

# PRIA LOCAL

SEPTEMBER 2021



## Recorder's Office Launches Subscription-Based Recording Notification Service

*excerpted from Clark County Nevada News Post 9/3/21*

The Clark County Recorder's Office announced that it will begin offering document filing notifications to the public via the Record Notification Service (RNS). RNS is a subscriber-driven tool/service. Members of the public can sign up for the service on the [Clark County Recorder's Office Website](#). After completing a few simple steps, subscribers will be enrolled to receive an email alert whenever a document is recorded on a specific property, name, or parcel number that may raise a concern, such as a mechanics lien or an IRS tax lien. Subscribers can quickly search on the Recorder's Office website and order a copy of the document that was recorded.

"Currently Las Vegas is in a growth mode and the Recorder's Office processes more than a million public documents annually," said Clark County Recorder Debbie Conway. "RNS is a tool designed to notify subscribers each time a document is recorded against a specific property, name, or parcel number. This service will be extremely beneficial to seniors who can be notified if something has been recorded against their property. Many people don't find out a lien has been placed on their property until they sell it because they aren't used to checking their property records." ([Read complete article.](#))



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## PRIA Local News

### [PRIA Local Co-chairs Gather at PRIA's Annual Conference:](#)

We filled three breakfast tables with co-chairs and Chapter participants from across the nation at [PRIA's Annual Conference in Milwaukee](#), and we even got a few new people interested in PRIA Local. We invite you to [contact](#) PRIA Local's National Coordinator (Carolyn Ableman) at any time to find out more about starting your own Chapter.

As Susan Kramer, PRIA Local's Government Co-chair (and [SE Minnesota PRIA Local Chapter's Secretary](#)) said many times at the conference, "It's so important that business and government colleagues meet together in their own locale." She and the other co-chairs shared many excellent stories about improved relations between colleagues by having ongoing PRIA Local Chapter meetings. If you're interested in talking to any of the existing [PRIA Local co-chairs](#), they would love to speak with you anytime.

### **PRIA Local Challenge:**

Just another reminder that we're still holding 2021's PRIA Local Challenge! Start (or re-start) a **PRIA Local Chapter** in your area. Hold at least one meeting in the remainder of 2021 and let us know how it goes. We'll give one **PRIA membership** for the 2021-22 year, to a non-member co-chair or other non-member chapter participant, just for initiating a PRIA Local Chapter in your area. We think you'll be delighted with the outcome and, of course, we hope you continue to meet. We will help you with a possible agenda, direct feedback from other Chapter co-chairs, all materials and even speakers and topic suggestions. Just **contact us** and we'll help you get started.

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### **New York City Exploring Blockchain to Reduce Deed Fraud**

*excerpted from **The Block** 8/15/21*

The New York City Department of Finance (DOF) plans to develop a blockchain proof-of-concept that would be able to detect and reduce cases of deed fraud. In cooperation with land administration company Medici Land Governance (MLG), the department will explore the feasibility of applying blockchain technology to the city's land records. DOF commissioner Sherif Soliman said: "Blockchain technology has the potential to revamp how property documents are recorded in New York City and help prevent deed fraud."

Records have been maintained by the city's Automated City Register Information System since 1966, but now MLG will simulate a similar service using half a million records on the blockchain. The project seeks to show blockchain's ability to improve security by reducing intentional and unnoticed fraud, limiting potential attack vectors and increasing transparency, MLG officials said in a press statement. If successful, the next stage of the project will see a pilot launch incorporating user testing and operational efficiency improvements. (**Read complete article.**)

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### **NARA Focuses on Expanding Access to Digital Records**

*excerpted from **FedTech** 8/30/21*

The future of federal government records is electronic, and the agency in charge of managing their collection has big plans to maximize agencies' access to them.

By Dec. 31, 2022, agencies need to transition their business processes and record keeping to a fully electronic environment. After that date, the National Archives and Records Administration will no longer accept paper records.

On Aug. 6, NARA released a draft of its 2022-2026 Strategic Plan and asked for comments from agencies and the public by Aug. 20. The plan lays out the agency's goals over the next five years and plots out its future as a manager of digital records widely accessible to the public.

