

From Our Readers

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Alternative Dispute Resolution, April 2018

I'd like to offer kudos to Jane Michaels for a really good treatise on the arbitration process and particularly the need for articulate arbitration clauses in contracts. [See "Effective Advocacy in Arbitration," p. 26.] Though I've had an occasional arbitration practice for many years, I mostly teach the subject at Daniels College of Business, and as such I spend a fair amount of time with business students both on understanding the need to draft well-thought arbitration clauses in business contracts and being "street smart" when in an arbitration. The next time I re-do my text for the ADR course, I hope I can get copyright clearance to include Jane's article.

Jeff Bowen
Associate Teaching Professor
Daniels College of Business

Bar News Highlight, May 2018

Dear Ms. Klein:

In response to your article "What Do Paralegals Do?" published in the May edition, I wonder if it was an intentional effort by *Colorado Lawyer* to highlight diversity in the paralegal work force by featuring an article written by a Latino man—or was it yet another example of the male-dominated world of law? The 2016 U.S. Census shows that the total paralegal/legal assistant workforce at that time was 396,120

citizens, with 339,340 of them being female. Thus, 85.7% of legal support staff in the United States were women in 2016—and I would wager that statistic has changed very little over the last two years.

Yet your magazine published an article about this profession written by a man. Mr. Trujillo did not reference the wage differences apparent between men and women in the legal support staff profession—while men made up only 14.3% of the working paralegal population in 2016, they earned \$4,432 more than their female peers, who were, on average, 5.8 years older. (See <https://datausa.io/profile/soc/232011/#demographics>.)

While I congratulate Mr. Trujillo on his accomplishment of being a managing paralegal, I would remind the attorneys reading this article that it is most likely a woman doing "everything" for them, and that she deserves the same treatment—and pay—as her male colleagues.

Finally, I hope the fact that I have been a paralegal for 19 years and am submitting this letter anonymously—although I am proud of doing so, and believe in what I am saying—gives Colorado lawyers an insight into the fear of damage to our professional reputation, or worse, retaliation and blacklisting, that women experience when speaking out, even in the erudite field of law.

Sincerely,
S.

COURTROOM SPACE

The Colorado and Denver Bar Associations have secured space at the Denver City and County building in courtroom 117 for members' use as a practice space.

To reserve time email hfolker@cobar.org. A 24-hour notice is recommended. The courtroom is available weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Courtroom 117 is not available on Tuesdays and Thursdays and every third Wednesday of the month.

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