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CIVIL TRIALS OF NOTE: THE HISTORY PROJECT CONTINUES

by Kathleen J. Smith



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	3
VETERANS LEGAL CLINIC REESTABLISHES UNDER VENTURA COUNTY LEGAL AID	6
THE LONELY LAWYER: BUILDING MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS	10
RGB	11
THE UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCESS - WHAT IS IT AND WHY SHOULD I CARE?	14
JOE HENDERSON	16
BARRISTERS TRIVIA NIGHT	19
CLASSIFIEDS	21
EXEC'S DOT...DOT...DOT...	22

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by P. Mark Kirwin

Frequent topics of conversation center around the weather, and, if you live in urban California, the traffic. I would also add the cost of housing. I was having dinner last week with a mortgage broker friend who told me that the average monthly mortgage payment in Ventura County is around \$3,000 per household. The rising cost and decreasing availability of affordable housing is well documented as a serious problem in Ventura County. I wanted to find out more about this complex issue, so I asked an urban planner friend of mine, Sandy Smith, if he could share some insight on the issue. According to Sandy, we are indeed in a housing crisis. Sandy offered these thoughts on the complex housing problem in our own back yard.

A few years ago, Sandy served on a panel at the Annual Housing Opportunities Made Easier (HOME) conference, along with Dr. Jamshid Damooei of Cal Lutheran's Department of Economics, Finance & Accounting, as well as Jeff Lambert, Community Development Director for the City of Ventura. The panel was asked to provide a "State of the Region" analysis regarding land use and housing – identifying issues that affect our region's ability to provide housing for our residents, and how the development community has responded to those challenges.

Dr. Damooei also led the team that provided the data, and much of the analysis, that makes up the Ventura County Civic Alliance's biennial State of the Region report. According to Sandy, between the information that Dr. Damooei presented at the HOME conference, and the data in the Civic Alliance's State of the Region Report, the message is clear for businesses that hope to operate in Ventura County: "You have your work cut out for you if you choose to own and operate a business in Ventura County."

The challenges differ from business to business, but one hurdle shared by all is the

high cost of workforce housing. Affordable housing is needed for our nurses, office workers and administrative support staff, construction workers, police and fire personnel, teachers, and people employed in protection services, community and social services, to name a few categories of employees affected by high local prices. Ventura County is among the top ten metropolitan areas in the nation requiring a high wage level to afford a two-bedroom housing unit. What does that mean in real dollars? It takes a salary of \$28.83 an hour, or a yearly salary of over \$59,000 a year, to rent a two-bedroom apartment in Ventura County.

The challenging statistics do not stop there. Fifteen percent of workers in the County (43,990 people) require two-to-three full-time jobs to afford a two-bedroom housing unit. Forty-six percent of workers in the county (135,220 people) must work one and a half to two jobs so they can afford a two-bedroom housing unit. Tragically, 77 percent of workers in the County (224,470 County residents) cannot afford two-bedroom housing with *only* one full time job.

Housing costs so much in Ventura County because of the price of land and the time it takes to permit and entitle housing projects. In addition, new housing projects are restricted to existing urban boundaries. Sandy shared that this infill strategy for development faces two additional challenges. First, we have an aging infrastructure that requires projects to absorb some of the upgrade/replacement costs; and second, any project proposed within an existing urban setting means that the proposed location is near somebody else. Any proposed project must overcome public and political barriers as part of the entitlement process. A portion of the public does not want new developments in their "own back yard." Whether one agrees with this position or not, it creates another

challenging hurdle for affordable housing development in Ventura County.

In addition, there is a strong public concern that infill housing will destroy our quality of life and "create another San Fernando Valley." Regardless of the validity of these fears, our county's housing shortage undermines the three-tiered stool of the housing sustainability model that requires a balanced focus on the environment, economic viability and a respect for social equity in these ways:

- Our air quality suffers when people employed locally have to drive here from their homes in more affordable communities. Their car trips into the county (some 40,000 per day) clog our highways and pollute the air. There are another 80,000 car trips per day from people living in our County who must drive elsewhere to find a job that pays well enough to afford a home here. Additionally, Highway 101 is packed with our "displaced workforce" —workers who live in our County, but have homes and workplaces elsewhere.
- Our economy suffers when employers move jobs elsewhere to communities where their workers can afford a home that doesn't consume more than half their take-home pay. California Lutheran University's Center for Economic Research and Forecasting's research shows that the past three years are the weakest three years on record for the Ventura County economy.
- Social justice suffers when the chasm between workers' pay and the cost of housing causes families to split up and live separately or, perhaps even worse, when three or four families live in a one-family home.

