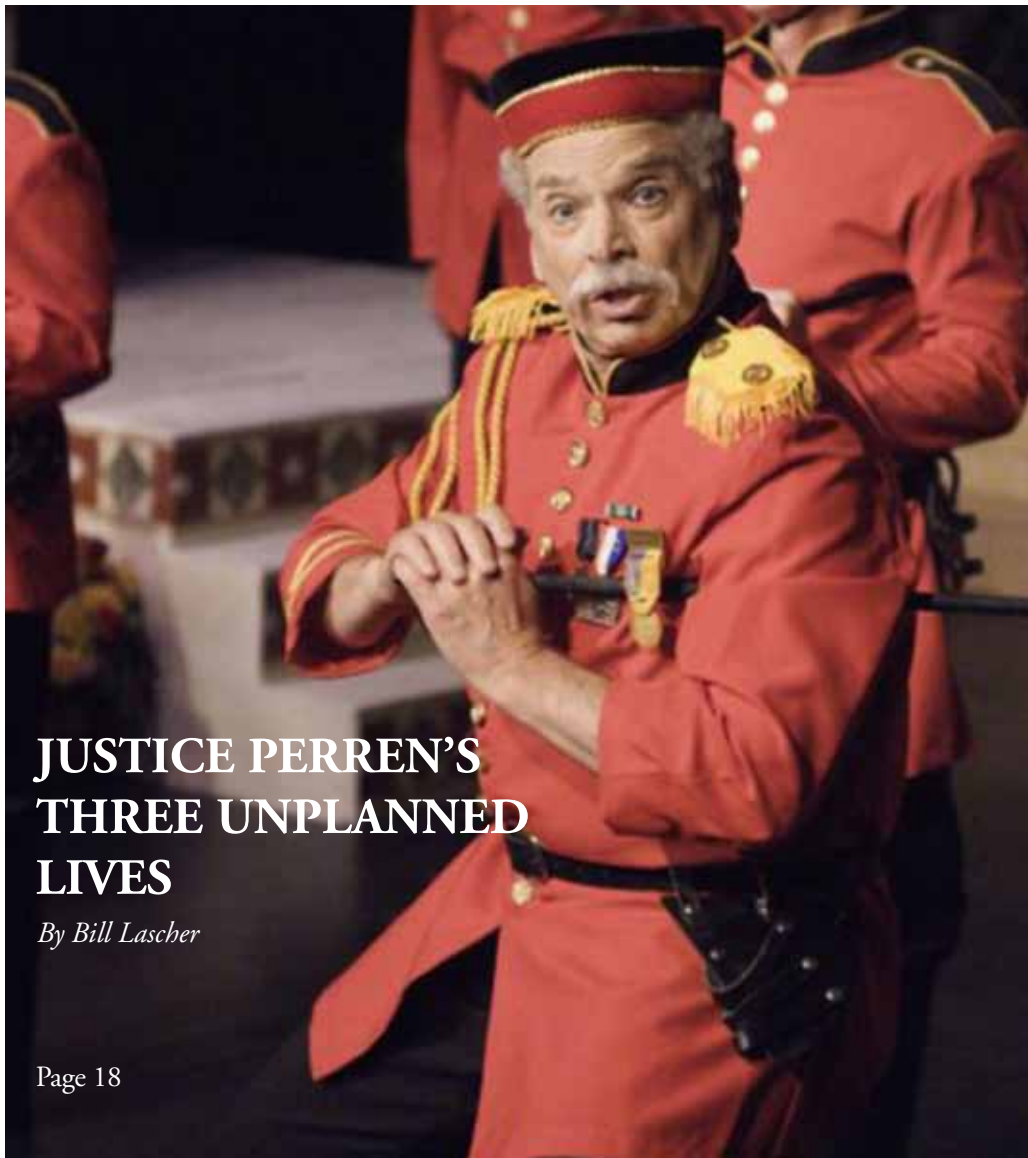




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JUSTICE PERREN'S THREE UNPLANNED LIVES

By Bill Lascher

Page 18

JOSEPH L. STROHMAN

LOUIS J. VIGORITA

ELLEN HIRVELA RUSSELL

STEVE HENDERSON

MY THREE MENTORS	3
WE READ SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO	7
THE DAY GRANDPA AND I FOUGHT ARCHIE MOORE	8
COURTROOM J6 PREFERENCES	11
DARTS LAUNCH BARRISTERS' YEAR	15
EAR TO THE WALL	17
FEDERALIST FORUM	21
CLASSIFIEDS	21
EXEC'S DOT... DOT... DOT...	22

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October 12, 2009

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

Dear Jack:

It was good to have a chance to talk with you today. I write to emphasize my appreciation for your good work on the cases on which you consulted with us.

I have found that your professionalism in conducting and scoring polygraph examinations is outstanding. Your reputation for integrity as a polygrapher was known while you were with the FBI and has continued into your years of private practice. Both your professional work product and your excellent reputation are particularly important to me as a criminal defense lawyer.

