



**VCBA MISSION STATEMENT**  
 To promote legal excellence, high ethical standards and professional conduct in the practice of law; to improve access to legal services for all people in Ventura County; and to work to improve the administration of justice.

# CITATIONS

S E P T E M B E R - T W O T H O U S A N D E I G H T

## AB INITIO THOUGHTS ON LAW PRACTICE 40 YEARS AGO

*By Terrence Bonham*

*Page 6*



MATTHEW P. GUASCO  
 BILL GREWE  
 M. CARMEN RAMÍREZ  
 ERIC R. REED  
 MICHAEL FORD  
 ALAN NOBLITT  
 VERNA R. KAGAN  
 STEVE HENDERSON

<b>PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>LETTER TO THE EDITOR</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>RASNOW WINS NATIONAL AWARD</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>WELCOME TO THE BENCH</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>NEED EXPERIENCE?</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>SELLING PROPERTY IN A TIGHT LENDING MARKET</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>PRO BONO HIGHLIGHTS</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>CLASSIFIEDS</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>EXEC'S DOT... DOT... DOT...</b>	<b>30</b>

# DCR

*Court Reporters & Interpreters*

Serving all of California and Abroad  
1 (800) DCR-3003 / (805) 267-1115

## *Behind every great DCR Court Reporter there is a great DCR team.*

*At Duke Court Reporters, our office staff is made up of former paralegals and legal secretaries who have an intimate knowledge of what is important to you.*

*Smooth coordination of depositions that require bridging in numerous participants from several locations simultaneously. DCR's deposition concierge oversees all critical support – photocopying, faxing, scanning exhibits – whatever you need, when you need it.*

*Court Reporters • Interpreters • Conference Rooms • DCR Connect  
Multi-Party Case Management • Deposition Scheduling: USA & Abroad  
Online Repository • Videography/Digitized Synchronization*



Financial Plaza Tower  
300 E. Esplanade Dr. #900  
Oxnard, CA



Westlake Corporate Plaza  
2625 Townsgate Rd. #330  
Westlake Village, CA

[www.DCRCourtReporters.com](http://www.DCRCourtReporters.com)



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Matthew P. Guasco

In last month's article, I drew upon the theme of harvests. I should explain. Much of my young life was devoted to food. I was raised in a grocer's family. My family owned a successful, independent supermarket which grew from an Italian immigrant's small roadside produce stand over 80 years ago. I learned all aspects of the business, from stocking, to sweeping the aisles, to cleaning the dairy case glass doors (boy, that *was* a long time ago), to clerking, to preparing and presenting the produce, to customer service, to accounting and bookkeeping. After my parents divorced, I put myself through college and law school from the money I saved working as a supermarket clerk for the Raley's chain in Sacramento. So, naturally, food and harvests readily come to mind because they have played such a large role in my life.

As lawyers, we rightly focus on our clients' legal interests, on their rights and obligations, on their disputes, on their injuries or their crimes. The VCBA and its members spend a great deal of time, energy and effort trying to provide legal services for those who cannot afford to pay for them, whether through the Volunteer Lawyer Services Program or otherwise. But there is a more fundamental need, one that is unmet for too many people each day: adequate, healthy food. That is why I am devoting this month's column to food, or more accurately, the task of trying to feed the many Ventura County residents who go hungry every day.

There are many groups that try to feed the hungry in Ventura County, but I would like to highlight the work of one in particular.

Food Share of Ventura County provides nutritious food to those in need. Food Share is a non-profit organization affiliated with America's Second Harvest national network of food banks. If you visit Food Share's web-site at [www.foodshare.com](http://www.foodshare.com), you will learn that more than 38,000 people obtain food each month from Food Share. Over one-third of those receiving food assistance are children. In Ventura County, one in five children live below the poverty line. We are in a period of economic instability which is likely to increase the number of people, and children in particular, who will need food assistance.

September is National Action Hunger Month, and Food Share of Ventura County has invited Ventura County lawyers to learn more about and become involved in its important work. The VCBA Board of Directors supports the work of Food Share and encourages all Ventura County attorneys to get involved. Food share will host a series of open houses for Ventura County lawyers at its Oxnard headquarters, which is located at 4156 Southbank Drive, Oxnard, CA 93036, telephone number (805) 983-7100. The open house dates and their respective sponsors are as follows:

Thursday, September 4 at 8:30 a.m.  
Ventura County Trial Lawyers Association

Tuesday, September 9 at 8:30 a.m.  
Nordman, Cormany, Hair & Compton

Thursday, September 11, 8:30 a.m.  
Women Lawyers of Ventura County

Tuesday, September 23, 8:30 a.m.  
Ventura County Family Lawyers

VCBA encourages you to attend these open house events and learn about the amazing work Food Share is doing to feed Ventura County's hungry. Food Share distributes over 10 million pounds of food annually to Ventura County residents. Food Share does this work with the assistance of hundreds of volunteers and in association with 155

agencies and other entities throughout the county. Food Share acquires food for distribution from a variety of sources, including food donations from farmers, supermarkets, food manufacturers, and packing houses. Daily, Food Share volunteers are permitted by local farmers to glean fresh produce from the county's many acres of farmland. Food is also provided through the America's Second Harvest network of over 200 food banks.

Donations of money go a long way to provide food through Food Share. For example, Food Share can acquire \$370 worth of food with a cash donation of \$20. And while Food Share obtains enormous quantities of donated food items each year, cash donations provide it with needed operational cash flow and the flexibility to purchase the broadest selection of healthy, nutritious foods. Cash donations can be made a variety of ways, including by check, monthly automatic deduction from a checking or savings account, and e-scrip. You can learn more by calling Food Share or visiting its web-site.

VCBA encourages all Ventura County lawyers to support the work of Food Share however they can. I know this is not a purely legal undertaking. As Lincoln said, however, we lawyers can do so much more for our communities than simply be technicians in the law. We are citizens first, lawyers second. Besides, we already have so many of our members helping in their communities in countless ways. This is another, important way to continue that tradition. To all of you already giving to Food Share, thank you.

*Matthew P. Guasco is Of Counsel to the law firm of Norman Dowler, LLP, where he specializes in appellate litigation and select trial court litigation. He is also a private mediator and arbitrator of civil legal disputes.*

# NEED CLIENTS?

Become a Member and let the LRIS get clients for you!

## LRIS

LAWYER REFERRAL & INFORMATION SERVICE

LRIS Needs More Attorneys In The Following Areas:

Civil Rights

Education Law

Government Benefits

Intellectual Property

Taxation Law

Tenant Rights

Malpractice

\*East County Attorneys in all areas

\*Spanish speaking in all areas

For more information call Alex Varela

**(805) 650-7599**

[www.vcba.org](http://www.vcba.org)

# FOCUSED ON WINNING

Telegenics Legal Video and Visual Litigation Support services allow attorneys and law firms to stay FOCUSED ON WINNING through every phase of a case – from Discovery through Trial or Settlement. For more than 26 years, the experts at Telegenics have been relied upon to understand case objectives and develop end-to-end visual and presentation strategies to gain an edge and win the case...because there are **no second impressions.**



*“Telegenics worked with our experts to create exhibits which distilled complex technical data into concepts that were readily understood and remembered by our jury and greatly contributed to a successful outcome.”*

**Alan R. Templeman,** *Lowthorp, Richards, McMillan, Miller & Templeman*

*Our comprehensive trial consultation technologies and responsive services include:*

- Videotaped Depositions • Transcript Synchronization • Trial Consultation and Courtroom Presentation • Post Production Litigation Support • Site Inspections
- Day-in-the-life Documentaries • Living Wills • Full integration of digital and visual assets, including computer animations

## TELEGENICS

LEGAL VIDEO & VISUAL LITIGATION SUPPORT

**805.981.3994**

Ventura: Financial Plaza Tower, 300 Esplanade Drive, Suite 900  
Santa Barbara: 15 West Carrillo Street

**LEGAL MALPRACTICE  
EXPERT WITNESS  
and LAWYERS ADVOCATE  
STATE BAR DEFENSE**

**PHILLIP FELDMAN**

B.S., M.B.A., J.D., AV.  
Fellow American Board of  
Professional Liability Attorneys

Certified Specialist  
Legal Malpractice  
(California & American Bar Associations)

Former Judge Pro Tem  
Former State Bar Prosecutor

Fee Arbitrator 31 years  
Litigator/Expert 40 years

Malp/Ethics Author

www.LegalMalpracticeExperts.com  
Email: LegMalpExpert@aol.com  
StateBarDefense@aol.com

**(310) LEG-MALP (534-6257)**

**ALSO FEE DISPUTES,  
PREVENTATIVE LAW & RISK  
MANAGEMENT CONSULTATIONS**

**LETTER TO  
THE EDITOR**

Dear Editor,

I am writing to compliment Steve Henderson on his regular column. It is not easy filling the page each month with humor and topical news - especially humor - but he always does so. He is to Citations what Herb Caen was to the San Francisco Chronicle. Steve, keep it coming!

Bill Grewe

*(Editor's Note: That's why we keep him on page 30.)*

**WHO ARE YOU?  
CITATIONS WANTS  
TO KNOW**

Are you a "wired" lawyer? We would like to interview you about your use of online social networks. Email your LinkedIn, Facebook or MySpace info and/or display name. Any other social networks you're willing to disclose?

Not wired? Not a problem! We want to know about your hobbies, especially extreme sports, unusual collections, or other obscure uses of your limited free time. Please contact panda@pandaesq.com.

**2008 VCBA  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**OFFICERS**

*President*  
**Matthew P. Guasco**

*President-Elect*  
**Anthony R. Strauss**

*Secretary-Treasurer*  
**Kendall VanConas**

*Past President*  
**Jonathan Fraser Light**

*Executive Director, CEO*  
**Steve Henderson, CAE**

Linda K. Ash	Barbara Macri-Ortiz
Claudia Y. Bautista	Joel Mark
Laura V. Bartels	David A. Ossentjuk
Marge A. Baxter	Mark R. Pachowicz
Mitchell F. Disney	Anthony M. Ramos
Amber A. Eisenbrey	Joseph L. Strohman
Mark M. Fang	Alfred Vargas
Robert L. Galloway	Michael G. Walker
Lilian H. Jiang	Carol A. Woo
Kathryn Pietrolungo, Barristers	

**CITATIONS EDITORIAL BOARD**

*Managing Editor*  
**Wendy C. Lascher**

*Co-Editor*  
**Al Vargas**

*Publisher, CEO*  
**Steve Henderson**

*Graphics/Production*  
**J.P. McWaters**

Karen B. Darnall	Gregory T. May
Michael L. McQueen	Mark E. Hancock
Michael R. Sment	Aris E. Karakalos
Michael A. Velthoen	Panda L. Kroll
Louis J. Vigorita	Robert I. Long
Joel R. Villaseñor	Eric R. Reed
Michael Strauss	

CITATIONS is published monthly by the Ventura County Bar Association. Editorial content and policy are solely the responsibility of the Ventura County Bar Association.

