



BarNotes

A Publication of the
San Fernando Valley Bar Association

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CREATIVITY PLUS ENERGY EQUALS GROWTH MEMBERSHIP AND MARKETING COMMITTEE ADDS VALUE TO SFVBA MEMBERSHIP

The San Fernando Valley Bar association is renewing its commitment to adding greater value to its members. The Bar's Membership & Marketing Committee is working hard to expand the Bar's membership roster as well.

The committee has reached full strength, with twelve members.

"The team is big," Committee Chair Matt Crowley says. "But this allows us to ask team members to work on bite-size projects so no one person gets overloaded."

One of the committee's areas of focus is creating meaningful opportunities for more networking for members. Many attorneys make connections through networking that later result in valuable business referrals. As a result, the bar is sponsoring four informal networking events in 2008.

"Our goal is to provide informal opportunities for lawyers to meet their best referral sources – other lawyers," Mr. Crowley, who established his solo practice in 2006 after 12 years of big firm practice to serve the legal needs of entrepreneurs, says. "I feel lucky to have been given an important assignment by Bar President Sue Bendavid in my first year on the Board of Trustees."

Committee members include Bendavid; Mike Fedrick, a patent lawyer; Jor Law, a corporate transactional lawyer; Jan Frankel Schau, a professional neutral; and Vahid Naziri, a member of the Board of Trustees. Recently, Carol Newman, a litigator, and Michael Cohen, an immigration lawyer, joined the committee as well. The group meets approximately monthly.

"We have intentionally built a team composed of lawyers with very different practices," Mr. Crowley says. "We wanted to make sure non-litigators have a meaningful place at the table."

According to Mr. Crowley, expanding the bar's physical presence is an essential ingredient in the expansion strategy he has developed with the committee. Each networking event will be in a different part of the San Fernando Valley – this gives all of bar members a chance to participate with ease. For example, the first networking event was in October at the billiards parlor Yankee Doodle's in Woodland Hills; 30 people attended, and the event garnered three sponsors.

The next event will be in February in the Burbank area, co-sponsored with the Santa Clarita Valley Bar Association and the San Gabriel Valley Bar Association. The committee has carefully designed its events calendar to meet the fundamental business development needs of bar members.

"One of our key missions is to increase business for all of us," Mr. Crowley, who chairs the LA Venture Association's Marketing Committee, says. "That's why we're focusing hard on networking events this year."

In getting the committee's agenda in motion, Mr. Crowley noted "We are especially reaping the benefits of having experienced staff - they helped us get off to a great start," Mr. Crowley says. "In our second meeting, they were able to give the team a full debriefing on all of our advertising activities and partnership work."

Executive Director Liz Post, Associate Executive Director Michele Morley and Events Coordinator Linda Temkin are members of the Committee. Committee members agree that the staff's lengthy tenure with the bar bring invaluable insights that have significantly boosted the committee's effectiveness.

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**Calendar of Events
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SUE M. BENDAVID, SFVBA PRESIDENT

On February 21, our bar association has the privilege of honoring San Fernando Valley judges at our annual Judges' Night celebration. Among other things, Judges' Night is our opportunity to meet judges face-to-face. This is in marked contrast from the typical time we see them – while standing before them as they sit and rule from the bench. Judges' Night gives us the chance to dine with judges in a social setting and know them on a more personal level. During this event, our members will hear about the state of the local courts from the presiding judges in Van Nuys, San Fernando and the Valley branch of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court.

This year, we have the privilege of honoring Judge Michael Harwin as Judge of the Year. Judge Harwin served on the bench for over 21 years and consistently supports our bar association's events. He is well-respected and known for his calm, friendly and even-tempered demeanor. Many lawyers say that he respects the lawyers and parties that appear in his courtroom and delivers his orders in a calm, deliberative fashion.

