



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.

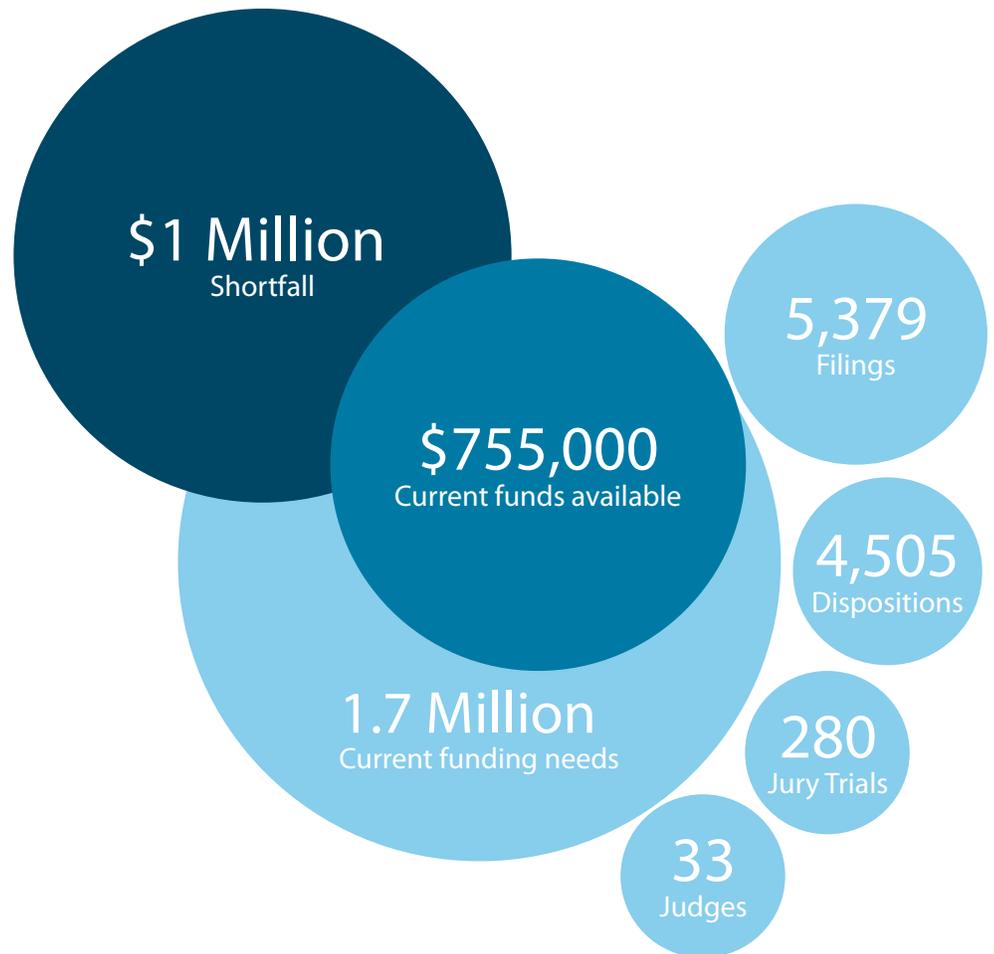
CITATIONS

A P R I L - T W O T H O U S A N D F O U R T E E N

The truth is in the numbers

By *Michael Planet*

Page 7



LAURA V. BARTELS
LISA M.J. SPILLMAN
ROBERT M. OSTROVE

MELANIE J. ELY

STEVE HENDERSON

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: I CARE AND YOU COUNT	3
YOU DON'T TWEET YET? GIVE IT A TRY! AN ATTORNEY'S OPINION	9
TIME FOR ANOTHER SEASON	15
JUDGE WHITE HONORED BY TRIAL LAWYERS	17
BARRISTERS PAINT BALL HITS A BULLSEYE	19
CLASSIFIEDS	20
EXEC'S DOT...DOT...DOT...	22



CalCPA

Channel Counties Chapter
ABC MIXER

@VENTURA
COUNTY
MUSEUM

ATTORNEYS • BANKERS • CPAS • ATTORNEYS • BANKERS • CPAS • ATTORNEYS • BANKERS • CPAS

Join us at the 2nd Annual Ventura ABC Mixer for an evening of networking with local professionals, including Attorneys, Bankers, CPAs, and other financial professionals. Introduce your co-workers to your peers and colleagues and meet new ones along the way!



Date: Wednesday, June 4, 2014

Time: 5:30–7:30 p.m.

Location: Ventura County Museum
100 East Main Street
Ventura, CA

Cost: \$40 by May 29;
\$50 after May 30
(includes one drink ticket)

Thank You to our Generous Sponsors to date:

Soares Sandall Bernacchi & Petrovich

Additional sponsorship opportunities are available.

Please contact Rita Williams, program associate at rita.williams@calcpa.org for more information.

Online registration is preferred at www.calcpa.org/CHC

Questions? Contact Rita Williams, chapter program associate at (805) 571-1558 or rita.williams@calcpa.org.

CalCPA Channel Counties Chapter Ventura ABC Mixer

Wednesday, June 4

RSVP: Online at www.calcpa.org/CHC (preferred) or mail this form, with your check, to Rita Williams; CalCPA; 7127 Hollister Ave., #318, Suite 25A; Goleta, CA 93117; fax to: (805) 968-6844; call (805) 571-1558; or Email rita.williams@calcpa.org.

Name: _____ Phone: _____ E-mail: _____ Attorney Banker CPA Other

Name: _____ Phone: _____ E-mail: _____ Attorney Banker CPA Other

Firm/Company: _____ Fax: _____

Address: _____ City, State, ZIP: _____

Check (Payable to CalCPA) MC Visa AMEX: _____

Exp. Date: _____ CVV: _____ Cardholder Name: _____ Total Amount: _____

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: I CARE AND YOU COUNT

by Laura Bartels



Winning 19th Place- Fillmore High School Mock Trial Team- 2014

Congratulations to the La Reina Mock Trial team for their win at the Ventura County Mock Trial Competition. The team worked very hard and did a fabulous job. Thanks to Newbury Park High School, who fielded an amazing four teams this year and received recognition for their inclusion of as many kids as possible into their program. Congratulations to first-year team St. Augustine – it's wonderful to have new teams and I look forward to seeing the Crusaders again next year.

When I watch the kids lose a match or a game or a bee or a trial, I am reminded of His Holiness the Dalai Lama saying that it's more fun to be on the losing team so that you can see the smiles and the joy of the winners. That concept is hard to explain to the eleven-year-old on the soccer field. But in being with the teams of mock trial kids after the competition, I saw a joy in the kids who did not advance. It is the joy of accomplishment. It is the joy of competence. It is the joy of success. It is the joy of a task well done. It is a joy of completion and of closure. It is also a joy of community. It was this tangible joy permeating through the van of Fillmore High school kids as we went home after the preliminary nights of competition. The kids knew they were not in the top eight, but in their eyes, they had held their own, had stood proud and tall and finished. The pride and joy of accomplishment and participation was palpable at the high school the next day and carried through the weeks.

