



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 L E V E N

RED MASS CONTINUES A LEGAL TRADITION

By Glenn J. Dickinson

Page 14



JOSEPH L. STROHMAN
 LAURA L. BARTELS
 JERRY BECKERMAN AND ANTHONY R. STRAUSS
 DAVID E. EDSALL

 KATHRYN E. PIETROLUNGO

 STEVE HENDERSON

CHIEFS 1 & 28	3
SANTA CLARA VALLEY LEGAL AID STARTS 16TH YEAR	5
IMPROVING OUR FUTURE WITH "POSSIBLE SELVES."	7
A BULLET I DODGED	9
LETTER TO THE EDITOR	11
EAR TO THE WALL	17
BARRISTERS CORNER	19
CLASSIFIEDS	21
EXEC'S DOT... DOT... DOT...	22

DONALD E. MARKS
ANTHONY P. BROOKLIER

LAW OFFICES
MARKS & BROOKLIER, LLP
10100 SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD
SUITE 300
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90067
www.marksandbrooklier.com
August 4, 2011

TELEPHONE
(310) 273-7188
(310) 772-2287
FAX (310) 772-2286

Jack Trimarco & Associates
Polygraph/Investigations, Inc.
9454 Wilshire Blvd., 6th Floor
Beverly Hills, CA 90212

Dear Jack:

As you know, Bryan Stow, a San Francisco Giants fan, was brutally attacked by two men in the Dodger Stadium parking lot on opening day, March 31, 2011.

On May 22, 2011, Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) SWAT officers arrested my client, Giovanni Ramirez at an East Hollywood apartment complex. LAPD Chief Charlie Beck said at a news conference that day, "I believe we have the right guy. I wouldn't be standing here in front of you. I certainly wouldn't be booking him later on tonight. You know this is a case that needs much more work, but we have some significant, significant pieces to it that leads me to believe that we do indeed have the right individual."

Mr. Ramirez agreed to take a LAPD polygraph examination, to be conducted on June 1, 2011.

I retained your services as a nationally known and respected polygraph examiner. You agreed to polygraph my client at Los Angeles County Men's Central Jail, on that day prior to the LAPD examination. Further, you agreed to monitor the LAPD polygraph examination in an observation room within Parker Center (LAPD Headquarters).

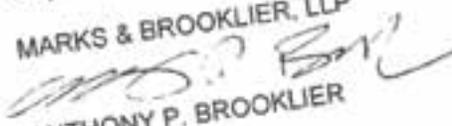
After you polygraphed Giovanni Ramirez, as you departed the jail, you telephoned me. You said, "LAPD arrested the wrong guy. Giovanni Ramirez was not on Dodger stadium property on March 31, 2011."

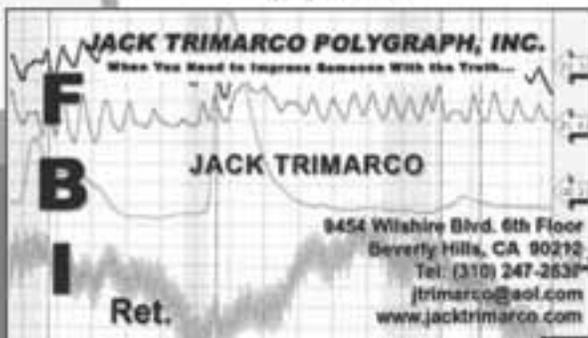
On June 1, 2011, you accompanied me to Parker Center to monitor the LAPD polygraph examination. The respect shown to you by the LAPD polygraph personnel comforted me. You advised them that Mr. Ramirez passed your exam as you handed them your report.

Although this case had many interesting facets, central to Giovanni Ramirez being eliminated as a suspect, were your "non deceptive" polygraph results.

It is a tribute to your reputation that polygraph testing conducted by you is so well received and respected by the prosecution, as well as the defense. You saved my client's life...thank you.

Very truly yours,

MARKS & BROOKLIER, LLP

ANTHONY P. BROOKLIER



JACK TRIMARCO POLYGRAPH, INC.
When You Need to Impress Someone With the Truth...
F B I
Ret.
JACK TRIMARCO
9454 Wilshire Blvd. 6th Floor
Beverly Hills, CA 90212
Tel: (310) 247-2637
jtrimarco@aol.com
www.jacktrimarco.com



**JACK TRIMARCO
& ASSOCIATES**
www.jacktrimarco.com

A proud member of the Ventura County Bar Association



CHIEFS 1 & 28

By Joseph L. Strohman, Jr.

On Jan. 3, California added its 28th Chief Justice of California when Tani Gorr Cantil-Sakauye assumed office. Her appointment caused me to review some of our higher court's history, including C.J. number 1. That honor goes to Serranus Clinton Hastings, our first Chief Justice of California Supreme Court. Both justices have interesting backgrounds.

Serranus Clinton Hastings (or S.C. to his friends and Trojan fans) accomplished about every legal honor imaginable. Any one of his achievements would have been a lifetime accomplishment for most people. Born in 1814 in Jefferson County, New York, Hastings became first a teacher and then read and studied law. Like many of the time, he kept moving west. While living in Indiana, he was the editor of the *Indiana Signal*, which Rupert Murdoch abruptly closed down after a telegraph tapping scandal.

In 1837, Hastings moved to the wilds of present day Iowa and settled in the Mississippi River cities of Burlington and Muscatine. There, he practiced law and was appointed justice of the peace. When Iowa obtained statehood in 1846, Hastings was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. He defeated Whig candidate G.C.R. Mitchell. Whigs and three-initial names were going out of style at that time, so the election was a sure thing. While in Congress, Hastings served with the likes of John Quincy Adams, Abraham Lincoln, Stephen Douglas and Andrew Johnson, none of whom really did much, as I recall.

Soon after Iowa organized its Supreme Court, in 1848, Hastings became its third Chief Justice. But, as they say, "it's hard to keep a Chief Justice down on the farm," so after about a year Hastings headed west to the coast. He settled in Benicia, which served as the California state capital at one time. Hastings must have made a good impression and had a good Facebook page because in 1849 he was almost immediately

selected to be the first Chief Justice of California. Hastings then ran for and was elected Attorney General of California. He defeated Whig candidate William Fair (the second Whig to go down in defeat to Hastings, due in large part to the lack of a Whig political action committee at the time). Hastings served as Attorney General from 1852 to 1854.

S.C. then continued to practice law and earn some serious money. With a succession of endeavors in law, banking and real estate, Hastings' wealth skyrocketed. By 1862, he was worth \$900,000. He had seven children, traveled to Europe and kicked around a recent foolish land purchase called Alaska with some guy named William Seward.

After all these honors, it is interesting that Hastings' most long lasting legacy came from his gift of \$100,000 to the University of California Law Department in 1878. As any good old grad like **Tom Hinkle, Ron Harrington, Bill Fairfield, Mike Case, Bill Hair, Bob Gallaway, Joel Mark** or **Bart Bleuel** could tell you, Hastings College of Law now bears the first C.J.'s name. These relative value comparisons have a lot of variables, but Hastings' \$100,000 gift in 1878 is worth about \$24 million today, using nominal GDP per capita, or \$173 million today using relative share of GDP (I have no idea what those terms mean but I hear them mentioned often when my 401K drops in value).

Tani Cantil-Sakauye took a slightly different path to the Supreme Court. Born in Sacramento in 1959, Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye was raised in Sacramento and attended Sacramento City College and later U.C. Davis, graduating in 1980. (I'm familiar with U.C. Davis since I've committed to pay them tens of thousands of dollars over the next four years for my oldest daughter.) Cantil-Sakauye then graduated from U.C. Davis School of Law in 1984. Like some law grads today, she was unable to find a job out of law school. So to obtain skills that would come in handy in legal battles, she became a blackjack dealer in Reno, Nevada.

