Legislative Captains Training
February 23, 2017
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Mission Statement
“In representing, serving, and communicating the interests of our local chapters and individual members, AIA Pennsylvania promotes the profession of architecture throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania while striving for the highest quality in the built environment.”

Number 1 Strategic Goal:
To protect and enhance a state legal and regulatory framework that fosters high quality sustainable development and is favorable to the architecture profession.
Approximately 3,000 members

**Advocacy:** public support for or recommendation of a particular cause or policy

**Grassroots:** uses the people in a given district as the basis for a political or economic movement. Grassroots movements and organizations utilize collective action from the local level to effect change at the local, regional, national, or international level. Grassroots movements are associated with bottom-up, rather than top-down decision making.

**Every person, cause, and business has a story to tell.**
**There is strength in numbers.**
“All politics is local”

**General Assembly**
50 Senators -- Four year term
Represent approximately 246,000 constituents

203 House of Representatives -- Two year term
Represent approximately 60,000 constituents

**Majority & Minority**
• Two-year Legislative Session

• Legislation
  • Bill introduced in Senate or House
  • Referred to Committee
  • Committee consideration
  • Floor votes
  • Referred to other Chamber
  • Same process
  • Concurrence vote
  • Governor’s Desk
Program Goals

• Increase the number of AIA Pennsylvania members engaged in legislative activities

• Build stronger and more personal relationships with state legislators and staff

• Provide opportunities for members to gain skills to advocate for the profession
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Captain Responsibilities:

- Create legislator engagement plan for assigned legislator(s)
  - Reach out to fellow members that are in your legislator’s district
- Schedule an initial meeting with legislator and/or staff
  - Promote the profession – we are the voice of the construction industry
  - Establish yourself as an expert resource – Tell your story
- Establish AIA Pennsylvania as a state resource
- Offer them a tour of a recent project – great photo opportunity
Captain Responsibilities Continued:

• Attend 2017 Architects Action Day  
  • March 22nd
• Complete bi-monthly progress reports
• Join the Legislative Action Network (LAN)
• Recruit AIA members in district to join LAN
• Distribute tasks among more members in your district
Political Action Committee

- Critical we have a seat at the table
- When we join together, our effectiveness and influence increases
- The PA Architects PAC supports candidates who understand and share your concerns

PAC Responsibilities

- Agree to raise PAC contribution of at least $100
- Encourage colleagues to donate to the PAC
Captains will be provided with a status report to fill out and submit to AIA Pennsylvania staff every two months.

The status report will catalog the interactions with your assigned legislator(s) and any PAC or member engagement activity conducted by the captain.
Create a small engagement plan for each assigned legislator

Participate on social media – contacting legislators, issue discussions, etc.

Document your meetings – take photos
Next Steps

• Legislative Survey found [here](#)
• Legislator match
• Contact fellow members with shared legislator to compile a small PLAN team dedicated to your legislator
• Compile legislative initiative list
• Study issue briefs
• Brainstorm leave-behinds
• Reach out to colleagues
Questions?

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