

ELECTION PAMPHLET

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTION
SEPTEMBER 10, 2021

Dear SFVBA Member:

In just a few days, attorney members of the San Fernando Valley Bar Association have the unique opportunity to elect their Bar Leaders by voting in our annual Board of Trustees election.

By allowing members to choose from a ballot of candidates rather than a predetermined slate, our Board of Trustees is much more representative of our membership.

The last day to submit a ballot will be **Friday, September 10, 2021**. The election will be conducted online with ballots emailed to attorney members in the second week of August.

Members may request a ballot sent by U.S. Mail rather than electronic mail by contacting the Executive Director, Rosie Soto Cohen, by **August 23** at (818) 227-0497.

I encourage members to take a few minutes to review the following Election Pamphlet and read each candidate's statement.

Each nominee has contributed to our organization's programs and success, and represents a cross-section of our sections, areas of practice and our community.

Thank you for your support and membership through this challenging year. I appreciate you allowing me the opportunity to serve you.

DAVID G. JONES

President

San Fernando Valley Bar Association



CHRISTOPHER P. WARNE

PRESIDENT



THE SFVBA HAS A STRONG FIELD OF CANDIDATES FOR WHAT WILL BE an important rebuilding year. Like every other business, the bar association faces both tough decisions and new opportunities post COVID-19. The next elected board will have a unique yet vital opportunity to shape the future of the organization.

The next board's agenda includes strengthening membership numbers, restarting annual in-person events and section meetings, building our relationships with sponsors and associate members, and—most importantly—bringing value to our attorney members.

The 2021-2022 ballot features qualified candidates with diverse personal and professional backgrounds and experiences. I ask each voting member to carefully review the qualifications of each candidate, and vote for up to six trustees who you feel will bring a strong mix of ideas, enthusiasm, and vision to the association. This is your opportunity to build our leadership team.

For those members not on the ballot, you are encouraged to become involved in committees, sections, and events. Please help the next board of trustees grow your organization better, stronger, and more valuable than ever.

MATTHEW A. BREDDAN

CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT-ELECT



THANK YOU FOR THE NOMINATION AND HONOR OF SERVING THE SAN Fernando Valley Bar Association as the President-Elect.

For the past six years, I have had the pleasure of supporting and working for the SFVBA, its members, and the public we serve as a Trustee, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Over the past year and a half, we have faced unprecedented challenges, and our organization has worked tirelessly to ensure we continued providing essential professional and community-facing services. From virtual educational and networking events to community outreach and advocacy, the SFVBA's mission of fostering excellence in the legal profession and facilitating access to justice for all has persevered.

I am honored to be nominated for President-Elect and if selected to serve, I will work with our members and leadership to find innovative solutions to meet the diverse and ever-changing needs of our membership and community.

As we continue to navigate ever-evolving protocols, I intend to develop new avenues to bolster support for SFVBA programs and membership. Further, I want to build upon the lessons and successes our organization and membership have experienced and strengthen best practices to ensure enduring success for our community.

As a family law practitioner for over twenty-five years, I understand the value of strong professional relationships and the importance of professional organizations, especially in times of crisis. In addition to my years of service on the SFVBA Executive Committee, I volunteer my time in the Judge Pro Tem program, served as a member of the Family Law Executive Committee, and serve as a member of the Haven Hills Domestic Violence Agency's Board of Directors.

I look forward to the opportunity to continue serving the SFVBA as President-Elect as we continue to adapt and navigate our ever-changing industry.

HEATHER GLICK-ATALLA

CANDIDATE FOR SECRETARY



WHAT A YEAR IT HAS BEEN FOR US ALL! LIKE MANY ORGANIZATIONS, the SFVBA faced unprecedented challenges this past year, but with strong Board leadership, a wonderful staff, and the support of our members, the Bar continued to serve its members and the San Fernando Valley community through its programs and outreach events.

Despite the physical distance forced between us, I have felt an even stronger connection with my fellow Bar members as a result of the community coming together to support one another.

It was a privilege serving as Treasurer of the San Fernando Valley Bar Association last year, and I am honored to be nominated to continue serving the Bar as Secretary next year.

As a nonprofit law attorney, I regularly attend my clients' board meetings and prepare minutes of these meetings, so I am looking forward to putting my drafting skills to use on behalf of the Bar.

My knowledge of nonprofit law and my experience working both as a volunteer for nonprofits as well as counseling nonprofit boards will enable me to continue making positive contributions to the Board as Secretary.

As we head into this next year with a renewed sense of hope and excitement, it is my sincere belief that the Bar will continue to grow and emerge stronger than ever after a challenging year. Thank you for your support and your vote.

KENNY C. BROOKS

CANDIDATE FOR TRUSTEE



FELLOW SFVBA MEMBERS, THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION OF MY candidacy for the position of Trustee of this important organization.

As a professional liability defense attorney with the longtime San Fernando Valley law firm of Nemecek & Cole, my professional time is almost exclusively spent helping other lawyers. I am grateful for having the opportunity to serve this noble profession that is often unfairly maligned.