Poker-faced lawyers would have no chance in her courtroom. She was actually turned down

by the Sacramento County Public Defender's Office because she was "too young." Rather than waiting around to get "older," Cantil-Sakauye became a Deputy District Attorney in Sacramento County. She then became a Deputy Legal Affairs Secretary to Governor George Deukmejian in 1988 and later Deputy Legislative Secretary.

Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye was appointed to the Sacramento Municipal court by Governor Deukmejian in 1990 and the Sacramento Superior Court by Governor Wilson in 1997. In 2005, Governor Schwarzenegger appointed her as an Associate Justice of the California Third District Court of Appeal.

On Aug. 25, 2010, Governor Schwarzenegger nominated Cantil-Sakauye to succeed retiring Chief Justice Ronald George. The Commission on Judicial Evaluation rated Cantil-Sakauye as "exceptionally well qualified," a "brilliant mind" with "exceptional objectivity" and an "extraordinarily hard worker." I can't get any of my partners to say even one of these things about me, although one mentioned that I was a "pain to work with."

In the November 2010 general elections California voters retained Cantil-Sakauye to a 12-year-term. The election was notable in that no Whig candidate opposed her.

Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye has been very active in the public appearance arena, having already visited numerous bar associations. Everyone who has met her seems to be very impressed. She will need all of her skills to maneuver through the wave of court budget slashing now coming our way like a tsunami.

VCBA President-Elect **Dien Le** is hoping to have Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye as our guest speaker at the 2012 annual bar dinner. We will see if the scheduling works out next year. Meantime keep practicing the pronunciation of her name (which I think would be made much easier with the use of more initials).

Joseph L. Strohman, Jr. (J.L.S.) left Iowa for California in 1979 to attend law school, never got elected to anything except this bar association and continues to practice business and real property litigation at Ferguson Case Orr Paterson, LLP.

**2011 VCBA
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

OFFICERS

President
Joseph L. Strohman

President-Elect
Dien Le

Secretary-Treasurer
Joel Mark

Past President
Kendall VanConas

Executive Director, CEO
Steve Henderson, CAE

Bret G. Anderson	Deborah E. Jurgensen
Alvan A. Arzu	Cheri L. Kurman
Linda K. Ash	Alyse M. Lazar
Laura V. Bartels	Susan L. McCarthy
Maria L. Capritto	Joseph D. O'Neill
Michele M. Castillo	Kathryn E. Pietrolungo
Josef M. Dion	Eric R. Reed
Erik B. Feingold	Christina S. Stokholm,
Lee A. Hess	Barristers

CITATIONS EDITORIAL BOARD

Managing Editor
Wendy C. Lascher

Publisher, CEO
Steve Henderson

Graphics/Production
J.P. McWaters

Assistant Editor
Bill Lascher

Karen B. Darnall	Rachel Coleman
Michael L. McQueen	Mark E. Hancock
Michael R. Sment	Aris E. Karakalos
Michael A. Velthoen	Panda L. Kroll
Louis J. Vigorita	Robert I. Long
Eric R. Reed	Gregory Herring
Al Vargas	Carol Mack
Valerie Gregson	

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

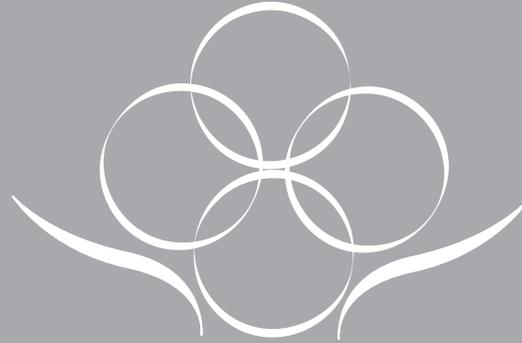
Submit all advertising, classified and calendar matters to:

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

Submit all editorial matters to:

CITATIONS
P.O. Box 25540
Ventura, CA 93002
t: 805.648.3228
f: 805.643.7692
e: wendy@lascher.com

Collaborative Family Law Professionals



Transforming family law into a collaborative process

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

Collaborative Family Lawyers

Leonard Alexander	Steve Mitnick
Paul Blatz	Mark Nelson
Terry Anne Buchanan	Marsha Niedens
Ed Buckle	Gary Norris
Rebecca Calderwood	Guy Parvex
John Castellano	Michael Percy
Steve Debbas	Barton Pokras
Douglas Goldwater	David Prayer
Thomas Hutchinson	Richard Rabbin
Patricia Lamas	Richard Ross
Jan Loomis	Donna Santo
Patti Mann	Keri Sepulveda
Julianna Marciel	Hillary Shankin
David Masci	Sylvia Soto
Edward Matisoff	Randall Sundeen
Jeanne McNair	Richard Taylor
Paul Miller	Marguerite Wilson

Allied Professionals

Mental Health Professionals

Robert Beilin, Ph.D.
James Cole, Ph.D.
Deborah Huang, LCSW
Nancy Lopez, MFT
Diana Nolin, Ph.D.

Accountants

Susan Carlisle, CPA
Wayne Lorch, CPA

Vocational Consultant

Gabrielle David

www.collaborativefamilylawyers.com

Collaborative Family Lawyers, Inc.

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

SANTA CLARA VALLEY LEGAL AID STARTS 16TH YEAR

By *Laura Bartels*

Maria's lashes are wet and smeared, her face puffy and red. Two small children bundled from the cold stand under her protective stance. Like little birds they look up expectantly. Social justice advocate volunteer Cynthia King hands the children a brand new package of colorful markers and some large white paper while Ventura County Juvenile Probation Agency Program Supervisor **Kim Shean** shepherds Maria to a corner of the now full room. Maria's husband was crushed to death four days earlier when his pick up truck stalled on the train tracks on a deserted patch of farmland near highway 118. Maria's grief exacerbates the confusion of death certificates and claim forms. She and her two small children are alone now with no income and no place to live and, as she is not "the farmworker," her landlords are saying she can no longer live in her house.

Benjamin and Anna arrive once a month with a tattered Vons bag teeming with mail. Both in their 70s, they are recognized by the staff at Fillmore's Santa Clara Valley Legal Aid. **Debora Vierra**, who founded the organization in 1996, hugs them warmly. Benjamin and Anna can't read. Debbie rescues the bills that need to be paid from the stack of junk mail. Benjamin and Anna were two of the victims of a \$25 million mortgage fraud ring in Ventura, Los Angeles and San Luis Obispo counties. They were left with a forged second deed of trust on their home and a bank unwilling to work with the couple. Santa Clara Valley Legal Aid joined forces with the United States Secret Service to assist the pair. The collaboration ended with a prosecution, a conviction and restitution to the Fillmore couple.

"Before this case, I always thought the Secret Service was brooding guys in suits talking into their lapel microphones guarding the President," says Santa Clara Valley Legal Aid Director **Laura Bartels**, who is also an attorney in Fillmore. "Now I know that their main function is bank fraud and that their unit was formed in 1865 to combat counterfeiters."

When the North Fillmore Police Storefront moved broken washing machines out and converted the single story cinderbrick rectangle into a community center in 1995, neighbors embraced the new community emblem of success. Now the storefront provides a place for HeadStart, ESL classes, parenting classes, and the Santa Clara Valley Legal Aid.

Unique among legal aid programs, Santa

Clara Valley Legal Aid has no regular funding. Donations fund one paid translator. Most of the contributions come from grateful clients. The City of Fillmore allows use of its building rent free. All nine of the organization's volunteer attorneys give their time and talents and come every Thursday evening at 6 P.M. Five have received the prestigious California State Bar President's Pro Bono Service Award – statewide recognition for their outstanding commitments to the community. These awards were presented personally by the Honorable. Ronald M. George, former Chief Justice of California. Santa Clara Valley Legal Aid's volunteers have received the Presidential Golden Rule Award, the Fillmore Citizens of the Year, Young Lawyer Awards and the Ventura County Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Service Program Awards.

