

## The Chicago CLM'ers

### **Mr. Don Anderson**

Executive Director

[Crisham & Kubes, Ltd.](#)

[www.crishamlaw.com](http://www.crishamlaw.com)

"Taking and passing the CLM test has given me more confidence in my ability to excel in the world of law firm administration. Having the certification gives me an advantage in the marketplace that is needed in these tough economic times. It has allowed me to draw on what I've learned and apply it in every day situations we face as administrators. If you want to stand out from the crowd, take the challenge and prove to yourself and others that you have what it takes to contribute to a firm's success."

### **Mr. Mark A. Bridgeman, CLM**

CAO

[mabridgeman@alas.com](mailto:mabridgeman@alas.com)

### **Ms. Maureen E. Dohe CLM**

Office Manager

[med@pw-law.com](mailto:med@pw-law.com)

### **Mr. William F. Donehoo, CLM**

Firm Administrator

Cunningham Meyer & Vedrine, P.C.

[www.cmvlaw.com](http://www.cmvlaw.com)

I feel a sense of accomplishment and pride in completing and maintaining the requirements for the CLM designation. In mentoring the study groups in Chicago, and being a resource for CLM study groups in other chapters, I have continued to learn and stay current in an everchanging legal environment. Through the CLM program, I have expanded my realm of friends and have deepened my respect for those I have known for a longer time.

**Ms. Maureen T. Feltman CLM**

Business Manager  
Brady, Connolly & Masuda, P.C.  
[mfeltman@bcm-law.com](mailto:mfeltman@bcm-law.com)

The CLM experience for me as an adventure. By nature I am shy, thought the ALA members were better educated than me, and I could not compete in this category. However, during my meetings with the CLM candidates, I found administrators who were willing to share their knowledge and the most supportive group of individuals I could find.

I am proud that I took the journey and found Chciago ALA was a supportive group. The test did not prove whether or not I was a good Administrator just whether I was able to grasp the concept of some of the responsibility of an Adminstrator (which none of us felt related to our job).

**Ms. Marie Fiorito CLM**

Legal Administrator  
Levin Ginsburg, Ltd.  
[mfiorito@lgattorneys.com](mailto:mfiorito@lgattorneys.com)

It was a great experience! I pushed myself to a study level that I didn't think I could do. I encourage everyone to take the test. The knowledge I learned has helped in my everyday work life. There was such of sense of accomplishment that I just can not express. Taking the test gave me the confidence I knew I could do anything I put my mind to. As Administrators we are challenged everyday. This test lets you know you can take on anything you need to.

I was in a great study group, that was very supportive. The friendships I developed will never be forgotten. Remember your ALA friends are always there to support you.

**Ms. Susan M. Gerovasil**

Firm Administrator  
COPLAN & CRANE, L.L.C.  
[www.coplancrane.com](http://www.coplancrane.com)

**Mr. Charles Gurian CLM**

Chief Human Resources Officer  
Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione  
[cgurian@usebrinks.com](mailto:cgurian@usebrinks.com)

Good luck! Remember to breathe. And we're pulling for you.

**Ms. Cinthia LeGrand, Office Administrator**

CLeGrand@ebglaw.com

Epstein Becker & Green, P.C.

[www.ebglaw.com](http://www.ebglaw.com)

"Since passing the CLM, I can now say that the studying and taking of the CLM was a wonderful experience! While I was doing it, I felt overwhelmed and absolutely hated it. If it was not for my fantastic study group -- people who I had never met before and who have become life-long friends -- I can honestly say I don't know if I would have made it all the way to test day. I know fellow ALA members believe it is not worth the trouble getting the CLM, but it is. If, for nothing else, it is a great refresher and learning experience on all areas of what administrators do day in and day out. For another reason, it is a terrific feeling to have accomplished something which few have done. Finally, it can give additional accreditation to what you do and know as administrators. Like almost every administrator in ALA land, family and work commitments are a priority to me, but if I could carve out a night or a few hours on the weekend to study for the CLM and meet with a study group, I would encourage all other administrators to try to do the same."

**Ms. Carol A. McCallum CLM**

Administrator

Lewis, Overbeck & Furman, LLP

[cmccallum@lewisoverbeck.com](mailto:cmccallum@lewisoverbeck.com)

It's the journey to the CLM that means the most. The people who travel with you become more than friends and they will see you through it no matter how long it takes.

**Ms. Sally J. Mendoza CLM**

Office Administrator

BryceDowney, LLC

[smendoza@BryceDowney.com](mailto:smendoza@BryceDowney.com)

Just like many other journeys in our lives, each individual should weigh the pros and cons of working towards the CLM designation. For me, I was ready for the challenge and viewed it as an opportunity to renew and to grow. It was a lot of hard work, but overall a very positive experience, not the least of which was the reward of teaming up with an amazing study group.

**Ms. Patricia S. Morrow, CLM**

Office Manager  
Swanson, Martin & Bell, LLP  
[pmorrow@smbtrials.com](mailto:pmorrow@smbtrials.com)

“I consider studying for the CLM exam to be part of a lifelong learning program. The study process was a chance to test my knowledge in various areas of legal management. Passing the exam was validation that I can meet the challenges of a variety of responsibilities in a law firm. It was also a starting-off point for researching further into specific HR issues. “

**Ms. Jena Neisler CLM**

Director of Administration  
Sedgwick, Detert, Moran & Arnold LLP  
[jena.neisler@sdma.com](mailto:jena.neisler@sdma.com)

**Ms. Rita R. Nielsen CLM, PHR**

Director of Human Resources  
Wildman Harrold Allen & Dixon LLP  
[nielsen@wildmanharrold.com](mailto:nielsen@wildmanharrold.com)

The road to CLM certification is tough but well worth the reward of passing the test. It definitely has had a positive impact on my professional development and my career. I  
Wacker Drive  
Chicago, IL 60606-1229  
would encourage fellow ALA members to go for it!

**Ms. Mary Ann Rojas CLM**

Office Administrator  
Pugh, Jones, Johnson & Quandt P.C.

[mrojas@pjjq.com](mailto:mrojas@pjjq.com)

I can't tell you how many times in the course of my job I use the knowledge I gained from studying for the CLM. I still use some of the materials today when an issue comes up, or I pick the brain of someone in my study group. As an added bonus I didn't expect going in, our study group developed long term friendships that I really value. It's a win win situation! Good friends, additional knowledge, and an accomplishment we can be proud of!

**Mr. Steven D. Wingert, CLM**  
Executive Director  
Marshall Gerstein & Borun LLP  
swingert@marshallip.com

**Ms. Martie Eidson, CLM**  
Martie\_eidson2002@yahoo.com