"It is always a pleasure to enter Judge Harwin's courtroom," bar association Programs Chair Alan Sedley says. "You know that when you appear before Judge Harwin, you will be encouraged to argue your points openly and thoroughly."

According to Mr. Sedley, practitioners before Judge Harwin have an added inducement. Argument will always be judged fairly, without bias or preconceived notion, he says.

"I have always found Judge Harwin's rulings to be sound and consistent, and, most often, a useful learning tool," Mr. Sedley says. "His demeanor is always consistent, thoughtful and respectful."

We will be providing special recognition awards to Judges Barbara Scheper and Maureen Tighe for their contributions to the legal community. Judge Scheper spearheaded this year's Valley Associated Settlement Team (VAST) Program, which had many of our members acting as mediators in the Chatsworth courthouse. The program resulted in 35 percent of the cases heard being resolved. Judge Tighe will be recognized for her role as coordinator of the self-help bankruptcy program.

And we will be honoring the efforts of retiring Judges Charles Peven and Barry Taylor, who are stepping down from the bench after over 27 and 16 years, respectively. Additional honors will be going to our own Associate Director Michele Morley, who I am sad to say is retiring after almost 9 years with us.

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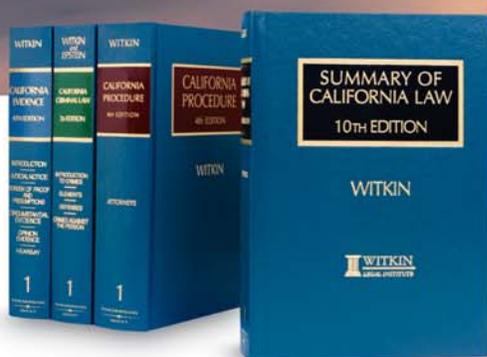


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On Character



MICHELE C. MORLEY, ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

On Martin Luther King Day, the American Humanics Scholars of Pepperdine University and the Western Los Angeles County Council, Boy Scouts of America held a seminar at Pepperdine University. The seminar was titled, "Character Perspectives: The Role of Character in our Society." The seminar was arranged by San Fernando Valley Bar Association member and mediator David Karp. For the conference, several SFVBA members and I wrote brief essays on our personal definitions of character. Below are some excerpts from our essays:

"Character is a combination of wisdom to know what to do, discretion to know when to do it, and tact to know how to do it and bring others along. It is an inarticulable combination of personal qualities that instills confidence in others, and makes a group feel complete when the person who has it is present." – David Gurnick, SFVBA Bar Trustee and attorney

Mediator Jan Frankel Schau recently accompanied her youngest son to Columbia University. In welcoming remarks, the President of Columbia, Dr. Lee C. Bollinger, "spoke of 'a sympathetic imagination,' which allows for scholars and students to imagine other ways of 'thinking and seeing the world.'" Reflecting on these remarks Schau writes on character:

"[G]ood moral character depends not merely upon conducting yourself appropriately, but conducting yourself in a way that allows you to be open to other people's thinking and perspective. You no longer have an option of insularity. Sound moral character requires you to take the responsibility of engaging in the

world's view, not merely your own." – Jan Frankel Schau, SFVBA Bar Trustee and mediator

"We must do all we can to make the complexities of the world clear and understandable. Good character is writing and speaking words that illuminate our way so we can see the stones that block or mark our journey to truth of thought and actions." – Michele Morley, Attorney Referral Service of the San Fernando Valley Bar Association

"In putting together this program on 'character,' I have looked outward and turned inward in the search for what character means to me. Looking outward, I see people all around me who do good deeds

as a part of their daily lives, just because they have the opportunity and the inclination. Turning inward I ask myself: Is character who people are? Or is it what people do? Is it the intrinsic belief of what is 'right?' Is it conduct or behavior? Is it innate motivation? Or is it simply the natural transfer of values and ethics by word, deed or action? It must be all of these things. . . . Children learn by example. We all do. Maybe "having character" is just living a life that is an example to others." – David Karp, attorney-mediator and conference host

What do you believe are the qualities required for good character for an attorney and member of society? ♣

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*Creativity Plus Energy Equals Growth,
continued from cover*

Bar staff have been especially helpful in helping the Committee develop strategic partnerships to benefit members and the overall bar organization so that it can better serve its constituents. The Committee's focus is on reaching beyond existing relationships with other bar associations to co-sponsor events with regional accounting societies and regional banking and finance organizations. The Committee is making headway in developing active partner programs to improve cross-promotion of events with the bar's strategic partners.