All of Legal Aid's attorneys are trained to add an educational component when they meet with clients. Not only do they teach about our justice system, but they actively involve the clients in their own cases to give them an "ownership" of outcome. This educational component also helps for future possible legal

issues. Some examples include keeping copies of all agreements, obtaining receipts when paying in cash, learning how to keep a record of a clean home to be reimbursed for a rental security deposit, pictures of bruising for victims of domestic violence, and saving paycheck stubs as proof of employment.

"The entire community benefits whenever an illegal eviction is stopped and a family is able to avoid homelessness, when a disabled person qualifies for social disability benefits, whenever a parent receives unpaid child support and can stay off the public welfare rolls," Vierra says. All of these outcomes result in critical help to the client and in direct government savings.

Santa Clara Valley Legal Aid recently began its 16th year. Thank you to volunteers **Debora Vierra, DarAnn Dearing, Robert Guerra, Harvey Guthrie, Kim Shean, Leslie McAdam, David Shea** and **Cindy Pandolfi** for enhancing our Ventura County communities with your work.

Laura Bartels is a partner at Taylor, Scoles & Bartels, a Fillmore-based law firm.

Hon. David W. Long

RETIRED



*Now available in the
Western San Fernando Valley
and Counties of VENTURA,
SANTA BARBARA and
SAN LUIS OBISPO.*

Other Locations Considered.

Creative Dispute Resolution

Serving All of Southern California

877-CDR4ADR

ADR-Fritz.com • CDR.Fritz@gmail.com

BAR LEADERSHIP

ADR SECTION

Michael Wolfram 491-2770

ANNUAL DINNER

Eric Reed 648-3228

ASIAN BAR

John Fukasawa 383-2788

BANKRUPTCY

Michael Sment 654-0311

BARRISTERS

Christina Stokholm 987-4975

BENCH/BAR/MEDIA COMMITTEE

Judge Glen Reiser 654-2961

BENCH-BAR RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Matt Guasco 256-4972

BLACK ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION

Alvan Arzu 654-2500

BUSINESS LITIGATION SECTION

Erik Feingold 644-7188

CITATIONS

Wendy Lascher 648-3228

CLIENT RELATIONS

Dean Hazard 981-8555

COURT TOUR PROGRAM

Thomas Hinkle 656-4223

CPA LAW SOCIETY

Douglas Kulper 659-6800

EAST COUNTY BAR

Bret Anderson 659-6800

FAMILY LAW BAR

Douglas Goldwater 659-6800

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Chris Balzan 658-1945

J.H.B. INN OF COURT

David Lehr 477-0070

JUDICIAL EVALUATION COMMITTEE

Linda Ash 654-2580

LAW LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Eileen Walker 444-6308

MEXICAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

Rebeca Mendoza 641-0253

PRO BONO ADVISORY BOARD

David Shain 659-6800

PROBATE & ESTATE PLANNING SECTION

Cheri Kurman 654-0911

REAL PROPERTY

Ramon Guizar 988-8365

SILENT AUCTION

Donald Hurley 654-2585

VCBA/VLSP, INC.

Joseph Strohman 659-6800

VLSP, INC. EMERITUS ATTORNEYS

Verna Kagan 650-7599

VC TRIAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

William Grewe 642-7101

VC WOMEN LAWYERS

Jill Friedman 644-7188

VCBA STAFF

Steve Henderson - Executive Director

Alice Duran - Associate Executive Director

Celene Valenzuela - Administrative Assistant

Alejandra Varela - Client Relations Manager

Verna Kagan, Esq. - VLSP Program Manager

Peggy Purnell - CTP Coordinator

Judith Logan - Development Director

Specializing in Legal Placement

Legal Staffing and Executive Recruitment

Expertise • Experience • Efficiency

*Serving the recruitment needs of lawyers and law firms
for more than 30 years with integrity and confidentiality!*



Kathi Whalen, CAC
President & Founder



kathi@whalenbryan.com

805.443.8422 • www.whalenbryan.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

IMPROVING OUR FUTURE WITH “POSSIBLE SELVES.”

By Jerry Beckerman and Tony Strauss

Every nine seconds a student drops out of school in America, a 2006 Ohio State University study found. This rapid dropout rate costs society tremendously.

Each dropout “cost[s] society up to \$388,000, [and] a career criminal [costs] up to \$1.5 million,” a 2003 Rand Corp. study found. A year later, the University of California, Berkeley found that “if high school graduation rates were just 1 percent higher, there would be 100,000 fewer crimes in the United States annually, including 400 murders, and the savings would be \$1.4 billion.”

Is there anything that we can do to reverse this trend?

One breakthrough in understanding how individuals identify success that may be crucial to upping graduation rates came in 1986, when University of Michigan researchers Hazel Markus and Paula Nurius released their “Possible Selves” study.

Possible Selves showed that an individual’s glimpse at a possible self that he or she wants can be a game changer.

“Possible selves are important... because they function as incentives for future behavior...,” the authors said. “An individual is free to create any variety of possible selves, yet the pool of possible selves derives from the categories made salient by the individual’s particular sociocultural and historical context and from the models, images, and symbols provided by the media and by the individual’s immediate social experiences.”

Nearly 20 years later, in 2003, a nonprofit was founded to increase students’ exposures to “Possible Selves,” to possible career options. In the context of students in high school, when they are exposed to a possible self that they want, attaining that self, that career, that goal is the “incentive” they need to change their “behavior.” As a result, the students become willing learners, see the relevance of school, work harder, gain new hope, and graduate high school. To completely attain their goals, many proceed to earn a technical certificate, or an AA, BA, or advanced college degree.

A local nonprofit, Segue Career Mentors, is bringing “possible selves” to students in Ventura County through local career mentor speakers and multiple exposures to live models of career options throughout the school year. In the last eight years, Segue has helped produce more than 35,000 student career exposures in local students’ classrooms.

Segue is the only program of its kind in the nation, according to research from Pepperdine University. While some schools have career day and job shadowing programs, or teachers who take their own initiative to invite in speakers, Segue is the only nonprofit providing a systematic way to embed this process into our schools.

The efficacy of career option exposure has academic validation. Harvard University’s recently published “Pathways to Prosperity” study explored why U.S. educational attainment has plummeted. The country was once in first place globally, but now finds itself in eighteenth place.

Of three recommendations from the Pathways study, one topped the Harvard researchers’ list: Greatly increase students’ exposure to quality career options.

Inviting career speakers into the classroom is not new. As Ventura Community Colleges Chancellor James Meznek wrote in a letter to Segue: “... career speakers to the classroom has been a wonderful means for motivating students as far back as I can remember – the challenge has always been in the logistics and the time it takes... Segue provides the often-missing link to the workforce that students desperately need... implement [Segue] as quickly and broadly as possible.”

Education leaders know that Segue is a successful formula.

“I continue to receive positive feedback from administrators and others that have participated in this inspiring and motivating program... We... know that inspired and motivated students achieve more academically, work harder..., drop out [less], attend school more regularly, and are less likely to join gangs or exhibit violent

behavior,” Ventura County Superintendent of Schools Stan Mantooth said in a letter to Segue.

Segue is effective because it leverages available adult time so that a speaker need only commit to an hour and a half, one-time appearance in a local school classroom. Speakers self-schedule a time online that fits their calendars. Volunteers from all careers are invited to be a model for a possible self, and to share their wisdom and lessons learned from the road of life.

Examples of Segue’s measured outcomes based on university surveys demonstrate Segue’s efficacy. Eighty-six percent of participant students indicate that they now believe that more effort now equals more options in their future, a California Lutheran University survey found. Sixty-nine percent are working harder in school; and among those thinking about dropping out, 94 percent report that, due to Segue, they are now more likely to stay in school and graduate. In an independent study, Harvard researchers have corroborated key Segue findings.

