

December, 2017

The NewsPAGR

Pennsylvania Association for Government Relations

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mark Richards, S.R.Wojdak & Associates



As we reach the end of 2017, I'm sure that we are all looking forward to a short break from the frenzied weeks this fall leading up to the conclusion of the 2017-18 budget. Hopefully the first half of this legislative session was successful for all of you. We at PAGR are excited by our successes as well.

First of all, we would like to thank all those who attended this year's Lobbypalooza. It was a very well attended event and presented much beneficial content. From a very compelling and entertaining legislative leadership staff and how to successfully survive Department of State regulations, to creating a valuable internship programs that benefits both the employer and the intern alike, we had a very successful day. If you attended and have not done so already, please give us your feedback. We would like to hear from you so that

we can make next year's event even more successful.

I also encourage all of you to make plans to attend the next PAGR membership meeting on Monday, December 4th at the Firehouse Restaurant. Our special guest will be Drew Crompton, Chief of Staff to Senate President Pro Tempore Joe Scarnati. Drew always offers a unique and unparalleled perspective on the current state of events in Harrisburg and we expect his presentation to be highly informative. The lunch will begin at 11:30 AM with the membership meeting starting at noon. As always, PAGR members with paid dues are free of charge, however, guests of PAGR members may attend for a \$30 fee. All must RSVP to info@pagr.org before December 2.

Finally, I would like to extend a big thank you to all of you for helping to make my first year as PAGR President a fun and exciting experience. I have learned much about our industry and look forward to working with all of you in the coming year to continue to grow PAGR.

Best wishes for a wonderful holiday season and I wish you a happy and prosperous 2018! ±

2018

Membership Meetings

Monday, February 5

Monday, April 9

Monday, June 4

Monday, October 1

Monday, December 3

Membership meetings are held 11:30 am—12:30 pm on the 3rd floor of the Firehouse Restaurant, Harrisburg.



**2108 Membership Dues
Coming Soon to your mailbox!**

Lobbypalooza 2017



Thank you to all who planned, sponsored and participated in Lobbypalooza 2017. The event, which was held at the Hilton Harrisburg on October 13, was a huge success.

Speakers included Caucus Leaders like Scott Sikorski, Ron Jumper, Karen Coates and Ali Thomas. A discussion on Multi-State, Corporate and Association lobbying was led by PAGR members Ted Mowatt, Peter Calcara and Pete Trufahnestock.

Following a networking lunch, Sherry Messimer, who recently left the Department of State, just started her company, Commonwealth Compliance Solutions, advise attendees on how to survive the Department of State. "Into the Weeds" described the many issues related to Medical Marijuana legalization. This panel consisted of Andrew Blasco of the PA Cannabis Coalition, Alex Harper of the PA Chamber of Business and Industry, John Martin, Esq of Pillar+Aught and Steve Schain, Esq., Hoban Law Group.

The last session of the day dealt with the Do's and Don'ts of Internship Programs. PAGR recently launched a page on our website dedicated to finding the best intern to fit your needs. This session included Mike Cassidy of Temple University, Sarah Copley of Greenlee Partners, Katie Rush from PennState and Kathy Speaker MacNett, Esq. of Skarlatos & Zonarich.

Thank you to our sponsors: Columbia Gas of Pennsylvania, PennPsy PAC, Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry and Pennsylvania Credit Union Association. And a huge thank you to our Lobbypalooza Planning Committee: Christine Corrigan, Katie Dotto, Judy Eschberger, Alex Halper, Christina Mihalik, Ted Mowatt, Mark Richards, and Pete Trufahnestock.

If you have ideas or are interested in helping to plan next years event, contact Christine Corrigan at info@pagr.org.

New Members

Amanda Boris
Wellington Strategies LLC

Kathleen Bruder
McNees Wallace & Nurick, LLC

Sara Callie
Capital Associates, Inc

Cindy Eckerd
PA School Boards Assn

Brent Ennis
PA Academy of Family Physicians

Kearline Jones
Health Partners Plans

Nick Kratz
Capital Associates, Inc

Rebecca Oyler
NFIB

Lindsay Scott
PA Coalition Against Rape

Kevin Shivers
NFIB

Michael Thomas
PA NewsMedia Assn

Meagan Thorpe
PA Food Merchants of Assn

Chad Trainer
PA AFL-CIO

Christine Young-Gertz
PA Apartment Assn—East

Meeting Notice

Monday December 4

11:30 am —12:30 pm

Firehouse Restaurant

Third Floor

606 N. Second Street • Harrisburg

Speaker:



J. Andrew Crompton

Chief of Staff and Counsel

Pennsylvania Senate Pro-Tempore

Joe Scarnati

ALL MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR 2017 DUES ARE FREE! ALL GUESTS OF MEMBERS WILL BE CHARGED \$30. PLEASE RSVP BY November 30 TO 717-939-1900 OR INFO@PAGR.ORG. THANK YOU.

Thank you for your support!

PAGR is better by having YOU as a member and YOU are better by being a member of PAGR!

2018 Board

Officers

President.....Mark Richards
Vice President.....Katie Dotto, Esq
Secretary.....Justin Fleming
Treasurer.....Ted Mowatt

Board of Directors

Association.....Mike Maguire
Corporate.....Peter Trufahnestock
Lawyer.....Judy Eschberger
Independent.....Mary Keenan
At Large.....Jaynine Warner
At Large.....Alex Halper

Immediate Past President

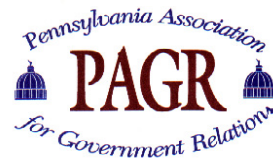
Christina Mihalik

Executive Director

Christine Corrigan

**Bolded positions need to be voted on*

MISSION STATEMENT



The mission statement of the Pennsylvania Association for Government Relations, Inc. (PAGR) is to promote the purpose and effectiveness of the lobbying profession consistent with the public interest. Further, association members encourage high standards of personal and professional conduct among all lobbyists. ☉