"We are reaching beyond the traditional role of making records available for others to discover," the plan states. "We are instead making access happen by delivering increasing volumes of records to the American public online, using flexible tools and accessible resources that promote public participation. We are engaging with underserved communities to find opportunities to expand public participation and promote equity through our mission." (**Read complete article.**)

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### **Bureau of Indian Affairs Announces Land Records Regulations**

*excerpted from Red Lake Nation News 8/19/21*

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) announced the finalization of updates to regulations modernizing how it maintains titles to federal Indian trusts and restricted fee lands. Among other important modifications, the BIA's Land Title and Records Office (LTRO) now maintains title documents electronically with a framework for its continued operations and future electronic maintenance. The regulations were published in the Federal Register on August 16, 2021.

The LTRO maintains title documents for land the United States holds in trust or restricted fee status for American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes and individuals, similar to how counties and other local governments maintain title documents for fee land within local jurisdictions.

"One of the Bureau of Indian Affairs' most important jobs is the maintenance of records for all federal Indian trust and restricted fee lands, which, in itself, is a fundamental element of the federal trust responsibility to Tribal and individual American Indian and Alaska Native trust beneficiaries," said Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs Bryan Newland. "This final rule is better suited to ensuring these records are preserved and maintained properly for the benefit of current and future generations." ([Read complete article.](#))



### **Granicus Buys Public Records Technology Firm**

*excerpted from Government Technology 8/26/21*

The latest deal in the government technology space is bringing technology for fulfilling records requests under a broader banner of communications tools. Granicus, whose software helps governments better reach those citizens, is buying GovQA, whose technology focuses on public records and compliance workflows.

Granicus said the acquisition will end up boosting the strength of its Civic Engagement Platform tool, and further enable its clients in government to offer consistent and unified digital, automated services to communities. ([Read complete article.](#))

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### **Monroe County (WV) Online Services Takes it to the Head of the Pack**

*excerpted from WV Daily News 8/26/21*

The pandemic made it hard for everyone to conduct business as usual, but last year's shutdown gave Monroe County Clerk Donnie Evans, Chief Deputy Jeremy Meadows and staff quiet time in the office to think about the document transactions that don't need to be handled face-to-face. They then got to work tailoring an internet-based system to make that happen.

Utilizing his degree in computer science, Meadows began making the county website more user-friendly, convenient and informative. The site monroecounty.gov provides a way to sign up to receive texts of real-time alerts, up-to-date news, upcoming events and to track important dates. Meadows also created a handy app to provide just about everything a county resident needs to stay informed.

The most recent project undertaken by the clerk's office was to utilize a \$5,000 grant from the West Virginia Records Management and Preservation Board and a \$5,000 match from the Monroe County Commission to scan and index deeds dating back to the 1920s.

"This means researchers can view and print these documents back to the 1920s without

having to handle the original books and pages,” Evans explained. “This will help preserve the original deed.” ([Read complete article.](#))

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## **ALTA NEWS - ALTA and Trade Groups Support Bill to Create CFPB Bipartisan Leadership Structure**

*excerpted from ALTA Advocacy Update, by Diane Tomb, ALTA CEO, 8/31/21*

ALTA joined 27 other trade groups in a letter to Rep. Blaine Luetkemeyer (R-Mo.) expressing support for H.R. 4773, the Consumer Financial Protection Commission Act.

The bill would replace the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau’s (CFPB) single director structure with a five-person, bipartisan commission. The bill is like bipartisan legislation previously introduced in Congress and supported by the financial services industry.

“A Senate-confirmed, bipartisan commission will provide a balanced and deliberative approach to supervision, regulation, and enforcement by encouraging input from all stakeholders. The current single director structure leads to uncertainty as administrations transition,” the groups said. “This uncertainty is not only borne by financial institutions providing significant lending services, but it negatively impacts America’s consumers, small businesses, and our local economies. Dramatic shifts in the CFPB’s philosophy and approach with each change in presidential administration make it difficult for lenders and small businesses to plan for the future.”

In 2017, ALTA commissioned a poll showing that most Americans support converting the CFPB's leadership to a bipartisan commission. Morning Consult found that three in five voters said a commission would lead to consumer protections that are fairer, more accountable, more representative and more transparent. The poll, which found that just fourteen percent said the CFPB should keep its current structure, shows that consumers support structural changes at the bureau.

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## **Any Other Topics You'd Like to See in the PRIA Local Newsletter? Please Contact us Anytime**

**PRIA Local Coordinator - Carolyn Ableman**

**PRIA Local Business Co-chair - Elizabeth Blosser**

**PRIA Local Government Co-chair - Susan Kramer**

**PRIA Local LinkedIn**

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