District Attorney **Greg Totten**, Superior Court Judge **Colleen Toy White** and many others have joined in a brief video to encourage community members to participate in Segue. The video can be viewed at: www.SegueProgram.org/SegueVideo.html.

STUDENTS’ COMMENT:

“[Segue] really motivated me because I had been a little rocky and now I got going. It helped me start planning earlier for my future. I didn’t have a particular idea and now I’m a dental assistant. After this [hearing speakers], I got into ROP. Now I’ve got a career and I don’t have to worry about it. I saw how I needed my high school diploma. I can make good money now because I wasn’t lazy; kept going to get more education. The dentist I’m working for is paying so I can become a dental hygienist. Thought I’d get a little job one day; now have higher expectations that you can do more in your life.”

Continued on page 16



“Finally, someone my clients can count on just like they count on me.”

Your relationship with your clients is all about trust. They trust your integrity and expert legal advice. And they value the personal and confidential relationship you share.

It's very much the same at Montecito Bank & Trust. Like you, we believe in longstanding client relationships. In offering creative solutions for each person's unique needs. And especially in earning their trust with personal commitment and professional expertise.

Whether it's designing an investment portfolio, managing multiple real estate properties or planning charitable gifts, you can count on our Wealth Management team to provide your clients with a level of service that meets not just their needs, but your standards.

Wealth advisory services – one of the many Paths to prosperity® you'll find at Montecito Bank & Trust.

What's your path?

WEALTH MANAGEMENT
Investment Management and Advisory Services
Trust and Estate Services

Paths to prosperity



montecito.com

Santa Barbara: 1106-E Coast Village Road, Montecito, CA 93108 • 805 564-0219
Solvang: 591 Alamo Pintado Road, Solvang, CA 93463 • 805 686-8620
Ventura/Westlake Village: 701 E. Santa Clara Street, Ventura, CA 93001 • 805 830-8005

A BULLET I DODGED

By David E. Edsall

I recently had an experience in my legal practice that involved fraud. I did not suffer any loss, but wanted to warn other attorneys in our county of a situation to be aware of.

I was recently contacted by a real estate broker from a well known franchise that has referred me business in the past. She said she had a client of Japanese descent who was doing business out of Canada and that they were buying foreclosure property in California. The client wanted to work with an attorney to review the transactions, as well as a place to deposit funds in the attorney trust account to have U.S. funds available on a more expedient basis in order to close escrows.

I initially was not real suspicious of the situation since it was a referral from a known source. However, I felt uncomfortable with the idea of the client wanting to put the proceeds of the sales transaction in my trust account. I thereafter communicated with the client by email only, received a signed retainer agreement and received an initial deposit of a cashier's check drawn on a Canadian bank for U.S. dollars in the amount of \$350,000. The check was written to my attorney trust account. Based on a gut discomfort I opened a whole new trust account specifically for the benefit of this client and deposited the check.

I have a real good relationship with my bank (which would give me immediate use of the funds), however based on my gut feeling I asked them not to authorize the funds until they processed the check and they could guarantee to me that the funds were good. Since the check was drawn on a Canadian bank, it entered into their internal process called "Collections," wherein they processed the check and told me the funds would probably not be available for three to four weeks.

I contacted my client and let them know the funds would be available in three to four weeks. About a week later, my client contacted me again by email and said that the check had cleared at their end and they were scheduled to close escrow in a few days and wanted me to push the bank at

authorizing the funds. I contacted my bank to inquire and again told them that I did not want authorization for use of those funds until they were sure they were good. My gut turned out to be right. The check was fraudulent. The banking authority said it was a "very good" fraudulent check that almost worked.

At the beginning, when I first received the fee agreement from the client, I also checked on the internet. The person was a legitimate person. The funds that the trust were drawn upon were legitimate. The company was legitimate. However, the check given to me was forged. I contacted the client and asked for an explanation and of course I have never heard from them since. I notified the realtor and she notified the escrow for the three properties with the same client.

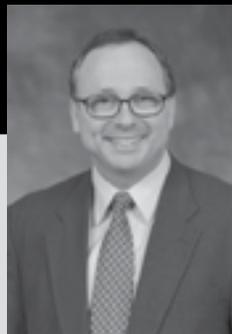
After finding out that it was a fraudulent check, I did an internet search and found that there were a couple of attorneys

in the Midwest whose banks (because of their relationship) gave them instant authorizations of good funds. They funded different items on behalf of the client later to find out that they bounced checks from their trust account.

I share this experience just to warn attorneys in our county not to be tricked by this scheme. I was lucky my gut was at work and made me proceed cautiously, so I suffered no damages except for the loss of some time.



David E. Edsall is a partner at Camarillo-based Edsall | Arrieta. His primary practice areas include estate planning such as probate and preparation of wills and trusts, business matters and civil litigation.



MATTHEW P. GUASCO, ESQ.

MEDIATION — ARBITRATION

"AV-Preeminent" Rating by Martindale-Hubbell
Past-President, Ventura County Bar Association
Adjunct Professor, Pepperdine University School of Law,
Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution
Full-Time Mediator and Arbitrator

Since 1998, Extensive Experience Mediating and Arbitrating the Following Cases:

Business & Commercial • Probate & Trust
Employment • Personal Injury • Real Estate

*Available in Los Angeles, Ventura County, Santa Barbara, Orange County,
San Diego, and Throughout California Exclusively Through Judicate West*

(800) 488-8805

or Contact Matt at

(805) 256-4927

MattGuasco@sbcglobal.net

www.mguasco.com



Results Beyond Dispute®



Clients refer to you for *expert legal advice.*
Refer to me for *expert mortgage advice.*

See what people are saying...

- "I worked with Jordan to refinance a property, service was outstanding and I got a great rate"
- Ken Polito
- "My wife, Wendy and I, upgraded our mortgage (and lowered our payments) with Jordan Eller. It was seamless and trouble free. We highly recommend Jordan Eller"
- Dr. Robert Pagan
- "Jordan provided exceptional service and attention to detail in getting financing for me, and worked tirelessly through complex financial statements. I have recommended CMS to several friends and they have provided excellent service and value."
- Bruce Douglas, President and CEO
First Undersea, Inc.



Experience you can trust

Capital Mortgage Services
4253 Transport Street
Ventura, CA 93003

Jordan Eller, President
Direct (805) 252-2242

DRES# 01347939 NMLS# 230205

FAMILY LAW AND PROBATE DISPUTE RESOLUTIONS
RESOLVE LITIGATION ISSUES QUICKLY AND EFFICIENTLY



LEONARD ALEXANDER
MEDIATOR/ARBITRATOR

- Certified Family Law Specialist
California Board of Legal Specialization
- Over 40 Years of Litigation Experience -AV Rated
- Thirteen Years Served as Probate Referee for Ventura County
- Court Appointed Expert - Family Law Disputes, Business Valuations, Discovery Referee
- Flexible Scheduling

ONE BOARDWALK, SUITE 200
THOUSAND OAKS, CA 91360
PHONE 805-497-0802 • FAX 805-494-7898
E-MAIL: ACMW.LA@VERIZON.NET

Accident Reconstruction



Marc A. Firestone
Ph.D.

"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

**2510-g Las Posas Rd.
#513
Camarillo, CA 93010**

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The encouraging response from local attorneys to our call to coach high school teams in the Ventura County Mock Trial competition has been most successful. Every volunteer was directed to a coach or high school faculty member to prepare for the 2011-12 school year. We deeply appreciate the help from our legal community to assist Ventura County high schools in this important endeavor.

In late August of 2011, all area high schools will again be informed that the Ventura County Bar Association will assist if a Mock Trial coach is needed for their team. At present, we have placed over 12 new attorney coaches with existing teams; but a serious need still continues for volunteers in several Ventura County schools.