By advising lawyers in existing and potential professional liability matters, it frees up the lawyers in our community to focus their own important work of providing vital legal services. In my view, being able to serve as Trustee on the Board of the SFVBA would be a welcomed extension of my work assisting the San Fernando Valley legal community.

In my prior work with another professional organization (the Professional Liability Underwriters Society), I garnered significant experience planning, organizing, and executing professional networking, social, volunteer, and educational events.

If elected, I would hope to bring that experience to the SFVBA and continue its tradition of putting on quality professional programs for the benefit of SFVBA members and the community at large. As a Trustee, I would also aim my solution-driven thinking toward maximizing the SFVBA member experience and the organization's impact in the community.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to the possibility of serving you and the SFVBA as a Trustee in the coming term.

ALAN EISNER CANDIDATE FOR TRUSTEE



IT IS WITH GREAT ENTHUSIASM THAT I ASK FOR YOUR VOTE TO SERVE ANOTHER term on the Board of Trustees of the San Fernando Valley Bar Association.

Despite the obvious challenges of the pandemic, we have accomplished so much for the Bar in the last two years. Our Mock Trial Committee held the inaugural (virtual) Mock Trial Competition, supporting the efforts of aspiring lawyers at prestigious law firms.

I, along with Taylor Williams-Munoz, began a monthly yoga class to support fitness and mindfulness among our members. And I have been recently appointed as the Criminal Law Section chair. In this capacity I will reach out to local bench officers to participate in education and practice programs and get speakers on criminal and crossover topics for our members.

I care deeply about the San Fernando Valley. I have been a lawyer here for three decades and have lived here throughout that time with my wife and three children. As a Certified Specialist in Criminal Law for over 20 years, I am proud of the work my firm, Eisner Gorin LLP, has done on criminal justice issues in our community.

I have a great appreciation for the energy and collegiality of the SFVBA. It is a vital resource for our community and can do even more. As a Board member in the coming term, I intend to continue to increase participation in the SFVBA through MCLE, networking and social events and other innovative programs.

These include programs to mentor young lawyers on courtroom procedure and advocacy, and on business development. I would also develop a speakers program featuring distinguished authors, journalists, entertainers, and others.

I believe the SFVBA can offer useful resources to help members deal with the stresses inherent in our profession and achieve a healthy work-life balance, such as the Yoga program we began, which emphasizes mindfulness, breathing, stretching, and stress reduction.

My goal is to continue to help our Board make the SFVBA an even more vibrant and relevant bar association for our profession and for our community, assisting members in the development of their careers, attracting more young members, and strengthening ties between the SFVBA and our community.

If you believe these are worthy objectives for the SFVBA, I ask for your support and vote. Thank you.

KYLE M. ELLIS CANDIDATE FOR TRUSTEE



IT IS MY HONOR TO BE NOMINATED TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, AND

I ask for your vote.

Professionally, I work for the Los Angeles County Superior Court as a Supervising Research Attorneys, where I am responsible for supervising the research attorneys in our family law division as well as in several independent calendar courtrooms.

It has been the experience of a lifetime to be able to work with the judicial officers and attorneys at the Court and I am grateful to be able to serve our legal community by helping to ensure the smooth function of our court system.

I have had the privilege to serve on the Board of the San Fernando Valley Bar Association for the past three terms, and throughout my time on the Board, I have worked on a number of initiatives and committees.

My most recent accomplishment was successfully holding the SFVBA's Inaugural Mock Trial Competition in April, where our Association hosted law student competitors from throughout California's law schools.

Additionally, in my time as a Trustee, I have been the Chair of the Membership and Marketing Committee, I helped organize the 2020 Judge's Night, and I have worked on numerous other projects.

Personally, I am the father of two wonderful girls, one who is 2 years old, and the other is 3 months old – and if you've been in a zoom meeting with me this year you've likely already seen one or both of them!

I love the openness and inclusivity that our community here at the SFVBA fosters, and I know that my family is enriched by my work with all of you.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. I hope to be reelected and to continue serving!

ALEX J. HEMMELGARN CANDIDATE FOR TRUSTEE



IT IS AN HONOR TO ONCE AGAIN BE NOMINATED AS A CANDIDATE FOR THE SFVBA Board of Trustees, especially in the company of the other exceptional candidates, many of whom I've worked closely with over the last year (or longer).

A primary goal of my time as a Trustee has been to increase membership and participation in bar activities by new attorneys and law students. Notoriously hard to reach and harder still to motivate to get involved, law students and young lawyers are the next generation of leaders for our bar association and it is vital to have a strong young membership.

I have worked to increase participation from this key demographic over the last year with my involvement with the Membership and Marketing committee and as the co-chair of New Lawyers Section. I have also been in touch with the career services offices, program directors, and professors at several of the area law schools to reach law students either living in or seeking employment in the Valley.

If elected to a two-year term, I look forward to continuing my work to launch a "pre-meeting" before participating section meetings and other bar activities for new members and young lawyers. Gathering a few minutes early, the pre-meeting will provide an informal greeting by established section members, an introduction of the topic at hand, and the opportunity for networking with other young attorneys as well as section leaders and potential employers.