Continued on page 7

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VENTURA COUNTY VETERANS LEGAL CLINIC REESTABLISHES UNDER VENTURA COUNTY LEGAL AID

by Bill Campbell



A legal clinic serving military veterans and currently serving military personnel will be held on Friday, June 1, 2018 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Staffed by a group of dedicated volunteers, including members of the Ventura County Bar Association, the Ventura County Veterans Legal Clinic ("Clinic") provides pro bono legal consultation to veterans of the US military services as well as currently serving members of the US Armed Forces.

The Clinic meets the first Friday of each month from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on the fifth floor of the National University Building located at 1000 Town Center Drive, Oxnard.

The Clinic's volunteer lawyers provide brief, consultative services to assist local veterans and members of our armed services. The volunteers perform "legal triage" for Clinic visitors and, as appropriate, refer them to appropriate legal professionals capable of providing further assistance.

In the coming months, the Clinic will interview legal professionals for volunteer positions. It will also expand the list of lawyers willing to field referrals from the Clinic to create a database to share with local veterans and veterans groups. Finally, the Clinic will promote its services to veterans groups and interested organizations throughout Ventura County.

I'm a Ventura County Attorney – Can I Help?

You bet. There are three levels of support that members of the VCBA can offer to assist this project. You can: (1) volunteer as a legal

professional at the Clinic; (2) volunteer as an "on call" legal professional, attending the Clinic when your skill is required; or (3) submit your contact information and take referrals from the Clinic.

If you're willing to get involved, please send an email with your contact information to vcba.veteranslegalclinic@gmail.com. Please provide your contact information, your area of legal specialty, and whether or not you'll offer some kind of preferred billing rate to veterans or active military personnel. We'll be sure to include you in our list of legal professionals and provide your information to the Clinic's visitors for possible referral.

Is this clinic a first for Ventura?

No, it's not. The Clinic has been active for several years, and, until May 4, 2018 was organized under the umbrella of the Ventura County Military Collaborative.

Starting in June, the Ventura County Military Collaborative is officially passing the baton to Ventura County Legal Aid. Reconstituted under the auspices of VCLA, the Clinic will continue to operate and provide excellent services to our veterans and serving military personnel.

Bill Campbell is a patent lawyer with SoCal IP Law Group. Please contact him with any questions regarding the Ventura County Veterans Legal Clinic by emailing vcba.veteranslegalclinic@gmail.com. Also, keep tabs on the development of the Clinic by reading upcoming articles and announcements in CITATIONS.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Continued from page 3

According to Sandy, a rebuttal to the concerns of over crowding in our “backyards” has now surfaced based on factual analysis and educational outreach, a message that now has found its way into public forums and City Council meetings: The County’s housing shortage is causing damage to our quality of life. In other words, not having enough housing is bad for our economy and our social equality, and the way that we have constrained thoughtful planning and development limits our ability to steward the environment.

I want to thank Sandy for presenting the above commentary on our complex affordable housing challenge. It is a problem that we need to collectively resolve so that our County retains its uniqueness but still provides housing that is affordable.

Mark Kirwin, 2018 Ventura County Bar President, is a civil litigator at Kirwin & Francis, LLP, and is Director of the Kirwin International Relief Foundation.

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CIVIL TRIALS OF NOTE: THE HISTORY PROJECT CONTINUES

by Kathleen J. Smith



Photos courtesy of Victoria Borjesson

When's the last time you and opposing counsel were so obstreperous that the trial judge ordered you both locked up for contempt of court? If that happened to you, did you know that the remedy is a habeas corpus petition?

The Ventura County Bench & Bar History Project's May panel on "Important Civil Trials in Ventura County" reminded everyone of the bygone era of civility prevailing during the "trailer years" when Ventura County Superior Court was housed in temporary bungalows at what is now Ventura City Hall. Through the lens of the 1982 trial in *Dincau v. Tamayose*, the panel of four veteran trial attorneys and one veteran trial judge regaled Courtroom 22 with snapshots of the time when most VC trial attorneys had offices in downtown Ventura, and deals were made over (three-martini?) lunches at the Sportsman Restaurant.