"All of us [on the Committee] have great connections to organizations like the LA Venture Association, women's entrepreneur groups and our sister bar associations," Mr. Crowley says.

This is true of Jan Frankel Schau. She will spearhead the launch of the new member survey this spring. She will be seeking to determine what the current members like and what new things might be appealing to them.

"We are working to create partnerships with groups where our team already has in-roads," Mr. Crowley says. "If things go as planned, we should see our bar's presence and image expand quickly without a lot of heavy lifting."

He notes that advertising is another area of focus for the group in '08. He says that the Committee is acting to strengthen the bar's brand image. He plans to do this by increasing the bar's exposure in key publications. This will go hand-in-hand with the bar's new focus on public relations.

"We are strengthening our relationship with the *San Fernando Valley Business Journal*, the *Daily News* and other media outlets," he says. "We hope to get free media exposure for our bar and its members." ❖

For more information or to join the Committee, contact Matt Crowley directly at (818) 703-7372 or matt@crowleystrategy.com.

Intellectual Property, Internet and Entertainment Law Section

Mishawn Nolan and John Stephens Leading Dynamic Group

LISA MILLER, EDITOR



While intellectual property, new media and entertainment law developments may be too technical for some practitioners, Intellectual Property, Entertainment Law & Internet Law Section Chairs Mishawn Nolan and John Stephens get jazzed about any aspect of new trademark or copyright law.

Ms. Nolan and Mr. Stephens see their mandate as spreading the word about best practices in IP, Internet law, and entertainment matters; staying on top of new developments; and creating a touch point for discussion among practitioners and non-specialists alike.

Topics under consideration for programming cover a spectrum of interests, including patent, trademark, copyright, new media and entertainment issues. Section meetings are usually the third Friday of each month at 8:30 a.m. at the SFVBA offices in Woodland Hills.

Ms. Nolan is a principal and the head of the intellectual property and entertainment practice group at Woodland Hills' Stone Rosenblatt & Cha. She has been active in the leadership of the San Fernando Valley Bar Association in many roles for several years. Mr. Stephens is an intellectual property partner at Sedgwick, Detert, Moran & Arnold LLP in Los Angeles.

Section discussions often include important cases and their meaning for practitioners and their clients. Recent significant matters include Patent reform and changes to the Digital Millennium Copyright Act.

Ms. Nolan acknowledges that Intellectual Property law is a constantly changing landscape. New technologies generate unanswered questions almost

daily. And more and more is at stake each day for clients as well.

"Even non-specialists can benefit from a lot of our analysis," she says. "For example, at any given meeting, we might be focusing on infringement

damages from an economic viewpoint, useful for any lawyer." ✎

For more information on the Intellectual Property, Entertainment Law & Internet Law Section, contact Mishawn Nolan directly at (818) 999-2232.

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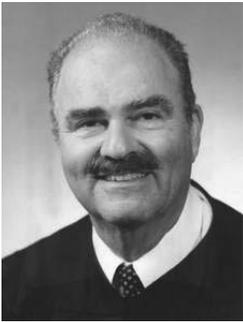
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RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

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President's Message, continued from page 3



Though the evening is expected to be joyous, it will be marked with sadness as well, as we remember Judge Haig Kehiayan, who died in his sleep on Christmas day at the age of 80. Judge Kehiayan was president of our bar association in 1987 and, after practicing law for over 30 years, was appointed to the Bench in 1988, where he served until 2001. He

acted as supervising judge at the San Fernando Court for three years.

