Article Title: A Student’s Day Lobbying for Judicial Independence

by Arrian Ebrahimi
CREATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

HAVE JOINED FORCES

CONTINUING THE EXPANSION AND TRADITION
OF EXCELLENCE IN MEDIATION & ARBITRATION
ESTABLISHED IN 1986 BY PAUL D. FRITZ, ESQ. (1941-2011)

HON. DAVID W. LONG
Judge of the Superior Court County of
Ventura, Ret.
hudgelong@cdrmediation.com

DAVID M. KAREN, ESQ.
32-year Trial Attorney and
Pepperdine Trained Mediator
dk@cdrmediation.com

MEDIATION OF ALL CIVIL DISPUTES

* Business Litigation
* Employment
* Personal Injury
* Probate Litigation
* Professional Negligence
* Medical Malpractice

805.498.9494

CDRMEDIATION.COM
Highly Skilled and Effective Mediators

CDR MEDIATION - GET IT DONE

DK LAW GROUP
3155

DK LAW GROUP, LLP—TRIAL AND LITIGATION REFERRALS WELCOMED • 805.498.1212

DAVID M. KAREN - MEMBER
AMERICAN BOARD OF TRIAL ADVOCATES

dk@dk4law.com / 805.498.1212
In my international disaster and educational work, I have met teachers who struggle with the challenges of budget cuts (or no budget) for school supplies and books. These teachers are inspiring because they fight against the odds to help children and teenagers from impoverished communities learn how to read and write, do math and science and generally be more capable people in their communities. When I was in Port-au-Prince after the deadly 2010 earthquake, I asked my team of volunteers, “What do you think would help the Haitians most in the long term?” They all gave the same response: education.

In our country, teachers also face many challenges which they work hard to overcome in order to educate our youth. While doing Thomas Fire relief work and DACA renewal clinics in Santa Paula, I was fortunate enough to meet one very inspiring teacher who makes a difference in and out of the classroom. His name is Rick Castaniero. Rick agreed to share with us his remarkable story:

He is a passionate educator and civil rights activist. He was born in Oxnard, the son of hardworking immigrants from Chihuahua and Durango, Mexico. Rick is currently serving as the Director for the Ventura County League of United Latin American Citizens, District 17.

Rick received his Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature from UC Berkeley and a Masters of Fine Arts in Film Production from the UCLA Film School. In 2012, he received a California teaching credential from Cal Lutheran University. In 2011, Rick created the first ever Migrant Program Science Fair in Ventura County. Since then he has served as a board member for Future Leaders of America and co-founded and coordinates the Youth Empowerment Initiative with members of Santa Paula Latino Town Hall.

Rick has taught special education in Santa Paula for the past six years. He is currently teaching both global science and biology. It is his belief that every student is a reflection of their environment. That’s why Rick works very hard at teaching his students which, in turn, improves his community.

Rick’s students live in Santa Paula. Rick told me that Santa Paula has the highest poverty rate per household in the county. Some of his students are immigrants, trying to achieve residence status; some live in homes shared by three families; many are raised by grandparents; some have fathers who want their sons and daughters to get an education to escape the fields where they toil; and some work in the fields until 11 p.m. Every student has their story and a list of challenges life has dealt them. In this space where resources are scarce, a teacher has an amazing opportunity to be of service and make a difference.

According to Rick, he gets to meet ambitious and resilient young people with the desire to pursue the American Dream. These students are inspiring young magicians who turn their poverty into a mission to pursue a middle-class life where one is “not always in dire need.” This is a daunting challenge because these individuals’ needs can be never-ending due to generational poverty.

For instance, Rick told me about Raul, a student who lived with his mother in a garage. At night as they shared a couch, his mother would tell him and his little sister that one day she would find a job where she could make enough money to move them into their own apartment. Raul said, “After some time, we realized that we were going to be poor.”

Raul could have accepted this. But he wanted something better for his family. Raul decided to be a role model for his little sister. He got a job to help contribute to his family’s income. Raul also started to focus on his studies. He is now studying at the University of California. Although his family still lives in the garage, Raul plans to someday earn enough money to move them into an apartment.

As a teacher and co-founder of the Santa Paula Youth Empowerment Initiative, Rick told me that his goal is to develop young community leaders like Raul by creating interventions and opportunities, and building students’ self-esteem. Rick and his team train youth to plan, organize and implement leadership conferences, career seminars and community service projects. By using a peer-to-peer mentorship model, their students are empowered to own their self-destiny. When Raul succeeds, he will create a better life for his mother and little sister. This is how a good education can transform a community one family at a time.

Thank you, Rick, and all of you teachers who make a tremendous difference in the lives of our youth!

Mark Kirwin is the 2018 VCBA President and the 2018 Acting Ventura County Legal Aid President. He is a civil litigator with Kirwin & Francis, LLP in Ventura.
CITATIONS is published monthly by the Ventura County Bar Association. The articles in CITATIONS are the views of the authors, and should not be construed as legal advice. Every situation is different. Consult a lawyer if you need legal advice.