We do not routinely use polygraph exams but, when we do, we expect an honest confidential examination and report. Whether or not we choose to disclose the report, the examination and report are often very important to the client and often influence choices we make in strategizing with that client.

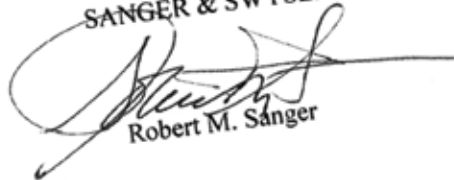
When we do decide to disclose the report in an attempt to convince a reluctant prosecutor of a client's innocence, a favorable polygraph report alone is not sufficient. The professionalism of the examination and the reputation of the polygrapher are critical.

In the recent case you worked on with us, we submitted your report along with witness interviews and other materials to the prosecutor. As you know, it was dismissed in its entirety on the day of trial. It was a felony case being vigorously prosecuted and the consequences of any conviction would have been devastating to my client's life and career. Being able to disclose your solid report backed by your substantial credentials was an important aspect of asserting our client's innocence.

Thank you again, Jack, and I will look forward to working with you in the future.

Best regards,

SANGER & SWYSEN

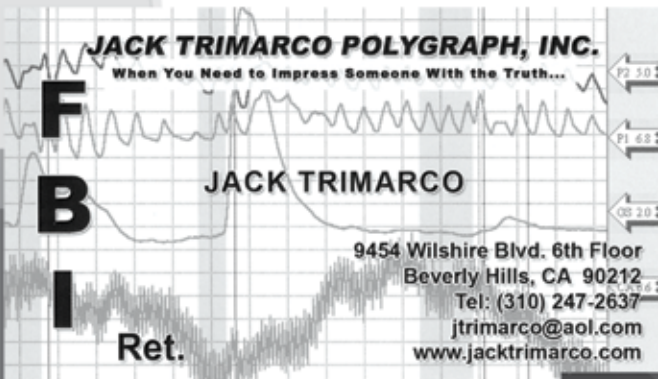

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MY THREE MENTORS

By Joe Strohman



Dave Cunningham, Mike Case, & John Orr, October 1982

We all have a mom. I think we all have a mentor (or two) as well. Usually your parents are your first mentors. Then a teacher, a coach or someone else who walks into your life. Once we enter the legal field the need for a mentor becomes even more important as we try to manage the minefield of practicing law. A great mentor can enhance and accelerate a career and alter a life.

We continue to gather mentors all our lives. I think I learn every day by talking and listening to both older and younger people on every subject under the sun.

In the legal field my first mentors were **Mike Case, John Orr and Dave Cunningham**. I joined them as their first associate in 1983 when the State Bar decided I was licensed to practice but I knew major experience in the trenches was required. At that time Mike, John and Dave were all around 35 years old. In my mind, they had 10 years of experience, which felt like a lifetime for me.

Dave Cunningham had a solid grasp on business matters and showed me how to think more critically and work hard. Dave and I ran a lot of miles together during lunch times and after work. Running is a great time to talk and learn from someone (provided you can talk and run at the same time). John Orr, as a 4th generation Ventura attorney, knew everyone in the community. He was good at understanding people and taught me to be practical in approaching problems. As our original managing partner

John was good at thinking ahead five to ten years and anticipating and addressing the future. Mike Case taught me litigation, how to try a case and how to think outside of the box. Mike is a great problem solver: you go into his office with an insurmountable problem and walk out with a solution – a true test of a great lawyer.

I asked some of the members of our legal community about their mentors. Here is a sampling of some of their responses:

Matt Guasco: I had several key mentors in my life, but the one who stands out the most to me is a woman by the name of Mary Grove. She was a senior Deputy Public Defender in Marin County, California, where I first practiced law. She was the supervisor of the juvenile unit, and I did a tour of duty in juvenile delinquency (representing youths accused of crimes or other problems like truancy or drug use). Mary was incredibly well-respected, she had been practicing for many years, and she had an imposing and somewhat intimidating presence. But she was kind and took an interest in me at a time when I was in desperate need of guidance as a new lawyer. She saw something in me and nurtured it. She took it upon herself to teach me and helped me to see myself as a fine lawyer. Mary retired as a Superior Court Commissioner some years ago. I get a card from her now and then, usually from some far flung part of the world. I am the lawyer I am in part because of Mary Grove.

