

Gateway Chapter

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

1. Name: _____
Title: _____

2. Employer: _____ Main Phone: _____
 _____ Direct Dial: _____
 _____ Fax: _____
 _____ E-mail: _____
 Website: _____

3. Are you the principal administrator of the organization? Yes No
 If not, what are your primary areas of responsibility:
 Finance Office Services HR/Personnel IT/Technical
 Other (describe) _____

4. Number of years in this position? _____ 5. Number of years in legal administration? _____

6. Check the most appropriate description of your employer:
 Private Law Office Corporate Law Dept. Governmental Legal Agency
 Other (describe) _____

7. Indicate the following:

	St. Louis Area	Firm-Wide
Number of lawyers	_____	_____
Number of paralegals	_____	_____
Number of all other support staff	_____	_____
Number of offices	_____	_____

8. Name of Managing Partner / Executive Committee Chair: _____

9. Are you currently a member of ALA International? Yes No
You must be a member of ALA International to be eligible for membership at the local level.

10. Home Address: _____
 Home Phone: _____
 Home E-mail: _____

11. Meeting topics of interest to you: _____

12. Would you serve on the Executive Board or a Committee? Yes No
 Would you be willing to help us with special projects or mailings? Yes No

Thank you for your interest in ALA. Please complete this application and return it with your check payable to the Gateway Chapter of the Association of Legal Administrators at the above address.

_____ Date _____ Signature of Applicant

Select the appropriate dues amount:

- If applying January 1 - June 30 \$100.00 (includes cost of *regular* chapter meetings)
- If applying July 1 - October 31 \$75.00 (includes cost of *regular* chapter meetings)
- If applying November 1 - December 31 \$100.00 (includes dues for the following year)

ARTICLE III
MEMBERSHIP: CRITERIA AND CLASSES

Membership in the Chapter shall be comprised primarily of individuals engaged on a full-time basis in the management of legal organizations, as defined below, and shall consist of Regular and Associate Members as defined and provided for in these bylaws.

Membership in the Chapter is not open to consultants and business partners, as defined below, who are engaged by legal organizations.

1. **REGULAR MEMBERS.** Regular membership in the Chapter is limited to:

- (a) Legal administrators, regardless of the title by which that individual is recognized within his or her organization, engaged in the management of a legal organization. "Legal administrators" are persons who (i) exercise management responsibilities on a full-time basis or, if not full-time, devote at least 75% of their working time to performing the management responsibilities of their position; (ii) manage others or manage an important function that renders high-level technical or other specialized services to the organization; (iii) occupy a position that involves the exercise of independent judgment without close daily supervision; and (iv) are employed in a position that is or is eligible to be classified as exempt, by one or more "legal organizations" - such as a private law firm, legal service clinic, corporate legal department, college or university legal department, governmental legal agency, court system, charitable legal agency, or some other organization that is primarily engaged in the practice of law. Eligible persons may perform all relevant management duties personally or, in the case of the delegation of such duties to subordinate staff or the contracting of any such duties to third parties, must retain responsibility for those duties.

In general, a "legal administrator" is either (i) the principal administrator in the organization, (ii) the administrator/manager of a branch office of the organization, or (iii) someone who reports directly to the principal administrator or branch administrator and has responsibility for one or more of the organization's major functional management or administrative areas such as: General Management; Financial Management; Human Resources Management; Systems Management; Facilities Management; Marketing or Business Development Management; Practice Management; Management of Training and Development Activities; Staff Supervision and Management; and Management of Lawyer Recruiting activities.
- (b) Practicing lawyers who have the principal lawyer executive management responsibility in their legal organization and who devote no less than 75% of their working time to that responsibility and function. Individuals potentially meeting this criteria would include the managing partner of a private law firm or the chair of a law firm executive committee; the General Counsel in a corporate legal department; and the head of a governmental agency legal department such as a state Deputy Attorney General with agency administration responsibilities.
- (c) Unemployed legal administrators who are not serving as consultants or business partners and who have met the criteria for Regular membership are eligible to continue as Regular Members until expiration of a 180-day period measured from the date on which they are no longer employed as legal administrators. After the expiration of the 180-day period, unemployed legal administrators are eligible to continue as Associate Members and to renew as Associate Members (other eligibility requirements of Associate membership notwithstanding), provided such legal administrators are not serving as consultants or business partners and are actively seeking employment as a legal administrator.
- (d) Individuals who have been designated as "Life Members" by the Chapter Board of Directors. Life Members are those individuals who have rendered extraordinary service to the Chapter. Life Members have all the rights and privileges of Regular membership, but they are not required to pay dues. Those Life Members who are no longer employed as legal administrators and do not meet the criteria for Regular membership may not hold elective or appointive office but may serve as members of committees.
- (e) For purposes of membership eligibility, "consultant" is defined as: an individual whose primary service generally involves the sale of intellectual property or expert advice to legal organizations, and who engages with multiple and changing clients. A consultant provides expertise on specific issues or projects but does not perform ongoing day-to-day administrative functions.
- (f) For purposes of membership eligibility, a business partner is generally an individual (or member of an organization) whose primary function is to market or sell products and/or services to members of the legal community.

Regular Members have all the rights and privileges of membership, including (except as provided in Article III(1)D., above) the right to hold elective or appointive office.

2. **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS.** Associate membership in the Chapter shall be available to those individuals who are interested in legal administration and management, who do not meet the criteria for Regular membership, and who are either:

- (a) Practicing lawyers with an interest in law firm administration and management;
- (b) Individuals engaged in an ongoing employment-type relationship that involves providing continuing management services of the types described in Article III(1) A., above;
- (c) Retired Regular Members of the chapter who are not otherwise employed;
- (d) Unemployed legal administrators who have exhausted their eligibility for Regular membership but meet the requirements of Associate membership under Article III(1)C., above;
- (e) Teachers of business, organizational management, law or law-related disciplines at institutions of higher learning, as well as deans with administrative and management responsibilities at such institutions;
- (f) Students in business, management, law or law-related studies at institutions of higher learning;
- (g) Bar association executives with management responsibilities of the type described in Article III(1)A., above; or
- (h) Other individuals not specifically excluded from membership who have and demonstrate an interest in the management of law firms and other legal organizations, and who do not qualify for Regular membership in the Chapter.

Associate Members may not hold elective or appointive office in the Chapter. Other policies governing the participation of Associate Members in the Chapter, as well as the nature and extent of benefits accruing to Associate Members, shall be determined from time to time by the Chapter Board of Directors.