Hopefully, these pre-meetings will provide an invitation to new lawyers and law students and promote regular participation in our sections, one of our bar association's most valuable resources.

I appreciate your time and consideration and ask for your vote so that I may continue to serve you and the rest of the Valley legal community on the SFVBA Board of Trustees.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to seeing each of you in-person at a SFVBA event soon.

ALEXANDER S. KASENDORF CANDIDATE FOR TRUSTEE



FOR THREE YEARS I HAVE SERVED ON THE SFVBA BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND one thing is certain . . . I want to keep going!

With your help (aka vote), I can continue to proudly serve the San Fernando Valley legal community. I joined my law firm, Alpert, Barr & Grant, APLC, in 2008. A year before, I moved to the Valley and have made it my own.

Married with three children and a Golden Retriever, life is a little different for me than it was in 2007. But I remain committed to serving you and continue to follow the path of the attorneys at my firm as four of them served as President of this amazing organization.

It would be a tremendous honor if I could have your vote. And if I do, I will work tirelessly to make our legal community a shining light that we are all proud to belong to.

My goals continue to be to bring our younger lawyers into our ranks and grow our base as an organization. This past year plus has presented all of us with many challenges.

The SFVBA has been mindful of this and tackled new and dynamic challenges. I strive to continue to lead all of his into greener pastures and beyond.

MINYONG LEE CANDIDATE FOR TRUSTEE



IT IS A PRIVILEGE AND HONOR TO BE NOMINATED TO SERVE FOR A SECOND TERM on the SFVBA Board of Trustees. I am excited about the opportunity to continue serving the San Fernando Valley legal community in this capacity.

I am a senior attorney at Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County, and work with domestic violence and sexual assault survivors in their family law matters. NLSLA is one of the largest legal aid organizations in Los Angeles County and provides free assistance to more than 150,000 individuals and families and addresses the most critical needs of people living in poverty throughout Los Angeles, with a large presence and focus in the San Fernando Valley.

I have a deep love for the Valley as I grew up here and left only to attend UC Berkeley for my undergraduate studies and returned to attend Pepperdine University for law school. My children are now attending the same schools that I went to as a child and my love for this community only continues to grow.

Over the last two years of serving as a Trustee, I have seen how SFVBA works to connect the legal community, and how in the most trying of times, it has sought to serve those in need and to provide resources to the most affected.

The level of determination by the bar to not only survive, but to thrive during the pandemic, makes me excited to see what else lies ahead as the world slowly seeks to find a new normal.

If elected, I would love to continue to bridge the public and private sectors to ensure access to justice for all Valley residents.

JOY KRAFT MILES CANDIDATE FOR TRUSTEE



I AM HONORED TO BE NOMINATED AGAIN FOR THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY BAR Association Board of Trustees, to work alongside altruistic trustees devoted to those less fortunate, SFVBA staff committed to making connections between bar members and bench officers, and the community to assist with the recovery from this pandemic.

Since law school, I have been a member of the SFVBA. For the past two years, I have served as Co-President of the Valley Community Legal Foundation, the charitable arm of the SFVBA. As VCLF Co-President, I have supervised the Foundation's scholarships to meritorious high school students committed to community service and careers in law enforcement and legal education.

Prior to the pandemic, the Foundation wrote a curriculum and members went to Valley high schools to teach about constitutional issues—community volunteerism we hope to return to soon.

During the pandemic, I engaged local elected officials, such as California State Senate Majority Leader Bob Hertzberg and Los Angeles City Councilmember Bob Blumenfield, to raise Valley and VCLF concerns, and to together address the residual effects of the pandemic, including economic recovery and housing issues.

While on the SFVBA Board, I sponsored and participated in its First Annual Mock Trial Competition. Also, I found great satisfaction in belonging to the Family Law and Estate Planning sections, especially attending their MCLE events.

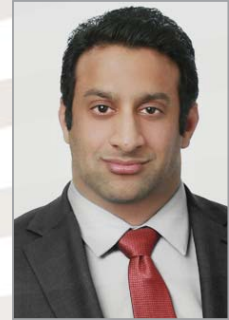
Philanthropy and trailblazing as a leader run in my family. I proudly carry the legacy of my late mother, attorney Marcia L. Kraft, the 2018 Honoree of the VCLF for her Exemplary Community Service.

I serve as President of Kraft Miles, A Law Corporation, an established, Woodland Hills, family law firm, and am a Certified Family Law Specialist. I live in Topanga with my husband, our two minor children, and our pandemic puppy.

Vote for "Joy" to bring enthusiasm, relevance, and dedicated service to the SFVBA.

PRAVIN A. SINGH

CANDIDATE FOR TRUSTEE



WISH WE TALKED MORE. REALLY, I DO. YOU SEEM LIKE A COOL PERSON, AND I could see us calling each other for advice once in a while.

Hopefully, at the next Installation Gala or Meet the Experts, we could get to know each other.

Actually, let's shoot for earlier. One goal we can set for ourselves this year would be to have more social or networking events.

I've been fortunate to have made some great friends at fun events, and honored to have been referred cases by my colleagues. If I am elected trustee, I promise to mix business and pleasure.

Take care, and see you soon.