Tony Trembley: My mentor is **Bill Hair**, and I am very fortunate to still practice law with him after 27-plus years. Bill entrusted me with significant responsibility and client contact at an early stage in my career. He is extraordinarily gifted in his ability to not only “read the code,” but to look at issues from a 30,000 foot view and to create solutions for even the most intractable problems. *[Author’s additional note: I still remember the advice Bill Hall gave to a courtroom full of young attorneys during a Barrister’s Brown Bag presentation in the 1980s. In working on legal issues Bill’s advice was “read the damn statute.” I still think about that advice many times when I pull out the statute, read it again and learn something new.]*

Ted England: My mentor was **Roy A. Gustafson**, for whom I was hired to backstop as a litigation junior. Before I worked under him, Roy had been the Ventura County District Attorney, in the days when District Attorneys personally tried the high profile cases, rather than acting as administrators. He was a legendary trial attorney and had personally obtained the conviction of Elizabeth Duncan, the last woman executed in California. Roy was a notorious curmudgeon who would not hesitate to characterize a project you had worked on for several days as being garbage (or worse). In his public and private practice endeavors, he had run off multiple junior attorneys before I arrived. However, those who survived he trained into what for the next generation turned out to be the core of the Ventura County Bar. Roy’s insistence upon performance (and brutally frank assessments of inadequate efforts) for me was not much different than the football coaches and drill instructors I had previously encountered. With time, you found that he was like a crab; once the hard shell was pierced there was actually a soft interior. We worked together for about three years, following which he was appointed to, first, the Superior Court and then, the Court of Appeal. What Roy taught a number of attorneys was that honest performance assessments, instead of politely condescending to mediocrity, produced growth.

Continued on page 5

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MY THREE MENTORS *continued from page 3*

Judge Melinda Johnson: What I do have, from my earliest memory, were my father's friends. They seemed quite old when I was five, but I'm sure they were all in their thirties. Many were military buddies from the Marines in WWII. All were journalists in Los Angeles, where my dad was the editor of a magazine called *Fortnight*, then religion editor of the *Los Angeles Times* and then Los Angeles bureau chief of *Newsweek*. I was the first child born to this group and – not surprisingly – was quite verbal and obnoxiously precocious. I think I both frightened and fascinated these guys. But they all treated me the same way – as if I were an intelligent, capable person who was destined to grow up to be President, or at least Senator. Not one of them ever assumed or implied my ambitions should be limited by my gender. They discussed politics with me, approved of my decision (at the age of 7) to become a lawyer, and, I think, made it possible for me to be comfortable in law

school, where only 10 percent of the students were women, and in the practice of law, where the percentages were about the same, and, finally, on the bench, when I was the only “girl” in school. For my mentor I would select O.D. Keep, whom I knew as Dave Keep. He was the publisher of *Fortnight*. He taught me to play chess, because critical and strategic thinking would be important. He let me be at the magazine's office as much as I wanted, helping with the layouts, or the typing, feeling accomplished. (Yes, I could type at 7 thanks to him). He let my dad take me on stories, which is how I met Richard Nixon at the age of 5 and was quoted in *Time* magazine as saying “he's the kind dogs and little children don't like.” I have as many insecurities as the next person, but thanks to Dave – and many others like him – I was confident in my own intelligence and never questioned that I could have any career I wanted.

One of the reasons for this article is to focus your attention on the VCBA Barristers' Mentoring Program. **Rennee Dehesa** is the chair of the Barristers' Mentoring Program. The Barristers are interested in pairing up young barristers with active attorneys (eight years or more of experience). Ideally, the mentor will meet the barrister for lunch, be available to answer questions and serve to help barristers move through the early years of their legal careers. If you are interested all you need to do is contact Rennee and she will provide you with the needed information and try to pair you up with a barrister.

Here is Rennee's contact information: Rennee R. Dehesa, Nordman, Cormany, Hair & Compton, 1000 Town Center Drive, 6th Floor, Oxnard California, 93036. Fax: (805) 988-7724. Email: rdehesa@nchc.com.



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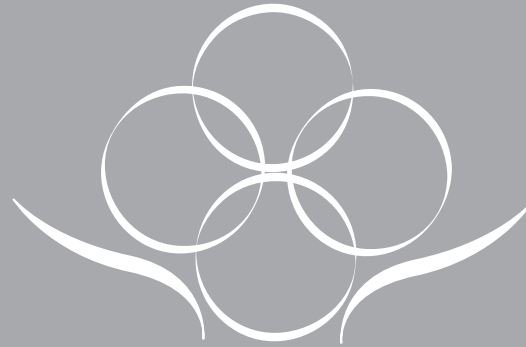
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November 17, 2010

Hon. Kimba M. Wood
 United States District Judge
 Southern District of New York
 U.S. Courthouse
 500 Pearl Street
 New York, NY 10007

Re: United States v. Lacey, et al.
 09 Cr. 507 (KMW)

Dear Judge Wood:

I represent Mark Barnett in the above matter, which is scheduled for trial beginning November 29th.

Please consider this letter as an application *in limine* for a brief recess in the middle of the trial on the grounds known (perhaps not now, but hereafter) as a "writ of possible *simcha*".

The facts are as follows: My beautiful daughter, Eva, married and with a doctorate no less, and her husband, Ira Greenberg (we like him, too) live in Philadelphia and are expecting their first child on December 3rd, *tfu tfu tfu*¹. They do not know whether it will be a boy or a girl, although from the oval shape of Eva's tummy, many of the friends and family are betting male (which I think is a mere *bubhameiseh*² but secretly hope is true).