Submit all advertising, classified and calendar matters to:  
Submit all editorial matters to:

VCBA 4475 Market St., Suite B, Ventura, CA 93003 Attn: Executive Director t: 805.650.7599 f: 805.650.8059 e: bar@vcba.org w: www.vcba.org	Al Vargas Co-Editor CITATIONS P.O. Box 25540 Ventura, CA 93002 t: 805.648.3228 f: 805.643.7692 e: wendy@lascher.com
--	--



**MEDIATION/ ARBITRATOR**

**Richard M. Norman**

- 40 years litigation experience-AV rated.
- Personal injury, business, construction, employment, real estate, probate/trust, partnership and corporate disputes and dissolutions
- Member: American Board of Trial Advocates
- Past president Ventura County Bar Association and Ventura County Trial Lawyers Association
- American Arbitration Association and NASD arbitrator
- Trained Mediator- Pepperdine University Straus Institute
- Reasonable fees and flexible scheduling. No administrative charges.

**Richard M. Norman  
Of Counsel  
Norman Dowler, LLP  
840 County Square Drive  
Ventura, California 93003-5406  
(805) 654-0911 RNorman@normandowler.com**

## AB INITIO THOUGHTS ON LAW PRACTICE 40 YEARS AGO

By *Terrence Bonham*

*With apologies to Carly Simon, these are the good old days. But then, I've been saying that all along, and here it is 35 years – can you believe it? – since I started as a baby lawyer. Terrence Bonham captures a few colorful stories for CITATIONS that I remember too. I bet some of you not only remember these, but have many more tales of the past to share. Please send them to wendy@lascher.com for a future issue of CITATIONS. - ed.*

40 years ago law offices did not have Xerox machines. Secretaries had to use carbon paper to copy any letter or document. When paper came out with the carbon paper already attached, it was a revolutionary development and saved a step in the process. We did not have dictating equipment; rather, secretaries took shorthand in a spiral notebook. There was no such thing as e-mail, and blackberries were little purple fruit that grew on thorny bushes. Most large law firms had huge libraries, some of which required a full time librarian to keep them updated, whereas today of course, you just check into Westlaw or other preferred service for your research. Trial could be done in three days, discovery was practically non-existent and investigators were widely used.

Back then, lawyers dealt with each other on a first name basis. Their word was their bond and it was not necessary to send a letter

confirming that “you said . . . , I said . . . , we agreed . . .” Despite the lack of conveniences that we have today, we had a variety of extremely competent lawyers who were proud of their standing in the community. But there still were “characters” and I am going to relate some stories of those folks that I recall.

### DEPOSITION TECHNIQUE

When I got out of the army in 1968 I went to work for the firm of Halde, Batten, Barrymore & Stevens in Santa Barbara, where I was assigned to work with the late David Howard Batten. On one of my first days in the office, I was accompanying Batten to San Luis Obispo where he was going to take the deposition of a personal injury plaintiff. As we drove, he indicated that he wanted to impress upon this plaintiff that trials are not fun, and that the case should settle. I asked him how he would convey that thought and

he told me to “just watch.” We arrived in the office of the plaintiff’s attorney in San Luis Obispo where we were warmly greeted and escorted into a conference room with this very nice plaintiff. As the plaintiff was sworn and the deposition began, Batten gritted his teeth, leaned across the table and growled at the plaintiff, “I’m ready for the first lie. What’s your name?” Needless to say, the atmosphere in the room immediately changed from comfortable to hostile. Within days, the attorney for the plaintiff telephoned Batten and the case settled.

Soon after, I was invited to attend an evening deposition in which Bill Brace represented the plaintiff and Tom Halde represented the defendant. The deponent was a witness who had very little to offer either side. She arrived very pregnant, accompanied by her husband. A few minutes into the deposition, Halde instructed her not to answer a question.

## ARNOLD BLEUEL LAROCHELLE MATHEWS & ZIRBEL LLP

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Is Pleased To Announce That

### KENDALL A. VAN CONAS

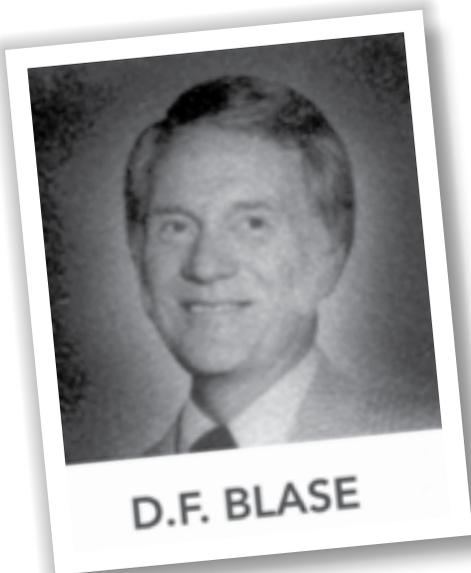
has been certified as a specialist in Estate Planning, Trust & Probate Law  
by the California State Bar, Board of Legal Specialization.

Ms. VanConas is a Partner with the firm, and will continue emphasis of her practice  
in the areas of estate planning, conservatorship law,  
probate and trust administration, elder law & special needs planning.

Ms. VanConas serves as Secretary of the Ventura County Bar Association,  
and as Chair of the Probate & Estate Planning Section of the Bar.

300 ESPLANADE DRIVE, SUITE 2100 OXNARD, CALIFORNIA 93036  
TELEPHONE: 805.988.9886 FAX: 805.988.1937 www.atozlaw.com

Brace immediately told Halde that he didn't represent the lady and that he had no right to instruct her with regard to anything. Brace instructed her to answer the question. After a while, Brace finished his questioning and passed the witness to Halde – who soon asked a question that Brace instructed the witness not to answer. Halde reminded Brace that he had just indicated the witness was not a party, was not represented by him, and that he had no business instructing her to do anything – and that since he had made the instruction he had thought over Brace's position and now agreed with him. Brace insisted that he had been wrong and that Halde had been right all along, and that they had a right to instruct the witness. Brace insisted that she not answer. So it went.



After an hour and a half of shouting and arguing, the deposition came to a conclusion with the witness in tears and her husband looking for someone to fight. The deposition adjourned with the witness and her husband banging doors loudly as they left. At this point, Brace looked at Halde and said "Gee,

Tom, that sure was fun. Let's get a drink." Halde responded "By golly, Bill, I was just about to recommend the same thing. I'll get the first round." And off they went to what was then known as Harry's El Cielito in Santa Barbara, where they discussed how enjoyable depositions could be.

**TRIAL STRATEGIES**

In another interesting case, the late Al Holzhauer represented a construction worker injured when a brick fell from an upper story, hitting him on the head. Fortunately, he was wearing a hard hat and survived the blow – but with serious injuries. When he was taken to the hospital, it was discovered that he had an aneurism that obviously preceded the injury. Surgery saved his life. The defendant was represented by the late Don Dewberry. Folks will remember that Dewberry habit a of mentioning his father, a minister, during opening statements, voir dire, closing argument, or wherever he could slip it in. In his closing argument, Dewberry told the jury that the man should be thankful that he was hit on the head because it got him to the hospital where the doctors discovered the aneurism and saved his life. Dewberry told the jury that the man was saved by "the divine finger of fate." In Holzhauer's final argument, he told the jury that the man didn't need the fractured skull or other brick-caused injuries and that it was not the "divine finger of fate" but the "grimy finger of a stonemason" that dropped the brick. Plaintiff prevailed.

More recently [*in the 1980s – ed.*] a medical malpractice case took over a year to try. During the course of the trial, one of the jurors got married, became pregnant and had a baby. The cast of characters included four people who are no longer with us: Judge Ben Ruffner, Red Blase for the infant plaintiff and Tom Halde and Jim McGahan for defendants. All three counsel were in the

*Continued on page 8.*

# *Accident Reconstruction*



*"I approach forensic engineering not as a narrow vocational activity but as a scientific inquiry."*



**Von Haenel & Associates, Inc.**

## **FORENSIC ENGINEERING**

*Objective Analysis and Scientific Integrity*

Combines over 20 years of experience as a professional research scientist with a 40 year old forensic engineering firm. I have handled hundred of cases in:

- Vehicular accident reconstruction
- Slip/Trip falls
- Product defects
- Fires
- Unusual cases requiring a broad scientific background

**300 Esplanade Drive  
Suite 1180  
Oxnard, CA 93036**

Phone: **(805) 388-7123**  
 Fax: **(805) 988-4948**  
 E-Mail: **fireball@mailaps.org**

**AB INITIO  
THOUGHTS ON LAW  
PRACTICE 40 YEARS AGO**

*Continued from page 7.*

habit of making speaking objections, which of course prolonged the trial. At one point, Judge Ruffner ordered them to assign numbers to various objections. Thus, instead of standing up and announcing hearsay and making a speech, they would simply be allowed to say "Objection #12."

At one point Blase was showing the jury a film of the plaintiff. Halde announced, in front of the jury, that Blase was "the Cecil B. DeMille of Oxnard." As happened repeatedly in that trial, the jail doors swung open and Halde was cited. Blase and McGahan also had their share of run-ins with the judge.

The trial also included one of the great cross-examinations of all time. Jim McGahan took on one of the Schultz brothers from IBAR with regard to damages. Using the numbers that the experts had given, McGahan cleverly walked him back, cementing his numbers, and then gave Schultz a hypothetical example about a Civil War soldier eating a ham sandwich at Warren's (a restaurant in the 100 block of California Street where Café Fiore now sits). Using the soldier, the dates of the Civil War, and the data used by the expert, McGahan got the expert to admit that the soldier would have paid something like \$4,000.00 for his ham sandwich. It was a devastating cross-examination, and a classic of good lawyering.

