwide Title Clearing
Wells Fargo
Westcor Land Title Insurance Co.

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Property Records Industry Association
coordinator@pria.us
919.459.2081