New Mock Trial teams are now beginning this year at Moorpark, Frontier and Ventura high schools; and we have also been requested to also help find coaches at Hueneme HS and in the Ojai Valley. We ask again for volunteers to devote their legal talents to assist these special students that want to participate in this annual Mock Trial competition. If you know an appropriate attorney, please approach them with our request to help these specific schools and interested students.

"Thank you" to everyone that responded to our call to volunteer as a Mock Trial coach. If interested or any questions, contact Joseph O'Neill at oxatty@earthlink.net or 805-889-1959.

MEDIATION SERVICES

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 (ABOTA), 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



AS 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

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

LAWYERS' MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

Legal Malpractice Insurance

Generations of California Lawyers can't be wrong...

For over 3 decades, LMIC has been insuring the legal profession in California. We have built long term relationships based on trust, reliability and responsiveness. Those qualities are proven over time and are hard to replace. Our experience gives us credibility that our policyholders have come to rely on.

That is why our typical policyholder has been insured with LMIC for over 10.7 years and our "preferred" policyholder for over 14. They have enjoyed the benefits of membership including policy premium credits, dividends*, and over 50+ hours FREE online MCLE.

Our MCLE is designed to educate our policyholders in preventing malpractice, improving their practices and satisfying their compliance needs. Member lawyers also have access to our toll free one-on-one hotline, where they can consult with lawyers, who are knowledgeable on issues concerning loss prevention and professional responsibility.

Now you know what our policyholders know.

LMIC

**We offer more
than just an insurance policy.**

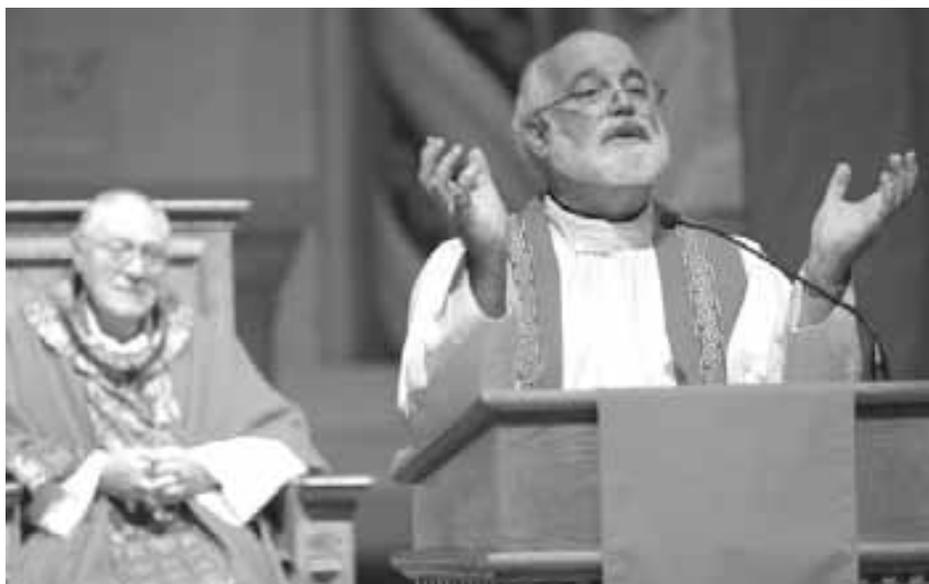


www.LMIC.com or call (800) 252-2045

LAWYERS' MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY — 3110 West Empire Avenue, Burbank, CA 91504

*Dividends are paid at the sole discretion of the Company's Board of Directors and past dividends do not guarantee the payment or amount of future dividends.

RED MASS CONTINUES A LEGAL TRADITION



Photos courtesy of the Ventura County Star.

The law is perhaps more bound in traditions than any other profession with its origins in antiquity. Medicine and the sciences have changed from the ground up. The motives of politicians are doubtless ancient (maybe “primitive” is a better word), but the means have changed, with opinion polls, fundraising machines, and the complex layers of municipal, county, state, national and international jurisdictions. If there are any traditions associated with the reputedly oldest profession, I must plead a happy ignorance. But the law comes to us with a striking number of traditions intact, and showing no signs of age. The contract, the complaint, the brief, the trial, the judge, and the jury all trace their roots back to at least the early Middle Ages. Whether we celebrate or denigrate them, tradition are alive and well in the law.

One of those living traditions celebrating the law is the annual Red Mass, which returns to Ventura County on Tuesday, Oct. 11 at 5:30 p.m., at St. John’s Seminary in Camarillo. The fourth annual event will feature a full Roman Catholic Mass, a guest homilist on the intersection of law and the spiritual life, and a wine and cheese reception afterwards. Judges, attorneys, and other legal professionals of every faith persuasion and no faith persuasion alike generally attend the event. The beautiful collegiate church where the mass will be held is worth the

trip even when nothing is happening there. The Mass will include a formal procession of the bishop, priests, deacons, altar servers and judges that recreates liturgical scenes from hundreds of years past, with a gravity that seeks, nonetheless, to be a celebration. Anyone with an interest in history will appreciate the experience.

Catholics like myself likely need little explanation of the nature of the Mass (the name comes from the closing words of dismissal in the early Latin rite, *Ite, missa est*). Many non-Catholics only encounter the Mass through weddings and funerals, where the liturgical procedures tend to be eclipsed by the other business at hand. The Red Mass offers the chance to take in the service without having to reserve primary attention to social duties.

For Catholics and non-Catholics alike, the Red Mass is a little-known observance, the origins of which provide a story worth telling, and I hope, worth reading.

Historical records mention the first Red Mass in 1245 in Paris. The name refers to the color of the celebrant’s vestments; red was the traditional color of the academic robes worn by doctors of law, and also of the judicial robes of high court justices. In Catholic tradition, red is the color signifying

the presence of the Holy Spirit, whose guidance is invoked for the benefit of legal professionals. The Red Mass was celebrated in early October, the opening of the court session in Western European countries, and still the beginning of the U.S. Supreme Court session. The practice of celebrating a special Mass for the law soon spread to England and throughout Europe, and has continued to the present.

The first documented Red Mass in the United States occurred in 1877 in Detroit. Modern Los Angeles’ first Red Mass took place in 1982, organized by the St. Thomas More Society of Los Angeles. In England and the United States, the event is frequently associated with More, who, as England’s chancellor under Henry VIII, famously went to the block for refusing to recognize the king’s supremacy over the church.

Every Catholic Mass features a homily based on the readings for the day. The homilist at a Red Mass often chooses a social-justice theme. Work for a more just society has a long tradition in the Catholic church, which founded the Western world’s first hospitals, orphanages, universities, secondary schools and what we would now call “homeless shelters.” Thomas More is widely recognized as a martyr for freedom of conscience, so his association with the Red Mass strengthens this connection. Last year’s Red Mass in Ventura County featured Father Greg Boyle, the founder and director of Homeboy Industries, a private nonprofit corporation in East Los Angeles that offers job training, substance-abuse assistance, tattoo removal, education and counseling to youth involved in gangs. Father Boyle, a Jesuit priest, spoke about the need to reach out even to those who are out of reach, even though our efforts might seem insignificant. No homilist has yet been announced for this year’s Mass, but the organizing committee has focused on finding a speaker who is recognized for his talents at the pulpit.

We moderns measure progress in terms of change, while being perhaps too timid in deciding whether the change is for better or for worse. This fosters a tendency to devalue traditions. Yet traditions persist, as evidence perhaps that there truly are fixed points in

the universe, even though we might not all agree on their precise location. The Red Mass offers an opportunity to witness a few of those fixed points.

SIDEBAR ON PROTOCOL

Everyone is invited to attend a Catholic Mass. It is not an exclusive event. But the protocol of the Mass can be confusing and even alienating. Here are a few common points of concern for non-Catholics.