**OLD ADVERSARIES**

Blase and Halde tried dozens of cases together, some in Santa Barbara, some in Ventura, with each winning about half the cases. When Blase won, he would mail Halde a canvas bag filled with salt "for his wounds." When Halde won, he would send it back to Blase.



*Terrence Bonham is a partner at Benton, Orr, Duval & Buckingham in Ventura.*

**Upscale Office Space  
for the Attorney.**



**NOW LEASING**

*River Park*  
EXECUTIVE SUITES

- Full-Time Office Space
- Part-Time Office Space
- Virtual Office Plans
- Video Conferencing

1000 Town Center Dr., Ste. 300  
Oxnard, CA 93036

**805-351-3700**  
[www.rpexecutivesuites.com](http://www.rpexecutivesuites.com)



**ANDREA L. JACOBS**  
DIVORCE, PROBATES & REO'S

**AN EXCELLENT INVESTMENT  
+ BUILT-IN EQUITY  
= FORECLOSURES!**



COLDWELL BANKER

Call Me For My Complete Inventory  
(805) 230-3348 • (818) 606-7515 Cell  
[andreajacobs@earthlink.net](mailto:andreajacobs@earthlink.net)

See page 19

# Paul Bielaczyc Mediator



Private and Panel Mediator for Ventura, Santa Barbara  
Santa Maria, and San Luis Obispo



Personal Injury • Real Estate • Contracts  
Business Disputes • Construction Defect  
Employment • Neighborhood Issues  
Wills, Trusts & Probate • Landlord/Tenant  
Collections • Professional Malpractice

**Tel./Fax. 805-565-8725**

pbielaczyc@msn.com  
www.tricomediate.com

## BAR LEADERSHIP

### ADR SECTION

Hal Kyle 477-0050

### ASIAN BAR

Brian Nomi 444-5960

### BANKRUPTCY

Michael Sment 654-0311

### BARRISTERS

Kathryn Pietrolungo 288-1300

### BENCH/BAR/MEDIA COMMITTEE

Judge Glenn Reiser 654-2961

### BLACK ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION

Alvan Arzu 654-2500

### BUSINESS LITIGATION SECTION

Dennis LaRochelle 988-9886

### CITATIONS

Wendy Lascher 648-3228

### CLIENT RELATIONS

Dean Hazard 981-8555

### CONFERENCE OF DELEGATES

Joel Mark 988-8300

### COURT TOUR PROGRAM

Thomas Hinkle 656-4223

### CPA LAW SOCIETY

Douglas Kulper 659-6800

### EAST COUNTY BAR

Roberta Burnette 497-1011

### FAMILY LAW BAR

Sandra Bolker 652-0089

### INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Chris Balzan 658-1945

### J.H.B. INN OF COURT

Matthew Guasco 654-0911

### JUDICIAL EVALUATION COMMITTEE

Dennis LaRochelle 988-9886

### LABOR LAW & EMPLOYMENT

D. Palay/R. Burnette 641-6600/497-1011

### LAW LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Eileen Walker 447-6308

### LEGAL SERVICES FUND COMMITTEE

Anthony Strauss 641-9992

### MEXICAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

Greg Ramirez 988-0285

### PRO BONO ADVISORY BOARD

David Shain 659-6800

### PROBATE & ESTATE PLANNING SECTION

Kendall VanConas 988-9886

### REAL PROPERTY

Jody Moore 604-7130

### VCBA/VLSP, INC.

Matthew Guasco 654-0911

### VLSP, INC. EMERITUS ATTORNEYS

Verna Kagan 650-7599

### VC TRIAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

Dennis Jones 648-7188

### VC WOMEN LAWYERS

Jody Prior 582-7537

### VCBA STAFF

650-7599

Alice Duran - Associate Executive Director  
Celene Valenzuela - Administrative Assistant  
Alejandra Varela - Client Relations Manager  
Nadia Avila - Legal Assistant  
Verna Kagan, Esq. - VLSP Program Manager  
Peggy Purnell - CTP Coordinator

# Your Legal Staffing Partner

## Confidential Legal Placement for Law Firms & Corporations

- Attorneys
- Legal Assistants/Secretaries
- Office Administrators
- Paralegals



*Whalen Bryan, INC.*

whalenbryan.com



Kathi Whalen, C.A.C.

Ventura (805) 389-3663 Santa Barbara (805) 965-2020

# As Local as the Courthouse.



**YOU CAN BANK ON IT.**

## **SANTA BARBARA BANK & TRUST**

SINCE 1960

[www.sbbt.com](http://www.sbbt.com)

### **COMMERCIAL BANKING GROUP**

- FINANCING SOLUTIONS
- ADVISORY SERVICES
- TREASURY SERVICES

**Stacy Peterson**  
*Senior Vice President  
Regional Manager*

805.373.0242

### **PRIVATE WEALTH MANAGEMENT**

- INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT
- TRUST SERVICES
- PRIVATE BANKING

**Suzanne Chadwick**  
*Senior Vice President  
Regional Manager*

805.676.7557

# RASNOW WINS NATIONAL AWARD

By M. Carmen Ramirez



**Tina Rasnow Receives the ABA's "Lawyer as Problem Solver" Award**

In New York City on August 8, 2008 at the annual meeting of the American Bar Association's Alternative Dispute Resolution Section, Ventura County's own Tina L. Rasnow received that section's prestigious award for her service as a problem solving lawyer. Every year this award is granted to an attorney who best exemplifies the efforts of the legal profession to go beyond adversarial endeavors to solving problems.

Tina was recognized for her ground breaking work for the Ventura Superior Court's Self Help Legal Access Center, where she was the founding coordinator. The program was the first of its kind in California, helping people in more than family law matters. Since 1998, Tina has used her creative and intellectual energies to fashion innovative strategies to help the thousands of people who come to court every year without an attorney.

The work of the Center helps the unrepresented litigant to understand the legal process and provides user-friendly forms to further that. Tina has created a comprehensive set of court forms which have in many cases become Judicial Council forms in use by all of the courts of our state. In addition to forms and processes, Tina has worked with local attorneys to provide in-court legal information about probate matters, landlord tenant cases and more. Those of us who know and work with Tina are very familiar with how persuasive she can be to get cooperation from us.

Much of Tina's time during the past ten years at the Self Help Center has been devoted to

providing educational materials, including programs, classes, and video productions that educate the public about the legal issues most often seen at the Self Help Center, with the ultimate goal of preventing problems before they occur. A special interest is helping young people avoid problems and do what they need

of bar associations, including the specialty bars, getting them involved in providing pro bono services.

The award given in New York City this past August is only a small recognition for the vast amount of work that Tina has done renewing

***"Each day we are blessed to awaken, we have new opportunities to work toward easing suffering, or increasing suffering in the world. I try to work toward easing suffering."***

to do to get on the right track, through the Teen Court program which Tina founded, as well as the program to give pregnant and teen moms legal information that they need to do better for themselves and their children.

Tina's influence has been felt beyond California's borders as she has been a frequent consultant not only to California courts, but to courts and self help programs around the nation on setting up the much-needed centers in other counties and other states. In everything that Tina has done she has enlisted the support and help

confidence in our judicial system by helping unrepresented people know that the courts can be fair to them as well as to people with attorneys. Tina's philosophy was expressed beautifully in her comments at the Awards reception when she closed her acceptance with these words: "Each day we are blessed to awaken, we have new opportunities to work toward easing suffering, or increasing suffering in the world. I try to work toward easing suffering."

*M. Carmen Ramirez is Community Planning Director for CAUSE.*

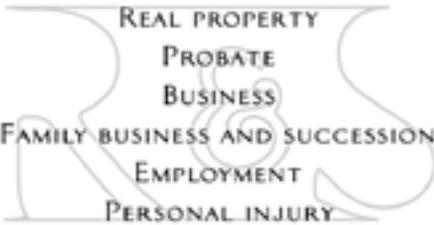


## RUBENSTEIN SORENSEN MEDIATION

PLEASE VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE:  
[WWW.RSMEDIATE.COM](http://WWW.RSMEDIATE.COM)



### READY TO SETTLE YOUR CASE



REAL PROPERTY  
PROBATE  
BUSINESS  
FAMILY BUSINESS AND SUCCESSION  
EMPLOYMENT  
PERSONAL INJURY

**JUDITH RUBENSTEIN, J.D., M.A., PSYCH.**  
[JUDITH@RSMEDIATE.COM](mailto:JUDITH@RSMEDIATE.COM)  
[WWW.RSMEDIATE.COM](http://WWW.RSMEDIATE.COM)  
 T 805.569.2747  
 F 866.423.9058

**LOL SORENSEN, J.D., M.S.W**  
[LOL@RSMEDIATE.COM](mailto:LOL@RSMEDIATE.COM)  
[WWW.RSMEDIATE.COM](http://WWW.RSMEDIATE.COM)  
 T 805.649.1389  
 F 866.423.9058



**It hits you at 3 AM:**  
**"DID I MISS A DEADLINE?"**  
**Better check DOD!**

**IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT IT HITS YOU —**  
"Oh no! Did I miss a deadline?"

Relax! Just use Deadlines On Demand ("DOD"), the nationwide legal calculation service. Even at 3 AM, you can check DOD's website to see your deadlines.

DOD is fast, inexpensive and accurate. It's powered by CompuLaw®—the same rules-based calendar technology used by the big firms for decades.

With DOD there's no need to buy, install and learn expensive and complex software. The DOD website is fast and easy to use, so you save countless hours of time. Simply charge your credit card for the results, and bill the minimal fee as a research charge.

You can also import the results to Outlook® or any application that supports iCalendar files.

Think about it—no more worries about calendar vs. court days, local vs. federal holidays, or counting backwards and forwards. DOD does it all for you.

Protect your clients and your firm—DOD all of your dates—and sleep better at night!