Michael Case moderated, prompting memories of personalities like former **Presiding Judge Jerome Berenson** (who arranged for crowdfunding the tapestry adorning Courtroom 22), **Judges Ben Ruffner** ("Gentle Ben," who spoke hardly above a whisper), **Bert Henson** (missing a finger from his pet cougar's bite), **Al Blanford** ("Al, the DA's pal" when it came to sentencing), and **Alice McGill** ("we all know what it means when a defendant takes the 5th!")

Panelist **Richard Norman**, in his happy place at the courtroom lectern, told the tragic facts of the *Dincau* medical malpractice case of an eight-week-old with meningitis who was allegedly misdiagnosed over the phone one weekend. Norman introduced the personalities of the trial attorneys, his old colleagues **DeWitt "Red" Blase** and **Tom Halde**. These two were friendly before the *Dincau* trial, which lasted a year and made them bitter enemies for the rest of their lives. Blase and Halde sniped at each other so viciously that they were both jailed for contempt, where they continued to argue over who would get which jail cell.

Hon. Henry "Harry" Walsh, tasked with illuminating the VC judiciary from that era, recalled tussling with fellow panelist David Ellison over which one of them was wearing a loud-striped jacket to court and which one of them joked, "Somewhere, a horse is cold!" Judge Walsh described the City Hall location of the court trailers, using a powerpoint historical map. Project member **Justice Steven Perren** rose from the panel audience to assist Judge Walsh's description by pointing out landmarks on the historical map.

Ellison described obtaining the writ of habeas corpus to spring his then-boss and later partner Blase from contempt jail. Ellison also told of the *Dincau* trial procedure whereby objections were assigned

numbers and argued in a separate calendar at the end of each trial day. Even with this attempt at efficiency, the trial lasted so long that one juror became pregnant during trial, and gave birth before the verdict. Blase and defense counsel Halde were both former fighter pilots, which may explain why Halde loved to needle Blase about doing a terrible job with certain witnesses or arguments, stating, "that's what happens to you when you begin to lose."

John Howard, another veteran trial attorney, was philosophical about the task of the panel. He opined that while we might be tempted to think of the old days as halcyon, and they were in many ways, we can now know that they were only such if you were white and above middle class. Howard's work with so many plaintiffs probably informs his observation that the old days were also fraught with misogyny, racism, and other societal ills. Alcohol consumption was a recurring theme.

Howard told of defense attorney **Jim McGahan**, a small pugnacious man with a bar-fight-disfigured nose, once brilliantly cross-examining a plastic surgeon who ceased answering McGahan's blistering questions, only to answer, "Oh, I wasn't avoiding answering, I was just thinking, if I had 9.5 hours with you on the operating table, I could fix that nose."

Closing out the panel was **Mark Hiepler**, with a 140K bar number four times higher than Norman (32255) and Ellison (40372). He reflected on whether civility was easier in the old days because of proximity. Attorneys' offices were within a mile of each other, they were members of the same clubs and ate at the same restaurants. Attorneys would feel the consequences of lack of civility in their everyday lives. Hiepler recommends the benefits of a personal phone call or letter to occasionally maintain civility with counsel. He rued receiving text messages about ex partes—as don't we all? Hiepler quoted from George Washington's penmanship lessons, copying down the Jesuit Rules of Civility and Decent Behavior in Company and Conversation. Hiepler closed with this aphorism: "Among those of higher esteem, do not repeat the obvious, and always be brief."



Kathi Smith is a civil litigator who practices at *Schneiders & Associates*. She is a member of the *CITATIONS Editorial board*.

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The Lonely Lawyer: Building Meaningful Connections in an Isolating Profession

by Lauren Clark Rad

Photo by Stefan Stefancik from Pexels

In April of this year, the ABA Journal published the sad, but unsurprising, results of a nationwide survey of more than 1600 workers. The lawyers who responded to that survey were among the loneliest respondents, with 61% of them reporting above-average levels of loneliness. Survey respondents were asked to indicate how often twenty different statements described them, including “I have nobody to talk to,” “my interests and ideas are not shared by those around me,” and “no one really knows me well.”

Some of this loneliness can probably be chalked up to the nature of the profession. Most lawyers spend long stretches of time at their desks, researching and writing in relative isolation. The hours are long and often unpredictable, which can cut into lawyers’ ability to participate in activities that require a regular commitment. For lawyers in small or solo practices, there may not be many people around the office to have a conversation with.