"Judge Kehiayan was one of the principals responsible for the start of the Family Law Center," past President Barbara Jean Penny says. "It was originally a joint project between the San Fernando Valley Bar Association and the San Fernando Valley Neighborhood Legal Services, designed to provide legal services for low income persons in family law matters."

Ms. Penny notes that Judge Kehiayan gave priority to residents of Haven Hills, a battered woman's shelter.

"The first domestic violence clinic in the Van Nuys courthouse was brought about directly as a result of the Family Law Center," Ms. Penny says.

The Family Law Center is now solely under the umbrella of Neighborhood Legal Services. However, the

fact that there are now domestic violence clinics available for those who need them is directly attributable to the efforts of Haig Kehiayan, according to Ms. Penny. And she notes that this was only one of his many accomplishments during his lifetime of dedication to the law and the community. "He will definitely be missed," she says.

Judge Kehiayan had strong friendships with many of us at our bar association, among them, past bar president Lee Kanon Alpert.

"During the year of my presidency, Haig and Barbara Jean [Penny], who were to follow, and I agreed on the first Three-Year-Plan for the Bar and had our first weekend retreat in Oxnard," Mr. Alpert says. "The three of us would meet four to seven days a week at CSUN at 5:30 a.m. for our two mile walk and talk."

Alpert says that they would talk about bar issues and seek to agree on moving the bar forward.

"We would talk about personal and family issues and often laughed at one another as we stretched . . .," Mr. Alpert says. "There will be an open space that will never be filled . . . Haig was simply the best - a man for all seasons and a loss not soon forgotten by many."

Long-time friend Justice Armand Arabian, who administered Kehiayan's oath of office in 1988, says he will miss Judge Kehiayan deeply.

"He was an extremely kind human being," Justice Arabian says. "I never heard him utter a bad word about anyone else, nor did I ever hear anyone utter a bad word about him."

Current trustee and former bar president David Gurnick is among those mourning the judge's passing.

"Haig Kehiayan was president when I joined the [bar] association," Mr. Gurnick says. "Haig's warm friendliness set the tone, and brought me and a lot of fellow lawyers into the association."

After becoming a Judge, Haig stayed actively involved in the bar association, Mr. Gurnick says.

"Haig was an example to us all of all that a lawyer, a leader and a judge can and should be," he says.

The San Fernando Valley Bar Association has made a donation to the Ararat Home of Los Angeles in Mission Hills to honor Judge Kehiayan's memory.

Our association is proud of its lengthy, positive relationships with our judges. Judges routinely comment on the respect they hold for our association and appreciation of the support we provide them as they do their difficult jobs every day. I hope you join us for the event. 🐾

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For tickets to the San Fernando Valley Bar Association's Judges' Night celebration, contact Linda Temkin at events@sfvba.org or (818) 227-0490, ext. 105.

U.S. Bankruptcy Court Central District of California

Office of the Clerk Public Notice

Re: New and Revised Local Bankruptcy Rules Forms and Court Form Effective Immediately

The United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California has adopted the following new and revised Local Bankruptcy Rule Forms and Court Form that are effective immediately.

Number	Title of New/Revised Form
240B	Order on Reaffirmation Agreement
F 1010-1	Summons and Notice of Status Conference in an Involuntary Bankruptcy Case
F 4008-1.3	Order Disapproving Reaffirmation Agreement with Notice of Entry
F 4008-1.4	Order Approving Reaffirmation Agreement with Notice of Entry
F 5010-1.1M (New)	Debtor's Motion to Reopen Case and For Extension of Time to File Debtor's Certification of Completion of Postpetition Instructional Course Concerning Personal Financial Management
F 5010-1.1O (New)	Order on Debtor's Motion to Reopen Case and For Extension of Time to File Debtor's Certification of Completion of Postpetition Instructional Course Concerning Personal Financial Management

Note: Form 240A - Reaffirmation Agreement is a mandatory form and is the only form to be used for the reaffirmation of debts in the Central District of California.

