



The Philadelphia Association of Paralegals

A Charter Member of the National Federation of Paralegal Associations

PO Box 59198, Philadelphia, PA 19102-9198

☎ 215-255-8405

FAX: 215-255-8412

PhilaParalegals.com

PhilaParalegals@verizon.net

2013 Joan M. Weldon Memorial Scholarship

About Joan

Joan Weldon was an active member of The Philadelphia Association of Paralegals (PAP) advocating on behalf of paralegals everywhere. She was elected President of PAP in 1991 and was instrumental in forming an alliance with the Philadelphia Bar Association.

Unfortunately, Joan was diagnosed with ovarian cancer towards the end of her presidency. As a testament to her character, she continued to work as a paralegal for Blank, Rome, Comisky & McCauley while undergoing treatment. In an effort to save her life, Joan's doctors recommended bone marrow and stem cell transplant procedures. However, her insurance carrier denied payment of the bills claiming the treatment was too experimental.



As a result, the legal community jumped into action. Members of the Association, other paralegals and Joan's employers initiated a media blitz to raise funds for her expensive medical care. She appeared on Wally Kennedy's morning show and an article was published in the Philadelphia Inquirer by acclaimed author, Steve Lopez ("*The Soloist*"). Within 2 weeks, approximately \$80,000 was raised.

The insurance company reevaluated its decision and ultimately paid Joan's medical bills. The donations were placed into the Paralegal Medical Assistance Fund to help other Philadelphia paralegals with burdensome medical expenses.

Sadly, Joan passed away on Christmas Day in 1994. Although she is still sorely missed, the annual Joan Weldon Memorial Scholarship lives on in her memory.

About the JWM Scholarship

The Joan Weldon Memorial Scholarship is an annual \$1,000 award, from The Philadelphia Association of Paralegals, given to a paralegal student demonstrating academic excellence. The winner is selected by members of the Professional Development Committee. The award is presented at the Association's Quarterly Luncheon in July.

Applications are available on the Association's website as of February 1, 2013. **All applications must be postmarked by June 7, 2013.** Certain restrictions and requirements apply. See Instruction Sheet for details.



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2013 Joan M. Weldon Memorial Scholarship (APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS)

Who is Eligible: Students demonstrating academic excellence while enrolled in a paralegal studies program within the Delaware Valley area. PAP membership is not required.

Scholarship Amount: \$1,000.00 (Proceeds made payable to the student)

Instructions: (3 page *maximum*; double spaced; 12 pt font; Times New Roman/Arial ONLY)

1. Submit an essay incorporating at least one (1) of the following topics:
 - a. Why, as part of a paralegal career, you should join and participate in your professional paralegal association? Why is it important?
 - b. Looking ahead, discuss the future of the paralegal profession.
 - c. Why is continuing education important?

NOTE: Be sure to include statements about your academic success, work/internship experience. Community service is a plus, but not required. Include your participation in The Philadelphia Association of Paralegals, if any.

2. Complete the attached Contact Information/Certification of Attendance Form and return it with your essay.
3. **OPTIONAL:** Submit one (1) letter of recommendation confirming your participation in a community service activity. *If submitted, official letterhead required.*

Submission Deadline: All applications must *be postmarked by* Friday, June 7, 2013. No exceptions!

MAIL APPLICATIONS TO: Professional Development Committee
Attn: JW Scholarship
The Philadelphia Association of Paralegals
P.O. Box 59198
Philadelphia, PA 19102-9198

NOTE: *To be considered, all criteria must be met. A representative from the Professional Development Committee will notify the winner via regular mail, email and/or telephone. Failure to respond to the award notification within five (5) business days will automatically forfeit the award.*

Direct all questions to the PAP office at 215.255.8405 or philaparalegals@verizon.net.



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2013 JOAN WELDON SCHOLARSHIP (CERTIFICATION OF ATTENDANCE AND ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE)

A. To Be Completed By Student - Please Print Legibly

Student's Name: _____

Student's Home Phone No.: _____

Student's Work Phone No.: _____

Student's Cell Phone No.: _____

Student's E-Mail: _____

Student's Home Address: _____

Name of School: _____

B. To Be Completed By School Administrator

This will certify that _____ is a student in good standing,
(Student's Name)

currently enrolled in and attending the _____ school
(Name of School)

or paralegal certificate program offered by our institution. The student has a current
grade point average of _____.
(GPA)

Signature of School Administrator

Date

PRINTED NAME

Title of School Administrator

Telephone No.

Email Address



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2013 JOAN WELDON SCHOLARSHIP **FINAL CHECKLIST**

- Answered at least ONE (1) of the Questions
- Proofread for Length, Formatting, Spelling, Grammar, Content & Professionalism
- Enclose the Completed Certificate of Attendance & Academic Excellence Form
- OPTIONAL:** Enclose At Least One (1) Letter of Recommendation on Official Letterhead
- Mail Form Before *the June 7, 2013 Deadline To:*

Professional Development Committee
Attn: JW Scholarship
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