

# **eNEWS | DECEMBER 2021**



### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

# Ken Hastings | CALSPro President

Well fellow CALSPro members, it has finally happened. After years of struggling to end up in the black during the pandemic, CALSPro and the Board of Directors has finally done something that hasn't been accomplished during my time in CALSPro if ever. The Board of Directors has passed an unbalanced budget.

The budget that was passed by the Board of Directors is a true reflection of the state of financial affairs that the association faces today and in 2022. Recently we faced an \$18,000+ shortfall regarding the 2021 budget. In an effort to show the membership and the rest of the process servers and photocopiers that the board of directors believes in CALSPro, drastic action was taken on December 4, 2021. The Board of Directors and others in attendance donated more than the \$18,000 to make up for the 2021 deficit. These individuals and companies deserve acknowledgement even if they don't want it (see meeting minutes from 12/4/21 for attendees).

So that closes the book on 2021, thanks to a few individuals and companies shouldering the burden for the rest of us. We all know, that shouldn't be the way it works though. Every member, and non-member for that matter, should share in the responsibility that keeps CALSPro in the fight. The one organization that has been in the fight for this industry for over more than 50+ years. The one organization that continues to fight for all process servers and photocopiers regardless of membership status.

To those that continually contribute financially and by donating their time to the fight, my sincere appreciation and admiration. To those that ride the coattails of the aforementioned I ask, is this how you want to be seen and remembered? If the answer is yes that is truly a shame. The shame comes from knowing that you or your businesses are missing out on the greatest opportunities. Opportunities to contribute, receive education, network and participate in active legislation. But even more beneficial, to me, is the comradery and friendships. I am a far more successful businessman and leader because of the mentoring and knowledge that CALSPro and its members have shared with me.

On the horizon, however, is a new chance for everyone. We head into 2022 with previously mentioned unbalanced budget. CALSPro and its members must cover a projected \$13,000+ loss. This should not be looked at as hopeless but should be looked at as an opportunity. Opportunity for those who have shown their commitment to CALSPro and the industry to continue to do so. Opportunity for those that have been sitting back and watching from the dugout to step up to the plate. CALSPro and the Board of Directors will find a way to make up this deficit. However, you can participate and alleviate this burden.

So how do we get out of this situation? The answer will truly come down to either a continued increase in membership dues or a whole new dues structure. Several companies and individuals came together during the strategic planning sessions a few years back. We, as a group, decided to lower dues in the hopes that it would encourage more non-members to join. We changed the membership categories and made serious changes to try and be more inclusive and open. While not a failure, projections did not come to complete fruition (pandemics don't help).

Reevaluation is necessary at this time. That is why I am putting together a "Blue Ribbon Committee." This committee will be comprised of large and small companies and will be represented by process service and photocopy members. It is my goal that this committee will reach out to the membership for answers to several questions and come back to the Board of Directors meeting in March or July at the latest with a way that keeps CALSPro's books in the black for the foreseeable future. So, with that said, I call on every industry individual and company to come together and get on board. Participate, donate and get involved for the greater good.

I hope I can count on you for your support.

Sincerely,

Ken Hastings | CALSPro President

Lt Jan Hasty

## A & A Legal Service, Inc. says goodbye to an old friend

By Bobbie Anderson | Owner A & A Legal Service

A & A Legal Service opened its doors in 1978 and was established by Paul and Bobbie Anderson. Since that time, the company has been through a number of evolutions. One of which involved the help and assistance of Wallace Levin who passed away in July of 2021 at the age of 91. Wally was an investigator who took the reins of ABC Legal Service in San Francisco, CA, from Bert Rosenthal who is the namesake of the highest award offered by the California Association of Legal Support Professionals. ABC was the first attorney support company in Northern California. Wally worked as an investigator and owned and managed ABC Legal for a number of years. He spent years working with CAPPS (now known as CALSPro) in many capacities, one of which was the area governor. Paul, who was also very active in CAPPS, worked with Wally through that organization. It was in his capacity as Area Governor that I first worked with Wally. He chose to turn that position over to me. Therefore, when Wally felt it was time to take partners, he reached out. At that point, Wally began working with A & A Legal Service and could often be seen at the San Mateo County Superior court filing cases and making small talk. He stood out as a representative of A & A Legal Service and ABC Legal by always wearing a suit and a smile. Many of our longtime clients might remember Wally coming into the office and picking up assignments. His mentorship helped guide Paul through the steps of becoming a private investigator. After a number of years and eventually completely turning ABC Legal over to A & A Legal which became the parent company, Wally went back to work for the City Attorney's office in San Francisco. Most people at his time in life would have chosen retirement but Wally did not choose that route. When Wally finally retired from his position with the city, he was 86 and the oldest San Francisco employee on record.

