

# On The Record . . .

Official Newsletter of BERTOLINO LLP

January 2021



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## Our Firm

Tony R. Bertolino, Esq.  
*Managing Partner*

Sheri L. Middlemas  
*Chief Operating Officer*

Frank A. King, Esq.  
*Senior Associate Attorney*

Kayleigh K. Smith, Esq.  
*Associate Attorney*

Kerry J. Bloodsaw, Esq.  
*Associate Attorney*

Penny Smith  
*Certified Paralegal*

London de la Teja  
*Accounting and Finance Manager*

Bruce Kingsley  
*Client Relations Coordinator*

Melissa Caffery  
*Legal Assistant*

Marcus Wennrich  
*Marketing Coordinator*

Jade Brown  
*Receptionist*

## Firm Announcements

### COO, SHERI MIDDLEMAS, SELECTED FOR THE STANDARDS REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR THE ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL ADMINISTRATORS

The Association of Legal Administrators selected Bertolino, LLP's Chief Operating Officer, Sheri Middlemas, as a member of their Standards Review Committee.

The Association of Legal Administrators' mission is to improve the quality of management in legal services organizations; promote and enhance the competence and professionalism of legal administrators and all members of the management team; and represent professional legal management and managers to the legal community and to the community at large. Congratulations, Sheri!



Happy New Year, everyone. As we venture forward into 2021, I'm excited about the future for my law firm, my family and I. I hope you share in the same excitement. Let's all leave 2020 in our distant memories and focus on making 2021 a breakout year!

-Tony R. Bertolino

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## Hallmark Achievements - January 2021

### *State Board Of Dental Examiners v. N.M*

N.M. applied for a Texas Dental License in July 2020. The Texas State Board of Dental Examiners (the "Board") denied his request based on a felony charge with no final disposition. Seven years earlier, N.M. received a deferred adjudication for a 2<sup>nd</sup> degree felony offense of Possession of a Controlled Substance and sentenced to 10 years probation. N.M. hired Bertolino to appeal his license denial. After hearing from the attorneys at Bertolino, the Board ruled N.M. successfully fulfilled all statutory requirements to become a licensed dentist and granted him a Texas Dental License under a five-year probated suspension, which included no period of enforced suspension. He is fully licensed to practice dentistry as long as he abides by the Dental Practice Act and the rules and regulations of the Board.

### *Texas Appraiser Licensing and Certification Board v. J.A.*

An Appraisal Management Company filed a complaint against J.A. stating he had not appraised the subject property properly for a loan refinance. It was based on the vacant subject property's "As Is" condition. The complainant claimed that the improvements were 85% complete, but J.A. appraised the value at no more than a vacant lot because the house was uninhabitable. The Board threatened sanctions, up to and including license revocation, unless J.A. cooperated within 20 days for requests for more information. J.A. engaged Bertolino. The attorneys provided the Board with five comparable appraisals of other properties in the area in similar uncompleted condition. There were few sales of comparable uncompleted houses, because - until the property is completed, functional and livable - it is not considered worth more than land value. Before the Board filed a Statement of Charges, the firm negotiated a settlement on behalf of J.A. Instead of an administrative fine of thousands of dollars and sanctions against J.A.'s license, he accepted 14 hours of on-line remedial education without an exam, and a stipulation that he will confirm membership on an AMC panel prior to taking any future assignments or placing bids.

Contact Us

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