

Name: Marcia Burris

Candidate for PLL Member at Large

Candidate's Statement:

I am honored to be a candidate for a position on the PLL Executive Board. As a member of PLL, I highly value the educational programs, networking opportunities and advocacy PLL provides on behalf of private law librarians. There are also positive changes happening these days within AALL, and I would love to join the PLL Board in building on the progress that has already been made.

Some of you may not know that my library career began when I took a part-time college job with a library filing service and discovered that I liked the law library better than my intended profession. As I neared graduation, I founded a library staffing and management service of my own, and over the course of that business I gained valuable experience in a wide variety of law firm and government libraries. Along the way I earned my MLIS at Berkeley, and after ten years of running my business in the San Francisco area, I relocated to South Carolina. Since then I have had the pleasure (and sometimes challenge) of managing the Ogletree Deakins Library while the firm has grown from 150 to over 700 attorneys in 45 offices.

I mention my background to highlight two points:

- Everyone starts somewhere and can grow if given opportunity. Let's create more opportunities for the next generation!
- Libraries are changing, as are our roles within our libraries and firms. Loose-leafs are still around, but for how long? Some of us are no longer called "librarians" and no longer work in "libraries."

The professional development of individual librarians, the status of librarians in our organizations, and the future of law librarianship are closely connected, and fundamentally dependent upon each other. PLL and AALL provide a great platform for us to address these needs, and I am optimistic about our future.

Over the past few years I have had the pleasure of working with colleagues on a number of committees in the PLL-SIS and in SEAALL and have found each experience rewarding. I am excited about the prospect of serving on the PLL Board, and would consider it a privilege to serve you.

And finally, I must say that no matter what we are called, Private Law Librarians are an impressive group!

Education:

MLIS, University of California, Berkeley, 1993
BA, San Francisco State University, 1990

Positions Held:

Ogletree Deakins Nash Smoak & Stewart, Greenville, SC
Librarian, 2001
Firm Library Manager, 2001-2004
Senior Manager, Firm Library Services, 2005-

Burris Library Associates, San Francisco, CA
Owner & Principal, (1990-2000)

Professional Association Activities:

American Association of Law Libraries
Member, 2001-present

AALL Private Law Libraries SIS Committees
Media and Public Relations Committee: Co-Chair, 2011-2013
Education, Summit Subcommittee: Co-Chair, 2013-

Southeastern Chapter, AALL (SEAALL)
Member 2001-present

Program Committee: Member, 2004-2005
Community Service Committee: Member, 2005-2007
Local Arrangements Committee: Member, 2010-2011
Program Committee: Member, 2011-2012

Special Libraries Association
Member, 2009-2010

Piedmont (SC) Library Association
Member, 2001-2005

Selected Presentations:

Coordinator and Co-presenter, “What You Don’t Know Can Hurt You: An Overview of Social Media Legal Issues and a Deep Dive into Social Media in the Workplace” at AALL Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, July 2012.

Co-presenter, “Reducing the Costs of Legal Research: Best Practices Onshore & Offshore”, emphasizing reduction of online costs through effective contract negotiation, at ILTA (International Legal Technology Association) 2009 Annual Meeting, Washington DC, August 2009.

Moderator, “What Lawyers Wish Librarians Knew About...” at SEAALL Annual Meeting, Montgomery, AL, April 2005.

Co-presenter, “Effective Management of Employees” at SEAALL Annual Meeting, Richmond, VA, March 2004.

Co-Presenter, “Technical Services and the Small Library” at SEAALL Annual Meeting, Fort Lauderdale, FL, April 2002.

Presenter and Moderator “Emergency Preparedness: Planning for the Unthinkable” at Piedmont Library Association Winter Meeting, Greenville SC, February 2002.