Should the child be a girl, not much will happen in the way of public celebration. Some may even be disappointed, but will do their best to conceal this by saying, "as long as it's a

¹ Yiddish (and Hebrew) for "celebration of a happy event".

² Another Yiddishism, found in other cultures as well, that requires we spit to ward off the "evil eye" when discussing an upcoming *simcha*.

³ As you may have already guessed, Yiddish for "old wife's tale". A "mere *bubhameiseh*" is somewhat less reliable.

healthy baby". My wife will run to Philly immediately, but I will probably be able wait until the next weekend. There will be happiness, though muted, and this application will be mooted as well.

However, should the baby be a boy, then *hoo hah!*³ Hordes of friends and family will arrive from around the globe and descend on Philadelphia for the joyous celebration mandated by the *halacha*⁴ to take place during daylight hours on the eighth day, known as the *bris*⁵. The eighth day after December 3rd could be right in the middle of the trial. My presence at the *bris* is not strictly commanded, although my absence will never be forgotten by those that matter.

So please consider this an application for maybe, *tfu tfu tfu*, a day off during the trial, if the foregoing occurs on a weekday. I will let the Court (and the rest of the world) know as soon as I do, and promise to bring pictures.

Very truly yours,

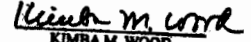

 Bennett M. Epstein

cc. All counsel

Mr. Epstein will be permitted to attend the bris, in the joyous event that a son is born. But the Court would like to balance the scales. If a daughter is born, there will be a public celebration in Court, with readings from poetry celebrating girls and women.

11-18-10

SO ORDERED, N.Y., N.Y.


 KIMBA M. WOOD
 U.S.D.J.

⁴ Yiddish for "a big fuss".

⁵ Jewish law (citation omitted).

⁶ Hebrew for "covenant", for the Covenant of Abraham, i.e. ritual circumcision, joyous to everyone except, apparently, the baby.

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In the mid 1980s, when I was a member of the Downtown Lions Club (the one that **Don Greenberg** is always hawking about) I had the good fortune to meet Archie Moore, the legendary boxer. The “Mongoose” was invited to speak at our weekly luncheon.

I could not believe my luck, having traveled far from my home in New York City. There, decades earlier, my grandfather regaled us with his arguments that Moore was the best pugilist in the whole wide world but was never given the break that he deserved to timely face key opponents. As a result, Moore was never given the proverbial “shot at the title” that he deserved. The reason? He was so good that he would have pummeled his opponents if given the chance, so the powers that be made sure he languished with the bums of the sport.

As it turned out, a much older Moore finally met up with the so-called greats. What showdowns! However, Moore missed the limelight that he truly deserved and the deserving recognition escaped him because by that time he was past his prime. “He got cheated,” my grandfather exclaimed. “All sports are fixed,” he would explain. Apparently the message was that sometimes truly deserving boxers never got the chance to prove it by getting matches in their prime, while others fought soft opponents and made the limelight.

So here was Moore in his eighties, regaling the local doctors, lawyers and merchant princes of the Downtown Lions Club of

THE DAY GRANDPA AND I FOUGHT ARCHIE MOORE

By Lou Vigorita

Ventura with stories, insights and a little show and tell. First he showed off his remaining strength and ability to do single handed pushups. He snapped off his suit jacket, folded it over a chair, took off his tie, rolled up his sleeves and knocked off twenty! Eighty-years-old and doing single handed pushups at the VFW Hall in Ventura was the legendary Archie Moore, whom my grandpa told stories about on his bended knee. Well, not quite a bended knee but you get the point. I was impressed!

At that point Moore did something that took my breath away. He asked for volunteers from the audience to come up and “shadow box” with him. Grandpa, in heaven I know you were watching me. I could feel your glare.

“Lou wotcha gonna do? Chicken out or step up like a man and stare the ‘Mongoose’ in the eye and stare up close and see *wot hees god!*”

Sure enough, I held down the rubber chicken lunch, took a deep breath, raised my hand and stepped forward. He lined the ten volunteers up with our backs against the audience, facing him, and told each one of us to stand very, very still with our hands up in a boxer’s stance. I trembled with clenched fists along with a clenched stomach, not knowing what would happen. Was I standing still enough for the great fighter? And if not, would I get hurt? Or worse?

Grandpa’s stare filled up the room. The old fighter went to the first volunteer on my left, braced himself face to face. Then I heard it. Swishes. They got louder and louder until he was right in front of me, staring into my eyes with a glare that must have impressed the long-gone managers of his would-be opponents to the point of making a point of not letting their boys get into the ring with him. The look in his eyes was the squeezing of the trigger, the sighting of the rifle, the

fighter’s ritual start for what was to follow. I heard the movements of the arms before I saw them. I know sight travels faster than sound and that is why we see lightning before we hear its thunder... But not the jabs of the 80-year-old Archie Moore.