**DEADLINES  
ON DEMAND**

a **CompuLaw**® company

The Premier  
Legal Deadline  
Calculation Service<sup>SM</sup>

(888) 363-5522 | [www.deadlines.com](http://www.deadlines.com)

**For a FREE PREVIEW: Use Promo Code VCBA2008**

# Tax Audits Tax Litigation

## Law Office of Gregory Arnold

Counsel on 18 U.S. Tax Court Opinions

Ten Years in Private Practice

Former IRS Senior Trial Attorney

Former U.S. Tax Court Clerk



510 Castillo Street, Suite 304  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

805-560-8200

Arnold@ArnoldTax.com

Representative Cases:  
[www.ArnoldTax.com](http://www.ArnoldTax.com)

## WELCOME TO THE BENCH

*By Eric Reed*

CITATIONS congratulates Ventura County's Superior Court's "Class of 2008." The Governor took his time, but appeared to play catch up in July when **Ellen Gay Conroy**, **Kevin G. DeNoce** and **David R. Worley** were appointed as judges, and **David M. Hirsch**, **Roger L. Lund** and **William R. Redmond** joined the Court as commissioners. Conroy, DeNoce and Worley are familiar faces – all served previously as commissioners. Hirsch joins from the Public Defender's Office, Redmond from the District Attorney's Office, and Lund from private practice, where he specialized in estate planning, probate and conservatorship.

**Judges Thomas Hutchins**, **Herbert Curtis**, and **Charles Campbell** have all retired from the bench this year.



Pueblo Radiology Medical Group  
*Your Trusted Experts*

### Pueblo Radiology SANTA BARBARA

2320 Bath St., Suite 113  
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

tel: (805) 682-7744  
fax: (805) 682-3321



### Pueblo Radiology VENTURA

4516 Market St., Bldg. 1A  
Ventura, CA 93003

tel: (805) 654-8170  
fax: (805) 654-8173



[www.puebloradiology.com](http://www.puebloradiology.com)

## Expert Radiology Services & Support

Pueblo Radiology provides state of the art diagnostic imaging facilities and expert radiologists. Get the advantage that comes from thoughtful application of latest radiology procedures and technology.

### Case Evaluation Consultation

- Choose the Correct Medical Imaging Procedure for Your Case
- Review and Analysis of Prior Imaging Procedures
- Prompt Reports

### Board Certified Radiologists are Sub-Specialty Trained

- Neurological Imaging
- MSK Imaging
- Body Imaging
- Interventional Imaging Procedures

### Operates Full Outpatient Imaging Facilities in Santa Barbara and Ventura Providing Local State-of-the-Art Diagnostics:

- MRI
- CT
- Ultrasound
- Fluoroscopy
- X-ray



## PARTICIPATE IN THE VLSP

FOR MORE  
INFORMATION  
CALL

Verna R. Kagan,  
Esquire  
Program Manager  
(805) 650-7599  
bar@vcba.org  
www.vcba.org

## Dispute Resolution

The new Mediation and Dispute Resolution Professional Certificate Program curriculum explores the history of dispute resolution and merges a theoretical grounding with a practical application of collaborative problem solving to offer a solid educational experience.

### Dispute Resolution and the Legal Process

Instructor: *Stanley M. Roden* 4 Saturdays, November 1-22 at UCSB,  
(805) 893-4200 or visit [www.extension.ucsb.edu](http://www.extension.ucsb.edu)



Professional mediator/arbitrator **Stan Roden** will be teaching *Dispute Resolution and the Legal Process*. As a mediator, he draws on his extensive legal career, his broad mediation/ arbitration experience, and his comprehensive training. Stan was a trial lawyer for over 35 years and a partner at a large Santa Barbara law firm and he was the two-term elected District Attorney of the County of Santa Barbara.

Changing  
lives

UCSB  
Extension

UNIVERSITY  
OF CALIFORNIA  
SANTA BARBARA

Hemming Morse, Inc., Certified Public Accountants, Litigation and Forensic Consultants,  
is celebrating 50 years as one of the accounting industry's strategic leaders.

HMI is an internationally recognized leader in the areas of litigation and forensic consulting  
services, as well as audits of and consulting for employee benefit plans.

# H M I

50TH ANNIVERSARY

Our thanks and appreciation to  
our clients who have played a  
vital role in the firm's success.

805.381.0500  
[www.hemming.com](http://www.hemming.com)

Offices in: San Francisco | Los Angeles | Fresno | Westlake Village | Chico

## Your Clients' Divorces Can Be Dignified, Respectful and Constructive

(not to mention much less expensive and much less stressful)

In your practice you see the devastation of divorce litigation. With the protocols of Collaborative Practice and Mediation we do much better for our clients. Every day. I can help your divorcing clients (as I have helped many others over the course of the last 8 years) to protect themselves from the trauma and expense of the adversarial system.



DAVID P. SCHWARTZ, J.D., C.F.L.S., AV Rated  
Collaborative Family Law and Mediation  
dpsfamilylaw.com

*Helping your divorcing clients negotiate the rapids and shoals of divorce safely and with dignity.*

I welcome your referrals and also the opportunity to consult with you about these alternatives in general or about the specifics of your clients situations. Plus, lunch is always on me.

**Flexible Scheduling 87 North Chestnut Street Ventura 93001 642-1246**

Founding President - Collaborative Family Law Professionals, Ventura County  
Member - International Academy Of Collaborative Professionals  
Association For Conflict Resolution - Advanced Practitioner, Family and Divorce

## NEED EXPERIENCE?

I conduct a "free legal clinic" at Catholic Charities on the Avenue in Ventura. I hold office every Friday morning from 9:00am to noon, and try to give advice and help to anyone who asks, and who can't afford to hire one of my colleagues. This modest effort essentially fills my practice.

I see many opportunities for valid civil cases which I simply have not the time to file and litigate. They languish for lack of prosecution, and should not.

I would like to make an arrangement with an up-and-coming lawyer to hear these potential litigants, and to take on their cases if they agree that they have merit. This is by no means a request for pro bono legal services, but rather for a no-cost consultation, a fair assessment of "tryability", and a good-faith attempt to move ahead.

My part of the bargain will be to pre-screen the cases and refer them with interview notes. The two or three lawyers who would be "refer-ees" would agree to give a free, fair, and prompt hearing to anyone I refer. Interested lawyers should call at 524-1919 or e-mail [mikeford@earthlink.net](mailto:mikeford@earthlink.net).

*Michael Ford practices in Ventura.*

## Sometimes numbers are the only prints left behind.

Arxis Financial is a proven forensic accounting and litigation specialist. We will examine the financial data and help you determine the "bottom line." Arxis provides financial and valuation analysis needed to resolve a variety of legal disputes from family court to civil, criminal, and probate courts. In many cases our experts can help you reach a settlement. If trial or arbitration is required we give you the support you need to win.

**Chris Hamilton, CPA, CFE, CVA**

**805.306.7890**

[www.arxisfinancial.com](http://www.arxisfinancial.com)

[chamilton@arxisgroup.com](mailto:chamilton@arxisgroup.com)



FORENSIC ACCOUNTING

BUSINESS VALUATION

FRAUD ANALYSIS



**A**S A SIGNIFICANT BENEFIT TO OUR MEMBERS...THE VENTURA COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION HAS IDENTIFIED THESE INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL PLANNING PROFESSIONALS TO ACCOMMODATE YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS. THESE BROKERS ARE RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR INTEGRITY, KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE IN SERVING THE LEGAL COMMUNITY. THEY CAN ASSIST YOU IN THE AREAS OF LIFE, HEALTH, DISABILITY INCOME, LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE, ANNUITIES AND INVESTMENTS. YOU CAN OBTAIN STATE AND COUNTY BAR PLANS AT DISCOUNTED RATES THROUGH THESE BROKERS.

# Barry A. Cane

**Disability Income Insurance  
Business Overhead Expense**

**(805) 496-5537 Fax: (805) 496-5598**



**Lic. #0740274**

**240 Lombard St., #100, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360**

Registered Representative Park Avenue Securities (PAS), 7 Hanover Square, New York, NY 10004. Securities products and services offered through PAS, 1-888-600-4667, Member FINRA. PAS is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of The Guardian Life insurance Company of America. Representative of The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America, New York, NY and other fine insurance companies.

# Michael P. Kenney\*, CLU

**Group and Individual Health Insurance  
Business and Personal Life Insurance**

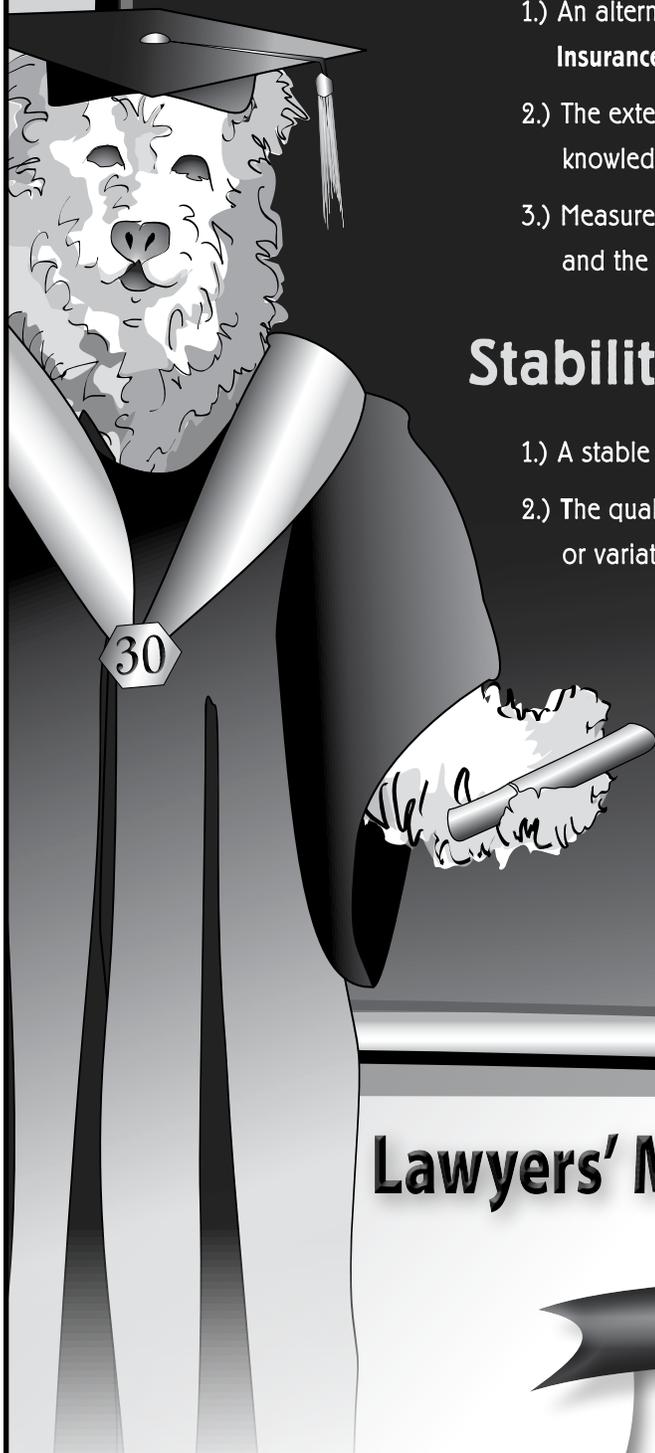
**(805) 497-7407 Fax: (805) 494-1363**



**Lic. # 0688916**

**[www.kenneyins.com](http://www.kenneyins.com)**

Securities offered through a registered represented of Royal Alliance Associates, Inc., Member FINRA.  
Branch Office: 100 E. Thousand Oaks Blvd., Suite 152, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360 • (805) 496-4600



