



NAHO NOTES

*Current news of interest for membership
National Association of Hearing Officials*

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LAUNCH OF NAHO NOTES

Beginning with this issue, the Editorial Board is pleased to bring you a new newsletter: *NAHO NOTES*. Published bimonthly, *Notes* will allow NAHO membership to stay more informed and involved than ever. We will continue to publish the longer, in-depth *NAHO NEWS* newsletter to which you're accustomed, but *Notes* aims to provide timely and important information about our professional organization in an easily digestible format. Our time and work is valuable, but so is our organization and professional development. *NAHO NOTES* will strive to maximize all of these things, and you should feel free to suggest how we can do that better.

DATES OF INTEREST

April 18, 2024 NAHO Section Day
May 16, 2024 NAHO Spring Online Mini Conference
May 31, 2024 Program for MN DHS
Dec. 3-5, 2024 NAHO Professional Development Conf.

CERTIFICATIONS

At the February 5, 2024 Board Meeting:
-Shanon Levin (PA) Initial certification CALJ
-Colleen Ulrich (GA) Recertification

At the March 4, 2024 Board Meeting:
-Kelli J. Kensill (IN) Initial certification CALJ
-Melvin Dean Suber (SC) Initial certification CHO

Congratulations!

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

As of March 28, 2024, NAHO active membership stands at 372, with 37 pending. Of the applications pending, 28 new and 3 renewing are from the state of Missouri!

EDITORIAL BOARD WELCOMES TANYA REYNOLDS

Joining the Editorial Board beginning this issue is Tanya Reynolds (MA). We introduced the other members in the December 2023 edition of *NAHO News* and are pleased to welcome Tanya to the team.

Tanya conducts hearings and write decisions in the Emergency Assistance Shelter Program for the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities ("EOHLC"). She began with the EOHLC legal department in the division of hearings as a paralegal in August 2017 and was promoted to her current position as hearing officer a year and a half later. Her involvement in diversity and inclusion for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has taught her the importance of minimizing unconscious biases and promoting a value of tolerance. As a hearing officer, Tanya recognizes that while the public wants their matters adjudicated, they most importantly want to be heard. Tanya also is a member of the NAACP and in her spare time, enjoys mentoring youth, traveling, and engaging in self-improvement.

THE NAHO NEWS EDITORIAL BOARD

JAN DESHAIS
JONATHAN HUBER
JIM JOHNSON
TANYA REYNOLDS
JENN UKERITIS

TODAY'S SURVEY

Every NAHO Notes will feature a link to a 2-3 question survey asking for serious input and then some fun. This month is a special survey to kick off this feature. Michael Trammel was a long-time member and Treasurer of NAHO, who passed away last year. He donated through his estate \$1,000 to NAHO, applied by the NAHO Board of Directors towards scholarships for NAHO members. The Editorial Board thought it would be interesting to get to know the man through stories and tidbits anyone in the membership remembers about him. Please take a few minutes to tell us something you remember about Michael Trammel so that we can pull the information into a short article about him for our next NAHO Newsletter. And then there are two yes or no questions for fun and science!

[Take the Survey](#)

CONFERENCE NEWS

The online NAHO Spring Mini-conference will be held on May 16, 2024 beginning at 11:45 a.m. ET, providing three hours of instruction. Additional information and registration may be found on the NAHO website.

NAHO will be hosting a six-hour continuing education program for the Minnesota Department of Human Services on May 31, 2024. Minnesota DHS contracted for the program, arranged by Toni Boone, Immediate Past President and Conference Chair, which also will include 2024 NAHO memberships for attendees.

Look for information on NAHO's December Annual Professional Development Conference in upcoming newsletters, emails and on the NAHO website.

SECTION NEWS

The first NAHO section meeting will be held on April 18, 2024. As of March 28, 136 members have signed up. Additional information about sections and the section meeting can be found in the April 10, 2024 email to membership and on the NAHO website.

REVIEW OF MARCH NAHO WEBINAR:

Maintaining Neutrality Under Difficult Circumstances: How Secondary Trauma Impacts Decision Making

Katherine Kwan MacDonald, presenter

Hearing officials are still required to be, amongst many other things, human beings. And for a very long time, individuals and organizations have added an expectation that hearing officials be emotionless neutrals not only during hearings, but as they contemplate their decisions. This antiquated view has been subjected to research and criticism in recent years. Judge Katherine Kwan MacDonald's webinar provides a useful overview of the role of emotions, discusses the costs of suppressing, and methods for managing emotions over the course of the hearing process. So, if you are a human being, work as a judge or a hearing official, and are occasionally pestered by either others' emotions or your own, then this webinar will be useful to you.

-Jonathan Huber

This webinar is available from [NAHO'S On Demand Library on NAHO's website](#).