



IFMA™ Legal Industry Council

International Facility Management Association



LIC Officers

President:
Joseph Geierman, CFM, FMP
Troutman Sanders LLP
Atlanta, GA
404-885-3557
joseph.geierman@troutmansanders.com

Past President:
Mike Lesage, CFM
Stoel Rives LLP
Portland, OR
503-294-9180
mlesage@stoel.com

Vice President:
Noel McNulty
Facilities Manager
Arnold & Porter LLP
San Francisco, CA
415-471-3198
Noel.McNulty@aporter.com

Treasurer:
Stephen Pasco
Manager of Operations
Nutter McClennen & Fish LLP
Boston, MA
617-439-2078
SPasco@nutter.com

Secretary:
Steven Rothmund
Office Services Manager
Sidley Austin LLP
Chicago, IL
312-456-5752
srothmund@sidley.com

Membership Chair:
Cynthia Dvorak, CFM
Sidley Austin LLP
Chicago, IL
312-853-7486
cdvorak@sidley.com

Newsletter Chair:
Charlene Fischer, CFM
Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP
Washington, WA
202-974-1964
cfischer@cgsh.com

Program Chair:
Craig Oakman, CFM
Phelps Dunbar LLP
New Orleans, LA
504-584-9369
oakmanc@phelps.com

Message from Your President

For a while now, IFMA has been warning us about the high number of Facility Management professionals who will be retiring over the next 5 years. When these people leave our industry, there may not be enough skilled workers to step in for them.

I'm not so concerned from a workplace standpoint. I believe that good people will find their ways into these roles that are opening up. What I'm more concerned about is that these new Facility Managers may not know about organizations like IFMA, or that there are resources available to connect them to their peers around the world. Those of us who are IFMA members lose out as well, because we don't get to hear about what these newcomers are doing or learn from their best practices.

One of the goals of the council this year is going to be to try to reach out to these new FM's, and also to engage "the next generation" at your own law firms. We are going to create materials that will allow you to show your firm real value for your membership, and encourage you to have your successors join and engage with the council as well.

I see my role as president of the Legal Industry Council as a steward. My main goal during my term is to strengthen the group and give it a strong foundation for the future. To that end, the LIC Board will be creating new marketing materials, and developing new programs for increasing our membership. We are also looking at ways to create a more valuable sponsorship program for vendors to the legal industry. If you want to help with any of these projects, please let me know by e-mailing me at joseph.geierman@troutmansanders.com or calling me at 404-885-3557.

Joseph Geierman
President, IFMA Legal Industry Council

Member Spotlight



Jennifer Clinton is the Office Services Manager with the prestigious law firm of Cassels Brock & Blackwell in Toronto, Canada. Jennifer started her career at Cassels Brock in 1991 as the Records Manager and fell into Facilities Management when assisting on a project to implement a new voice mail system within the firm. Jennifer gradually transitioned into Facilities fulltime undertaking space planning, moves, adds, changes and day-to-day operations. But it was a renovation project for additional space of 11,000 sf that finally hooked Jennifer on the profession. After a successful 6 years as the Office Services Coordinator,

Jennifer left Cassels Brock in 2000 to raise her two children only to return again in 2014. During Jennifer's career as a full-time Mom, she enrolled at Ryerson University and got her Certificate in Facilities Management as well as her Facilities Management Professional (FMP) designation from IFMA.

Facilities Project on Note

When building out the new office space of 11,000 sf for the Administration and Accounting teams in 1997, we took some design risks. We built smaller offices all the same size, added some curved walls as design features and painted them bold colors. Needless to say the change was not well received and we had to tear down and rebuild the walls straight, make a few "important" offices bigger and paint everything beige. Lessons learned: know your audience and engage the key stakeholders.

Please share something that will allow Council members to get to know you.

Jennifer loves golf, unfortunately in Toronto the golf season is too short. Jennifer is also passionate about travelling and now with the kids grown up she is planning an exciting family trip to Italy next summer.

WORLD WORKPLACE



Those of us who attended World Workplace in October had the opportunity to learn, to be inspired and to network. We attended substantive educational sessions, keynote addresses and council gatherings. The town of Denver was welcoming and with the spring like weather, we were able to spend our downtime making the most of it. As is always the case, our most educational, fun and memorable occasions were spent with Legal Industry Council members. The group consisted of some longtime members and others who have joined us more recently. Because our members are scattered throughout the United States and Canada, World

Workplace provides us with the opportunity to meet face to face, to get to know one another and to share knowledge and Facilities stories. Here's a photo of a group after a great dinner at the Blake Street Vault.

Left to right: Phyllis Medler, Ernie Casas, Carol Monzon, David Nugent, Brower Hannah, Holly Evers, Craig Oakman, Joseph Geierman, Cindy Dvorak, Charlene Fischer, Steve Rothmund

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Heather Vaughan Smith, Account Executive
heather.smith@wbmason.com
www.wbmason.com



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About the LIC: *The Legal Industry council shares information among FMs from law firms and legal departments in corporations, academic institutions and government agencies. Discussions center on topics such as space planning and utilization, creative office services, outsourcing, regulatory information, emerging technology and software solutions.*