However, as is often the case when someone passes, you realize that their life had very little to do with their work. Even with his long work record, this is especially true about Wally. He was devoted to his wife, his two children and grandson. Wally and his wife Arlene were married for 64 years. When he wasn't with her, he talked about her. Wally chose to cut back on his business activities when he asked to merge with A & A Legal so that he could spend time with Arlene who was ill at the time. Wally was born and raised in San Francisco and was fiercely proud of his background and legacy. His parents were also San Francisco natives. Following the 1906 San Francisco earthquake, Wally's grandparents founded one of the premier movie theater chains in the city. Many people may even recognize the former theaters today such as the Embassy on West Portal or the old Alhambra on Polk Street. As a young man, Wally attended school in San Francisco and college nearby at College of

Pacific, then he joined the military. It was his affiliation with the military that turned into his passion. Wally became a longtime member of the Regional Board and Civil Rights Committee of the Anti-Defamation League where he consulted about matters dealing with veteran rights. Wally was relentless in his support of veterans. He spent the rest of his life working to ensure that veterans were not forgotten regardless of economic status or race. One of the projects of which Wally was very proud was his work to rename the section of street passing through Golden Gate Park and entering the Presidio to Veteran's Blvd. During the time Wally worked with A & A Legal, he would often come in to the office and talk about the effort he was putting forth in order to organize the yearly Veteran's Day or Memorial Day parade. His dedication in that regard will be sorely missed.

For a number of years after Wally left A & A Legal Service and went to work as an investigator at the City Attorney's office in San Francisco, he would call to chat. We occasionally met for lunch with promises to keep closer in touch. The last lunch was prior to the pandemic. It wasn't until a few weeks ago that Paul and I learned of his passing. Because of Wally's history with A & A Legal Service and his instrumental help in opening the investigative side of the company, it is my belief that a statement of appreciation needs to be made. Most of all, during this time in our country, I think Wally's dedication to loved ones, veterans and his community are a rare thing that we need to acknowledge.

More stories about Wallace Levin and his work in Veteran's organizations can be found: <u>HERE, HERE</u> & <u>HERE</u>.

## **Interested in Becoming A CCPS?**

(CALSPro Certified Process Server)

... or just need to renew your certification or fine tune your serving skills?

WATCH FOR INFORMATION ON OUR NEXT WORKSHOP





# Canines & Process Servers Dog Etiquette in the Field

Stepping onto a dog's turf is a common occurrence for process servers. Do you know how to act in these potentially dangerous situations? Dogs bite when they feel threatened, challenged, or uncertain. Dogs are territorial, so most bites happen when protecting their food, puppies, or toys. Dogs are also known to bite when startled. The purpose of this article is to provide process servers with a guide for facing dogs on the job.

First, be methodical and evaluate every new property you are visiting. Some common signs of a dog are a well-worn yard or a BEWARE OF DOG sign. If you see a dog that appears good-natured, then slowly hold out your hand, fingers closed with your palm down. Permit the dog to move towards your hand and smell it. If it wants your affection, it will lower its head, perk its ears, or approach you. If feasible, pat the dog on the top of the head or along the back. Avoid touching the belly, ears, feet, or tail. Even if you are uneasy, refrain from smiling! It will not put the dog at ease. A dog who does not know you may take smiling as a sign of aggression because you are baring your teeth.

If a dog is growling or barking, DO NOT attempt to outrun the dog to finish your serve. The dog will follow you and most likely win the race. The best thing to do is back away slowly while still facing the beast. Avoid looking the dog in the eye because direct eye contact is often mistaken for a challenge. Do not attempt to pet an aggressive dog. It could jump up and bite you. If a dog attack is inescapable, then use dog repellent spray. I suggest always having dog spray on hand. Spray the repellent directly into the eyes, mouth, and nose of an attacking dog. Most spray repellants are effective as far as ten feet.

If attacked by a dog and the bite is severe, call 911. Otherwise, wash the wound thoroughly with soapy water. Call a medical professional immediately if the bite wound is painful or looks infected. When possible, ask the owner about the rabies vaccination status of the dog that bit you. Lastly, report the bite to your local authorities and animal control.

#### **IMPORTANT DATES:**

#### **Upcoming California Judicial Holidays for the Remainder of 2021:**

12/24/2021: Christmas Day

12/31/2021: New Year's Day (2022)

#### **COURT ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

#### Riverside

Riverside has postponed its official mandatory date for civil eFiling to January 1, 2022. Pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure \$1010.6 and the California Rules of Court, rule 2.253(b)(2), the Civil Division of the Riverside Superior Court is implementing electronic filing (eFiling).

The implementation schedule for civil eFiling is as follows:

	Optional	Mandatory
Unlimited Civil, including Complex	July 1, 2021	January 1, 2022
Limited Civil	July 1, 2021	January 1, 2022
Unlawful Detainers	July 1, 2021	January 1, 2022
Small Claims	July 1, 2021	January 1, 2022

#### Alameda

Pursuant to Local Rule 3.27 the civil division is implementing mandatory electronic filing (e-filing) for attorneys and providing the option of e-filing for self-represented Litigants. Attorneys may elect to begin e-filing as of the dates shown below.

The implementation schedule for civil eFiling is as follows:

	Voluntary	Mandatory
Unlimited Civil	October 12, 2021	January 1, 2022
Limited Civil	October 12, 2021	January 1, 2022
Civil Complex	October 12, 2021	January 1, 2022
Unlawful Detainers	October 12, 2021	January 1, 2022
Small Claims	October 12, 2021	January 1, 2022



Dues renewal notifications have been sent out (via email). If you haven't renewed please log into calspro.org members only, go into your profile and renew today!



#### **Contact Info:**

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