Mock trial open doors for kids

Attorney **Joe O'Neill**, who has been coaching Pacifica for years, shared how rewarding it is to see how mock trial builds leaders and confidence, and it's worth it to see how a young student grows to be a talented public speaker. Once parents see their child participate in mock trial, he or she will forever be the spokesperson for the family at all family events. One of O'Neill's mock trial students just received a full scholarship to Stanford.

Mock trial teaches the kids that when you stumble, you pick yourself up. One of Fillmore's mock trial attorneys stumbled a bit on her closing argument. She lost her place and stopped to an interminable roaring, awkward, and embarrassed silence. But she could feel the support in the room and she knew that even though it was uncomfortable to be so vulnerable, she was safe and she was poised and it was ok for her to take her time to gather her thoughts and muster through. It was a powerful lesson and one that will carry her well through life. It would have been easier for her to stop talking and sit down, but she stood up there with all eyes on her willing her to proceed and she got through it. **Judge Vincent O'Neill's** quiet respect for her and her team, gracefully and with care, allowed the silence, allowed her to gather her thoughts, allowed her with grace to shakily proceed and then confidently finish with a sense of completion and accomplishment.

Mock trial generates higher AP scores

The team's expert doctor was an enthusiastic sophomore who landed in Fillmore from Vietnam five years ago without knowing one word of English. His teacher coach associated with the biology teacher to have the "expert doctors" study real hearts so the kids could really understand the effects of amphetamines on the heart. Fillmore's "experts," with such a complete understanding of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, were able to excel at their understanding of their roles. Practice after practice, their other teammates also garnered an understanding of the heart so extensive that their AP Biology teachers are confident their AP biology scores will be stellar. Our expert could tell that his "testimony" was understood and appreciated. He could barely contain his excitement on the way home.

Mock trial provides unimaginable futures to the kids

One of our students was told by scorer attorney **Barbara Macri-Ortiz** that she should be an attorney when she grew up. The neighboring scorer commented that he would not be at all surprised to see her as the CEO of a major company in her future. The next day, Barbara Macri-Ortiz emailed that she was chiding herself on the ride home for telling the high school sophomore that she should be an

Continued on page 5

**2014 VCBA
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

OFFICERS

President
Laura V. Bartels

President-Elect
Alvan A. Arzu

Secretary-Treasurer
William Grewe

Past President
Joel Mark

Executive Director, CEO
Steve Henderson, CAE

Bret G. Anderson	Douglas K. Goldwater
Linda K. Ash	Amy Dilbeck Kieseewetter
Charmaine Buehner	Kata Kim
Michele M. Castillo	Mark Kirwin
Kathryn E. Clunen	Robert S. Krimmer
Rachel Coleman	Susan L. McCarthy
Rennee R. Dehesa	Christina S. Stokholm
Erik B. Feingold	Michael A. Strauss
Jill L. Friedman	Andy Viets

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	Panda L. Kroll
Louis J. Vigorita	Gregory Herring
Al Vargas	Glenn J. Campbell
Kathleen J. Smith	Lauren E. Sims
David T. Stowell	Carol Mack

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
1050 S. Kimball
Ventura, CA 93004
t: 805.659.6800
f: 805.659.6818
wlascher@fcoplav.com

BONGIOVI MEDIATION

Mediating Solutions since 1998

Mediator • Arbitrator • Discovery Referee

“There is no better ambassador for the value of mediation than Henry Bongiovi.”



HENRY J. BONGIOVI

AV Preeminent Rating
(5 out of 5)

AVVO Rated ‘Superb’
(10 out of 10)

Conducting Mediations
throughout California
805.564.2115
www.henrybongiovi.com

**Experienced.
Trusted.
Proven.**

Mediator and arbitrator for the resolution of cases including:

- Business/Commercial
- Contracts, Employment
- Environmental and Real Estate
- Construction
- Wills and Trusts
- Family Law
- Personal Injury

Retired Judge, Elinor Reiner



Judge Elinor Reiner

MEDIATOR AND ARBITRATOR

To schedule a consultation, please call **805-879-7517**
15 West Carrillo, Suite 300 • Santa Barbara, CA 93101
elinor@elinorreiner.com • **WWW.ELINORREINER.COM**

Hon. David W. Long
RETIRED



*Continuing the
 tradition of excellence
 in mediation and
 arbitration since 1986*

Creative Dispute Resolution

EST. BY PAUL D. FRITZ, ESQ. (1941-2011)

877-237-4237

CDRJudgeLong.com • CDRJudgeLong@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Continued from page 3

attorney; Macri-Ortiz should have told the student that she should reach higher than attorney and aspire to become a judge. This young woman's life was forever changed when she was told by a Ventura County attorney that she can grow up to be a judge.

You talk about people changing kids' lives – it happened at mock trial to the children of teachers and farmworkers and ranch hands, kids who had no idea where their future could really lead. There's nothing more powerful than a complete stranger coming up to you and saying "I care and you count."

Laura Bartels of Taylor, Scoles & Bartels in Fillmore was a mock trial coach for the Fillmore High School Mock trial team along with attorney Cynthia Pandolfi.



11TH HOUR MEDIATION

It's never too late to mediate.



**DK Law Group
 CAN'T SETTLE?
 GOT TRIAL?**

Accepting Civil Trial
 Referrals/Associations of Counsel

DAVID M. KAREN, ESQ.
 Mediator and Active Trial Attorney
 26 year Plaintiff And Defense Litigator
 dk@dk4law.com
 Tel: (805) 498-1212
 Fax: (805) 498-3030

