

DENVER REGION SOCIAL SECURITY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION President's Report 2018/2019

Fiscal Year 2019 was an exceptional year for DRSSMA. Not only did we welcome the membership of several new DRSSMA members, more DRSSMA members than ever participated on NCSSMA committees. We also experienced several “firsts”:

- The creation of the DRSSMA Scholarship Program
- Implementation of all-DRSSMA member calls
- A revamped and improved DRSSMA quarterly newsletter
- Changing DRSSMA by laws to allow for the creation of the DRSSMA Executive Committee position of Executive Officer and updated titles of Area Vice President for our Area representatives

I believe these accomplishments and improvements illustrate that DRSSMA is moving in the right direction. As President, I believe DRSSMA has the following purposes:

- “To cooperate constructively with all responsible officials of the Social Security Administration in the furtherance of the ‘Social Security Administration Statement of Objectives.’” This is the first stated purpose of DRSSMA listed in the DRSSMA Constitution
- To actively solicit feedback from the DRSSMA membership regarding problems and successes in field office and WSU operations
- To communicate as much information as possible from NCSSMA and the Denver Executives to the DRSSMA membership
- To focus upon succession management and membership involvement within DRSSMA and NCSSMA

In line with these purposes, I wish to mention a few other successes during FY 19.

Executive Relationships

Each year, the Denver Region Executive team affords the DRSSMA Executive Committee the opportunity to meet together and discuss topics of interest to the DRSSMA membership in an effort to “encourage the establishment of the policies that best serve the public interest in accomplishing the mission of the agency (DRSSMA Constitution).” Annually, we usually have an opportunity to meet once in a conference call setting and once in-person. During FY 19, we had a conference call with

President
DAN COMBS
Billings, MT

Vice President
MARIE ZIESKE
Helena, MT

Secretary
LESLIE MONTOYA
Pueblo, Colorado

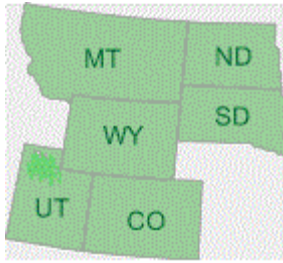
Treasurer
ROSHAWN BARNES
Aurora, CO

Area 1 Vice President
TERA ELSTON
Bismarck, ND

Area 2 Vice President
TRACY MEALER-HERNANDEZ
Denver WSU, CO

Executive Officer
TANYA HARRINGTON
Aurora, CO

Immediate Past President
PEGGY MURPHY
Great Falls, MT



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Denver Regional Executives on January 30. On July 26, we met in-person with the Denver and Seattle Executives and the Northwest Management Association. Both meetings were productive, particularly the July 26 meeting, and we were able to relay the information received during these calls in subsequent all-DRSSMA calls. The topics from both calls were solicited directly from the DRSSMA membership, and we hope we were able to find clarification and answers to the questions you submitted to the EC.

In addition, to these formal meetings, as DRSSMA President, I have an opportunity to meet directly with our Regional Commissioner in a one-on-one setting every other month. This is a great opportunity to discuss further topics of interest to the DRSSMA membership.

The Denver Regional Executives and Regional Commissioner meetings are great opportunities to find areas of collaboration between the Regional Executives and DRSSMA. One of my main goals with these meetings is to identify additional areas in which DRSSMA can work together with our Executive partners to improve the customer experience in field offices and the WSU. Continue to submit your ideas and thoughts to the DRSSMA Executive Committee, and we will continue to discuss these ideas with our Regional Executive partners.

DRSSMA Participation on NCSSMA Committees

As mentioned previously, DRSSMA continues to be well-represented on the NCSSMA Committees. In fact, during FY 19, 29 DRSSMA members participated on NCSSMA committees, including 11 first-time committee members. During FY 18, DRSSMA had 19 members participate on NCSSMA committees, so this was a significant increase in DRSSMA participation on these committees. These committees are tasked with implementing the resolutions that are voted upon during the NCSSMA Annual Meeting each year. Below is a list of the DRSSMA members who participated on NCSSMA committees during FY 19:

- Technology Subcommittee— Craig Laird, Edna Jimenez, Victoria Vacchelli
- Innovation Subcommittee—Mark Christmas
- T2 Subcommittee—Jeremy Young (currently Deputy Chair), Jessica Meberg Ewald (former Deputy Chair)
- T16 Subcommittee— Roshawn Barnes, Angie Simmons, Heather Scott-Encalade
- Disability Subcommittee—Carmen Villegas, Curtis Jones
- Policy Review Subcommittee—Marie Zieske, Terra Whiteman
- Legislative and Grassroots Committee—Dan Combs (Chair), David Baier, Heather Bishop
- Labor Management Relations Committee—Tracy Mealer-Hernandez, Chris DiGiacomo, Kari Bolken
- Administration Subcommittee—Tanya Harrington
- Structure Subcommittee—Patricia Schwab, Jacob Schrandt, Katie Laird

- Service Delivery Committee—Melinda Minor, Tami Hofelich
- Membership Committee—Connie Lien, Sheila Castillo
- Training and Succession Management Committee—Richard Fowler
- Social Media Subcommittee—James Shanks
- Communications Subcommittee—Leslie Montoya
- FrontLine Editor—Tera Elston

In addition to these NCSSMA committees, DRSSMA members are also participating on the following Regional and specialized NCSSMA committees:

- Denver and Seattle Succession Management Committee – Leslie Montoya
- CFA/DRSSMA workgroup – Dan Combs, Ryan Konold, Brenda Barron
- NCSSMA Cost-Savings Subcommittee – Tera Elston

Thank you to those of you who participated in a DRSSMA or NCSSMA survey, initiative and/or committee this past year. DRSSMA derives its value from the active involvement of its membership. I encourage those of you who are new to DRSSMA or who have not yet participated to take advantage of these tremendous opportunities to shape the direction of DRSSMA, NCSSMA, the Denver Region, and the Agency as a whole.

DRSSMA Executive Committee Elections

- President – Dan Combs
- Secretary – Leslie Montoya
- Area I Representative – Tera Elston

Special thanks to Matt Lavin and Harley Sisson for facilitating this year's election process. The new officers will assume their elected position duties on August 22 at the conclusion of the annual NCSSMA meeting held this year in Chattanooga, TN.

Dan Combs, DRSSMA President