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The new forms as well as the revised forms are available on the Court's website www.cacb.uscourts.gov, under *Forms/Rules/General Orders*. These documents will also be made available in printed format at the copy services at each division, and the Intake Section of the Northern Division.

RE: Amendments to Official Bankruptcy Forms Effective January 1, 2008

The Judicial Conference has approved amendments to the following Official Bankruptcy Forms:

Number	Title of Revised Form
22A	Statement of Current Monthly Income and Means Test Calculation
22B	Statement of Monthly Current Income
22C	Statement of Current Monthly Income and Calculation of Commitment Period and Disposable Income

The Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California will require the use of the new forms on or after January 1, 2008.

The new forms are available on the Court's web site www.cacb.uscourts.gov, under *Forms/Rules/General Orders* then *Petition Forms*. The forms will be made available in printed format at the copy services at each division, and the Intake Section of the Northern Division. ↗

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FORENSIC ACCOUNTING BUSINESS VALUATION FRAUD ANALYSIS

Bench Brief: Judge Michael B. Harwin

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M. JONATHAN HAYES



Judge Michael Harwin, the San Fernando Valley Bar Association's 2008 Judge of the Year, has sat in Van Nuys for some 18 years of his 26 years on the bench, probably about half in the criminal arena and half on the civil side. "I was downtown for a year or two during that time and sat in Pasadena for a while after the earthquake," Judge Harwin reckons. "I have enjoyed every assignment I've had."

Born and raised in Brooklyn, and still mad about the loss of the Dodgers to Los Angeles, Judge Harwin moved here after graduating from New York University Law School in 1971.

"I received a job offer from Fred Weitkamp, who was Executive Director for Phi Alpha Delta in addition to having an active litigation practice," Judge Harwin recalls. "I had been active in the fraternity and wanted to continue with that. I have had the opportunity to visit every ABA school in the country through my fraternity activities."

Harwin practiced for 10 years as a business litigation and criminal felony defense attorney, including a couple of years in between as a District Attorney, before joining the Bench as a Commissioner in February 1982. He was appointed to the Los Angeles Superior Court by Governor Deukmejian in December, 1989.

"I had a lot of interesting clients and cases but I wanted a new experience."

Today Judge Harwin sits in Department M where he hears motions and ex-parte matters every morning, 17 matters in the last two days. "We start on time and I really try to have the matters resolved by 9:00 a.m. so the attorneys can get to their other appearances."

Harwin's current caseload exceeds 400 cases, which he handles from beginning to end.

"I almost always agree with the jury verdict. I enjoy the whole system which I believe works very well."



"With the ex-parte matters, I constantly tell the attorneys my three

favorite words; 'meet and confer.' If attorneys did that more often, there would be fewer ex-parte motions," Harwin said. "Discovery disputes can and should be settled with a telephone call. Most attorneys can work these issues out on their own."

Judge Harwin does not prepare written tentative rulings but gives an oral tentative to counsel explaining his rationale and invites a response, although he prefers that the attorney not simply repeat what is in their papers. He uses the research attorney available to him, but he reads every motion.

Harwin is in trial a large portion of the time. "I ask the attorneys at the

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beginning of trial to have their witnesses ready so that there are no delays," Harwin said. "I try hard to limit the inconvenience to juries. I really appreciate the public service performed by jurors. One of the most important jobs of citizens is to be a juror, in my view."

When asked about jury instructions, Harwin said, "The best lawyers have thought about the instructions in advance because it is part of their game plan. They use the instructions throughout the case."

An exceptionally upbeat person, Judge Harwin said, "I almost always agree with the jury verdict. I enjoy the whole system which I believe works very well. I especially enjoy the interaction with the attorneys and jury."