DK4LAW.com
 11THHOURMEDIATION.COM

3155 Old Conejo Road
 Thousand Oaks, CA 91320

**NEED
 CLIENTS?**

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

**LAWYER REFERRAL &
 INFORMATION SERVICE**

For more information call
(805) 650-7599
 www.vcba.org

BAR LEADERSHIP

ADR SECTION	
David Karen	498-1212
ANIMAL LAW	
Katherine Hause Becker	525-7104
ASIAN BAR	
John Fukasawa	383-2788
BANKRUPTCY	
Michael Sment	654-0311
BARRISTERS	
Rachel Coleman	477-0070
BENCH/BAR/MEDIA COMMITTEE	
Kendall VanConas	988-9886
BENCH-BAR RELATIONS COMMITTEE	
Hon. Matt Guasco	256-4972
BLACK ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION	
Alvan Arzu	654-2500
BUSINESS LITIGATION SECTION	
Erik Feingold	644-7188
CITATIONS	
Wendy Lascher	659-6800
CLIENT RELATIONS	
Dean Hazard	988-9886
COURT TOUR PROGRAM	
Thomas Hinkle	656-4223
CPA LAW SOCIETY	
Douglas Kulper	659-6800
DIVERSITY BAR ASSOCIATION	
Jill Friedman	644-7188
EAST COUNTY BAR	
Doug Bordner	496-0111
EMPLOYMENT LAW	
Joe Herbert	482-5340
FAMILY LAW BAR	
Patricia Mann	371-4066
IMMIGRATION LAW	
Jack Seal	650-1100
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY	
Chris Balzan	658-1945
J.H.B. INN OF COURT	
Lindsay Nielson	658-0977
JUDICIAL EVALUATION COMMITTEE	
Linda Ash	654-2580
LAW LIBRARY COMMITTEE	
Eileen Walker	444-6308
LGBT Alliance	
Ed Elrod	644-4486
MEXICAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION	
Lou Kruezer	381-4131
NATURAL RESOURCES SECTION	
Gisele Goetz	895-5338
PRO BONO ADVISORY BOARD	
David Shain	659-6800
PROBATE & ESTATE PLANNING SECTION	
Amber Rodriguez	643-4200
REAL PROPERTY	
Ramon Guizar	981-8555
SOLO SECTION	
Adam Pollock	818-991-7760
VCBA/VLSP, INC.	
Joel Mark	644-7111
VC TRIAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION	
Susan McCarthy	988-9886
VC WOMEN LAWYERS	
Katherine Hause	525-7104
VCBA STAFF	650-7599
Steve Henderson - Executive Director	
Sandra Rubio - Associate Executive Director	
Nadia Avila - Members Relations Director	
Verna Kagan, Esq. - VLSP Program Manager	
Peggy Purnell - CTP Coordinator	



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**

CISLO & THOMAS LLP®
Patent, Copyright and Trademark
Litigation Attorneys at Law

Super Lawyers
2014

Serving Businesses in Southern California Since 1979

IP Filings, Counseling, Licensing & Litigation
With Offices In
Santa Monica, Westlake Village and Santa Barbara
Visit us at www.cislo.com or call us at
1 (866) CISLO LAW

**We have Successfully Settled or Litigated
Over 98% of Our Cases**

The truth is in the numbers

By Michael Planet

How often under the crush of work do we think that we sure are busy but don't really know if there is any basis for feeling that way? Recent reports issued by the California Judicial Council some answers as they relate to the current judge and staff demands for trial courts, including the Ventura Superior Court.

The four important reports are the *Court Statistics Report*, the *Resource Assessment Study (RAS)*, the *Workload Allocation Funding Model (WAFM)*, and the *SB 56 Advisory Committee Report*. The Judicial Council annually issues the *Court Statistics Report* on the business conducted in the Supreme Court, Courts of Appeal and the trial courts. The *Resource Assessment Study (RAS)* was authorized by the Council in 2001 to develop a methodology for determining each of the 58 trial courts' workloads and resources needed (i.e. staff) to manage that workload. Simply put, the *RAS* measures the new case filings, weights those filings by the amount of staff time spent to reach disposition, and applies a staffing model to determine how many and what kinds of staff support is needed to manage the work. The *Workload Allocation Funding Model (WAFM)* was adopted by the Council in 2013 and takes *RAS* to determine how much it would cost to fund the necessary staff. The SB 56 Advisory Committee was created in response to 2006 legislation requiring the Council to report biannually on judgeship needs, and its 2013 report takes *RAS* to determine the number of judicial officers needed to manage the workload. There are complex methodologies and statistical analyses underlying each of these studies which are discussed in great detail in the reports. Each of these reports is available to the public on the California Courts website, www.courts.ca.gov.

How busy are we?

So, how do we know how busy we are? What each of these reports reveals is that the Ventura Superior Court, to use a sports metaphor, is pound-for-pound busier than most other California trial courts. Based on statistics for Fiscal Year 2011-2012, our court with 33 judicial officers (29 judges and four commissioners) is tied for fourteenth place

in size with San Mateo. Our 5,379 filings per judge rank fifth and 4,505 dispositions per judge rank 11th. The 280 jury trials rank tenth.

Compared to what? The busiest court in the state is Imperial, with 6,480 filings and 6,898 dispositions per judge. The least busy court is Sierra, with 387 filings and 249 dispositions per judge. Contenders are Alpine and Modoc, each with fewer than 1,000 filings and dispositions per judge. Alpine reported having no jury trials in the year. Mariposa and Mono each reported one jury trial for all case types.

Compared to courts our size, San Mateo (33 judicial officers) is ranked seventh in filings and fourth in dispositions per judge. San Joaquin (36.5 judicial officers) is 38th and 30th respectively. San Francisco, with a population and number of dispositions very similar to Ventura and twice the number of judicial officers (65) is ranked 37th in filings and 42nd in dispositions per judge.

One-third increase needed

So, what do we need? Looking to the future, these reports tell us how many judges and staff we need to manage our work, and how much it will cost. The Governor signed SB 56 in 2006, directing the Judicial Council to report biennially on the number of judges needed. That report indicates a need for 43.7 judicial officers for the Ventura Superior Court, an increase of 10.7 over our current complement. The *RAS* indicates a need for 400 staff to support court operations compared to the 290 remaining after five consecutive fiscal years of budget reductions, a gap of 110. *WAFM* converts those staff to dollars indicating the need for an increase in state funding from the \$33.7 million in FY 2012-2013 to \$50.4 million.

Increased funding needed, too

These reports also underscore the need for additional funding based on our workload

Continued on page 10



Elegant Affordable Single Furnished Offices



*“Full Service Office Suites
for the Executive”*

- Full Time Offices
- Part Time Offices
- Hourly Offices
- Daily Offices
- 3 Conference Rooms
- Video Conferencing
- Training Rooms up to 80 people

1000 Town Center Drive #300, Oxnard, CA 93036



Call Mary today
805.351.3700

www.rpexecutivesuites.com
mary@rpexecutivesuites.com

Video Conferencing
\$65. Per Hour

(Conference Room rental additional)



ATTORNEY SERVICES

COURT SERVICES
SERVICE OF PROCESS
PHOTOCOPY SERVICES

DEPOSITION OFFICER ASSIGNMENT
SUBPOENA PREPARATION
SKIP TRACING

OUR MOST IMPORTANT SERVICE IS

PEACE OF MIND.

Established in 1993 in Ventura, CA, Commercial Process Serving, Inc. is your premier local Attorney Service! With a fully staffed office, Registered Process Servers & Photocopiers, and field experienced managers, CPS has you covered. We provide an array of solutions guaranteed to meet ALL of your legal service needs. Let our extensive resources, investments and experience work for you.

