

## **September 2017 Spotlight Member**

### **Wendy Alvarez**

When she was growing up, she lived all over the bay area from San Francisco to South San Jose, and attended three different high schools, namely Hillsdale High School in San Mateo, Monte Vista High School in Cupertino where she met her husband, and Santa Clara High from where she graduated.

Wendy landed in the legal field in 1990 when a family friend, who was a legal secretary, encouraged her to interview for the law firm she worked at. Wendy went to the interview and was hired as the receptionist! That is where her legal education began. The attorneys paid for her to take classes offered through the Legal Secretaries, Inc. (“LSI”) and before Wendy knew it, she was taking on secretarial work. She joined LSI that same year and have been a member ever since.

When asked what motivates her, she says it is her family, church, and work. Wendy has a son who is 19 and a daughter who is 15 and she finds it rewarding that she is able to “lead by example” by being a positive influence in their lives. She sees it in their work ethics and how they view life.

A day in Wendy’s life would go something like this: Get up, get ready for work, eat breakfast, feed their pug (Memphis), make sure her kids are up and getting on their way for school/work, go to work, pickup her daughter from school, come home and visit with her family, workout, make dinner and depending on what day of the week it is, attend church. Go to bed, repeat daily!

When asked how SCCoLPA benefited her personally and professionally, she states that it has given her a support system, especially when she was studying for the California Certified Legal Secretaries (“CCLS”) exam. In 2009, she obtained the CCLS designation after passing a grueling all day test and has vowed “to never do it” again! Wendy said that SCCoLPA has also provided her with a network of people who are in the same field as she is and says she has met wonderful people whom she admires and appreciates, especially those who are called to be on the Board. Her daughter will sometimes ask her if she could do anything else for work, what would it be. She tells her that there is not anything else she would rather do because she loves her job. Wendy also said she does not know if she would feel that way if she was not a member of SCCoLPA and all of its perks!

Thank you, Wendy for sharing yourself with us! We congratulate you on being chosen as our September Spotlight Member!