Judge Harwin has had an impressive academic career. He was the Assistant Dean at Loyola Law School in the early 70s, where he worked in the clinical programs. He was also Associate Dean of the

University of West Los Angeles School of Law for 16 years. "I taught almost every subject during those years," Harwin recalls.

Judge Harwin sits on the Los Angeles Superior Court ADR and Security Committees. He conducts Mandatory Settlement Conferences on a regular basis. "We have a very high success rate."

When asked what people would be surprised to know about him, he said, "I'm a big Clippers fan. In fact, I represented Donald Sterling as an attorney and we are still social friends. I also collect antique radios and juke boxes," pointing out a particularly interesting old tube radio next to his desk.

Harwin speaks glowingly about his family. He and wife Lisa, a highly regarded speech and language pathologist in private practice, met in a Boston subway during one of his visits there for his fraternity. "My wife does amazing work, especially with autistic children and those with speech and language problems. She gets great results for the children and their families."

His son A.J. is an attorney with the Los Angeles office of Lewis, Brisbois, Bisgaard & Smith and his daughter Jessica is the Executive Publisher for *Broker Agent* magazine; his son-in-law Eric is also an attorney and his daughter-in-law Sandy just received her Ph.D. in clinical psychology.

Harwin said more than once, "I have been real lucky and for that I am very grateful."

When asked about the future, Judge Harwin smiled, "If I were offered the job of Commissioner of Basketball, I would probably take it. Otherwise, I'm staying here." ✎

M. Jonathan Hayes is a 1976 graduate of Loyola Law School in Los Angeles. His practice is primarily in the area of bankruptcy.

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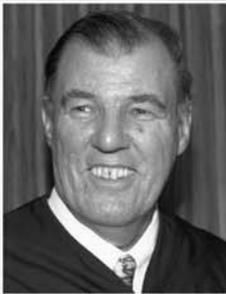


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Valley Community Legal Foundation Great Start, Grand Year



MARCIA L. KRAFT, VCLF PRESIDENT

Who can believe it is 2008! I was listening to the television and a psychic was saying that nothing gets completed in odd numbered years. So 2008 will be a grand year for completing things. And the number "8" resembles the infinity sign - always a good omen. So I wish everyone a super year and one in which all your dreams come true.

My wish is to see the Children's Waiting Rooms built and operational this year before I retire from office. The Foundation has worked on this project for years now and still needs funds to make it happen. We just received a generous donation from **Deborah Davis** of \$250. **Mooney & Caetano** sent a \$500 check toward the Waiting Room project.

Please consider donating to this worthy cause. We will gladly publish the names of donors in *Bar Notes* and donors will be invited to a reception to coincide with the installation. This cause is one that will benefit the community for a long time, so please seriously consider this request.

We will be sponsoring a raffle in the near future. In the spirit of helping with the Children's Waiting Room, the **Thomson West Company** has donated a complete set of

Witkins and two sets of the Rutter Group books as raffle prizes. Bar President **Sue Bendavid** has graciously agreed to donate an iPod as one of our prizes. Although not definite at press time, some of the other prizes may be a week's vacation through RCI, a time share, and/or \$500. All monies go to the Children's Waiting Room fund.

On another note, I am proud to tell you that this year's Foundation Board is comprised of even more community members than ever before. This makes us truly representative of the area we wish to serve. Several members are related to schools in the area: **Anne Arvin**, University of West Los Angeles and Pepperdine University; **Donna Finkelstein**, Monroe High School; and **Chris Shortell**, California State University at Northridge.

Jill Banks Barad is also a new board member. Ms. Barad, who has been a finalist for the Fernando Award, is president of the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council and founder and chair of the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils. She is the owner of Jill Barad & Associates, a political consulting, public relations and fundraising firm. We are pleased and proud to have Ms. Barad become a Board member.