BEST RATES GUARANTEED!

References Readily Available

VENTURA

674 County Square Drive, Suite 107
Ventura, CA 93003
Phone: (805) 650-9291
Fax: (805) 658-8170
E-mail: admin@comproserve.net

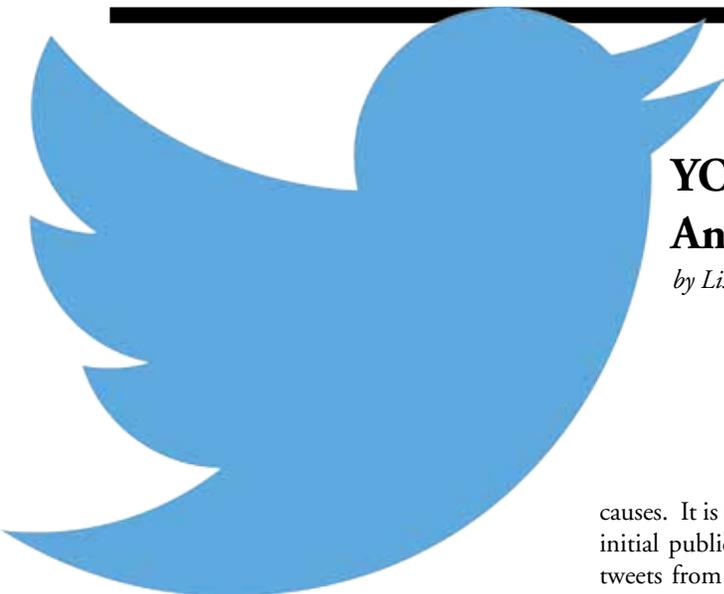
SANTA BARBARA

209 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Phone: (805) 845-4200
Fax: (805) 845-4201
E-mail: sb@comproserve.net

NEW LOCATION! SANTA MARIA

124 West Main Street, Suite C
Santa Maria, CA 93458
Phone: (805) 361-0781
Fax: (805) 361-0782
E-mail: sm@comproserve.net

Same Day Services | Email Status & Service Confirmation | Conformed Face Pages Emailed
Fees Advanced | Daily Pick Up/Retainers | Statewide/Nationwide Coverage
Large Format Printing/Scanning | Copy Services, Color & BW



YOU DON'T TWEET YET? GIVE IT A TRY!

An Attorney's Opinion Of Twitter

by Lisa M.J. Spillman

The other day my five-year old and I were playing a game of "If your family member were an apple, what kind would she or he be?" I told him that he'd be a Red Delicious because of his cute, rosy cheeks. He told me I'd be a Granny Smith because I'm old. (Note to self: Call **Laura Bartels** to have the chape taken out of the will.)

But his thinking me old got me thinking. I've talked to a lot of attorneys lately about Twitter, and about whether they use it and why. Attorneys have told me: "I'm too old for social media" (which I do not think is true and I don't really use Twitter for social purposes), "I don't need more stuff to do" (I hear you, but you might be missing out professionally), "It's a waste of time" (not if you use it right), "I already do Facebook and they are all the same" (they are not the same), "You can't teach an old dog new tricks" (sure you can, woof woof), and "I don't need to post a picture of my sandwich" (agreed, please don't, unless you want to have one delivered to me, then make it a Dagwood with extra bacon).

So my point in this article is to convey that you're not too old or young for Twitter, and that it really can help your law practice. I'll tell you what Twitter is, what I use it for, what I don't use it for, what I use hashtags for and why, what benefit Twitter can have to a law practice, suggestions on whom lawyers and law firms might want to follow, and last, Twitter's revolutionary capacity for sociopolitical and corporate change.

What Twitter Is. Twitter is a set of programs operating on the Internet linking people, news, blogs, companies, organizations, and

causes. It is free to join and recently had an initial public offering, so at times you see tweets from advertisers. You can set up a Twitter account easily by going to Twitter.com or downloading the app onto your smartphone. Setting up the account and name is easy (mine is Lisa Jerde Spillman @LmjSpillman.) You do not have to use your actual name, but it is my experience that most professionals do.

What I Use Twitter For. I do not use Twitter in the social sense I use Facebook. In my experience, people use Facebook generally to see what his or her friends are doing, to post about what's going on in her or his life, or to post pictures of a child, a bruise or Katmandu. Perhaps some use Twitter for that purpose, but not I. If Facebook is my living room, then Twitter is my office.

What benefit Twitter can have to a law practice. I follow people, blogs, or entities to quickly bring me news relevant to my practice of law. For example, when an opinion is published, legal bloggers quickly tweet a few-word explanation of the decision and a link to his or her blog about the decision, which aid me as an appellate attorney. I see tweets by Twitter users who tweet links to articles in a variety of areas of law. And the tweets are not overwhelming, because they are limited to only 140 characters, and I can choose, or not, to follow the link and read the article or blog. Sometimes, I find a tweet or article worthy of a retweet, meaning I resubmit that user's tweet and link to the Twitterverse and to my followers. Sometimes, I will reply to a tweet or "favorite" it. Other times, I may tweet something I drafted, or find something online and tweet a link directly to another user, because I think that user would be interested, or I tweet it using hashtags.

What I Use Hashtags For and Why.

Hashtags are fun. A hashtag is a set of characters or words strung together with a preceding "#". So, for example, I would not tweet these, but when my kids finally fall asleep, I might feel #exhausted, or want to #PraiseGod. When I lose a case I might feel like I need to #ThrowInTheTowel or go to #LadiesNightOut. Hashtags can be used to draw attention to a user or a tweet, to raise awareness of an issue, or to promote a product or a service. They can be used to try to ensure your tweet is one of those that comes up when a search is run. So, for example, when an attorney writes a blog about criminal defense or beating a DUI charge, he might tweet a link to the blog with #DUI #KnowYourRights #Ventura #Lawyer. An attorney writing wills and trusts might tweet a link to her blog about a new law regarding trusts and include #Ventura #Attorney #Wills #Trusts. Creating a unique hashtag can make an issue, product or service go viral.