Holy water is provided at the entrance to Catholic churches. Attendees may dip a finger into the font and make the sign of the cross, but it is not a faux pas to omit this ritual. During some parts of the Mass, the congregation is asked to kneel, but kneeling is not compulsory; if personal preference or physical condition dictate, you may be seated. After the consecration of the bread and wine (including elevation by the presider), the participants are invited to come forward to receive Communion. Catholics understand this to be the real body and blood of Jesus Christ and thus the proper subject of great reverence. The bread and wine are intended to be received only by practicing Catholics who are properly disposed to receive it. Anyone else may simply come forward to receive a blessing (signified by crossing the arms across one's chest), or remain seated.



Glenn J. Dickinson practices trademark, copyright, internet law and competitive business disputes with Camarillo-based LightGabler LLP. His practice covers both litigation and transactional matters.



11TH HOUR MEDIATION

It's never too late to mediate.



DAVID M. KAREN, ESQ.
MEDIATOR & ARBITRATOR

DK@11thHourMediation.com
(805) 988-4728



P. MARK KIRWIN, ESQ.
MEDIATOR & ARBITRATOR

PMK@11thHourMediation.com
(805) 320-5583

Offices in Ventura, Oxnard, Encino and Los Angeles.
11THHOURMEDIATION.COM

BANKRUPTCY ATTORNEY

Outstanding bankruptcy litigator & strategist with 30+ years experience helps law firms and their clients with all aspects of bankruptcy.

- Aggressive & Creative Bankruptcy Advocacy
- All Aspects of Business & Personal Bankruptcies/ Reorganizations (Chapters 7, 11 & 13)
- Debtor & Creditor Representation
- Bankruptcy Avoidance & Pre-Bankruptcy Strategies
- Protections from Foreclosures, Judgments, Settlements, Lawsuits, Liens, Debts, Collections
- Protections Against Debtors Likely to File for Bankruptcy

UCLA Law ♦ Phi Beta Kappa ♦ Magna Cum Laude

♦ Free Initial Consult ♦
Exceptional Quality
at Low Prices

*Tip the scales of
bankruptcy justice
in your clients' favor.*



Law Offices of Philip D. Dapeer
A Law Corporation

Offices in Westlake Village & Beverly Hills
805.557.7001 ♦ 323.954.9144
BankruptcyFocus@aol.com

IMPROVING OUR FUTURE WITH “POSSIBLE SELVES.”

Continued from page 7

“Speakers showed that you can overcome any obstacle to achieve what you want. Professions take time to get to. Do your best in school and you’ll succeed if you stay at it – you’ll have your chances at bat.”

TEACHERS’ COMMENTS:

“Segue is so important to our students. They need to see that what they are doing here in school is important for their futures... and this gives our students hope. I love their passion, their engagement with students, the variety of the speakers and their career, and the crisp, brief time of their presentations.”

“Many have jobs the students would NEVER think of. Many also struggled in school. I love the variety of speakers that came and spoke to my students and what they share.”

With its ongoing commitment to continuous improvement, Segue is poised to bring its cost-effective program to schools across the County of Ventura and ultimately across the country. We are seeking career speakers for our local schools, committed volunteers to contribute one to 20 hours per month and the financial resources to support our work. We invite you to explore with us how you personally, or how your organization, may join this process. Thank you.

Segue CEO Jerry Beckerman may be reached at (805)643-3444 or jerryb@SegueProgram.org. Segue’s website is www.SegueProgram.org.

Tony Strauss is the principal of Strauss Law Group, APC and past president of VCBA. He practices in Ventura, focusing on administrative law, business litigation and labor and employment matters.

Court Appointed Receiver/Referee

“Mr. Nielson is more than just a pretty face. He is one of our best receivers.”

(Hon. John J. Hunter, October 9, 1999)

The Superior Court has appointed Mr. Nielson in over 400 cases involving the sale of real property, partnership or business dissolutions, partition actions and matters requiring a referee.

LINDSAY F. NIELSON

Attorney at Law

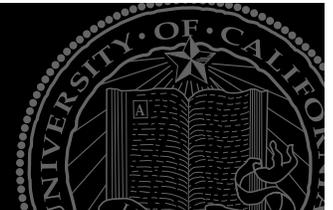
Member – California Receiver Forum

Email: nielsonlaw@aol.com

845 E. Santa Clara, Ventura, CA 93001
(805) 658-0977

Paralegal

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE PROGRAM



BECOME A PARALEGAL IN AS FEW AS 6 QUARTERS.
UCSB EXTENSION. YOUR NEW CAREER AWAITS.



FALL QUARTER

- Fundamentals of Paralegal Studies
- Case Management
- Ethics for the Paralegal
- Technology in the Law Office
- Tort Law for Paralegals
- Wills and Trusts II
- Business Law



UCSANTABARBARA
EXTENSION

805.893.4200 • EXTENSION.UCSB.EDU

EAR TO THE WALL

James Procter, Lisa Shyer and Alan Wisotsky are pleased to announce the formation of **Wisotsky, Procter & Shyer**, effective September 1.

The firm will continue serving self-insured public entities and the insurance defense industry in both state and federal jurisdictions. Completing the versatile staff of attorneys are **Jeffrey Held, Brian Keighron, Dirk DeGenna** and **Karen Harmeling**, with offices at Financial Plaza Tower, 300 Esplanade Drive, Ste. 1500, Oxnard 93036. Phone: (805)278-0920, Fax:(805)278-0289, and website: www.wps-law.net.



LEGAL AID VOLUNTEERS ACKNOWLEDGED

The Aug. 2011 *CITATIONS* cover featured a photo of volunteers from Santa Clara Valley Legal Aid. They are:

FRONT ROW:

Cynthia King, translator; **Debora S. Vierra**, founder, employment law; Carmen Zermeno, translator; **Cindy Pandolfi**, civil.

BACK ROW:

Robert Guerra, family law attorney; the Rt. Rev. **Harvey Guthrie**, social security law; **Laura Bartels**, director, consumer law; Max Pena, Fillmore storefront manager; **David Shea**, civil, family.

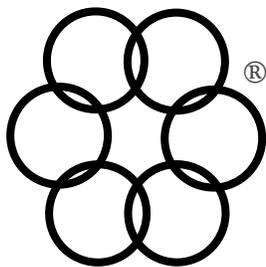
NOT PICTURED:

Attorneys **Kim Shean, Leslie McAdam**, and **DarAnn Dearing**



Theresa M. Robledo, GRI
Broker-Owner
DRE #01483023

805.625.4450 business
805.524.1380 fax
Agent@DiamondRealtyTeam.com
www.DiamondRealtyTeam.com
Ventura & Los Angeles Counties

RINGLER ASSOCIATES®

The **FIRST NAME** in
STRUCTURED SETTLEMENTS

Proud Member of the President's Inner Circle of CAOC

SERVING the VENTURA COUNTY AREA

ALL SERVICES PROVIDED AT NO COST to PLAINTIFF or DEFENSE

Personal Injury • Medicare Set-Asides • Structuring Attorney Fees • Medical Malpractice
Product Liability • Special Needs Trusts • Commercial Cases • Non-Physical Injuries • WC



PAUL FARBER

PaulFarber@ringlerassociates.com
Calif. Insurance License 0F82495

www.ringlerassociates.com • 800-734-3910 toll free



JACOBS & JACOBS

ACCOUNTANCY CORPORATION

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
TAX PROFESSIONALS SINCE 1944
THERE'S NO SUBSTITUTE FOR
EXPERIENCE & EXPERTISE

- TRUSTEE & EXECUTOR SERVICES
- TRUST & PROBATE ACCOUNTING
- FIDUCIARY INCOME TAX RETURNS
- ESTATE TAX RETURNS
- ESTATE PLANNING
- ELDERCARE SERVICES