But some of the attitudes in the legal profession don’t help this trend, either. The law-as-combat metaphors fly fast and thick, and the inherently adversarial process of litigation can contribute to feelings of isolation. It’s hard to feel connected when you’re constantly attacking and parrying.

So what’s a lonely lawyer to do?

Low-pressure meetup groups can be one option. Earlier this year, a few local lawyers and I started getting together to knit about once a month, with people arriving when they can and leaving when they have to. The loose scheduling makes it so that nobody feels guilty if their schedule keeps them from being perfectly prompt. Our practice areas are diverse, so the odds of any of us ending up on the other side of a case are essentially nil. Knitting isn’t competitive, so nobody wins or loses. It’s a space to just enjoy each other’s company.

Online groups can also be a great support, especially for those who find in-person meetups difficult. Last year, I connected via Twitter with Jeena Cho, a bankruptcy lawyer and mindfulness facilitator in the Bay Area, and we started chatting about the many challenges we’ve observed and experienced while practicing law. We quickly realized we were far from alone, and that we weren’t the only ones finding community online. It led us to start the Mindful Lawyers Community, an online space for lawyers to share mindfulness practices, creativity, and community (you can find us at mindfullawyerscommunity.com).

Of course, an online community can’t (and shouldn’t) completely replace healthy, in-person relationships. If you find yourself

withdrawing from the physical world to spend more time in the virtual world, it could be a sign that something else needs to be addressed. Still, friendships formed in virtual spaces can become real, sustaining friendships that combat loneliness and offer support.

Lawyer loneliness is a many-faceted problem with no easy solution – but it’s worth trying to solve it. While there does not appear to be good data on U.S. workers, researchers in the U.K. estimate that the loneliness epidemic in the workforce costs employers billions in sick days, low productivity, and high turnover. It can also make lawyers less effective at their jobs. Sigal Barsade, a professor of management at the University of Pennsylvania, told the Washington Post, “When you’re lonely, you start to lose your social skills. You overshare or undershare. You’re hypervigilant to social threat. You’re less collaborative.”

Lawyers – and their clients – deserve better.



Lauren Clark Rad is an associate at Ferguson Case Orr Paterson LLP in Ventuna. You can reach her at heratlr@fcoplaw.com or on Twitter at [@laurenclarkrad](https://twitter.com/laurenclarkrad). Please reach out if you’d like to join our knitting group or just grab a cup of coffee.

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RBG

by Bill Paterson

“RBG” is a cinematic love letter to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, one of the great pioneers in the fight for women’s rights. The daughter of Russian immigrants, she enrolled at Cornell at a time when the male-to-female ratio was four-to-one. In that well-stocked dating pool she met Marty, the love of her life. He was the first boy she had ever met who was interested in her brain. Over their long marriage he was unstinting in his support of her career. The family’s good-natured cook (according to her children, their mother’s culinary skills were non-existent), he was a rarity in that day and age. More typical was her early baptism in gender discrimination at Harvard Law School.

One of only nine women in a class of some 500, she earned a coveted spot on the Harvard Law Review while caring for her young daughter and her husband, who was then battling cancer. Thus, you can imagine her dismay when the president of the law school asked her if she didn’t feel guilty taking the place of a “deserving man.” It was moments like this that launched her career as a tireless advocate for women’s rights. It was a target-rich environment in an era where some state laws provided that a man could not be prosecuted for raping his wife, and the notion of gender equality was a distant dream.

As General Counsel for the ACLU, Ginsberg brought a number of landmark cases before the Supreme Court. In *Duren v. Missouri* she argued that a Missouri law that allowed women to automatically request exclusion from jury duty (on the supposed basis of their domestic duties as homemakers) did not pass constitutional muster. She opined that such laws did not put women on a pedestal, but rather in a cage. The list goes on: *Reed v. Reed* (men legally preferred over women in appointing an estate representative); and *Frontiero v. Richardson* (female air force officer was not entitled to claim her husband as a dependent for purpose of military benefits without a “special showing” of dependency, whereas wives were automatically deemed dependent). Case by case Ginsberg helped change the legal landscape.

Continued on page 17

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THE UNIFORM COMPLAINT PROCESS: WHAT IS IT AND WHY SHOULD I CARE?

by Deborah Meyer-Morris

If your child or client's child came home from public school and reported being sexually harassed at school, cyber bullied or bullied, a football coach discriminating against a deaf student, a teacher making racist statements, or if the child complained about something that sounded like a Title IX violation, would you know how to make a formal report and obtain a statutorily-compliant investigation?