Whom I follow. Anyone on Twitter could see whom I follow, but here are some of the law-related ones: @VCBA1, @CalCourts, @CalAppOpinion, @USSupremeCourt, @SCOTUSOpinions, @SCOTUSblog, @SCOTUSblogposts, @scotusreporter, @StateBarCA, @Cal_Lawyer, @EsquireNation, Steve Henderson, Wendy Lascher, Rachel Coleman, Panda Kroll, Karen Darnall, Lynn Smiley, Kate Brolan, Carol Mack, Gabriele Lashly, Howard Bashman @howappealing, Above the Law @atlblog, @CACJNews, @KamalaHarris, @StateDept, @UN, @justiacom, @TheJusticeDept, @SenateFloor, @HouseFloor, @InnocenceMatter, Innocence Project @innocence, @YaleLawSch, @Harvard_Law, @thelegalintel, @NationalJurist, @Chapman_Law, @ReutersLegal, @emilybazelon, @JeffreyToobin, @ABAJournal, @WSJlawblog, and @BloombergLaw. I also follow a number of state and U.S. Congress people and other political figures.

Continued on page 11

The truth is in the numbers

Continued from page 7

in two critical areas. Juvenile dependency is one of the few case types that has grown over the past several years, not only in Ventura but statewide. In many of these cases, the Court appoints attorneys to represent the child and the parents. The funding need equates to \$1.7 million; we are currently allocated \$755,000, a gap of almost \$1 million. The second area is providing interpreters in domestic violence cases. A grant funds our program with \$9,000 for a need projected to be \$22,000.

The Ventura Superior Court has benefitted from the Judicial Council's new emphasis on using workload as the primary measure of resource needs. Our percentage of the allocation of state funds has grown for the first time since the historical model for funding the state trial courts shifted from the counties to the state in 1998. It will continue to grow incrementally over the next four years. The judicial needs study has resulted in the re-prioritizing of new judgeships for Ventura County. Existing 1997 legislation authorizing 50 new judgeships statewide (not yet funded) will be amended to include two for Ventura County, subject to appropriation. The staffing model at long last acknowledges the need for dedicated staff based on our workload.

It is important to put the findings of all these reports in the context of five consecutive fiscal years of budget reductions not just to the Ventura Superior Court, but statewide. These reports underscore that no trial court in the state today has the resources and funding to effectively manage its workload. Many courts also do not have the number of judges needed. How the funding for the needs of the trial courts is prioritized along with all the programs in the other branches of government will continue to be a challenge. But we know now how busy we are and what we need to promote the fair and efficient administration of justice in California. It's in the numbers.



Michael Planet is the Court Executive Officer of the Superior Court of California for Ventura County.

Expert Investigations

sil-ver bul-let, n. A simple and seemingly magical solution to a complicated problem.



What we do is simple (and seemingly magical): get whatever is needed for our clients save money, save time, and win cases.

Experts at analyzing evidence on hard drives, cell phones and other digital media. Conducting environmental liability investigations for 30 years. Surveillance, asset searches, background checks, fraud, criminal defense, etc. Global reach. Serving Ventura County attorneys since 1988.

Clients include most major area law firms, and many of the AM Law 100.

VERDICT RESOURCES

Investigations And Professional Research

(805) 445-1997 | www.verdict.net

Get our White Paper: "What Attorneys Should Know About Computer Forensics"

SPECIALIZING IN MEDIATION OF CROSSOVER ISSUES AT AFFORDABLE RATES

Marcia L. Kraft

Mediation/Arbitration

- * Family Law
- * Guardianships
- * Conservatorships
- * Probates and Trusts
- * Personal Injuries
- * Bankruptcy

Commitment to provide superior service with professionalism and integrity

CALL NOW!

818.883.1330

6355 Topanga Canyon Blvd. Suite 419
Woodland Hills, CA 91367

www.mlkmediation.com

YOU DON'T TWEET YET? GIVE IT A TRY! An Attorney's Opinion Of Twitter

Continued from page 9

I follow numerous news organizations from around the world. To keep things fun, I also follow comedians to get a good guffaw, like @AlbertBrooks, @SarahKSilverman, @TheEllenShow, @JerrySeinfeld, @jimmyfallon, @TheOnion, @WhoopiGoldberg, @billmaher, @SteveCarell, and Stephen Colbert @StephenAtHome.

I also get a little spiritual, and follow Pope Francis @Pontifex, The Dalai Lama @DalaiLama, and maybe even God @TheTweetOfGod.

One thing I truly love about Twitter is what I see as its revolutionary capacity for sociopolitical and corporate change. Let me give you an example. It should come as no surprise that I do not think partially undressing and gyrating in front of a microphone is an appropriate way to make a video go viral. Nor is telling millions of women and men and boys and girls that a woman should sex it up to make a video go viral. And apparently, I am not alone. During the Super Bowl, a company showed

a commercial with a famous actress doing just that, and I loved the response by women and men across the globe, who directly sent that company tweets denouncing the commercial, and including the hashtag #NotBuyingIt. I love this hashtag for its literalness – hashtaggers are giving the potential death knell – I am not going to buy what you are selling because you screwed up. And an easy Twitter search of #NotBuyingIt reveals myriad other products, services, tweets, or programming that Twitter users are not buying, figuratively or literally. Where social pressure won't work, the bottom line just might. Twitter is also being used, second by second, to broadcast footage and reports by regular Twitter users of what is happening on the ground in #Venezuela and #Ukraine. Revolutionary, indeed.

But if your feathers get ruffled, bear in mind that every tweet is forever public, even if you delete it. It won't appear on your page, but it still exists in the Twitterverse. So thieves and spies, future would-be employers, the Bar, your children, and the police may be watching. And speaking of the police, don't

even think of tweeting while driving. Not only could you hurt someone, but your tweet and its time and date stamp, could end up being used against you in tort or criminal actions. And keep this in mind: the California Legislature is considering AB 1555, which would redefine vehicular manslaughter to include a defendant whose use of a cell phone while driving leads to the collision.

So all in all, I think Twitter can have wonderful benefits for attorneys. It certainly makes following legal news, decisions and analyses across the country and world intriguing, timely and fun. And it's not that hard or intimidating, even for a "Granny" like me. #GiveItATwy



Lisa M.J. Spillman is an attorney in Ventura who specializes in criminal appeals and habeas corpus petitions.



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



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

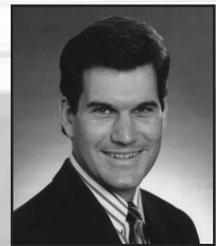
240 Lombard St., #100, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

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

*California's Pioneer Since 1978
Insuring Our State's Lawyers for 35 Years*



**Extensive FREE Online
MCLE Library – Over 50 hours!**

Always at no charge for our members

Solo Practice Resources

Virtual Law Practice Guidance

**Lawyer-to-Lawyer
Loss Prevention Hotline**

Specialty Practice Rates

*ADR, Appellate, Criminal,
Immigration, Insurance Defense*

Easy Renewal Process

Member Dividends*

*LMIC thanks you
for 35 years
of member support*



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

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

Lawyers' Mutual
*LMIC...Exclusively
providing California Lawyers
with trusted service
and innovation since 1978*
Insurance Company

* 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.



