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Message From Your President

It has been a while since our last Newsletter, and much has occurred during the last few months. We had a Great World Workplace Conference in Dallas (see details in Holly's Article), we have an economic crisis to try and help our respective firms navigate our way through (see the meeting minutes from our most recent roundtable for ideas), and we have a new President. I told myself before writing this that I would not get into politics, but I will keep this simple. I am very proud of our nation, and am very privileged to have witnessed the vision of a great President like Abraham Lincoln come to full fruition in the election of a new President in Barack Obama. I am equally proud of the second district of my state, who recently elected Ahn "Joseph" Cao to US Congress (Cao is the first Congressman of Vietnamese decent). I hope and pray that these leaders and the many newly elected representatives will bring about the positive change that is needed at this time in our country. Since I am on the topic of politics and leadership, let me take a moment to encourage each and every one of you to get involved with the leadership of our Council. One of the most rewarding experiences I have had in my professional career has been serving on the board of the Legal Industry Council of IFMA. Many people in our profession do not get to sit in a position of leadership at the "C" or executive table. My experiences on this board have been invaluable to me in helping me grow as a professional. Let IFMA help you to experience the same growth with one of the fantastic Council leadership seminars that they offer. As our elections will be upcoming in May / June, please reach out and talk to any of the current board members and see what it takes to be involved.



The last 6 months has been very challenging and rewarding to me personally. With great help, I was able to successfully complete the firm wide installation of a new Voice Over IP phone system in September of 08, and am in the middle of a new office relocation project (54,000 RSF) in Baton Rouge that has really tested my skills and experience. The new office space is being constructed in a new building that has been erected directly next to our current primary building. The new space will give us an opportunity to consolidate our people into one new office from the two that they currently occupy. Most important to me, Phelps Dunbar LLP will be the first Law Firm office in Louisiana with a LEED Certified Interior (we are attempting a Gold Certification)!!!

This newsletter is a publication of the Legal Industry Council of IFMA. If you are receiving this newsletter it is because you are a member of the Legal Industry Council and the council board believes you will benefit from its content.



Message From Your President: continued

I thought I knew a good deal about sustainability. Was I ever wrong!!! I have learned so much during this exciting process. The single largest thing that I underestimated was the tremendous reception that we have received from all of our Attorneys and staff members. If your firm has not made the commitment to "GEAUX GREEN" (Cajun play on words), please consider it soon. Many things that you can implement actually can save you money.

Last, but not least, we are very excited to let everyone know that the Benchmarking Survey is nearing completion, and we are very hopeful to get this out to everyone in the next 60 days. More to come on this topic.....

Let me wrap up with a few pearls of wisdom for these trying times:

- Be **hopeful** rather than **hopeless**.
- Be **useful** rather than **useless**.
- Be **kind** rather than **unkind**.
- **Focus** your efforts and help those around you "**see**" so they too can focus on your vision.
- Be **dedicated** in all things that you do... because it **sets you apart** from the many people in today's world who are **not**.
- Go the extra mile (or two)... **exercise** is good for you!
- Set a good **example**... our **kids** are watching and boy are they ever observant!
- Stay **educated**... because you should either have the **answer**, or know where to get it before someone else does.
- **Speak up** when you have a good idea or know the answer... if not they will hire a consultant.....
- **Hug your significant other** every day... because you **both** need love
- If you don't have a significant other... **keep searching**, but in the meantime don't go hugging people in the office just because you need love :) (it will get you in trouble)
- **Don't panic!!!!** ...the best leaders never do!
- If you ever wanted to know why it is better to **lead** than to **follow**, ride a motorcycle with no visor for 100 miles behind an 18 wheeler loaded with **pigs** and **chickens**....
- Remember, investments are **long term**..... stop looking at your portfolio
- Turn **off** the news and spend time with your family..... your family can't possibly make you **smile** less.

Finally, **love** like there is no tomorrow, **spend** like you have a kid in college you have to pay for next year, **laugh** till it hurts on both sides, and **dance** like no one is watching.....

All my best.... Craig

FUTURE WORLD WORKPLACE CONFERENCE AND EVENTS

World Workplace - 2009 through 2011 Start Date End Date Location

2009 - World Workplace Conference and Expo October 7th October 9th Orlando, Florida USA
2010 - World Workplace Conference and Expo October 27th October 29th Atlanta, Georgia USA
2011 - World Workplace Conference and Expo October 26th October 28th Phoenix, Arizona USA

Legal Industry Council Newsletter



World Workplace in Dallas

The members who attended World Workplace in Dallas this year had a great time. We started with 10-12 of us getting together before the Keynote Address to review a draft of the Legal Industry Benchmarking Survey. This was a very interactive meeting, involving some new members, with great discussion that we believe will result in a very meaningful survey. The second part of the meeting focused on educational goals for the upcoming year. We were a little slow to start to think of ideas which would be beneficial for Roundtable Discussions, but once we started talking the ideas flowed and we ended up with a lot of potential topics. The board will define which topics will be Roundtable Discussions and which topics will be held for the Spring Industries Forum.

Many people from the Legal Industry Council gathered for lunch on Thursday, which was a nice break to the educational sessions that we each attended. That night we met at Daddy Jack's for dinner, which was located outside of downtown Dallas, allowing us an opportunity to see more of the city. As there were many chapter dinners that night not everyone was able to attend, but the ten people who did had a great time. The food was delicious and the conversation was relaxed and fun. After dinner, the cab rides to return us to downtown were adventurous and something we will probably all remember well!