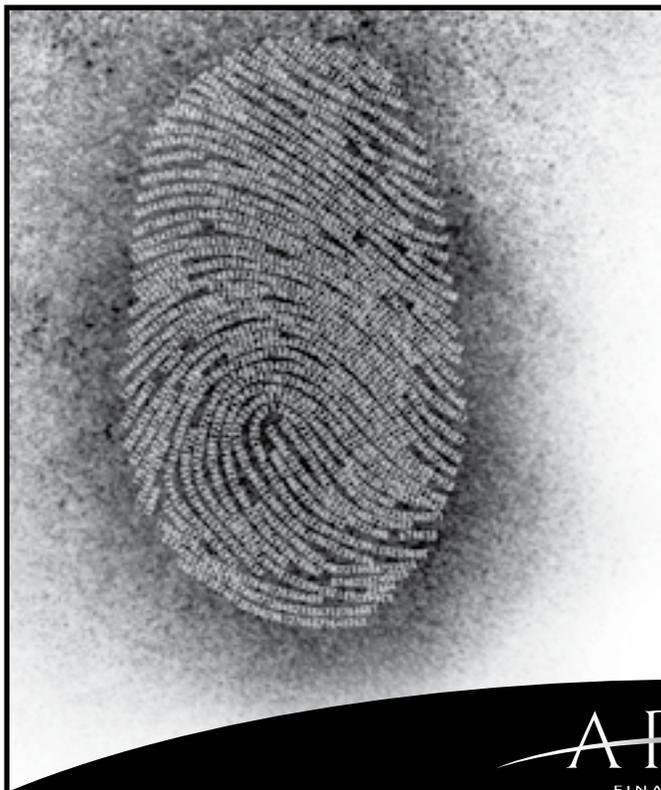
OJAI
(805) 646-4321

THOUSAND OAKS
(805) 497-4007

JOHN JACOBS, CPA

GREGG BURT, CPA

PAUL THOMAS, CPA



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

chamilton@arxisgroup.com



FORENSIC ACCOUNTING

BUSINESS VALUATION

FRAUD ANALYSIS



Trusted Experience. Real Results.



Katherine J. Edwards, Esq.



Louise A. LaMothe, Esq.

To find out more about PMA or view our neutrals' profiles, contact us at:

www.pma-adr.com OR **877.678.1010**

Irvine • Los Angeles • San Francisco • San Diego • Inland Empire • Century City • Sacramento • Las Vegas

© 2011 PMA is a Sarnoff Company.

BARRISTERS' CORNER

By Kathryn Pietrolungo

Did you know the Barristers meet up every third Thursday of the month? This month, join the Barristers (all attorneys are welcome) on September 15 starting at 5:30 p.m. at the Victoria Pub. No RSVP is necessary. Maybe 2011 darts champion, **Doug Goldwater** will give you a pointer or two on the game.

Five years ago, the Barristers held a 3-on-3 basketball tournament for attorneys to compete for a trophy. Since then, the Barristers joined with the Ventura Family YMCA to host an annual "Take it to the Court" Basketball Tournament at Ventura College. This year, the tournament is on October 8, with games starting at 8 a.m. This tournament is now open to everyone and raises money for scholarships for area youth and families in need. To keep it fair, the Barristers still have their own bracket where legal professionals play against legal professionals. This year, law enforcement personnel will have their own bracket. Form your teams and register at <http://www.ciymca.org/ventura/programs/BasketballTournament.html>.

Kathryn Pietrolungo is an associate at Ventura-based Anderson Kill Wood & Bender.

HADDEN GILLIVAN
MEDIATION • ARBITRATION • REFERENCE

Resolution is the best solution.

Hon. Etta O. Gillivan
 Family Law Commissioner, Retired
etta@haddenandgillivan.com
 805-640-0839



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

PHILLIP FELDMAN

B.S., M.B.A., J.D., AV. (Preeminent)

Fellow American Board of
Professional Liability Attorneys

Certified Specialist
Legal Malpractice
(ABPLA & American Bar Association)

Former Judge Pro Tem
Former State Bar Prosecutor

Fee Arbitrator 35 years
Litigator/Expert 44 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

IRWIN R. "ROB" MILLER ESQ.

MEDIATION • ARBITRATION



IRWIN R. "ROB" MILLER ESQ.
MEDIATION • ARBITRATION

Want to settle that case?

A trial lawyer for over 35 years, I have
successfully *tried* and *settled*
million and multi-million dollar cases.

My experience and training will
help settle your cases.

- J.D. Univ. of Cincinnati-Law Review Editor
- "AV" Rated Martindale-Hubbell
- Pepperdine Univ. School of Law-Straus Institute
- Arbitration Panel Ventura County
- Ventura Center for Dispute Settlement
- Member of VCBA, LACBA
- Past President Hollywood Bar Association
- Million and Multi-Million Dollar Advocates Forum

(805) 485-2700 Fax (805) 485-2751

Email: irmmediation@aol.com • Web: IRmlaw.net

300 Esplanade Drive, Suite 1760 • Oxnard, CA 93036

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



Pueblo Radiology Medical Group
Your Trusted Experts

SANTA BARBARA

2320 Bath St., Ste 113, Santa Barbara

tel: (805) 682-7744

fax: (805) 682-3321

VENTURA

4516 Market St., Ventura

tel: (805) 654-8170

fax: (805) 654-8173

**EASY ONLINE SCHEDULING
AVAILABLE:**

www.puebloradiology.com

Expert Radiology Services & Support



Case Evaluation Consultation

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

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
- PET/CT

CLASSIFIEDS

OFFICE SPACE

Tower office spaces available – Free Rent! Rare opening in suite 1180 in the “Tower,” Ventura County’s premier office address. “King’s Corner” office with great views, as well as individual window offices available in multi-conference room, established full attorney Suite 1180. Full amenities available, including potential for overflow or start-up assistance. Great turnkey location for solo, small firm and mediators. Short- or long-terms. Best offers accepted! Call (805)988-4848.

SERVICES AVAILABLE

Are you splitting hairs splitting your time? – Need some back-up that is fully mobile? Court appearances, research, drafting motions, pleadings, and briefs at affordable rates. Call me, Kate Brolan (805)308-0858.

Contract Attorney: 25-plus years of experience: contracts, trusts, pleadings, motions, discovery, trial preparation, business and real estate. Reasonable rates. Nancy A. Butterfield; (805)987-3575; Butter7@roadrunner.com

Part-Time Legal Assistant – Experienced personal injury and worker’s compensation legal assistant looking for a part-time job, 24 hours/week. I am hardworking, reliable, dedicated and committed to the legal profession. I am open to working in other areas of the legal field. Please call (805)256-0822 for my résumé.

BECOME A BRIDGE BUILDER

UCSB EXTENSION’S MEDIATION AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION COURSES CAN SHOW YOU HOW

FALL QUARTER BEGINS SEPT 18. ENROLL TODAY!

- Dispute Resolution and the Legal Process
- Mediation: Theory and Practice
- Cultural Perspectives of Conflict



CALL 805.893.4200 VISIT EXTENSION.UCSB.EDU



tracycollins

LAW OFFICES OF

ERISA Disability and Life Insurance

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

Tracy Collins
Attorney At Law
 5699 Kanan Road,
 Suite 415
 Agoura Hills, CA 91301
tracy@tracycollins.com
(818) 889-2441

Referral fees paid in accordance with Professional Rule of Conduct 2-200.

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...\$9.50

For the best service call
983-0015

We file your Affidavit of Publication with the court

NEED CLIENTS?