First I heard the swishes as each fist pierced the atmosphere on each side of my head, level with my ears. One! Two! Three! Then he moved to my right to line up the next man. Left! Right! Left! before he stepped out of my vision. It was a perfect sequence with perfect timing. The air to the left and right of my eyes was reticulated with streaks of arm and shirt sleeve. It was over before it began. Very, very fast! And then there was tunnel vision. I almost fainted, but not to let Grandpa down, I did not pass out right there on the floor, crying for my mother, although that is exactly what I felt like doing. Somehow I was able to make it back to my seat.

Did I just face the Mongoose in a man-to-man, one-sided battle without fleeing? Did I just face the greatest boxer of all time, keep still like he said and let him have his way with me?

You bet I did and I saw the look in his eyes. This was the look of the predator being sure of his helpless prey. He owned me and there was nothing that I could do about it. Frozen in time? You bet. I could hear Grandpa saying, “See, I told you so!” Yeah, Gramps, he was good ... very, very good.

I bought Archie Moore’s autographed book. The proceeds were going to a foundation that he started to save inner city youths. Apparently, the main reason he came to Ventura was the book signing, not for me to vindicate my grandpa’s argument. He must have been the greatest fighter that ever lived. I guess you never know when your elders are correct or how long it is going to take to prove them right.

Sidebar:

Archie Moore won 184 of his 219 bouts, according to the International Boxing Hall of Fame, where “the Mongoose” was inducted in 1990. The pugilist knocked out more opponents than any other boxer, the hall says. He was the light heavyweight champion for nearly a decade after winning the title from Joey Maxim in 1952.



Lou Vigorita is a member of the CITATIONS editorial board and a certified workers' compensation specialist who practices in Ventura.



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New Local/Local rules and procedures for probate court, per Judge Reiser:

1. The Court's goal is to have tentative rulings published on the Internet three to seven days before each scheduled hearing depending upon workload fluctuations. The hope is that any deficiency in a petition can be cured at or before the time of hearing to avoid an unnecessary continuance. The Court wishes to avoid continuances whenever and wherever they can be avoided. An attorney continuance request, even where stipulated, does not ipso facto mean a continuance will be granted.

2. If the tentative is to "approve" a petition, there is no need to call the judge's secretary to submit on the tentative. No appearance is necessary, as the judge will adopt the tentative ruling as the order unless a party appears and makes an objection. If a party does appear and object and you are not present because the tentative was favorable

to your client, the court will continue the case so that you may make an appearance.

3. If you have filed a supplemental pleading in response to the tentative ruling and are uncertain if the supplement is sufficient, the court suggests that you appear by court call. The court issues dozens of tentative rulings each week and, to stay ahead, the court cannot constantly be reopening and reassessing files every moment a party files a supplemental document. The sufficiency of the supplement will be considered at the time of hearing.

4. If you want the option not to appear in court, please be sure to lodge the proposed order when you file your petition. That way, the proposed order can be signed when the case is called for hearing

and no objection is made. The signed order will be on file in the clerk's office.

5. Pursuant to Probate Code section 2620(b), all final/post date of death accountings in conservatorships and guardianships need to be filed as a separate accounting and not included with the pre-death accounting. The two accountings may be presented to the court for approval in the same petition.

6. Where the Judicial Council prescribes a mandatory form, including hearing notices, use of other protocols including "civil" proofs of service will not be recognized.

7. Other than where specifically authorized by statute (e.g., Probate Code §8251), use of civil pleading challenges such as demurrers and motions to strike will not be recognized.

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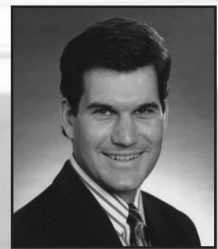
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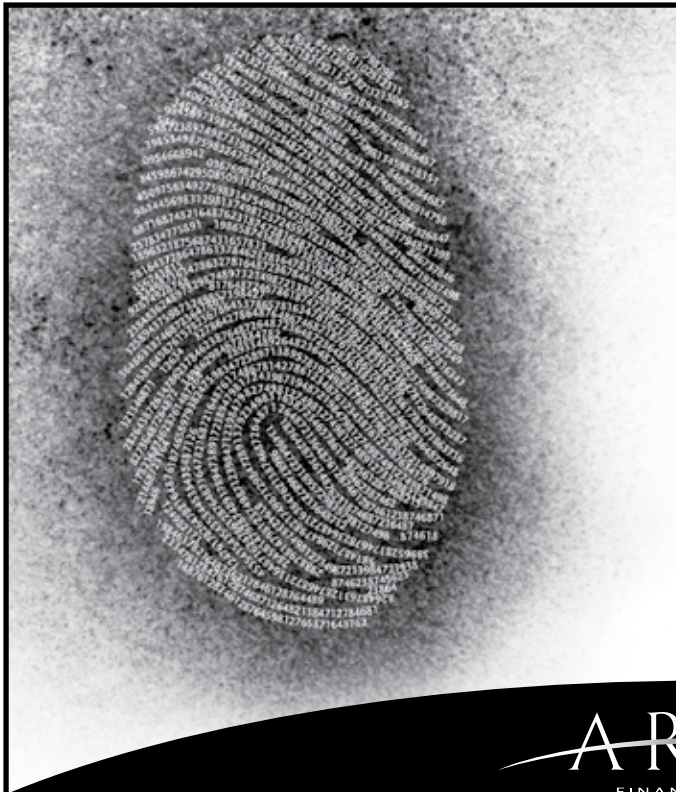
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Maria L. Capritto has associated with Arnold Bleuel Larochelle Mathews & Zirbel, LLP in Oxnard. Capritto received her law degree from the Ventura College of Law, and her master's degree in taxation from Golden Gate University. She is also a Certified Public Accountant. Capritto will continue her practice in the areas of estate planning, elder law, probate, conservatorships, special needs planning and tax controversy.