Recently, adults have been paying a lot of attention to how to report unlawful discrimination and retaliation in the workplace. However, few parents, much less attorneys, have any idea where to find and activate these #MeToo, #Enough protections in the Education Code. Yes, there are administrative remedies available against school districts to report, investigate and remediate discrimination and bullying without filing a government tort claim (which has a 99% chance of being rejected) or launching into a cumbersome investigation with the Office of Civil Rights (likely resulting in a Resolution Agreement which may or may not be honored by the district). The Education Code remedy is the Uniform Complaint Process (UCP).

In 2012, the California Legislature recognized the widespread nature of bullying, harassment and unlawful discrimination and its detrimental effect on students' mental health and school performance. It passed "The Safe Place to Learn Act," Education Code sections 234-234.5. Section 234.1 requires school districts to adopt specific complaint procedures to investigate and resolve complaints.

The UCP regulations should be available online on each district's website, along with the complaint form, as well as physically available at each school site and the district office. Each district must have a specifically-trained compliance officer.

The UCP is confidential. It applies not just to student-on-student conduct, but also to teacher/staff conduct toward students. Complainants are broadly protected

against retaliation. The UCP is intended to be used to report, investigate and remediate disparate treatment of students based on individual characteristics such as disability, race, gender, religion, sexual orientation and immigration status, as well as complaints of sexual harassment, bullying, cyber bullying, retaliation, and hate crimes defined in Penal Code section 422.5.

A complaint may be filed only by the person who alleges that that he/she personally suffered the unlawful conduct or by a person who believes that an individual or any specific class of individuals has been subjected to discrimination. There is a six-month deadline for initiating a complaint. The time for filing may be extended for up to 90 days by the Superintendent or designee for good cause upon written request by the complainant setting forth the reasons for the extension. (5 Cal. Code Regs., § 4630.)

The UCP is also the mechanism used to report a district's alleged violation of the prohibition against charging unlawful student fees. However, these are subject to a one-year filing deadline, running from the date the alleged violation occurred. (Educ. Code, §§ 49013, 52075.5; 5 Cal. Code Regs., § 4630.) The UCP may also be used to report a district's alleged violation of state or federal law or regulations governing adult education programs, consolidated categorical aid programs, migrant education, career technical and technical education and training programs, child care and development programs, child nutrition programs and special education programs. These alleged violations may be filed by any individual, public agency or organization. (5 Cal. Code Regs., § 4630.)

In addition, the UCP provides additional legal protections for foster and homeless youth designed to assist them with credit retention, transfers and course completion outside of the district. Therefore, those of you volunteering as CASAs for local foster youth may have the occasional need to utilize the UCP.

Since the UCP is an administrative remedy, the specific steps and guidelines are meant to be transparent. By law the UCP is limited to 60 calendar days (not business or court days) from receipt of the Uniform Complaint, which means the entire investigation has to be completed and a written notice of decision given to the complainant within that time frame. Complainants who are not satisfied with the investigation or remedial action proposed by the district must be notified of their fifteen-calendar-day right to appeal to the California Department of Education.

The UCP is designed to be freely available to students and other stakeholders to protect educational rights and ensure that all students receive a nondiscriminatory free public education. However, for many complainants and/or would-be complainants, the process is elusive and made unduly complicated by school district personnel, who sometimes fail to provide accurate information and/or adequate assistance, fail to provide the UC forms or administrative regulations, or fail to advise that the complaints must be in writing and signed by the complainant. Any effort by a school principal, district personnel or office clerk to deflect the filing of a UC or to limit the report to an oral report to school site personnel or support staff at the district office, should be met with skepticism and concern.

By law, the complaint must be in writing, and if disability or illiteracy makes this impossible, district staff are required to assist. (5 Cal. Code Regs., § 4600.) If more than fifteen percent of students enrolled in the district speak a single primary language other than English, the district's policy, regulation, forms and notices concerning the UCP must be translated into that language. (Educ. Code, §§ 234.1, 48985.) In all other circumstances, the district shall ensure meaningful access to all relevant UCP information for parents/guardians with limited English proficiency.

