



Legal Assistant Today: The Magazine for the Paralegal Profession

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Press Release

***Legal Assistant Today* Announces its 2008 Paralegal of the Year Award Winner and Two Runners-up**

August 25, 2008 (Costa Mesa, Calif.) — The editors and staff of *Legal Assistant Today* are proud to announce that **Mary Willard, CLA, CLAS, NCCP**, has received *LAT*'s 2008 Paralegal of the Year Award, sponsored by Case and Point by Corporate Legal Solutions. Willard, who has been a paralegal for 18 years and works as a vice president/senior paralegal for Bank of America in Charlotte, N.C., was selected by the magazine's editorial advisory board as this year's winner for her outstanding work, leadership and dedication to the paralegal profession and her peers.

As this year's winner, Willard will receive a \$1,000 check and a commemorative plaque. She also will receive a 1-year subscription to *LAT* — the only independent magazine covering the paralegal profession.

LAT also congratulates the two runners-up for the Paralegal of the Year Award — **Kristine M. Custodio, CP**, and **Cassandra Oliver, CLA, ACP**. Custodio worked her way up from file clerk to litigation paralegal at Butterfield Schechter in San Diego, Calif., while Oliver has been a paralegal for 20 years and is currently a senior paralegal at The Williams Companies, Inc., in Tulsa, Okla. Both Custodio and Oliver will receive commemorative plaques in recognition of their distinct contributions to the continued growth of the profession and free 1-year subscriptions to *LAT*.

To learn more about Willard, Custodio and Oliver, as well as our esteemed editorial advisory board that chose them, check out *LAT*'s September/October 2008 issue. Inside, you will find feature stories such as "Welcome...Or Not?," which explores paralegal membership in state bar associations and includes a state bar membership guide, as well as an informative piece on how to protect inheritance assets using shifting clause provisions and an article including easily modifiable Microsoft Word forms on preparing for discovery from the defense. This issue also offers a look at the American Association for Justice's paralegal of the year, military paralegals who have won top honors and the latest paralegal news and trends. Also, don't miss *LAT*'s newest regular column, Ask the Listserv, as well as some of our most popular columns, including Legal Research and Creative Computing.

LAT subscribers receive this annual issue in their subscription package. For subscription information, call (800) 394-2626, visit www.legalassistanttoday.com or e-mail customer-service@jamespublishing.com. To purchase only the September/October 2008 issue, contact Robin Mechem at (714) 755-5457.

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Legal Assistant Today strives to offer unbiased news, practical tips, career advice, and substantive how-to, analysis and personality feature stories pertinent to the paralegal community. The *LAT* editorial advisory board is an independent group of talented and established paralegals and educators from throughout the United States and Canada who regularly provide input to the editors on the magazine's content, and annually select the Paralegal of the Year. For more information, visit www.legalassistanttoday.com.

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