As we have found over the years, the Legal Industry Council is comprised of a great group of people. The ideas shared are incredibly valuable and as we encounter the same challenges each day it's great to share stories with each other. There was a lot of excitement about the upcoming Spring Industries Forum, which will be held in Vancouver from March 31 through April 2, 2009. We hope that everyone will consider attending the Spring Industries Forum, which we believe will be the best event yet. Hope to see you in Vancouver!



About the LIC: The Legal Industry council shares information among FMs from law firms, corporate legal departments and academic legal departments. Discussions center on vendor issues, easier and more efficient ways to perform services, emerging technology, ADA, OSHA and other regulatory information.



Member Spotlight



Holly Evers is Director of Operations at Foley Hoag LLP, a Boston based firm with 225 lawyers serving regional, national and international clients. Holly started with the firm 23 years ago as secretary to the Director of Administration. Over the years she held various positions in the facilities department. In 2000 she was promoted to Director of Facilities and in 2006 to Director of Operations.

Holly is currently Secretary of the Legal Council. She began her volunteer work on Council activities after meeting other Council members at the 2007 Industries Forum in Atlanta. Holly has been instrumental in the development of the Council's forthcoming benchmarking survey.

What is one work related achievement of which you are particularly proud?

We relocated our offices in 2002. It was a four year project of intense planning with lots of details and organization. From the moment we selected the building two or three years in advance of the move we chose Memorial Day weekend, 2002, as our move date and we were able to meet it although post-construction vacuuming was still being done as we moved in. The project involved moving 500 people from one part of Boston to another. We started the move Friday at noon and worked around the clock until noon Monday. We opened for business Tuesday morning. I just loved the project for the entire four years; it was a lot of fun. When it was over I considered looking for a position as a move consultant but then I realized that much of what I loved about the project was the people at Foley Hoag.

What is one aspect of your personal life that you'd like people to know about?

I'm a very dedicated hockey mom of two boys, ages 10 and 11. If we're not at a hockey game on the weekend we're public skating with the family.

GREEN FACTS from MSN Green

- [US reliance on foreign oil would decrease by 40% if one in ten Americans used public transportation daily.](#)
- [Making PET bottles for water uses up 1.5 million barrels of crude oil, enough to fuel 100,000 American cars for a year.](#)
- [The average American throws away about 68 pounds of clothing and textiles per year.](#)

Source: <http://green.msn.com/>

Legal Industry Council Newsletter



IFMA Industries Forum 2009
March 31-April 2, 2009
[Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre](#)
Vancouver, B.C., Canada

[Register Today!](#)
[Hotel Deadline](#)—**March 6, 2009.**

The Legal Industry Council will be attending IFMA's third Industries Forum, an event geared toward IFMA council and community members and the issues and concerns specific to their varied areas of practice.

IFMA continuously strives to provide its members with opportunities to interact, share information and best practices, and build business relationships with industry colleagues.



IFMA Industries Forum 2009 Educational Sessions

Tuesday, March 31, 2009

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
All Councils & Communities Welcome Reception

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. All Councils & Communities Registration & Joint Breakfast
8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. All Councils & Communities Joint Opening General Session
9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Cost Reduction/Operational Efficiencies
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. All Councils & Communities Joint Lunch
1:00 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. What will the economy look like in the 2009 and the State of the Real Estate Market
2:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. All Councils & Communities Joint Networking Break
3:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Model Green Lease
6:00 p.m. Evening Council Group Dinners

Thursday, April 2, 2009

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. All Councils & Communities Registration & Joint Breakfast
8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Aggressive Space Management Tactics for Lawyers
9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. All Councils & Communities Joint Networking Break
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Vendor Negotiations/ Contract Negotiations
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. All Councils & Communities Joint Lunch
1:00 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. LEED Principles, ED Certification
2:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. All Councils & Communities Joint Networking Break
3:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Facility Tour: Vancouver Convention Center
6:00 p.m. Evening Council Group Dinners

Participating councils and communities include: Airport Facilities · Banking Institutions & Credit Unions · Corporate Facilities · Corporate Real Estate · FM Consultants · Hospitality FM & Engineering · Information Technology · Legal Industry · Manufacturing · Museum/Cultural Institutions · Public Sector · Restaurants & Food Service FM · Religious Facilities

You can find more details on our Web site: <http://www.ifma.org/learning/events/if09/>

For questions, please contact IFMA's council department: council@ifma.org.



Legal Industry Council—Online Community

TIPS FOR NAVIGATING:

After your first login, you must subscribe yourself to the council postings to activate email deliverability to all council postings, similar to the listserv. You are not automatically subscribed to email delivery.

1. Log in to <http://www.ifmacommunity.org>
2. Click on **Forums** on the top left menu tab
3. Click on **Forum Subscriptions** (located on the left hand side of the page, under Shortcuts)
4. You can then change the default setting from not receiving subscriptions to receive postings via email. Click under the **Subscription to "YES"** (to receive postings by email similar to the listserv) or **"NO"** (which means you will need to login to the IFMA Online Community to view the discussions) The subscription's default setting is "NO" in order to change it to "YES" simply click on the "NO".

TIPS FOR POSTING & REPLYING TO QUESTIONS:

1. To **reply** to emails that you receive, you can post your responses (just like the listserv).
2. If you would like to **post a new message/question** to the Legal Industry Council Online Community without having to login to IFMA Online Community, just send your email to this email address for your specific council, lc.council@ifmacommunity.org. This will allow for you to post and reply by email, similar to the listserv tool we were using.

Legal Industry Council Web site

Click here: <http://www.ifmalic.org/>

Check out the LIC Web site for the latest information on conferences, officers contacts and much more!