On Feb. 1, CITATIONS editor **Wendy Cole Lascher** becomes a partner at Ferguson Case Orr Paterson LLP. Lascher, a State Bar Certified Specialist in Appellate Law, will continue to advise trial lawyers and handle civil and criminal motions, writs and appeals for lawyers and clients throughout California. Her new address will be 1050 South Kimball Road, Ventura 93004. Phone (805)659-6800; email wlascher@fcoplaw.com



Aris Karakalos will become an associate of Ferguson Case Orr Paterson on Feb. 7. He will handle general litigation matters. Karakalos is a graduate of Grinnell College and the University of Arizona Law School. He is fluent in Greek and conversant in Italian. His address will be 1050 South Kimball Road, Ventura 93004. Phone (805)659-6800; email akaralos@fcoplaw.com.



Effective Feb. 1 SAG member and "Wonder Woman" comic collector **Rachel Coleman** joins the Law Offices of **David M. Karen** located in the Topa Tower in Oxnard as an associate attorney. Rachel litigates complex civil and business cases as well as appeals. Her address will be 300 Esplanade Dr., Ste. 1180, Oxnard, CA 93036

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JUSTICE PERREN'S THREE UNPLANNED LIVES

By Bill Lascher



Justice **Steve Perren** has no plan.

“That’s sort of the leitmotif of my entire life,” Perren said. Absent a plan, Perren, an associate justice of the Court of Appeal in the Second Appellate District, has managed to take on multiple personae.

“I live three lives,” he said. “I live my professional life, I live my private life, and I live my theater life.”

A 28-year judicial veteran – 17 of them spent on the trial bench – who helped develop a new juvenile justice center in Ventura County, Perren has lived with his wife, Diane, for decades in Ventura, where, for the past 15 years, he’s also built a long résumé in musical theater.

Born in Los Angeles’s “Borscht Belt,” Perren didn’t travel far after graduating from North Hollywood High School. After earning his bachelor’s degree in history from UCLA, Perren remained at the university to earn his law degree.

UCLA brought Perren more than degrees. He met Diane while they were undergrads,

and the two wed the year Perren finished law school. Forty-three years after their wedding the pair remain together. Their daughter, Alisa, grew up in Ventura before becoming a writer and film studies and communications professor at Georgia State University.

At UCLA, Perren also met **Bill Paterson** and **George Eskin**. The fellow Bruins would later play key roles in setting the direction of Perren’s career.

First, Perren would serve two years as a Captain in the U.S. Army’s Signal Corps. Just before a tour of duty in Vietnam, Perren drove Diane home from Ft. Lewis, Washington to Los Angeles. Outside of Ventura, Perren recalled thinking that Paterson was a public defender here. The pair decided to stop and see Paterson and discovered he was, in fact, working in the district attorney’s office. As the friends caught up, Paterson asked Perren what he’d planned after his military service. Perren didn’t have an answer. Paterson asked whether Perren remembered Eskin – then an assistant district attorney – from law school and the two were reintroduced.

“I was clad in Levis and t-shirt, with my wife in the car,” Perren said. “That was about as close as I came in terms of an interview.”

After Perren completed his service, he and Diane decided to hop in the car again and “knock around” a little. Their first stop was Ventura.

Paterson had left the DA’s office to work with **Tom Ferguson** and **Dick Regnier**. At the D.A.’s office, though, he saw Eskin once again, and once again, when Eskin asked Perren what he was up to after the army, the response was “no plans.” Eskin, who had just lost four deputies, offered Perren a job. It was a Wednesday. Eskin wanted Perren to start the next day, but the new hire negotiated one more free weekend before launching his career.

After two and a half years as a prosecutor Perren spent four years at Benton, Orr, Duval & Buckingham doing personal injury defense, general litigation and criminal defense. After that he moved along to provide a general practice component to the mostly workers compensation



oriented practice at Ghitlerman, Hourigan, Grossman, Finestone & Perren.

In 1982, Eskin again figured prominently when he asked Perren whether he might want to become a judge. By the end of that year, Perren was appointed to the bench in Ventura County, where he remained a trial judge for 17 years

While on the bench Perren befriended fellow judge **Melinda Johnson**, now retired. Johnson would figure in Perren's next transition. At the outset of 1999 Justice **Steve Stone** announced his retirement from the appellate bench. The *LA Times's* Traci Wilson called to say Johnson had said she'd thrown her name in for the open position. Wilson wanted to know if Perren would as well.