## Predictability — pre·dict'·a·bil'·i·ty, noun

- 1.) An alternative for Confidence. ie – **Lawyers' Mutual Insurance Company (LMIC)**
- 2.) The extent to which future states of a system may be predicted based knowledge of current and past states of the system. ie – **LMIC**
- 3.) Measured by the variability in achieving cost, performance objectives and the quality of being predictable. – syn: **LMIC**

## Stability — sta'·bil'·i·ty, noun

- 1.) A stable order. ie – **Lawyers' Mutual Insurance Company (LMIC)**
- 2.) The quality of being enduring and free from change or variation. – syn: **LMIC**

**LMIC...**  
the very definition.

## Lawyers' Mutual Insurance Company

Professional Liability Insurance

*Celebrating 30 years*

**Congratulations**

**Dividend Just Declared!**  
**13th Straight Year!**

A.M. Best Rated "A" (Excellent)  
California Admitted

Lawyers' Mutual Insurance Company  
3110 West Empire Avenue  
Burbank, CA 91504

call **1.800.252.2045** or visit **www.LMIC.com**



# SELLING PROPERTY IN A TIGHT LENDING MARKET

By Alan Noblitt

With the real estate market in freefall in almost every market in the U.S. and inventories climbing, what is a person to do with a property? Most buyers can't get loans and interest rates are rising, so the banks and other mortgage lenders are lesser players than they were even six months ago. While there is no perfect solution for all scenarios, owner financing is an option that everyone should understand and consider using when selling a property.

Simply put, owner financing is having the seller of the property carry the financing for the buyer of the property. The seller becomes the bank. Then, after the transaction closes, the seller can either hold onto the note or sell it to a note investor that he can trust.

## CURRENT SITUATION

The bad economic news:

- Banks are failing at rates not seen in years, and are often not lending even to customers with 700+ credit. The FDIC considers 90 U.S. banks to be on shaky financial footing, and bank write-downs total \$400 billion to date (Business Week, 7/28/2008).
- The economy looks increasingly vulnerable, with unemployment, inflation (driven by energy and food), and interest rates all creeping up.
- Consumer confidence is also way below normal, as Americans grow more pessimistic.
- Etc., etc.

## WHAT'S NEXT

The government rescue bill that was just signed will help the real estate market in several ways, though not by much in my opinion. Offering a blank check for Fannie and Freddie will bring some stability into the market, the \$4 billion in block grants to states should slow the price decline in some areas (but is much too small to make more than a dent), and new government regulations may help to avoid this type of crisis in the future. However, there is nothing in the bill to bring the real estate market back up in the short term.

The timing for a market recovery continues to be discussed by all sorts of experts and wannabes. Areas that were the most volatile during the past few years – southern California, Las Vegas, Phoenix, and much of Florida – have fallen the most and seem most likely to continue to fall over the next 12 months. The northwestern U.S. has been much less impacted by either the up or down swings of the market. Overall, I wouldn't count on a market stabilization for another 12 months or so, and a return to increasing prices until 2010 or even 2011!

## USING OWNER FINANCING

Owner financing is an option that your clients can use for most property types (residential, commercial, and land). It is not appropriate if an underlying loan nearly matches the note amount or if there is minimal equity in the property. If the note is a 2nd lien or the payer has sub-625 credit, the note is considered to be highly risky. The client may be able to sell the note, but the discount would be steeper.

The perfect note, whether you plan on selling it or keeping it, is one where the sales price approximately matches the property value, the payer puts in a down payment of at least 10% (in this market of declining prices, 15-20% is even better), the payer's credit is 680 or above, and the terms are satisfactory. This means a good interest rate, either no balloon payment or one that is at least three years out, proper documentation, lender's title policy, etc. While there will still be a small discount if the note is sold, that discount would be minimal.

If the note is lacking in some of the elements above, the best option is often to only sell part of the note. For example, if the note has a 30-year term, the client might just sell the next five years or ten years worth of payments. We call this a partial purchase, or simply a partial. With a partial, the seller get less money upfront than by selling the whole note, but can look forward to a future income stream and net a lot more money in total. Often, the note buyer will be open to buying the rest of the note (at the seller's option) after receiving 9-12 months of payments.

## MEDIATION SERVICES

[www.californianeutrals.org](http://www.californianeutrals.org)

*Serving Orange, Los Angeles, Ventura,  
Santa Barbara & San Luis Obispo Counties*



- BUSINESS
- EMPLOYMENT
- INSURANCE
- PROBATE
- PERSONAL INJURY
- PROFESSIONAL NEGLIGENCE

Mr. Carrington is "very knowledgeable. Insurance companies respect his opinion. Extensive trial experience (ABOT), excellent mediator, fair, objective arbitrator. Extraordinarily capable and forthcoming with efforts and involvement. He is very thorough and fair." Quote from 2006 Consumer Lawyers Evaluations

**R.A. CARRINGTON**

565 Sheffield  
Santa Barbara, California 93108

805.565.1487 • Fax: 805.565.3187 • [RATC@cox.net](mailto:RATC@cox.net)

So, if your client has just sold a property using owner financing, the client has three options:

- 1) Hold onto the note and collect the monthly payments. Of course, this means that the client is responsible for managing the collections, being certain that property taxes are being paid, ensuring that fire insurance is current, etc.
- 2) Sell all of the note. Again, if the main elements of the property or note are not strong, the discount may be bigger than the client would like.
- 3) Sell part of the note, as described in the paragraph above. Over the past year, more noteholders working with investors have chosen this option. This allowed them to get some cash in hand while not taking such a discount hit.

**SELLING A NOTE**

If are considering selling a note, make sure that the client is working with an experienced and reputable investor or broker. In addition to asking lots of questions and checking gut instincts:

- Google the investor or broker to learn about what they have done and whether there are any negatives listed about them.
- Check [www.BBB.org](http://www.BBB.org) and [www.ripoffreport.com](http://www.ripoffreport.com) to see if they are mentioned there and what the complaint was about.
- If the property is in California and the client is working with a broker, make sure that the person has a current real estate broker's license. If not, they're operating illegally, so move on quickly.

In summary, although owner financing is a tool useful in any real estate market it is especially useful in times like these, when lenders have pulled back. Owner financing has been around for centuries and has been frequently used for real estate over the past 30 years.

*Alan Noblitt is the owner of Seascape Capital Inc. He may be reached at 1-800-634-4697, or visit the website at [www.seascapecapital.com](http://www.seascapecapital.com).*

**ANDREA L. JACOBS**  
YOUR REAL ESTATE EXPERT FOR  
**DIVORCE, PROBATE &  
REAL ESTATE ATTORNEYS**

I Can Assist Your Clients  
In Keeping Their Valuable Equity.

(805) 230-3348 • (818) 606-7515 Cell  
andreajacobs@earthlink.net

COLDWELL BANKER

See page 8

**Give Your Staff a Step Up**

**Attorneys:** Paralegals can bring better service to the client and decrease your workload, while providing you a higher profit margin. You remain competitive and are able to serve more clients. Is there someone in your office who could benefit from paralegal training?

**Paralegal Professional Certificate Program**

Classes begin September 20th. For questions regarding the program, contact Craig A. Smith, J.D., [paralegal@els.ucsb.edu](mailto:paralegal@els.ucsb.edu), 893-7440. To enroll call (805) 893-4200 or visit [www.extension.ucsb.edu](http://www.extension.ucsb.edu)

---

Changing lives **UCSB** UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
Extension SANTA BARBARA

# MJB

## Real Estate Services, Inc

Your "All In One" Professional Real Estate Source

- Real Estate
- Brokers
- Loans
- Appraisals
- Foreclosures



When you need a Professional **Real Estate Appraiser, Broker or Loan Officer** for your Estate, Divorce Probate, or other Real Estate issues, look to Jim Mackelburg who is a professionally designated member of the Appraisal Institute, American Society of Appraisers, and National Association of Independent Fee Appraisers (3 professional designations).

