



## **MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**



### **Gina Ventola**

Practice Manager for Ventola  
Mediation

**Gina has worked in the legal industry for over 25 years. When not hanging out on social media, she enjoys spending time with her favorite attorney and husband, Sam, and their family along with volunteering in her community. Her firm's website is [www.ventolamediation.com](http://www.ventolamediation.com).**

#### **How long have you been in the legal industry?**

*Since the Stone Age aka 1992. Back then, we shephardized cases with actual pocket parts!*

#### **What made you pursue a career as a paralegal?**

*My dad wanted me to become a lawyer, probably due to my ability to argue. My 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher told me that if I ran for president, she would vote for me so I had that in my back pocket. Later, I was inspired by the movie, "Reversal of Fortune." In it, Alan Dershowitz represented Claus Von Bulow, in appealing his conviction of the attempted murder of his wife. Professor Dershowitz gathered his law students, essentially using them like paralegals, to break the State's case apart. When I saw that, I knew that's what I wanted to do – be a part of the team.*

#### **What practice areas have you worked in?**

*It would be easier to state what areas I haven't worked in – real estate and tax. I started out doing debtor and trustee bankruptcy work and found that quite rewarding. I also enjoyed litigation and probate but mediation is my favorite. Mediation is great because it allows the parties to compromise then move on.*

**What does a practice manager do, how is that different from the paralegal role?**

*Literally, I manage our practice. As some of my fellow RMPA members deal with, in smaller firms, we wear a lot of hats like office administration, business development and technology along with paralegal duties. I find it is much like herding cats.*

**At Ventola Mediation, you work with your husband who is an attorney. How does that work?**

*In a nutshell, we do not try to do each other's job....and we have separate offices.*

**Why do you like being a part of RMPA?**

*It is very enjoyable to get together with fellow paralegals and just talk shop some days. RMPA also provides mentoring opportunities through social activities.*

**Lastly, tell us something not many people know about you**

*I am the youngest of 10 children. Yes, I have 5 brothers and 4 sisters. I think that's where my extroversion comes from. In a household that is loud and crowded, you had to speak up to be heard.*

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*Thank you, Gina for being our featured member!*

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