In short, the UCP is a powerful administrative regulatory scheme designed

to provide prompt assistance and corrective action to students/stakeholders experiencing unlawful discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, gender, disability or age. In some cases it may also be more expedient and practical than filing a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Civil Rights at www.ed.gov/ocr within 180 days of the alleged discrimination.

Whether to participate in the UCP or file with the Office of Civil Rights is a matter of personal choice. However, with the Office of Civil Rights undergoing dramatic changes under the Trump administration, absent some glaring conflict of interest within the district or extenuating circumstances, filing a UC might be preferred.

A final note: participating in the UCP does not take the place of filing a government tort claim against a public entity, and public school districts are public entities. Therefore, when in doubt as to whether a government tort claim is required, read the Government Code. While, ordinarily, civil rights claims and sexual abuse claims are exceptions to the Government Tort Claim filing requirements, related state claims such as negligent or intentional infliction of emotional distress, among others, are not exempt and participating in the UCP will not toll the government tort claim filing deadline.



Deborah Meyer-Morris is a partner at the DK Law Group, LLP. She is in the process of forming a new committee of the VCBA, the Education and Disability Rights Bar Association. Anyone interested in participating should contact her at dmm@dk4law.



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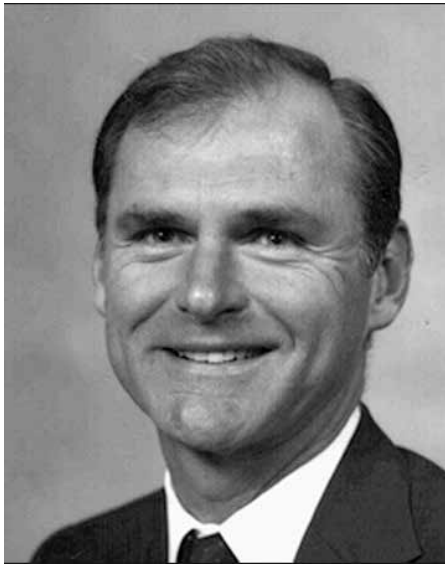
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JOE HENDERSON

by Wendy Lascher



So many people crowded the Santa Paula mortuary where **Joe Henderson's** friends and family gathered on May 22 that it was hard to count the secretaries, clerks, judges, adjustors, former law partners, associates, and opposing counsel there to remember Henderson – not to mention others who sent comments to CITATIONS.

Because many viewed Henderson as a “man of mystery” who never let on much about himself, the comfortable candor of Henderson’s daughter Alice, his grandson Logan, and other members of his family rounded out the picture of a lawyer so many admired. He was as competitive, contemplative, and generous to his family as he was to his fellow lawyers.

Georgianna Regnier, the first woman “privileged to be part of what was then the Law Firm of Henderson & Smith,” says she “came to regard Joe as a great mentor and friend,” who “created a highly ethical environment of professionalism and camaraderie among the firm’s attorneys and staff while encouraging us to take an active role in legal and service organizations.” Former partner **Dennis La Rochelle**, who practiced with Henderson seven years, gave Henderson credit for changing his life by hiring La Rochelle away from a job as house counsel for an insurance company, buying La Rochelle and his young family their first family car, and sending the La Rochelles on their first cruise. Henderson

and his long-time secretary Carol Oliveira treated retired **Judge Dave Long** “like royalty.” Long was grateful that Henderson trusted him, as a lawyer of one-and-a-half month’s experience, with an important jury trial that built Long’s confidence, and has since viewed Henderson “as someone he could turn to for advice, perspective, and wisdom.”

VCBA President **Mark Kirwin** noted that he and Henderson “did fight hard when we litigated but after his retirement we seemed to find peace. I respect that.”

Lou Vigorita said Henderson was a “respected lawyer, genuine gentleman and good friend.” Past VCBA president **Roger Myers** called Henderson an “able trial lawyer”; **Judge Fred Bysse** remembers trying cases against Henderson, who was a “strong advocate for his clients’ interests,” yet “always trustworthy and professional in pursuing this goal.” **Andy Whitman**, who as a young lawyer sat second chair to Henderson, commented on the way Henderson would prepare for trial, often by staring out the window for long stretches. Henderson’s courtroom tactics may have been creative but, according to Judge Bysse, Henderson “never took a ‘cheap shot.’” **Michael Case** remarked that Henderson would frequently do the unexpected – “he tried to do the right thing but didn’t see things the way others did.”