"I guess so," Perren told Wilson, not really realizing what he was saying. The next day the *Times* reported that Perren would also vie for the seat. Perren said he was almost as surprised as his shocked wife was reading it in the paper that morning, but ten months later he was appointed to the bench.

Perren has chaired the criminal law advisory committee of the Judicial Council for the past eight years after joining the committee while he was still a trial judge. He also served on the Jury Instructions Task Force for ten years. In 2005, that body produced CALCRIM, a modernization of criminal jury trial instructions that put the law as instructed to the jury in "plain English." He currently serves as an ex-officio member with the Bench Bar Media Committee and taught for ten years at the judicial college. Currently, Perren serves on a task force working with Native American communities in California to help develop cooperation between Native American and state courts so that orders issued in one can be enforced and recognized in the other.

Though he's moved on from the trial court he remains notably proud of the five years he spent overseeing Ventura County's juvenile justice system. When he took over as juvenile judge, he said, the courtroom – like juvenile justice in general – needed to receive greater attention.

"You can do about as much or as little in juvenile justice as you want to," Perren

said. "I took that job and made it a terribly demanding job because I loved what I was doing."

Perren was inspired by Santa Clara County Judge Len Edwards, who'd said juvenile justice wasn't receiving the attention it deserved. Meanwhile, the juvenile hall near the Ventura County Medical Center was falling apart, even as more juveniles than ever were being incarcerated. Perren started working with probation officer Cal Remington to secure a grant to build a new, free-standing facility. After Perren flew to Sacramento to lobby on behalf of the proposal alongside the Probation Department, \$40.5 million were allocated for the new center, which was built on unincorporated land on Vineyard Avenue.

"The budget we anticipated coming didn't come, but we were able to move the center into a total package providing global services for the kids," Perren said. "Now they have a better environment where they can hopefully make some progress in education. Also, it resulted in the council building the juvenile courthouse, which removed all the juvenile operations from the main courthouse and freeing up courtrooms, extending the life of the main courthouse."

Perren, who has served on the boards of directors for Casa Pacifica and the Boys and Girls Club, said working with the juvenile justice system has given him a welcome opportunity to work with young people. He said the work became a passion and allowed him to develop a collaborative courtroom in which he could help work out solutions for families and kids.

"We failed more than we succeeded," Perren said, "but you know, in baseball a .320 average is pretty good."

In addition to working with kids, Perren has been involved with the community through the Ventura Music Festival board and his synagogue. There, he's also kept his pipes in shape as an assistant cantor.

Though he has always sung, Perren said his musical life really started in 1995 when he joined a Cabrillo Music Theater production of *Gyps & Dolls* (his acting résumé does

Continued on page 20

JUSTICE PERREN

Continued from page 19

include three gigs with the Plaza Players in the late 70s and early 80s). Since then his stage résumé includes six parts in three years with the Ventura County Gilbert & Sullivan Repertoire Company, a solo performance with the Los Angeles Lawyers Philharmonic Orchestra and a part in the chorus of an upcoming performance of *La Traviata* at Santa Barbara's Granada Theater.

The highlight for Perren, despite a number of these and other major roles, came last February, when he was cast in the Ventura-based Rubicon Theatre's performance of *Fiddler on the Roof*. He performed as Avram and in the ensemble.

"That was pretty exciting," Perren said.

His enthusiasm doesn't appear limited to the stage.

"I've just finished about 28 years of being a judge," Perren said. "I cannot imagine a better fit for me and a more joyful life experience than having served as lawyer and judge in the Ventura community. I have been a very lucky fellow."



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The Gold Coast Chapter of The Federalist Society is sponsoring a forum at the CLU campus in Oxnard on Tuesday, February 8th at 6 p.m. entitled, "Oyez!, Oyez!, Oyez! - Significant U.S. Supreme Court Trends and Decisions." Law school professors from UCLA, Pepperdine and Southwestern will discuss cases of the Court's past term and cases to be heard this term. Refreshments will be served. 1.0 hour of MCLE for \$20. For more information please e-mail goldcoastfs@gmail.com

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In case you reside on the moon, **Judge John Dobroth** retired Jan. 3 after 24 years on the bench. Did you know he was a former world-class high jumper ranking second in the United States and fifth in the world as a member of the United States Track & Field Teams, 1963-1972? He continues to compete, and recently established the best mark in the world in the men's high jump competition for his age group at the 2010 USA Masters Outdoor Track & Field Championships... The parents of a former junior high school basketball player have filed a federal lawsuit in Indianapolis that argues a team haircut policy violated their son's right to wear his hair the way he wants. Patrick and Melissa Hayden said in the lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court that their son was kicked off the Greensburg Junior High team after he refused to cut his hair to comply with team rules, which require that players' hair be above their eyebrows, collars and ears. The Haydens want the court to rule the policy is unconstitutional... These fine lawyers among us are volunteering their time and legal expertise at the Oxnard Armory Legal Clinic for the homeless: **Andre Nintcheff, Josephine Banuelos, Ken Hamilton, Laurie Nintcheff, Robert Guerra and Ron Perry. Eileen McCarthy** is spearheading the effort...