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**Robert Steinberg,
Esq.**

Conference Rooms



Tracy Beavers, who has been on the Board for approximately the last year, and is one of our vice presidents for marketing, is the owner of Cooper Beavers Marketing. Ms. Beavers designed our logo and letterhead, both gorgeous! Thanks, Tracy!

Neil Elmouchi, who has returned to more active involvement with the Foundation, works at Summit Financial Consultants in Westlake Village. He has always generously given both his time and money to our worthy causes.

Bill D. Farrar, Jr. heads a security company and was a police officer. He works for Andrews International specializing in security systems and designs. Bill is a new member and is working on our awards committee, which decides who is honored at our annual fundraiser.

Robin Leonard continues to be on our Board. Ms. Leonard owns a court reporting service. She does a great job and is always willing to help with any task.

David Nadel, our treasurer, has his own accounting firm and is a certified public accountant. Mr. Nadel has done an outstanding job organizing us and keeping us informed regarding all financial affairs of the Foundation.

These are just some of the outstanding people who contribute their time and money to the good of our community - thanks to all of them. Next month, I will try to highlight our Bench officers who are Board members.

Meanwhile, remember: Generosity Counts! ♠

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Love and Freedom Triumph



TAMIKO B. HERRON, SANTA CLARITA VALLEY BAR ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

"It doesn't matter who you are, where you come from, the ability to triumph begins with you – always." – Oprah Winfrey

February brings the opportunity to remember those who fought valiantly for love, freedom and equality throughout the ages.

Valentine's Day

Valentine was a priest who served during the third century in Rome. When Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families, he outlawed marriage for young men – his crop of potential soldiers. Valentine, realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that Valentine be put to death. During his imprisonment, the jailor's daughter visited Valentine and before his death, he penned a letter to her which he signed "From your Valentine."

Black History Month

Dr. Carter Woodson, the son of former slaves, spent his childhood working in Kentucky coal mines. He enrolled in high school at age twenty. Graduating within two years, he went on to earn a Doctorate degree from Harvard. Yet he was disturbed to find that history books largely ignored the accomplishments and contributions of African Americans. In 1926, Dr. Woodson launched Negro History Week. In 1976 it was expanded to a month-long celebration to expose the harms of racial prejudice and to recognize significant contributions made by African Americans.

Dr. Woodson chose the second week of February because it marks the birthdays of two men who greatly influenced the African American population: Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln. One, born into slavery, self-educated, escaped slavery to become one of the most prominent figures in African American history – editor, orator, author, statesman and reformer. The other, born to uneducated farmers in a one-room log cabin, also self-educated, became the 16th President of the United States of America. Both of these men – Americans with the firm belief in the equality of all people, despite race, gender, or religion - came together in the fight for the emancipation of all men and the abolition of slavery.

But it was Dr. Woodson's hope that the celebration would eventually be eliminated, when African-American history would be fully integrated with American history. As we work toward the fulfillment of his dream, we must continue to

recognize the contributions and success of African Americans such as George Washington Carver, Martin Luther King, Booker T. Washington, Jesse Jackson, Oprah Winfrey, Tiger Woods, Condoleezza Rice, Muhammad Ali, and presidential-hopeful, Barack Obama – along with so many more past, present, and future accomplished African Americans.

"What was possible for me is possible for you. Strive earnestly to add to your knowledge. So long as you remain in ignorance, so long will you fail to command the respect of your fellow men." – Frederick Douglass

As lawyers, we have a unique opportunity and duty to uphold and enforce the laws of this country and to insure freedom and justice to all Americans regardless of gender, race, religion, marital status, age or disability.