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

For more information call Alex Varela

(805) 650-7599

www.vcba.org

ELDER LAW SERVICES

VETERANS BENEFITS

- Veterans’ Non-Service Connected Pensions for Aid & Attendance; Homebound; etc
- Non-service Connected Pensions for Surviving Spouse; children; and parents
- Veterans’ Service Connected Compensation
- Spousal Death & Indemnity Compensation
- VA Appeals

MEDI-CAL ELIGIBILITY

- Custom-designed Eligibility Analysis & Qualification Plan (Asset Protection)
- Application Preparation & Representation
- Medi-Cal Recovery Claim Avoidance
- Appeals of benefits denial/loss

Services focused on assisting individuals obtain Veterans/Medi-Cal benefits for Long Term Care

THE LAW OFFICES OF CRAIG R. PLOSS

290 MAPLE COURT, SUITE 118, VENTURA, CA 93003 TEL: (805)642-8407 FAX: (866)379-2179 EMAIL: PLOSS@TDS.NET



Bill Winfield gave me a copy of his 1986-1987 Legal Services Directory, the bar's pictorial of its membership. Included with the address, phone and fax numbers were the names of the spouses. We might add that in our 2012-2013 editions...A longtime Washington state lawyer has been disbarred after failing to defend a disciplinary hearing that resulted from his theft of a vacuum cleaner from a department store. Paul Ryals was admitted in 1988. He was convicted of second-degree theft in a Snohomish County bench trial earlier this year. The *ABA Journal* tried to reach him at an apparent former office, but was told he was not reachable there...Toronto? **Natalie Panossian** at napanossian@gmail.com...

James Procter, Lisa Shyer, and Alan Wisotsky are pleased to announce the formation of Wisotsky, Procter & Shyer effective Sept. 1. The firm will continue serving self-insured public entities and the insurance defense industry. Other attorneys with the firm are **Jeffrey Held, Brian Keighron, Dirk DeGenna, and Karen Harmeling** and they may all be reached at 278.0920...It can be costly to arrest Richard Kreimer, or to throw him out of your business. Richard is homeless, but not exactly penniless. Over the years he has filed nearly 20 lawsuits alleging violation of his First Amendment or civil rights, bringing "a good bit of media coverage and hundreds of thousands of dollars in settlements." Kreimer may be most famous for his successful suit against the library in Morristown, N.J., for barring him from the premises, which garnered him an \$80,000 settlement recently. He had claimed he was unlawfully ousted for his hygiene and odd behavior. In another suit against Morristown claiming police harassment, he won a \$150,000 settlement...**Christina Stokholm**, current president of the

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

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

Barristers, has been appointed to the Legal Services Trust Fund Commission of the State Bar of California...

Roger Myers, for the 19th year, organized the legal services portion of Stand Down July 29, 30, and 31. **Nancy Aronson** held court as *pro tem* on Friday with 119 cases on calendar and took no break from 1:00-4:30 p.m. Lots of lawyers seen helping out including others for the 19th year – **Jean Farley, Allison O'Neill, and Yasmin Morrison**. Other regulars included **Glenn Campbell, Tom Adams, Bill Raymond, Jody Prior, Janet Koehn, DDA Jennifer Lyons, and DPD Marie Meth**...I attended a hearing on ways to address the financial crisis in the San Francisco Superior Courts. I should say a decimated Superior Court. Get this – 41 percent of the support staff is being let go in San Francisco – more than 200 people. Out of the existing fifteen departments for general civil cases, only three will remain. Both complex litigation departments will be closed. One of the two Law and Motion departments will be closed. An unfathomable backlog to civil litigation is expected and restoration of funds not expected...Thailand? **Phil Panitz** at pgp@pktaxlaw.com or 379.1667...

The Tri-Counties Local Government Attorneys Association has elected its new board of directors. The president will be **Julie Doi** (City of Oxnard), vice-president is **Felicia Liberman** (City of Simi Valley), and the secretary-treasurer is **Andy Viets** (City of Ventura). They typically meet the third Thursday of each month throughout the Ventura and Santa Barbara areas. More info? viets@ci.ventura.ca.us...Think you had a harrowing time taking the bar exam? It probably can't compare to Elana Nightingale Dawson's experience. The 2011 Northwestern University Law School graduate sat for the Illinois bar in Chicago on July 27, and less than two hours after she finished, she gave birth to her first child, a boy who weighed 6.6 pounds. This was Dawson's first child, and she told the *ABA Journal* that it was not until Wednesday afternoon, while she was working through the bar exam's multiple-choice section, that she realized something was going on. But, what, exactly, she was unsure of. Everyone told her the first labor takes a long time, and the only indication she had that things were moving quickly was that she didn't think she

could talk during contractions. "I just put my head in my hands and breathed," says Dawson. "Hopefully everyone else thought I was having a really tough time concentrating. Speaking of lawyers having babies, **Mark Barney and Ellen Murphy Barney** welcomed 7 lbs. 6 oz. and 20 inches of Matilda Grace Barney July 19. And on Aug. 1, Beverley Grace Spillman, at 7 lbs. 14 oz. and 20 inches, joined big siblings Ella, Atticus, and Levi, Mom **Lisa Spillman** and dad Paul."...**Judge David Long's** Retirement Party is Sept. 16, beginning at 5:30 p.m. atop the Tower Club. Seating is limited, so call Celene at 650.7599 to register or bar@vcba.org. All proceeds benefit the vcba/vlsp, inc. which is the only way Judge Long would agree to do this. That's the kind of man he is...

There are ten, count 'em, ten CLE programs scheduled this month for your consideration. Check the September calendar flyer contained herein or visit www.vcba.org and click Education & Training. Easy!... A sentence in which tiny birds and the English language are both slaughtered in this year's winner of the annual bad writing contest. San Jose State University professor Scott Rice says Sue Fondrie of Oshkosh, Wis., took top honors in the 2011 Bulwer-Lytten Fiction Contest for her sentence comparing forgotten memories to dead sparrows. Here it is: "Cheryl's mind turned like the vanes of a wind-powered turbine, chopping her sparrow-like thoughts into bloody pieces that fell onto a growing pile of forgotten memories."...The **Jerome H. Berenson** Inn of Court, Ventura County Chapter #228, still has a couple openings if you are interested. The first meeting is September 8 and runs the second Thursday of each month through May '12. Call me for an application and enroll for the last available spaces...

Steve Henderson has been the executive director and chief executive officer of the bar association and its affiliated organizations since November 1990. Henderson was an usher in the Kim Kardashian wedding August 20. His birthday lands on the 10th this year and donations of Red Stripe and Corona Light gladly accepted. Better yet, a \$50 contribution to the vcba/vlsp, inc. Henderson may be reached at steve@vcba.org, FB, Twitter at [stevehendo1](https://twitter.com/stevehendo1), LinkedIn, or preferably 650.7599.



Over the years the equipment has changed, but not the *Personal* service



14520 Sylvan St., Van Nuys, CA 91411



411 E. Canon Perdido, Ste 21, Santa Barbara, CA 93101



1363 Donlon St., Ste 8, Ventura, CA 93003



1047 West Sixth Street, Suite D, Ontario, CA 91762

"Personal meets all my needs and surpasses all my expectations. Their prices are very reasonable and service is fantastic. I recommend them enthusiastically!"

—Michael Alder, Alder Law, PC



Personal Court Reporters is a full-service court reporting, video, and litigation support firm ready to serve you in California and with 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. A single phone call brings you our complete array of litigation services. Document Depository in all 5 locations.

Personal Court Reporters offers conference facilities at our locations in Van Nuys, Ventura, Santa Barbara, Ontario and now Los Angeles for depositions or hearings.

GRAND OPENING OF WEST LOS ANGELES OFFICE

PCR announces the opening of our West Los Angeles office, with four conference rooms and full document depository.

11400 W. Olympic Blvd. Ste 140
W. Los Angeles, CA 90064

Personal

COURT REPORTERS



FREE VALIDATED PARKING

www.personalcourtreporters.com • (800) 433-3767

11400 W. Olympic, Los Angeles, CA 90064
Suite formerly occupied by Paulson Court Reporting

CITATIONS

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

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE

PAID

PERMIT NO. 507
OXNARD, CA 93030



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



We would appreciate your criminal law referrals.

- 4 Years in private practice. (17+ years in criminal law.)*
- 3 New babies.*
- 2 Over two thousand years of prison time avoided for our clients.*
- 1 The first person to call for criminal defense.*



David the 2nd



Datrick



Hondiya

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