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



**HOEFFLIN
BURROWS**
A Law Corporation

Personalized representation to attain client goals

HOEFFLIN • BURROWS delivers results by putting client interests first and using a team-based approach to creatively, intelligently, and effectively resolve legal matters.

Emphasis on

- Real Estate
- Business and Corporate
- Partnerships/ LLC's
- Trust/Estate Disputes
- Executive Employment

**2659 Townsgate Road, Suite 232
Westlake Village, CA 91361
(805) 497-8605**

www.hoefflinlaw.com



Refer with confidence

(Left to right): Steven A. Meadville, Esq., of Counsel, Richard M. Hoefflin, Esq., and Jason M. Burrows, Esq.

TIME FOR ANOTHER SEASON

by Robert Ostrove



Ah, it's Spring! Baseball, the greatest game ever invented by man, returns for yet another season. And with baseball season upon us, it's always a good time to start with this oldie but goodie:

A man was walking along the beach when he came upon an empty corked bottle. He picked it up and pulled out the cork, and suddenly in a cloud of mist a genie appeared.

"Oh, thank you for freeing me, most gracious master!" exclaimed the genie. "As a token of my great appreciation, I will grant you one wish."

The man pulled a folded-up world map from his back pocket and handed it to the genie.

"My wish is for peace in the Middle East."

The genie handed the map back and scoffed.

"That's impossible! Not even I with my genie powers can do that! I will therefore grant you another wish."

The man thought for a moment and said, "OK, I wish to see the Chicago Cubs win the World Series."

The genie replied, "Let me see that map again."

I'm sure that many of you are not aware that the first reference to baseball is found in the Old Testament in the Book of Genesis, Chapter 1, Verse 1. It is widely assumed that verse says, "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the Earth." This is not correct. In fact, what that verse really says is "In the BIG INNING, God created the heavens and the Earth." We learn that God created the Earth in six days and rested on the seventh day, on which it's safe to say God

got up and moved around a bit, which would have been the first seventh-inning stretch.

An account of the first baseball game played is also found in Genesis. They played a home game in the Garden of Eden. The serpent made a pitch to Eve. Eve stole first (I know, not an official way of reaching first base). Adam stole second. Isaac walked after Abraham tried to sacrifice. God threw out Adam and Eve for a double play. Cain struck out Abel. Inning over. Noah was going to come in to pitch, but the game was rained out.

In 1960, I witnessed my first baseball game, Los Angeles Dodgers vs. St. Louis Cardinals in the LA Coliseum, Don Drysdale on the mound for the Dodgers. Classic Americana, father and son at a baseball game together. Like most six-year-olds, I had an attention span of about five minutes. My dad explained to me that unlike games which were timed, like football or basketball, baseball had nine innings, and each team had 27 outs, and there was no time limit. What I remember about that first game was that it was literally timeless, that is to say, "When is this game going to end?" Of course I didn't appreciate the timelessness of baseball when I was six, but I came to love watching baseball, an activity in which there is a conspicuous lack of a clock.

The lovely, timeless things about baseball are the green grass, the white chalk lines, the symmetry of the diamond, the crack of the bat, the taste of a Dodger Dog. Then there is the game itself: The winner of the game isn't determined until the last out is made. Both teams have the same amount of chances to score. The defense controls the ball. The game takes as long as it takes for the game to be completed. That's a nice thing, because although we all know that time marches on,

at a baseball game there is only the green grass, the crack of the bat, the roar of the crowd, roasted peanuts salted in the shell, and the players we marvel at.

I say that baseball is the greatest game ever invented, but it isn't perfect. We've heard about baseball's gambling scandals, its institutionalized racism, the owners' collusion, and the players' use of steroids. But for a few hours, watching a baseball game gives us the pleasure of indulging in the fond dream that we are immune to the passage of time, that we are immortal like Babe Ruth, Willie Mays, Ty Cobb, and Lou Gehrig. It's a wonderful feeling.

Don't ask me why I love baseball. I can't really define it. Mostly I love baseball because it gives me a chance to forget about the mundane concerns of everyday life for a while, and to spend some time with fans who take pleasure in enjoying the same reprieve.

Baseball has been referred to as "America's Pastime." I recall reading an article in which the author wrote that baseball is, "in the truest sense, a pastime, i.e., something that amuses and serves to make time pass agreeably. In a world that demands much of us and our limited time here, there's something to be said for passing it agreeably."

Play ball!



Robert Ostrove
practices elder law,
family law, labor and
employment, and
litigation in Ventura.

LRIS

LAWYER
REFERRAL &
INFORMATION
SERVICE

For more information call
(805) 650-7599
www.vcba.org

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](mailto:RATC@cox.net)

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA'S
PREEMINENT PROFESSIONAL
LIABILITY AND BUSINESS
LITIGATION FIRM**

NEMECEK·COLE
Attorneys At Law



15260 VENTURA BOULEVARD, SUITE 920
SHERMAN OAKS, CA 91403
TEL: 818.788.9500 / 877.314.1177

WWW.NEMECEK-COLE.COM

* Certified Specialist in Legal Malpractice Law from The State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization

JUDGE WHITE HONORED BY TRIAL LAWYERS



Wetumka, Oklahoma's loss is Ventura County's gain. Selected as Ventura County's Judge of the Year by the Ventura County Trial Lawyers Association, Judge White was publicly praised by her colleagues, Judges Vince O'Neill and Kevin McGee, and former District Attorney Mike Bradbury, at VCTLA's March meeting. Judge Colleen Toy White, daughter of Wetumka's police chief and a basketball and tennis star, put herself through law school at night, and worked her way up to Chief Assistant District Attorney before she became a Superior Court

judge in 1994. Since then, Judge White's assignments have included family law court, including serving as the supervising judge, and dependency court, where she handled child abuse and neglect cases. Judge White was the Ventura Superior Court presiding judge in 2007 and 2008, and the assistant presiding judge in 2005-2006.

Judge White established the dependency drug court for mothers of newborns prenatally exposed to alcohol or drugs. She played an instrumental role in establishing the Ventura County Pro Per Clinic for family law litigants. Judge White "never met a litigant she did not care about," her admirers say.

Currently assigned to the criminal trials division, Judge White also presides over nontraditional courts including the veterans, domestic violence, elder abuse court, mental health court and community intervention court.

Always active in the community, Judge White is a former member of the board of the Ventura College Foundation, a

past president of the board of directors of Interface Children Family Services of Ventura County, and past president and member of the board of Child Abuse and Neglect (C.A.A.N.) an organization dedicated to the protection of children. In 1984, President Reagan appointed her to the Presidential Advisory Commission on the Peace Corps. He also offered Judge White a high-level Justice Department position.

