California Association of Legal Support Professionals

Bert Rosenthal Memorial Award

Congratulations to the 2016 Recipient *Michael Kern*



Michael was born into an Attorney Service family in the San Fernando Valley in 1969 and lived nearby in Sepulveda until he was 9, at which time his family moved to neighboring Santa Clarita Valley. His father, Dave Kern, started an Attorney Service in 1961. Whenever Michael was on school breaks he would help the family business by setting up filings and file at the courthouse, calling runners for status, and riding with route drivers doing pick-ups. When he was old enough, he rode along with his father to learn how to serve papers correctly.

Michael achieved success in school both academically and athletically, and graduated Hart High School in 1987. He was then officially brought into the family business. Dave Kern's philosophy of not being the biggest, but being the best attorney service in California left Michael with a strong work ethic. He registered as a process server and served papers while attending College, where he majored in Business Marketing. Michael dedicated himself to learning every job possible in the family business; and over time, became very proficient. He attributes his success to his dedication, drive and passion for this profession.

In 1990 Michael met his future wife and business partner, Sheri, who joined the family business that same year. They married two years later (March 1992) and started a family shortly thereafter while continuing to work. They have three children who are their pride and joy, David, Mikey, and Kayla. They are a close family and share many interest and hobbies with their children such as golf, bowling, camping, boating, motocross riding and NASCAR.

Michael is very proud to be a second generation legal support professional and is very excited that his son David followed



in his footsteps by joining the family business in 2012, while also attending California State University Northridge (CSUN).

Michael has been a member of CALSPRO since 1994. He was part of the strategic planning sessions that shaped CALSPro's direction as it evolved from being CAPPS. Over his twenty years in the association, he has served in many capacities such as Area Governor, Director, Advertising Chairman, Directory Chairman, Vendor Chairman, Website Chairman, Secretary-Treasurer, Second Vice President, First Vice President, Chairman of the Board, and as President. Michael was also recently re-elected this past June to his second term on the Board of Directors for the National Association of Professional Process Servers (NAPPS). He was instrumental in the re-design and launch of the new NAPPS website and update of the job post feature. He continues to look forward on sharing his insight and knowledge to others for the betterment of the profession.

In the late 1990's Michael spearheaded a Hawaiian Raffle campaign which brought in much needed funds to the association. He was also very instrumental in the development of our marketing and advertising plans, our website and the job post feature. His contributions have been recognized over the years with him receiving the Rookie of the Year, Presidential Recognition (Going the extra mile), Member of the Year (2003-04), and Member of the Year (2010-11) awards. Michael is very proud of our association and our profession, while continuing to strive to be the very best at whatever he does.