Jim has passed the California **State Probate Referee Exam**, and is also a member of the American Bar Association, and the Ventura County Bar Associations, along with being a Realtor and Broker member of NAR and CAR. Jim has also served as a strong **Expert witness in State and Federal Courts**, and has the ability to address matters in which real estate and valuation plays a central role, including:

- Estate Appraisals/Divorce Appraisals
- Forensic Appraisals/Probate & Bankruptcy Appraisals
- Real Estate Sales via our Full Services Brokerage Division.
- Loans via our Mortgage Brokerage Division (A-D paper), and personal loans.
- Property Tax Appeals

When you seek solutions to real estate problems Jim has the Knowledge, Expertise, and Integrity to ascertain your needs, and assist you in making smart real estate decisions. Make a smart decision by selecting **Jim Mackelburg**, a designated professional on your side. With Knowledge, Experience, Integrity on your side, Jim can support all your professional real estate needs, **call today!**

**Jim Mackelburg**  
SRA, ASA, IFA

**888-520-0225**

[www.Mackelburg.com](http://www.Mackelburg.com)



## EXPERIENCE THE VALUE OF EXPERIENCE

**Ken Moes**

Now Offering Mediation Services & Litigation Strategy Consultations

[kmoes@archbald.com](mailto:kmoes@archbald.com) • 805.564.2070

- More than forty years of civil trial experience with over 100 jury and major court trials
- Areas of emphasis:
 

Complex Disputes	Professional Liability Matters
Insurance Related Issues	Estate/Trust Litigation

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [www.archbald.com](http://www.archbald.com) OR CALL Dyan AT 805.564.2070 ext. 111


**ARCHBALD & SPRAY, LLP**  
 ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
*Professional Services Since 1960*

505 Bath Street • Santa Barbara, CA 93101 • Telephone 805.564.2070 • Facsimile 805.564.2081

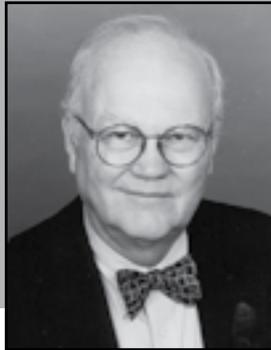
[www.archbald.com](http://www.archbald.com)

# JAMS Ventura Resolution Experts

**Full-Time Arbitrators & Mediators  
Dedicated to Resolving the  
Most Challenging Disputes**



**Hon. Melinda  
A. Johnson (Ret.)**



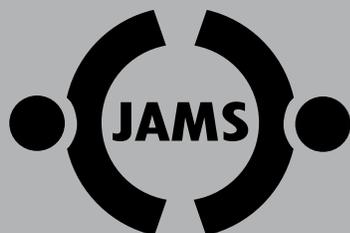
**Hon. William  
L. Peck (Ret.)**



**Hon. Steven  
J. Stone (Ret.)**



**Nancy J.  
Warren, Esq.**



THE RESOLUTION EXPERTS®

**805.648.1190 • [www.jamsadr.com](http://www.jamsadr.com)**

200 Full-Time Neutrals • Resolution Centers Nationwide

## PRO BONO HIGHLIGHTS

*By Verna Kagan*

It was my pleasure to be invited to the open house of the new offices of **Deborah Jurgensen**. Deborah is one of the newest attorneys donating pro bono services to the VLSP.

Deborah moved to Ventura County from Santa Barbara eight years ago. She long had a desire to go to law school. However, marriage 28 years ago and the birth of three children delayed the plan until age 44, when she was accepted to Ventura College of Law. She passed the bar and was admitted to practice June 5, 2007.

In the meantime, Deborah operated a sewing business called Sew Lovely Designs. Additional work experience included work as an accounting officer for the Probation Department. She also worked as a court clerk in the Juvenile Court and managed the juvenile office.

These latter experiences had a profound impact on Deborah and she determined that at least part of what she did as a lawyer would be to provide access to justice for juveniles. Among the first classes she took in law college was a class in juvenile law.

Deborah also has a strong attitude about pro bono work. She encourages new admittees to volunteer a portion of their time to pro bono. "It is like tithing," she said. If you wait until you can afford to do it, you won't have the time. So the time to start is at the beginning.

True to her words, she has already accepted two very arduous matters from VLSP. We are very grateful. Welcome to the club, Deborah.

We have among our pro bono volunteers an award-winning poet. It was great fun to go to the county fair and see the blue ribbon attached to **Sandra Knapp's** poetry. With her permission I am going to use future space to print at least one of her winning poems.

This is the month we will be saying goodbye to **Grace Esnardo**. Grace is leaving the community as her husband has been transferred to a new assignment. Though her new location will offer new challenges and excitement, she will be sorely missed here. Her quick smile and sparkling personality adds an oasis of light. Grace was last year's pro bono award winner, having accepted more matters from us than anyone else. We wish her the best of luck.

*Verna R. Kagan is VLSP Senior Emeritus Attorney.*

# End-to-End Services from Discovery to Trial



Merrill Legal Solutions

**Litigation Support**

**eDiscovery**

**Court Reporting and Legal Videography**

**Document Services**

**Language Translations**

**Trial Services**

**Terri McCubbin**

Account Executive

1363 Donlon Street, Suite 8

Ventura, CA 93003

Ofc: 800-826-0277

Fax: 805-644-6582

Cell: 818-445-4883

[terri.mccubbin@merrillcorp.com](mailto:terri.mccubbin@merrillcorp.com)

20750 Ventura Blvd., Suite 205

Woodland Hills, CA 91364

Ofc: 800-826-0277

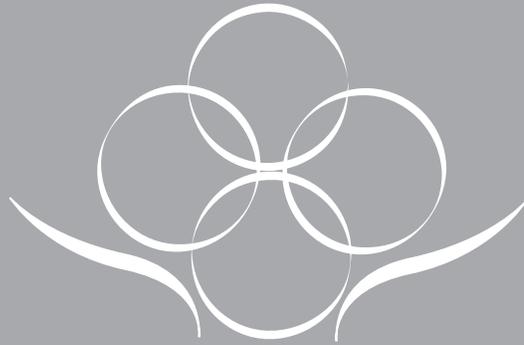
Fax: 818-593-2301

Cell: 818-445-4883

[terri.mccubbin@merrillcorp.com](mailto:terri.mccubbin@merrillcorp.com)

**MERRILL LEGAL SOLUTIONS**

# Collaborative Family Law Professionals



Transforming family law into a collaborative process

- Private
- No court battles
- Collaborative
- Creative
- Win-win climate
- Clients in charge
- Faster
- Child sensitive

## Collaborative Family Lawyers

Joseph Beltran	Steve Mitnick
Paul Blatz	Herman Mora
Sandra Bolker	Mark Nelson
Terry Anne Buchanan	Marsha Niedens
Ed Buckle	Gary Norris
Rebecca Calderwood	Michael Percy
Michael Christiano	David Prayer
Steve Debbas	Richard Rabbin
Tom Hutchinson	Donna Santo
Pat Lamas	David Schwartz
Jan Loomis	Hilary Shankin
Patti Mann	Sylvia Soto
Julianna Marcial	Randall Sundeen
Ed Matisoff	Richard Taylor
Jeanne McNair	Terry Viele
Paul Miller	

## Allied Professionals

### Mental Health Professionals

James Cole, Ph.D.  
Deborah Huang, LCSW  
Silvia Leidig, LCSW

### Accountants

Susan Carlisle, CPA  
Wayne Lorch, CPA

### Financial Consultant

Helen Bass, CSA

### Vocational Consultant

Gabrielle David

[www.collaborativefamilylawyers.com](http://www.collaborativefamilylawyers.com)

Collaborative Family Lawyers, Inc.

dba Collaborative Family Law Professionals, a California tax-exempt public benefit corporation

## BARRISTERS WINE AND CHEESE NIGHT





# ST. JOHN'S SEMINARY

INVITES THE VENTURA COUNTY LEGAL COMMUNITY TO THE

FIRST VENTURA COUNTY

## RED MASS

ST. JOHN'S SEMINARY  
5012 SEMINARY ROAD  
CAMARILLO, CALIFORNIA

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2008 – 5:30 P.M.**

CELEBRANT: BISHOP THOMAS J. CURRY  
HOMILIST: BISHOP SYLVESTER D. RYAN

RECEPTION FOLLOWING IN THE SEMINARY COURTYARD  
PLEASE RSVP BY OCTOBER 1

### History of the Red Mass

Red Mass was first celebrated in Paris in 1245 and began in England about 1310 during the reign of Edward I. The entire Bench and Bar would attend the Red Mass together at the opening of each term of Court. The priest and the judges of the High Court wore red robes, thus the Eucharistic celebration became popularly known as the Red Mass.

The tradition of the Red Mass has continued in the United States. Each year in Washington, D.C. the members of the United States Supreme Court join the President, and members of Congress in the celebration of the Red Mass at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. The Mass is attended by government officials, judges, members of the legal profession and their supporters and is open to all faiths.

#### ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MR. DAVID P. BENDER, JR., ESQ. + THE HONORABLE PAUL H. COFFEE  
THE HONORABLE MANUEL COVARRUBIAS + GLENN J. DICKENSON, ESQ. + DAVID E. EDSALL, ESQ.  
JAMES M. FARLEY, ESQ. + MICHAEL FORD, ESQ. + KAY FORD, ESQ. + PATRICK T. LOUGHMAN, ESQ.  
THE HONORABLE VINCENT O'NEIL + RICHARD A. REGNIER, ESQ. + MS. MARY C. SULLIVAN, ESQ.  
TONY TREMBLEY, ESQ. + KENDALL A. VAN CONAS, ESQ. + LOUIS J. VIGORITA, ESQ.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CALL (805) 482-2755, X. 2035 OR EMAIL:  
ADVANCEMENT@STJOHNSEM.EDU

*Come Dance with Us!*

VENTURA COUNTY  
BAR ASSOCIATION  
INSTALLATION AND  
AWARDS BANQUET

SATURDAY EVENING  
NOVEMBER 15, 2008



## 2008 JUSTICE RICHARD ABBE MOOT COURT AWARD



**J**ustices Paul Coffee, Arthur Gilbert, and Steven Perren (front row, from left), selected Ventura College of Law student Joe Jones (back row, far right) as the winner of the 2008 Justice Richard Abbe Moot Court award. Assistant Public

Defender Michael McMahon (back row, from left, center) coached Ventura's team, which also included Katie Kent (back row, second from left) as well as two participants from the University of West Los Angeles School of Law.

## Hoefflin & Associates, A Law Corporation

*Personalized representation  
to attain client goals*

Hoefflin & Associates delivers results by putting client interests first and using a team-based approach to creatively, intelligently, and effectively resolve legal matters.

