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**A NOTE FROM JULES**

Like most of you, I spend my summers trying to find as much time as possible to enjoy the outdoors. One of my favorite ways to do this is to go fishing. I can't seem to get enough of the peaceful relaxation I find alone on the water with the sun warming my face. Sometimes it doesn't matter if I catch anything or not, just being able to restore my peace of mind and recharge my batteries, seems like a far better reward!

So, get out there and enjoy the summer - rejuvenate & revitalize!

*P.S. Watch your mail for an exciting & exclusive offer only from TPS!*

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# TPS

## Real Brief

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## 2007 Paralegal Compensation Survey

The 2007 Annual Compensation Survey for Paralegals / Legal Assistants and Managers was recently released. The survey, which reports on eleven distinct paralegal positions in law firms and corporate law departments, was conducted by Altman Weil Publications, Inc. in partnership with the International Paralegal Management Association (IPMA).

The survey shows solid increases in median total compensation for most paralegal professionals. This reflects solid economic growth in the legal industry, especially among law firms, but also the growth and increasing sophistication of the paralegal profession. Legal organizations that want to attract and retain talented paralegals must compensate them competitively.

### COMPENSATION

The national median salary for Paralegals is \$53,500. Annual bonuses add \$2,500 to monetary compensation. Median overtime compensation is reported at \$4,177/year. In law firms, 82.9% of Paralegals receive overtime compensation. Total monetary compensation nationally for Paralegal professionals is \$59,973, up 9% from 2006.



### TOP 5 Money Saving Reasons to Hire a Contract Paralegal

1. You only pay for actual work completed
2. No worries about workers comp insurance
3. Not having to pay health insurance
4. Not having to pay employee taxes
5. Not having to compensate for vacation and then pay for a temp

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## Cool Summer Refreshments



Whether it's brunch by the pool, an afternoon garden party, or a casual Saturday night barbeque, a cool refreshing drink is part of the definition of summer fun.

Here's a couple of my favorite cocktail and mocktail recipes for any occasion.

### Pink Citrus Martini (alcoholic)

1 oz. Cointreau  
1 oz. Absolut Vodka  
1 oz. Pink Grapefruit Juice  
Splash of lime  
Shake with ice and strain into chilled cocktail glass. Garnish with lime.

### Tab with Champagne (alcoholic)

Two parts Champagne  
One part Tab Energy Drink

Serve in a flute glass for a great, brunch alternative to the Mimosa.

### Berry Patch (non-alcoholic)

2 oz. Blueberries  
2 oz. Raspberries  
2 oz. Strawberries  
2 scoops vanilla ice cream  
1/2 cup milk  
Combine all ingredients in blender. Strain into martini glass. Sprinkle with fresh berries.

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## Real Brief Bits

### LEGAL BRIEFS

Lawyers are currently investigating complaints concerning billing practices that relate to charges for in-room safes at CHOICE Hotels which operates several hotel chains, including Comfort Inns, Clarion and Econo Lodge.

At these hotels a daily charge for a "safe warranty fee" is automatically posted to a guest's folio or bill. According to the investigation, the fee is not disclosed in the advertised rate or when the guest checks in to the hotel. At check out, the guest must seek to affirmatively have the charge removed from their bill. This practice is called a "negative option" and has been found to be illegal in several states.

### REAL BRIEF TRIVIA

- In Las Vegas, it is illegal to pawn your dentures.
- City Ordinance number 352 in Pacific Grove, CA makes it a misdemeanor to kill or threaten a butterfly.
- According to Hammurabi's Code, the penalty for medical malpractice was to cut off the doctor's hands.
- In 1975, the U.S. Senate actually voted on the following: "A motion to table a motion to reconsider a vote to table an appeal a ruling that a point of order was not in order against a motion to table another point of order against a motion to bring to a vote the motion to call up the resolution that would institute a rules change." HUH?

### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"The matter of fees is important, far beyond the mere question of bread and butter involved. Properly attended to, fuller justice is done to both lawyer and client. An exorbitant fee should never be charged. As a general rule, never take your whole fee in advance, nor any more than a small retainer. When fully paid beforehand, you are more than a common mortal if you can feel the same interest in the case as if something was still in prospect for you as well as for your client."

*~ Abraham Lincoln*