Many awards have been given to Judge White for her service; they include the VCBA Ben E. Nordman Award for outstanding public service, the JC Penney Golden Rule Award and the Knights of Columbus Community Service Award.

Judge White is a frequent and recognized judicial college instructor. She has a reputation for judicial courage, and for treating each attorney and litigant with respect, and a desire to "get to the core cause of the problem before her."

Explore Your Options

Alternative to Litigation
Business Approach
Result Oriented

- 25 Years Business Litigation Experience
- 10 Years Oil & Gas Experience
- Experience Advising Boards and Management

Goetz Business Mediations
Gisele Goetz, Esq. Mediator

Member: State Bar of California, CIPA, VCBA, SBCBA

(805) 895-5338

www.goetzbusinessmediations.com
giselegoetz@aol.com



LRIS

LAWYER
REFERRAL &
INFORMATION
SERVICE

For more information call
(805) 650-7599
www.vcba.org

Advertise in the 2014-2015 Legal Services Directory!

**Ask Nadia for more
information or visit
our website**

www.vcba.org



805-320-1206

**Your Real Estate Advisor
for Buying, Selling or
Investing!**

- Investment Properties
- Trust and Probate Sales
- Bankruptcy and Divorce Sales

Can provide valuations within 48 hours!



Office: (805) 477-4288
Fax: (805) 644-8278
teamdembowski@yahoo.com
www.teamdembowski.com

BRE Lic. #01441424

4574 Market St. 2B
Ventura, CA 93003



Brian Sisk, SRA
Senior Appraiser
California State Certified
AR026146

SISK APPRAISALS
304 Dakota Drive
Ventura, CA 93001
T 805-653-6680 • C 805-490-3606
F 805-653-6613
Brian.sisk@sbcglobal.net
www.Briansiskappraisals.com

**Specializing in Properties that need
to be sold due to Divorce, Hardship,
Probate and Trust Administrations**



*Endorsed by: Laura V. Bartels, Esq.,
Leslie A. McAdam, Esq., Jesse E. Cahill, Esq.,
Kathryn E. Clunen, Esq., William E. Winfield, Esq.,
Maria L. Capritto, Esq., Ben A. Schuck, Esq.
and Susan L. Wilson, Esq.*

Theresa Robledo, Realtor®, Broker, DRE #01483023
Henry Robledo, Realtor®, DRE #01901932
Email: Agent@DiamondRealtyTeam.com
805.625.4450 direct



Serving Ventura County



DiamondRealtyTeam.com

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

Victoria Lindenauer, Esq. *MEDIATOR*



Streamlined Approach

Results

Cost Effective

*Over 25 years PI litigation
on the Central Coast*

Trained Mediator:

Straus Institute
Pepperdine Univ.

Mediation Panelist:

Santa Barbara, Ventura
San Luis Obispo,
Resolute Systems, LLC

805.730.1959 | www.lindenauermediation.com
lindenauer_mediation@cox.net

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

BARRISTERS PAINT BALL HITS A BULLSEYE

by Melanie Ely

The Barristers Paint Ball event was a huge success! Thank you all for participating! In case you missed it, 1,848 people showed up, including barristers, non-barrister lawyers, judges, and family and friends.

The Barristers board took home first place! (Of course, the Navy SEAL training did not hurt.) The Barristers would like to give a special thanks to the NRA for sponsoring the event, and of course, a special thank you to the Navy SEALs who took a day out of their busy schedules to help train the Barristers Board – we could not have done it without you.

Whether you are a barrister or not, you are welcome to attend these upcoming fun events: Trivia Night at Garman’s Pub in Santa Paula on April 17, Bowling Night on July 17, or Wine and Cheese Night on August 21. For further information, give the Barristers board secretary, Melanie Ely, a call at (805)643-2200.



Melanie Ely practices at Engle Carobini & Coats in Ventura. She holds the U.S. all-time female record for guinea pig juggling.

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
5739 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.

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

Westlake Village niche boutique family law firm looking to hire legal secretary/paralegal. The position will be 24 to 30 hours per week to start. Salary DOE. Must have family law experience and ability to do phone intakes. Please email: lisa@zonderfamilylaw.com

SERVICES OFFERED

New Attorney seeking contract or full-time job opportunity. Graduated cum laude from Indiana University School of Law, Indianapolis in May 2013 and passed the July Bar Exam. Articles editor on the *Indiana Health Law Review* and internships with small PI firm, hospital network, and county counsel. Excellent writing skills, attention to detail, and willingness to learn. Please contact William Starr at wstarr@gmail.com, or (805)415-3421.

OFFICE SPACE

Subtenancy wanted – new firm seeks 2-3 offices, will share economies of scale. East County preferred. Contact: pagalitigator@gmail.com

Sublease Ideal for startup/satellite office in central Westlake Village location, \$500/month including utility/internet; close to 101 Fwy and postal office. Contact: lj.law@verizon.net

River Park executive suites – Elegant affordable single furnished offices full time offices, part time offices, hourly offices, daily offices, three conference rooms, training rooms up to 80 people. Video conferencing \$45 Per Hour. *Conference Room rental additional. Call Us Today!! (805)351-3700

FOR SALE

Konica Minolta Bizhub C-250 all-in-one copy/scan/fax machine. High speed (25 ppm) black & white, and color output. Accepts originals up to 11"x17", one-sided or two-sided originals. Can be networked. Meter: Under 31,000 copies. All manuals included. \$2,500. Call (805)648-1047 or e-mail dsvierra@sbcglobal.net.



Kay Wilson-Bolton

Broker Since 1976

Hoarder Homes/*Clearing & Cleaning*
Distressed Properties
Estate and Trustee Sales
Probate Sales
Property Management
Si Hablo Espanol

- ♣ Contract Broker for Public Administrator of Ventura County
- ♣ Broker Price Opinions with Photos
- ♣ Covenant Mediation Services
- ♣ Probate Sales, Evaluation & Marketing
- ♣ Bankruptcy Trustee Broker
- ♣ REO and Shortsales
- ♣ Skilled with Multi-Trustees and Co-Sellers Transactions
- ♣ Notary and E-Signing Agent

CENTURY 21 Hometown Realty

805.340.5025 Efax 805.258.7028

Real Estate Broker BRE 00577863 Property Management BRE 01767325
kay@realestatemagic.com www.kaywilsonbolton.net
www.kaywilsonboltonblog.com
www.facebook.com/justcallkay

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.



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

- 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

**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

We file your Affidavit of Publication with the court

For the best
service call

983-0015

H.T. CURNETT & ASSOCIATES INC.