The Ventura Superior Court's local rules have been revised effective Jan. 1 and may be spotted at www.ventura.courts.ca.gov/pdf/files/venturacountycourtrules.pdf...Awakened at about 3 a.m. on New Year's Day by the sound of breaking glass, a Minnesota judge and former prosecutor opened his safe and got out his Glock as his wife called 911. Armed with the .45-caliber pistol, St Louis County Judge Shaun Floerke, who serves as assistant chief judge of the 6th Judicial District, found a highly intoxicated man who had allegedly broken in through a window and held him at

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

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

bay near his home's entryway until authorities arrived... **Justice Arthur Gilbert's** name was mentioned in an *LA Times* story Jan. 7 about California Supreme Court Justice Moreno's resignation as a possible appointment...

Seoul? Tokyo? **Sam Gasowski** at sam.gasowski@dts.com...A northern Kentucky lawyer has turned underwear salesman with the goal of offering a solution for modest airline passengers. Attorney Marc Carey's t-shirts, undies and briefs contains strategically placed emblems designed to blur a person's private parts in airport scanners. The costs start at \$14.99 and the emblems for men and women are patriotic stars and eagles, while kids' t-shirts sport a happy face. www.scannershirts.com...Movie Quote of the Month: "Margo: Oh my God, what are you doing? Elle: Reading about the LSATs. Serena: My cousin had that. Apparently you get a really bad rash on your..." From Reese Witherspoon as Elle Woods in *Legally Blonde* (2001)...The Barristers' Annual Dart Night is scheduled for Feb. 17, beginning at 5:30 p.m. inside the ever-so-lovely Bench Warmer. Dart Night is being conducted about a month earlier so as not to compete with March Madness. See the flyer stuffed inside *CITATIONS*. Specific questions may be asked of **Taylor Waters**, master dart man, at taylor.waters@ventura.org...

There will be no monthly VCTLA dinner meeting this month as officers and board members encourage the membership and others to assist the 2011 Mock Trial Competition. Want to assist? kent.kellegrew@ventura.court.ca.gov...An Ohio lawyer has been suspended for overbilling local courts for her representation of poor clients. The attorney, Kristin Stahlbush of Toledo, will be suspended for two years, with the second year stayed if she completes a one-year probationary period. According to the Ohio Supreme Court, Stahlbush billed the courts in Lucas County for more than 24 hours a day on at least three different days, and more than 20 hours a day on five other occasions...**Monique Hill** will be leaving us shortly to take a position with the Monterey County Public Defender's Office. Her departure date is unclear, but likely after she completes an existing murder trial...

Chief Deputy DA Greg Brose is retiring after 27 years of service and there's a bash for him scheduled Feb. 2, beginning at 5:30 p.m. inside Spanish Hills CC – Patty O'Donnell at 662.1724 and \$50 gets you in. Greg has been a long-time member of the bar's vcba/vlsp, inc. advisory board...A right-wing New Jersey blogger has been sentenced to 33 months in prison for making death threats against three federal judges in Illinois. Hal Turney was sentenced late December and the case stems from the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruling in 2009 by three judges that upheld a district court decision dismissing lawsuits that challenged handgun bans in Chicago. Turner protested the decision with inflammatory remarks posted online. Prosecutors say he crossed the line by declaring, "These judges must die!"...The only state without a law school, Alaska needs one to help make legal services more available and affordable. Rep Scott Kawasaki is calling for both a law school and a medical school to be established at the University of Alaska...After setting fire in an East Side 9.11 memorial, a drunken Harvard Law School grad got a no-jail deal over the objections of Manhattan prosecutors who wanted him canned for a year. Brian Schroeder, 26, will instead serve 100 hours of community service for breaking into Memorial Park and setting a fire that he then fed by tossing teddy bears...

J. Marc Dion was present for the birth of Ryan on Dec. 16 at 9:16 p.m. Ryan weighs in at 8 pounds, 3 ounces. Wife Serena doing very well. So are the rest of the troops – Emily, Macy, Cate, and Riley...Apparently unhappy about being sentenced to a 26-year prison term followed by another three years due to his violation of probation in a prior drug case, a defendant dropped the F-bomb. "F--- y'all" he shouted and the judge held him in criminal contempt on the spot and sentenced to another 12 months...

Steve Henderson has been the executive director and chief executive officer of the bar association and its affiliated organizations since November 1990. He was parked on the sidelines of the War Eagle v Ducks game and is related to Wes Byrum. Additionally, Henderson will be dining with Sarah Palin 2.14. Lastly, he may be reached at steve@vcba.org, FB, Twitter at [stevehendo1](https://twitter.com/stevehendo1), LinkedIn, or preferably 650.7599.



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