***Emphasis on***

- Real Estate
- Business and Corporate
- Partnerships/ LLC's
- Estate Planning
- Executive Employment
- Trademark and Copyright

2659 Townsgate Road, Suite 232  
Westlake Village, CA 91361  
(805) 497-8605  
[www.hoefflinlaw.com](http://www.hoefflinlaw.com)



***Refer with confidence***

*(Standing, left to right)*

- Richard M. Hoefflin, Esq.
- Jason M. Burrows, Esq.
- Tamara L. Harper, Esq.
- Steven A. Meadville, Esq., Of Counsel

# Forensic Accounting

Economic Damage Calculations ♦  
Business Valuations ♦ Family Law  
Financial Issues ♦ Tax Issues



Michael C. Eulau, CPA

MBA, Finance, University of Chicago

MSc, Economics, London School of Economics

Over 17 Years Experience

Eulau Accountancy Corporation  
200 E. Santa Clara Street, Suite 200  
Ventura, CA 93001

Phone (805) 641-1040

*When you need to impress someone with the truth...*  
**POLYGRAPH**  
**JACK TRIMARCO & ASSOCIATES**  
**POLYGRAPH / INVESTIGATIONS, INC.**




9454 Wilshire Blvd. 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
 Beverly Hills, CA 90212  
 (310) 247-2637

email: [jtrimarco@aol.com](mailto:jtrimarco@aol.com)  
[www.jacktrimarco.com](http://www.jacktrimarco.com)

*Jack Trimarco, President  
 Former Polygraph Unit Chief  
 Los Angeles, F.B.I. (1990-1998)*

**C.A. P.I. #20970**

Member Society of Former Special Agents  
**Federal Bureau of Investigation**

Former Inspector General Polygraph Program  
 Office of Counter Intelligence

**Tri-County Sentry Newspaper**  
**LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES**  
 We can publish your Trustee's Sales, Probate Notices and Change of Names. Court Order No.125431

**Rates:**  
 Trustee's Sales...\$225 approx  
 Petition to Admin \$180  
 Change of Name...\$110  
 Legal Notices...\$850

For the best service call **983-0015**

We file your Affidavit of Publication with the court

**Trial Graphics**  
 Over 20 years of multimedia service to the legal community. Call us for video and still photography, diagrams, timelines, charts, maps, schematics and image editing.

[www.nimmer.net/legal\\_graphics](http://www.nimmer.net/legal_graphics)  
 Phone 805-566-0163  
 E/mail [nlg@nimmer.net](mailto:nlg@nimmer.net)

Nimmer Legal Graphics

# Legal resources for California

- Westlaw® – KeyCite®
- Public Records
- Legal Solutions™ Plus
- The Witkin Library
- LiveNote®
- Cowles Legal Systems®
- The Rutter Group California Practice Guides™
- Miller & Starr
- West LegalEdcenter®
- ProLaw®
- CFLR DissoMaster™ Suite

**For details, contact West Law Firm Sales Representative**

**Gregg Kravitz**

- In-office training
- Free consultations!

**Phone: 805-654-7027**  
**E-mail: [gregg.kravitz@thomson.com](mailto:gregg.kravitz@thomson.com)**

**THOMSON**  
  
**WEST**

**Going places with West.**

© 2007 West, a Thomson business L-328178/2-07



**Past issues of CITATIONS may be found under "membership resources" on the bar's website at [www.vcba.org](http://www.vcba.org).**



**TRACY COLLINS**

*Attorney At Law*



**ERISA**



*Representing claimants in the denial of group disability and life insurance claims.*

5699 Kanan Road, Suite 415  
 Agoura Hills, CA 91301  
 (818) 889-2441  
 Fax: (818) 889-1210  
 erisadisability@aol.com

**11TH HOUR  
 TRIAL & MEDIATION**

**DAVID M. KAREN, ESQ.**

**805.988.4848**

dk4law@aol.com  
 www.dk4law.com



**Victory Video**  
 805.404.3345  
 Wayne Marien,  
 CLVS

\*depos \*mock trials \*day-in-the-life documentaries \*ethical wills  
 \*video encoding & syncing  
**victoryvid@mac.com**  
 \*digital videography\*



**FAMILY LAW MEDIATION**  
**Susana Goytia-Miller**  
 ATTORNEY AT LAW/ PHD

\*Professional Trained Mediator Pepperdine University  
 \*Bilingual (English & Spanish)  
 \*President of Woman Lawyers of Ventura County (2005– Present)  
 \*President of The Mexican American Bar Association (2007)  
 \*Member of The American Immigration Lawyers Association  
 \*Member of The National Lawyers Guild  
 \*Member of The Ventura Center for Dispute Settlement  
 \*Member of The Association for Conflict Resolution

Susana Goytia-Miller, Esq.  
 300 Esplanade Dr., Suite 1760  
 Oxnard, CA 93036  
 Tel. (805) 485-2700  
 Fax (805) 485-2751  
 Sgmillerlaw@aol.com  
 susana@susanagoytiamillerlaw.com

*susanagoytiamillerlaw.com*

**PROFESSIONAL  
 LAND SURVEYOR**

**EXPERT WITNESS SERVICES**

**FRANK J. SOBECKI, PLS**

- ◇ LAND SURVEYING
- ◇ BOUNDARY DISPUTES
- ◇ EASEMENT DISPUTES
- ◇ LAND SUBDIVISION ENTITLEMENTS
- ◇ CONSTRUCTION SURVEYING
- ◇ ACCIDENT SCENE MAPPING
- ◇ PROPERTY EXHIBITS
- ◇ TRIP & FALL MAPPING
- ◇ CERTIFICATES of MERIT



**LICENSED SINCE 1988  
 30 YEARS of EXPERIENCE**

**PAST PRESIDENT of the  
 CALIFORNIA LAND SURVEYORS  
 ASSOCIATION  
 CHANNEL ISLANDS**

FJS Land Consulting  
 fjs@fjslandconsulting.com  
 (805) 501-4075  
 (805) 583-3710 (fax)  
 www.fjslandconsulting.com



**Martin Basaldua  
 BAIL BONDS**

**20% Discount**  
 Retained Attorney

**Reliable • Qualified • Courteous**



**(805) 641-Bail (2245)**



Martin Basaldua Agent/Owner  
 Insurance Lic. #1840584

Se habla español

Claudia Basaldua, Agent  
 Insurance Lic. #1840782

**ALWAYS OPEN**  
 WWW.805BAIL.COM  
 674 County Square Dr., 209-B, Ventura, CA 93003

**Medi-Cal Eligibility Assistance**

Elder Law Attorney Craig R. Ploss specializes in assisting individuals to obtain Medi-Cal Long Term Care (LTC) benefits to cover the costs of skilled nursing care.

Services include:

- a custom-designed eligibility analysis & qualifications plan for LTC benefits
- preparation and filing of Medi-Cal Application; represents applicant during entire process
- avoidance of Medi-Cal Recovery Claim/Liens and Probate upon death of Medi-Cal beneficiary
- appealing denial or loss of LTC benefits and Recovery Claims/Liens

---

**Law Offices of Craig R. Ploss**  
 290 Maple Court, Suite 118, Ventura, CA 93003  
 • Tel: 805-642-8407 • Toll Free: 866-789-9907 • Fax: 866-379-2149 • Email: ploss@tds.net

# CLASSIFIEDS

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

**Paralegal** - Experienced family law paralegal sought for well-respected law firm in Ventura. Applicant should be experienced in discovery procedures and timelines, research, writing declarations, preparing financials, heavy client contact. Knowledge of Legal Solutions, Word, Excel. Attention to detail a must. Full-time position. Salary DOE. Fax résumé to (805) 653-6006.

**Assistant City Attorney** - City of Thousand Oaks. \$9,869 - \$12,336/mo. City government tort claim process; all phases of pretrial, trial, appellate work. Req: JD, minimum 7 years' experience in civil law and civil litigation defense, preferably in municipal law setting. Apply Immediately. [www.toaks.org](http://www.toaks.org) or (805) 449-2144.

**Experienced Paralegal Needed** - Dynamic plaintiff law firm seeks experienced, qualified paralegal for preparing and responding to discovery, writing, and research. Nationally recognized plaintiff firm. Excellent working environment, benefits, and profit sharing. Pay commensurate with experience. Email résumé to Dierdre Powell ([dierdrepowell@hieplerlaw.com](mailto:dierdrepowell@hieplerlaw.com)).

**Associate Attorney Needed** - Dynamic plaintiff law firm with national reputation seeks associate attorney with at least 2 years' civil litigation experience and excellent human skills. Excellent working environment, benefits, and profit sharing. Pay commensurate with experience. Email résumé to Dierdre Powell ([dierdrepowell@hieplerlaw.com](mailto:dierdrepowell@hieplerlaw.com)).

**United States Magistrate Judges** - The U.S. District Court for the Central District of California will appoint two magistrate judges to hold court in Los Angeles, Riverside and Santa Ana, beginning in May, 2009. Appointments are subject to FBI investigations and IRS tax checks. The current salary is \$155,756 per year, plus benefits. Application forms available from Human Resources Department, U.S. District Court, 312 N. Spring Street, Room 535, Los Angeles 90012 or at [www.cacd.uscourts.gov](http://www.cacd.uscourts.gov).

## SERVICES OFFERED

**Second-Year Attorney Looking For Contract And Appearance Work** - Reasonable hourly rate. Family law, unlawful detainer, criminal, discovery requests or analysis, brief writing, forms, P&As, letter writing, etc. Can provide writing samples and references. Let me help

get you out from under your crazy schedule and pile(s) of work. Contact Stephanie White (805) 304-9393, or email [steffwhiteesq@gmail.com](mailto:steffwhiteesq@gmail.com).

**Part-time Legal Assistant** - Ventura law student seeking full employment as a legal assistant. Courses completed: Contract Law, Criminal Law, Torts, Legal Analysis, Immigration Law, Drinking & Driving Law & Procedure. Effective research skills. Résumé request - Sandy. [Stamez1@csufresno.edu](mailto:Stamez1@csufresno.edu)

## OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE

**Camarillo Conference Rooms** - Need a conference room or two centrally located in Ventura County and near the 101 freeway? We've got you covered. For further information regarding pricing and availability please contact Sandra Rubio at (805) 384-1313.

**Professional Office Space** - Approx. 3,000 sq. ft. of professional space available for immediate occupancy; freshly painted and partially furnished; contains 2 bathrooms and a kitchenette; very favorable terms. Please contact Joe Henderson (805) 642-2001.

**Share a Moderately Large Law Office Suite**- Across from the courthouse, easy walking. Includes a spacious, large window office, conference room and library (to share), dedicated secretarial space and one additional interior office available for rent. Call 650-9990. Office located at 770 County Square Drive, Ventura. Available September 1, 2008.

**Fully Furnished Office in Law Office Suite** Downtown Santa Barbara with high speed internet, fax, printer and copier. \$750/month (805) 452-4463.

