THE JOHN O’SULLIVAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Sacramento Valley Paralegal Association (SVPA) is thrilled to once again sponsor the John O’Sullivan Memorial Scholarship. This year, the SVPA will be awarding three scholarship(s) which will consist of one $750.00, one $500.00 and one $250.00 award. The scholarship(s) will be awarded to persons pursuing paralegal or legal assistant training pursuant to California Business and Professions Code § 6450. In addition, a one-year student membership to SVPA will be awarded to each scholarship recipient running from November 11, 2017 through December 31, 2018.

About John

John O’Sullivan was an attorney with the Office of the California State Attorney General, who was very supportive of paralegals and the paralegal profession. He was also an active advocate for the Sacramento Valley Paralegal Association. In addition to his duties with the AG’s office, John supervised the Paralegal Training program at MTI College of Business and Technology. He was also an Adjunct Professor at American River College. His enthusiasm for our profession was contagious. After his death, the SVPA Board chose to honor John’s memory by naming our scholarship after him.

Requirements

The John O’Sullivan Memorial Scholarship is open to persons who are currently attending a college-level paralegal or legal assisting degree or certificate program. The scholarship is to be applied toward tuition; therefore, the checks will be made payable to the scholarship recipient and the recipient’s legal education institution.

Award of the scholarship(s) will be based on consideration of the following:

• The applicant’s school record;
• The applicant’s community activities;
• The applicant’s college activities and honors;
• Appropriateness, clarity, professionalism and realism of applicant’s short answers.
Applicant Information

Applicant Name: ________________________________________________________________
Street Address: ________________________________________________________________
City, State, Zip: ________________________________________________________________
Email: __________________________________________________________________________
Telephone: _______________________________________________________________________

School Information

School Attending: ______________________________________________________________
Start Date: _______________________________________________________________________
Expected Graduation: ____________________________________________________________

How have you assumed personal responsibility for financing your legal education?
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

What efforts have you taken to become an active participant in the legal community?
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

Honors:
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

Extracurricular Activities:
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
Short Answer, True/False, and Multiple Choice Questions

Your answers must be typed, 12 point font, double spaced and in “Legal Memorandum Format”. Please submit your answers (5 page maximum) to the following questions.

1. Why have you chosen to pursue a career in the legal field?

2. What special abilities or life skills do you have that will be valuable in your legal career?

3. You have a motion to file and serve in Sacramento County Superior Court. Your hearing date is 20 calendar days from today. Pursuant to the California Rules of Court and the California Code of Civil Procedure, describe the process using each of the following service methods: personal service, U.S. Mail, FedEx, e-service, and facsimile.

4. Calendar errors are the number one cause of malpractice lawsuits? True or False

5. Define a “master calendar,” explaining how it is implemented and its benefits.

6. Time is computed by excluding the last day, and including the first day, unless the first day is a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, and then it is also excluded? True or False

7. Per CCP, a Plaintiff must wait 10 days after the service of their complaint to serve written discovery upon the Defendant? True or False

8. How many days after service of a complaint must an answer be filed in Sacramento County Superior Court? How much does it cost?

9. Motions to compel further responses must be made with 30 days after the verified responses are served. True or False

10. Absent agreement of the parties or court order, discovery not related to expert witnesses must be completed by the “discovery cut-off date” -- on or before how many days prior to the initial trial date?

11. How many days before the initial case management conference must parties meet and confer?

12. The last day to file and serve a case management statement is no more than 30 days and no less than 10 days before each case management conference. True or False

To be considered for the John O’Sullivan Memorial Scholarship, your completed application, legal memorandum, proof of enrollment and transcripts must be received by October 2, 2017. Incomplete applications will not be eligible for consideration. Send the required documents in PDF format by e-mail to svpaeducation@gmail.com. The scholarship recipients will be notified by October 31, 2017 and will also be awarded and publicly recognized at SVPA’s Annual “Pay It Forward” Student Event on November 11, 2017.