It is because of the sacrifice of many great men and women who have stood for the cause of equality for all – that America is truly a nation "conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal." ✎

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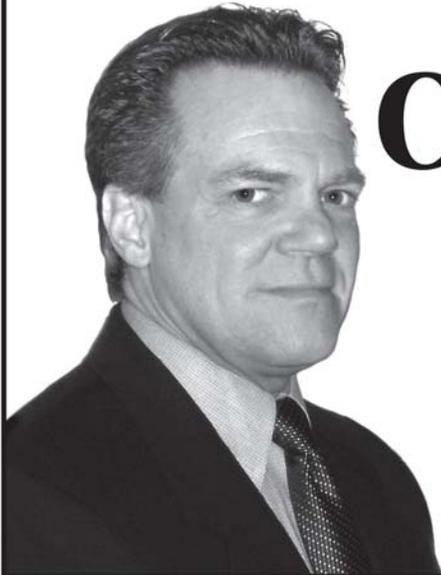
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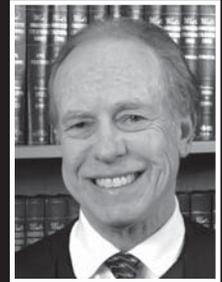
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February Events

Probate & Estate Planning Section

Topic: Taxes, IRAs and Estate Planning
Speaker: Steven E. Trytten, AFRCT, LLP
Date: February 12
Time: 12:00 noon
Place: Monterey at Encino Restaurant, Encino
Cost: \$35 members prepaid; \$45 at the door
 \$45 non-members prepaid; \$55 at the door
MCLE: 1 Hour

Intellectual Property, Entertainment & Internet Law Section

Topic: Branding Confusion and Infringement
Speaker: Bruce Isaacson, President, MMR
Date: February 15
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Place: SFVBA Conference Room
 21250 Califa Street, Suite 113
 Woodland Hills
Cost: \$25 members prepaid; \$35 at the door
 \$35 non-members prepaid; \$45 at the door
MCLE: 1 Hour

Workers' Compensation Section

Topic: Ins and Outs of FEHA
Speaker: Daryl Lucien, Esq.
Date: February 20
Time: 12:00 noon
Place: Monterey at Encino Restaurant, Encino
Cost: \$35 members prepaid; \$45 at the door
 \$45 non-members prepaid; \$55 at the door
MCLE: 1 Hour

Santa Clarita Valley Bar Association

Topic: A Primer on Toxic Mold Liability - Where Do Things Stand
Speaker: Stephen T. Holzer, Lewitt Hackman
Date: February 21
Time: 12:00 noon
Place: Marie Callender's, Valencia
Cost: \$30 members prepaid; \$40 at the door
MCLE: 1 Hour

Family Law Section

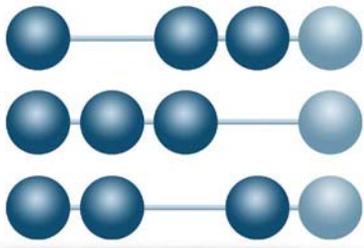
Topic: Using Private Investigators in Family Law Proceedings
Panel: Judge Wendy Kohn
 Leigh-Anne Salinas, Chief Investigator,
 Coastline Detectives
 Bobette Fleishman, Esq.
Date: February 25
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Place: Monterey at Encino Restaurant, Encino
Cost: \$45 members prepaid; \$55 at the door
 \$55 non-members prepaid; \$65 at the door
MCLE: 1 Hour

Business Law, Real Property & Business Law Section

Topic: Shareholder Disputes
Speaker: Sanford Michelman, Michelman & Robinson
Date: February 27
Time: 12:00 noon
Place: SFVBA Conference Room
 21250 Califa Street, Suite 113
 Woodland Hills
Cost: \$30 members prepaid; \$40 at the door
 \$40 non-members prepaid; \$50 at the door
MCLE: 1 Hour

Litigation Section

Topic: Humorous Moments From the Bench: What Not To Do in Front of the Judge
Speaker: Judge Ronald Coen
Date: February 28
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: SFVBA Conference Room
 21250 Califa Street, Suite 113
 Woodland Hills
Cost: \$35 members prepaid; \$45 at the door
 \$45 non-members prepaid; \$55 at the door
MCLE: 1 Hour



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