LEGAL INVESTIGATIONS

www.aeocoe.com

Tom Curnett
Owner/Lic. #24657

Bus. (805) 524-6841

E-mail: tomdefense@aol.com

P.O. Box 887, Fillmore, CA 93016
SPANISH INVESTIGATORS

**SPECIALIZING IN
LEGAL PLACEMENT**

Legal Staffing and Executive Recruitment

Expertise • Experience • Efficiency

Serving the recruitment needs of law firms and
corporate legal departments for over 35 years
with integrity and confidentiality.



KATHI WHALEN, CAC
President & Founder



Contact us today to help you
find the right match.

Ventura County • (805) 389-3663 Santa Barbara County • (805) 965-2020
kathi@whalenbryan.com • www.whalenbryan.com

ROGERS, SHEFFIELD & CAMPBELL, LLP



IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE ADDITION OF
BRANDON R. LECK

Rogers, Sheffield & Campbell, LLP, a full-service law firm serving Santa Barbara since 1973, is pleased to announce that Braden R. Leck has joined the firm. Brady's practice will continue to focus on real estate, estate planning and business transactions.

WWW.ROGERSSHEFFIELD.COM
805-963-9721

Exec's Dot...Dot...Dot... by Steve Henderson, Executive Director, M.A., CAE



A really nice story about **Barbara Macri-Ortiz** appeared in the *Ventura County Star* March 15 detailing her efforts fighting for the farmworker housing community over the

last 25 years – www.vcstar.com...In what is being billed as a question of first impression anywhere in the U.S., a New Jersey judge has held that a woman may ban the father of her unborn child from a hospital delivery room. Upholding the mother's right of privacy, Superior Court Judge Sohail Mohammed ruled in February that she is neither required to notify the baby's father – from who she is estranged – that she is going into labor nor required to admit him into the delivery room against her wishes...I have it on good authority **David Tredway** watched a few good baseball games in the desert...

Recommended Movie of the Month: *Puncture*, A David and Goliath law drama about a drug-addicted lawyer who takes on a health supply corporation while battling his own personal demons. 2011... University of California at Irvine law dean Erwin Chemerinsky has a request for one and possibly two justices. Chemerinsky says in a *L.A. Times* op-ed that Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who turned 81 last month, should retire this summer so President Obama can appoint a successor. "Indeed, Justice Stephen Breyer, who will turn 76 this summer, should also carefully consider the possibility of stepping down this year," Chemerinsky writes...Victoria Borgesson,

Court Executive Assistant, is soliciting public comment regarding the proposed changes to the Local Rules & Forms of the Superior Court of California. You may view the proposed rules by going to www.ventura.courts.ca.gov or calling Borgesson at 654.2965...



Iceland? **Tina Rasnow** at tina@rasnowpeak.com or 236.0266 ...A Texas lawyer who represents poor clients is wearing jailhouse orange scrubs for Lent to promote discussions

about the lack of jobs for ex-cons. Kent McKeever is a part-time youth minister and a lawyer at Mission Waco, a Christian group that provides programs for the poor. He told the *Waco Tribune* he is wearing the orange scrubs to show solidarity with prisoners and former inmates returning to society. McKeever is writing about his experiences in a blog called "40 Days in Orange. A Lenten Journey in the Uniform of the Imprisoned"...Recommended Book of the Month: *Johnny Carson*, by Henry Bushkin. (Houghton Mifflin, 2013). Johnny Carson is also a law book by his best friend and lawyer for several decades and calls into question attorney-client privilege and celebrity clients... "We are not sure how a parent should teach his child a lesson. But we are sure how not to do it. Do not pull the trigger of a firearm held to the child's head, even if the firearm is unloaded," from **Justice Kenneth Yegan**, writing for a unanimous panel of the California Court of Appeal affirming convictions on threat a weapons charges for the way a defendant disciplined his teenage son and stepson in *People v. Culbert* ...



Deborah Vierra has decided that after over eighteen years in service, she is hanging up the proverbial hat. She feels that Ventura lawyers are the highest quality anywhere. She is donating state and federal employment law and civil practice publications. Most of them are indeed outdated, but available free on a first-come, first-serve basis. Call her at 648.1047. Deborah will continue her legal

efforts by volunteering at Santa Clara Valley Legal Aid in Fillmore...A man who took cellphone photos up the skirts of women riding the Boston subway did not violate state law because the women were not nude or part nude, Massachusetts' highest court ruled March 6. The Supreme Judicial Court overruled a lower court that had upheld charges against Michael Robertson, who was arrested in August 2010 by transit police who set up a sting after getting reports that he was using his cellphone to take photos and videos of female riders' skirts and dresses... Past VCBA President **John Howard** has joined Lowthorp, Richards, McMillian, Miller & Templeman as Of Counsel. John may be reached at 981.8555 or jhoward@lrmmmt.com...Former Ventura County lawyer



Kassandra McQuillen is one of the tribe members on the current season of CBS's *Survivor*. Kass has survived the first four tribal councils...

Judge F. Dino Inumerable's formal installation ceremony will be Friday, April 18 beginning at 4 p.m. inside Courtroom #22. RSVP to dawn.schneider@ventura.courts.ca.gov or 654.2965...BIG kudos to the bar's Member Relations Director, Nadia



Avila, who continues to serve the bar loyally and exceedingly well...

Loyola Law School graduate **Lane Lopez**, who holds an LL.M. in taxation, returns to his Ventura County roots when he joins Ferguson Case Orr Paterson, LLP April 1. Speaking of FCOP, **Michael Case, David Shain, Bret Anderson, and Josh Hopstone** staff the firm's new Westlake Village office, which opened in March—2801 Townsgate Rd., Suite 215. Phone will remain (805)659-6800.

Steve Henderson has been the executive director and chief executive officer of the Ventura County Bar Association and its affiliated organizations since November 1990. He won Warren Buffet's Billion Dollar Challenge and his last day at the bar will be April 1. Henderson may be reached at steve@vcba.org, Twitter at [stevehendo1](https://twitter.com/stevehendo1), LinkedIn, FB or better yet, 650.7599.

Before you fill these seats.....



Find out what they are thinking.....

Conduct a Jury Focus Group

Holding a Jury Focus Group before trial can give you the advantage by affording you the opportunity to test your case in front of a panel of mock jurors. Holding a focus group in the early stages of your case can expose potential problems as well as help point your case in the right direction.

We take all of the hassles out of the process as well. Our facility provides dedicated focus group rooms with closed circuit viewing and video recording for viewing later.

We provide the Jurors, A/V Equipment, food and beverages, all for a price that is surprisingly affordable.

Call today for details
and Client discounts



800-43-DEPOS

www.personalcourtreporters.com



Personal is my "go to" source for all of my Jury Focus Groups and Court Reporting needs. They surpass all my expectations.

~Michael Alder

CITATIONS

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

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 507
OXNARD, CA 93030



We appreciate your criminal law referrals!

WWW.DavidLehrLaw.COM

805 477-0070