

Carol Karwatt

Can you believe that Carol owns the house that she was raised in? The home is in San Bruno and has been owned by her family for over 75 years. Her home will be 100 years old in 2022. She and her husband are very thankful that they can own the home while not being subjected to the current rental market and skyrocketing home prices.

Carol's career path may have been chosen by her mother. Her mom always said, "be a secretary and you will always have a job." Carol studied at Skyline College with the intentions of becoming a court reporter. She was typing 200 words per minute and needed to reach 240 words per minute to pass the State exam. The day she was scheduled to take the exam, she decided to move to the Virgin Islands (so much for the court reporting career) and became the assistant buyer for a large high-end tourist chain of stores, owned by a United States Corporation.

After returning to the United States, Carol applied for a job at I Magnin to be an assistant buyer, working in retail. She didn't have a fashion degree but I Magnin hired her as a secretary to the internal audit department and the general counsel. Carol worked there for two years. A colleague suggested that she come work for a San Francisco law firm, but she didn't want to leave so in her interview Carol stated that she would only work for them if they paid her a huge salary. They hired her! She stayed at the San Francisco firm for 19 years where she facilitated in the practice of estate planning and tax work. When she left the City, she decided to work for San Mateo County Superior Court as a judicial secretary to the judges and commissioners. Carol spent 9 years in San Mateo and now she works at a firm that practices insurance defense work. Obviously, Carol is motivated by new challenges and using new skills!

Ms. Karwatt is honored to be a SCCoLPA member and feels that this association is a fine example of how all associations should conduct themselves. There are many opportunities to learn and grow. One of the best benefits of the association are the lifetime friends that she has made: Shara, Cindy, Joanne, Jeannine, Sue, Linda, and Mary King. She would never have met these wonderful friends if it wasn't for SCCoLPA.