Relatives and colleagues alike commented on Henderson’s stares. He made eye contact as if to say, “I hear you and I have considered what you say to be worthy, even if I don’t agree.” This thoughtfulness and lack of superficiality made Henderson the

kind of person Case always wanted to know better. “I would like to be admired by this guy if I could figure out how to do it.”

This is not to say Henderson was the somber sort. Oliveira explained, “[a]t a time when lawyers were not held in high regard in the perception of the public (and were constantly the butt of jokes), he came up with the idea of the firm putting on an annual Summer Solstice party to include members of both the legal and business community. That event basically bridged the gap and provided many people the opportunity to get to know and appreciate” lawyers. These extravaganzas featured margaritas, fortune tellers, music, and smiles. They were creative, “classy,” fun, and so memorable that almost every person I spoke to about Henderson mentioned the parties in their first few words.

Oliveira’s summary of her career as Henderson’s assistant is one that each of us who knew and admired him could adopt: “I have 21 years of memories from our working relationship, and 99% of them are good!”



Wendy Lascher is an appellate lawyer at Ferguson Case Orr Paterson, LLP in Ventura. She was president of VCBA in 1991, the year after Joe Henderson’s term as president. Lascher is co-editor of CITATIONS

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Continued from page 11

For me some of the highlights of the film were:

Interviews with some of the plaintiffs who were at the center of the cases Ginsberg brought before the Supreme Court. Engaging and plain-spoken, they refused to cave in to societal norms that treated them as second-class citizens.

Ginsberg’s husband Marty, a cheerful soul who backed his ferociously workaholic wife every step of the way. A prominent tax lawyer in New York, he put his career on hold to advance her judicial career. For all her manifest qualifications, but for Marty’s assiduous cultivation of his network of influential friends, she might not have been appointed to the Supreme Court. It was a true partnership and an enduring marriage.

Ginsberg’s confirmation hearing before the Senate makes one long for the days before hyper-partisanship raised its ugly head. When she stated her strong support of a woman’s right to choose, Orrin Hatch, a staunchly pro-life Mormon, let her know he disagreed but appreciated her forthrightness. Ginsburg was confirmed 96-3.

Lastly are the photographs of Ginsburg as a young woman. Marty says he met her on a blind date but said he “cheated” by setting it up. She was strikingly attractive and one can see how her combination of looks and brains enchanted him.

This is a stirring and (in the best sense of the word) a “feel good” film celebrating the life of a great American jurist. Now at the Paseo Camarillo and the Century Downtown.

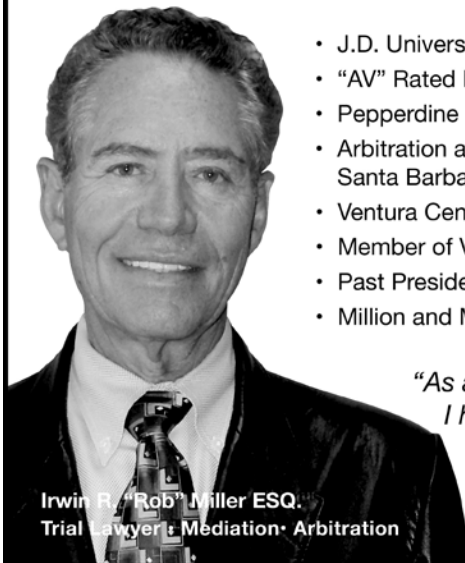


Bill Paterson is a retired lawyer, a former partner at Ferguson Case Orr Paterson, LLP

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Congratulations to Boyce Schaeffer Mainieri LLP, winners of this year's Barristers Trivia Night! Team "Res Trivicas," made up of **Andrew Whitman, Laura Cota, Robyn Weiss, Jennifer Saccomano** and **Trung Tu** (pictured top), were faced with questions such as, "Where is the Cresta Run located?"; "What is the largest fresh water lake (1) by surface area and (2) by volume?"; and, "In needlecraft, what does the acronym UFO stand for?" Thank you to everyone who came out to this fun event, and a special thank you to our quiz master, Barristers Treasurer **Rick Seigenfeld**. Join Barristers on June 19th, 2018, starting at 5:00 p.m., for a happy hour at Made West (details in flyer in this issue of Citations).

(Answers: Switzerland; Lake Superior/Lake Baikal; Unfinished Object).