**Law Offices for Lease/Rent** - \$400 to \$500 per month. County Square Professional Offices Bldg., 674 County Square Drive, Ventura. Across the street from the courthouse. Large windows, evergreen trees and garden views, loads of free parking for attorneys and clients. Five offices to choose from, approximately 160 sq. ft. to 200 sq. feet. Underpass access to courthouse and law library. Contact Douglas English, Suite 101, 642-2025.

## CIVIL LITIGATION ASSOCIATE

Santa Barbara Firm seeks associate with 2-5 years civil litigation experience.

Only serious candidates w/top credentials  
& experience need apply.

## BUSINESS/REAL ESTATE ASSOCIATE

The Firm also seeks 2-4 year associate for business & real estate transactional group. Strong analytical/writing skills req.

Send resume/cover letter to:

Susan Subject | Mullen & Henzell L.L.P.

Fax: (805) 966-9204 | Email: [Recruit@mullenlaw.com](mailto:Recruit@mullenlaw.com)

## A Broker's Broker Kay Wilson-Bolton, GRI

Versatile, Attentive, Fair

Serving West Ventura County Since 1976

- ✦ Standard of Care Consultation
- ✦ Discovery
- ✦ Probate Sales
- ✦ Foreclosure Sales
- ✦ Short Pay Negotiations



CENTURY 21 Buena Vista 805.340.5025  
[kay@readyssetkay.com](mailto:kay@readyssetkay.com) [www.readyssetkay.com](http://www.readyssetkay.com)



England? (13 times!) **Sandra Bolker** at bolkerlaw@charter.net...Lake Louise? Banff? **Bart Bleuel** at bbleuel@atozlaw.com... Switzerland? **Laura Bartels** at lvkbartels@aol.com...Two lawyers on the Oxnard City Council? Could happen – **Dierdre Frank** and **Carmen Ramirez** are taking the challenge... From Conan O'Brien: "In Ohio, a prisoner is claiming that he's too obese to be executed, but he says he could go for a last meal."... From Jean Kerr: "A lawyer is never entirely comfortable with a friendly divorce, any more than a good mortician wants to finish the job and then have the patient sit up on the table." ... The law offices of **Jody Moore** have relocated to 1429 E. Thousand Oaks Blvd., Suite 202, T.O. New phone number is 604.7130. Jody's website and email addresses remain unchanged ... License Plate of the Month: RBM ATTY spotted on a red BMW piloted by **Bob Maxwell**...

**Tim Giles** is the new City Attorney for the City of Goleta. Previously, Tim served for many years as assistant City Attorney for the City of Thousand Oaks. He started 8.25...On 8.1, the Ventura County Maritime Museum celebrated the 218th Anniversary of the US Coast Guard with a party at which a model of a US Coast Guard Cape Class Patrol Boat built by **Richard Walton** was presented to the US CG Channel Islands Station...From Melvin Belli: "There is never a deed so foul that something couldn't be said for the guy: that's why there are lawyers."...Since Axiom opened its San Francisco offices less than two years ago, it has received more than 1,500 job applications for fewer than 80 attorney positions. And the New York based firm founded in 2001 doesn't offer partnerships, offices, secretaries, or even desk space (Axiom lawyers work at home or the client's workplace)...**Greg Ramirez** and **Sandra Ruvalcaba** rode their horses in the Santa Barbara Fiesta Parade 8.1...

## Exec's Dot...Dot...Dot...

By Steve Henderson, Executive Director, M.A., CAE

**Justice Arthur Gilbert** is doing the VCBA/VLSP, Inc. a huge favor and you too can participate. Justice Gilbert has authored a book, *Under Submission-The Columns of Arthur Gilbert*, published by The Rutter Group, 2008. It's the collection of The Daily Journal columns that ran from 1988 to 2008. Yours truly has them and for \$20 you can have one. ALL the \$\$\$ goes to our pro bono program... From Samuel Butler: "In the law, the only thing certain is the expense."...TV Law: "Our lawyers understand the value of a healthy hunch. It's \$400 an hour, plus court costs." – Isaac (Robert Guillaume), *Sports Night*... Yes, you too can attend the formal installation ceremony of **Judge Ellen Gay Conroy** scheduled for 9.22 at 4:00 p.m. in Courtroom #22...**Dan Palay** wants all to know that his firm may now be called the Palay Law Firm. **Kevin McTague** has retired from the practice of law. Dan's new e-address is djp@palaylaw.com...**Denise Trerotola** scored her first job as a lawyer with **Dunn & Sanderson**. She'll be practicing criminal and family law...

**Josef "Marc" Dion** and **Kim Shean** will collect the prestigious State Bar of California's Pro Bono Awards 9.26 in Monterey during the bar's annual meeting. Marc, nominated by **Verna Kagan**, won for his efforts representing clients of the VLSP, Inc. Kim, nominated by **Laura Bartels**, won the government category Service Award for her work with Santa Clara Valley Legal Aid...**David Shaneyfelt** and **Caroline Hurtado** have been elevated to partners at **Wood & Bender**...**Lisa Spillman** gave birth June 30 to Levi Olaf at 1:39 in the afternoon. He weighed 8 pounds 2 ounces, and was 21.5 inches long. Levi joins sister Ella (4) and brother Atticus (2). Husband Paul doing fine. Lisa lets me know too there will be a charity golf tournament sponsored by the Oxnard Public Works Department benefiting the public works scholarship fund – apwa.oxnard.golfreg.com. The date is 10.31...**Mark Kirwin** and **Kirwin Mediation** have moved their offices to 474 East Main Street, Ventura. mkirwin@hklaw.com...**Joe O'Neill** has been elected chairman of the Ventura County Democratic Central Committee...

**Riverside County Public Defender Gary Windom** was featured in the July issue of California Lawyer—www.callawyer.com. Terrible backlog down there as most of you know...WOW! From Judge Quentin

Kopp in the July issue of *California Lawyer*. "I am accustomed to your glib political correctness, but you merit condemnation for your reprehensible selection of Kamala Harris for your Attorney of the Year award. She's a prosecutorial joke, a pandering foe of strong pursuit of persons arrested by the police department, and a faddish office holder who uses the position for the toothless, "feel-good" pap described for the so-called award."... More TV Law: "You have a job to do, and so do I. Yours is to sell socks and suspenders. Mine is to cross-examine people like you and crush them." – Alan Shore (James Spader), *Boston Legal*...From Conan O'Brien: "In France, a man sued over the country's ban on 'dwarf tossing,' claiming that it has kept him from earning a living. Not surprisingly, the judge threw the case and the dwarf out of court."...

Little Known Secret #37: A great and significant portion of **Dan Palay's** courtroom victory was due in large part because **Alex Gutierrez** exhibited some magnificent legal skills. For his work, Dan purchased Alex a new Porsche... From Fran Lebowitz: "If you want to get ahead in this world, get a lawyer, not a book."... **John Matthews** continues his quest of visiting all Division I college football stadiums. He's visited Washington State and the University of Alabama most recently. His favorite? University of Tennessee – "It's the people." Of the 120, give or take, he's been to 73. High on the list still remains Penn State and the University of Florida.

**Carmen Ramirez** and **Tina Rasnow** will be honored by the Ventura County Women Lawyers during their annual event scheduled for October 30. They both will receive the Legacy Award. **Deborah Jurgensen** will be presented the **Holly Spevak** Memorial Award too. Further info? laurie.nintcheff@ventura.courts.ca.gov.

*Steve Henderson* has been the executive director and chief executive officer of the bar association and its affiliated organizations since November 1990. He will be celebrating his 40th birthday in style on the 15<sup>th</sup>. Donations to the VCBA/VLSP, Inc. are strenuously encouraged. Bottles of Fosters, Red Stripe and Corona Light are a close second.

**Dissatisfied working with large  
"Corporate Giants"? Get back to the  
comfort of working with a  
local court reporting firm,  
one with that *Personal* touch.**

*Personal Court Reporters* is a full-service court reporting, video, and litigation support firm ready to serve you in California and affiliates in all 50 states. We provide our clients with an effective combination of technology, competitive pricing, and quality service for all your litigation needs.

We offer conference facilities at our Los Angeles, Van Nuys, Ventura, and Santa Barbara locations for depositions and hearings.

For all your out-of-state requirements, *Personal Court Reporters* has established affiliate agencies nationally, allowing us to hand select court reporters for depositions anywhere in the country.

At *Personal Court Reporters* we offer the following services at all of our locations:

- *Certified Real Time Reporters*
- *Complimentary Conference Rooms*
- *Professional Videographers, Videoconferencing & Video Synchronization*
- *E-Transcripts via the Internet*
- *Exhibits on CD-ROM*
- *Complimentary Condensed Transcripts & Indices*
- *Case Management*
- *Mastercard, Visa, and American Express accepted*

The next time that your firm needs court reporting services, give us a call at any of our locations and we'll provide the services that you need with that *Personal* touch.

[www.personalcourtreporters.com](http://www.personalcourtreporters.com)

*Personal* Locations:



**LOS ANGELES**

4727 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 401  
Los Angeles, CA 90010  
323.857.1010



**VAN NUYS**

14545 Sylvan Street  
Van Nuys, CA 91411  
818.988.1900



**VENTURA**

801 S. Victoria Avenue, Suite 306  
Ventura, CA 93003  
805.654.1058



**SANTA BARBARA**

411 E. Canon Perdido, Suite 21  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
805.966.0177

*Personal*  
COURT REPORTERS, INC.



*ADVICE YOU CAN TRUST  
WHEN THE STAKES ARE HIGH.*

The Law Offices of David Lehr, Inc. would like to thank you for a year of support.

We would especially like to thank the following attorneys:

- Mike Bradbury
- Salley Dichter
- Wendy Lascher
- Guy Parvex
- Chuck Samonsky
- Scott Samsky
- Al Vargas



*We would appreciate your criminal law referrals.*

**The Law Offices of David Lehr, Inc.**

789 S. Victoria Ave., Suite 202, Ventura, CA 93003 Phone: (805) 477-0070 [www.DavidLehrLaw.com](http://www.DavidLehrLaw.com)

**CITATIONS**

Ventura County Bar Association  
4475 Market Street, Suite B  
Ventura, California 93003

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE

**PAID**

PERMIT NO. 507  
OXNARD, CA 93030