Information To Share With Support Staff...

Business Law and Paralegal Studies Offered at Suffolk County Community College

By Nancy Ellis, J.D.; M.B.A.; M.A.

SCBA members may wish to let their support staff members know about opportunities to gain new knowledge and skills, close to home, at Suffolk County Community College. The college offers courses in business law for students who are interested in pursuing a career in law, business, or accounting. Additionally, the Ammerman Campus in Selden and the Grant Campus in Brentwood offer law courses allowing students to earn an Associates Degree to complete the certificate program in Paralegal Studies. Students can select from a wide array of courses including: Business Law I and II, Law for Business. In addition, for Paralegal Studies students, offerings consist of: Introduction to Law, Introduction to Paralegal Studies, Civil Litigation, Real Property, Trusts and Estates, Legal Research, Corporation and Partnership Law, Domestic Relations, and Law Office Management. The Paralegal Studies program is ideally suited for working legal secretaries with evening and morning classes conveniently available. Faculty members are highly regarded in the legal community and include sitting judges including Judge Robert Doyle, practicing attorneys, and a rigorous advisory board chaired by Judge Farrell. The highest standards of educational quality are upheld by the Paralegal Studies program at Suffolk Community College and this is evidenced by the coveted distinction of American Bar Association accreditation. Many students complete the Paralegal Studies program ultimately go to law school. Others begin work as paralegals in local law practices. Paralegal Studies students complete internships and are afforded the opportunity to work in law practice prior to graduation. Lawyers who are interested in working with an intern should contact 451-4049 or 851-6876.

In addition, students are encouraged to participate in the Legal Society's Clubs and Legal Society and are invited to hear speakers (usually local attorneys who attend lunch meetings) and participate in field trips. This year the Legal Society visited Washington, D.C. and held oral arguments at the United States Supreme Court. This summer, students have been given the opportunity to travel abroad and complete a three credit course in International Law. This one month course will be presented in Rome Italy and will be taught by Professor Diane Bronik.

For information about the Paralegal Studies Program or to set up a meeting with a faculty advisor contact 851-6432 or email fliess@sunysuffolk.edu. In addition, the Admissions Department can be contacted at: 451-4026 or 451-6718.

Note: The writer is a newly inducted officer of the Academy of Law and will serve as co-chair of the SCBA's ADR Committee during the 2007-2008 administrative year. She is an associate professor at Suffolk Community.

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