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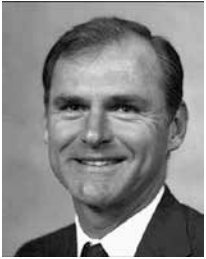
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Joe Henderson was the very first lawyer to call me up that first Monday way back in November 1990 and ask me to lunch. Don't get me wrong. It wasn't really a welcoming lunch. It

was more like he was telling me how the bar association should operate. And he was right. Obit in *The Star* May 20 and services were held May 22 in Santa Paula. Bar President in 1989 too; more about Joe on p.16...The North Carolina State Bar is joining a new but growing trend of state bar associations requiring technology CLEs, proposing that one out of twelve approved CLE hours must include technology training...

Continuing the downward trend in recent years, the overall pass rate for February 2018 State Bar exam was 27.3 percent. Overall pass rate in February 2018 was 34.5 percent. 1,282 of 4,701 passed the exam and our traditional Swearing-In Ceremony will be conducted Tuesday, June 5, inside Courtroom #22 starting at 4:00 p.m. Be there early to snag a seat ...A federal judge in Utah has extended a deadline for a Salt Lake City lawyer who said he filed a legal brief 18 minutes late due to the "emotional impact" of a loss by the Utah Jazz. U.S. District Judge Bruce Jenkins granted a deadline extension in an April 27 order. The lawyer, Brian King, is also minority leader of the Utah House of Representatives. In his motion for extension, he explained he had taken a break from work on his legal memo to watch the Jazz play the Oklahoma City Thunder in Game 5 of their NBA playoff series on April 25. The Jazz had a 25-point lead in the third quarter, but "disaster then struck." "Foreseeable, but unwished for, circumstances, together with unforeseen emotional impact from those circumstances, constitute good cause for this motion," King said...

EXEC'S DOT...DOT...DOT...

by Steve Henderson, M.A., CAE



Trevor Quirk has been named Ventura County Trial Lawyer of the Year by the Ventura County Trial Lawyers Association during their monthly dinner held May 22. Trevor earned his distinction with a \$1 million verdict and his efforts with the Upper Ojai Relief...

Danielle De Smeth, managing partner at the Law Offices of Bamieh & Erickson, has announced that **Monique L. Fierro** has joined the firm as a civil litigation associate. The Stanford grad worked in the Oxnard and Santa Barbara offices of California Rural Legal Assistance under a Public Interest Fellowship and was later hired as a staff attorney...



Do you recall the youngest person to ever graduate from law school. Yep, Stephen A. Baccus graduated at 16 years of age from the University of Miami School of Law in 1986 and passed the bar on his 17th birthday. Seven years later, he received his Doctorate in Neurobiology and now is an assistant professor of Neurobiology...

Hats off to **Brenda Bodie**, the bar's Court Tour Program Director, after completing her third year at the helm and shrewdly negotiating the Halls of Justice with her docents and 3,000 local students. The Court Tour Program will hold a volunteer recognition luncheon June 21 and Brenda leads the charge. Let's give her a shout-out at 390.4035 for a job well done!... Iceland? **Jill Friedman** at 644.7188 or jfriedman@mugjlaw.com...

CITATIONS Editorial Board meets June 4 beginning at noon time inside FCOPLaw. Join the group by contacting Managing Editors **Wendy Lascher** and **Cari Ann Potts** – wlascher@fcoplw.com and cpotts@mugjlaw.com respectively...

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: The Women Lawyers of Ventura County is presenting, "When A Bankruptcy Invades Your Family Law Case." **Renee Dehesa** will present on Friday, June 8 inside Ottavio's in Camarillo. CLE, easy parking and priced at \$27-\$32 plus CLE. **Sasha Collins** at slc@staker.com...

Barristers is hosting "Law Student Happy Hour" June 19 at Made West Brewing Company in Ventura. This event is OPEN TO ALL, so be there to hoist a few and make some new friends...

Steve Henderson has been the executive officer and chief executive of the Ventura County Bar Association and its affiliated organizations since November 1990. Ms. Stormy Daniels will appear for a CLE luncheon in late July entitled, "Undressing the Legal Profession: The Ins and Outs." Henderson has secured four tickets to the NBA Finals and is seeking interested individuals whom are also LeBron fans. Henderson may be reached at steve@vcba.org, FB, LinkedIn, Twitter at [steve_hendo1](https://twitter.com/steve_hendo1), Instagram at [steve_hendo](https://www.instagram.com/steve_hendo), or better yet, 650.7599.

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