Submit all advertising, classified and calendar matters to:
VCBA
4475 Market St.
Suite B
Ventura, CA 93003
t: 805.650.7599
e: bar@vcba.org
www.vcba.org

Submit all editorial matters to:
CITATIONS
5425 Everglades St.
Ventura, CA 93003
t: 805.644-7188
e: capotts@mwgjlaw.com
Impeachment. The very word sends shivers of delight to many of my progressive Democratic friends. (Whatever happened to the “L-word”? It seems to have disappeared from the lexicon. Can’t say “liberal” any more. I know my Republican friends aren’t offended by the “C-word”. Oh come on now! I’m talking about the word “conservative”.

But I digress. I am speaking about the kind of impeachment any lawyer worth his or her salt absolutely would love to be able to pull off in a trial. But sometimes it can implode. Here’s my impeachment story.

“May I approach the witness, your Honor?”

“Of course,” came the curt reply. I think I woke his Honor up. It was after lunch and this was an easement case. The only thing possibly more mind-numbing would be a condemnation case.

I strode to the witness, clutching my copy of the witness's deposition.

“Mr. Smith, do you recall having your deposition taken at my office two months ago?

“Yes, sir.”

Confidently, I placed the deposition in front of the witness.

“Please read aloud to the jury page 23, lines 17 to 28.”

I walked back to my counsel seat with the confident stride of a combination of Perry Mason and Atticus Finch rolled into one. I had him!

“Go ahead, Mr. Smith, please read the words on that page.”

SILENCE

“Mr. Smith, is there something wrong?”

“Yes.”

“And what’s that, sir?” I asked, thinking that he realized how badly this was going for him.

“I can’t read.”

I looked at his attorney. He mouthed the words “I didn’t know”.

I also felt the stony glare of 24 juror eyeballs drilling minute darts into my back.

“Well, I’ll read it for you.” My supreme moment melted.

I did win the case, but after trial the jurors told me that they were disgusted with my treatment of the witness. How could I have humiliated him that way? It didn’t matter that neither his attorney nor I knew of this slight impediment to achieving what would have been a crowning achievement in the annals of jurisprudence. One shining moment, as the March Madness song goes, almost turned into the agony of defeat.

So ends today’s lesson on the vagaries of the practice of law.

Lindsay Nielson is a lawyer and real estate appraiser in Ventura.
BAR LEADERSHIP

ADR SECTION
David Karen  498-1212

ANIMAL LAW
Katherine Hause Becker  525-7104

ASIAN BAR
Vacant

BANKRUPTCY
Michael Smett  654-0311

BARRISTERS
Lauren Sims  659-6800

BENCH-BAR RELATIONS COMMITTEE
Hon. Matt Guasco  256-4972

BLACK ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION
Jacquelyn Ruffin  644-7188

BUSINESS LITIGATION SECTION
Erik Feingold  644-7188
Rabiah Rahman  641-6600

CITATIONS
Wendy Lascher  659-6800
Cari Potts  644-7188

CLIENT RELATIONS
Dean Hazard  988-9886

COURT TOUR PROGRAM
Thomas Hindle  656-4223

CPA LAW SOCIETY
Lauren Rad  659-6800

DIVERSITY BAR ASSOCIATION
Ed Elrod  644-4486

EAST COUNTY BAR
Doug Bordiner  496-0111

EMPLOYMENT LAW
Joe Herbert  482-5340

FAMILY LAW BAR
Marcie Kraft  888-446-4478

IMMIGRATION LAW
Matt Bromund  650-1100

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
Chris Balzan  658-1945

J.H.B. INN OF COURT
Kathryn Clunen  497-7474

JUDICIAL EVALUATION COMMITTEE
Linda Ash  654-2580

LAW LIBRARY COMMITTEE
Eileen Walker  444-6308

LGBT ALLIANCE
Ed Elrod  644-4486

MEXICAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION
Rennée Dehesa  525-7104

NATURAL RESOURCES SECTION
Kate Neiswender  649-5575

PROBATE & ESTATE PLANNING SECTION
Amber Rodriguez  643-4200
VCLA, INC.
Cesar A. Libanati  650-7599
Managing Attorney

VC TRIAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION
Marc Anderson  988-5833

VC WOMEN LAWYERS
Sasha Collins  482-3658

VCBA STAFF
Steve Henderson - Chief Executive Officer
Sandra Rubio - Associate Executive Director
Rosie Cisneros - Member Relations
Brenda Bodie - CTP Coordinator
Cesar Libanati - VCLA, Inc. Managing Attorney

---

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 805-479-7517
211 East Anapamu • Santa Barbara, CA 93101
elinor@elinorreiner.com • WWW.ELINORREINER.COM

Barton L. Schuman
REAL ESTATE MEDIATION

- Buy and Sell Mediation
- Structured Entities and LLPS
- Million Dollar Deals
- Transactional Relationships between Buyers and Sellers

(805) 407-4206

58 Years in Real Estate Practice.
“I’ve Seen It All”

CAL BAR # 29956

BLSMediation.com
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

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

Successfully Won or Settled 98% of Our Cases
“We have the best Intellectual Property Attorneys in Southern California, who litigate and protect IP.”
Daniel M. Cislo, Esq.
Managing Partner

Serving Businesses in California Since 1979
With Office Locations in
West Los Angeles/Santa Monica, Westlake Village,
Santa Barbara, Pasadena and San Diego
www.cisloandthomas.com | (805) 496-1164

Herb Fox, Esq.
Certified Appellate Law Specialist®

Appeals and Writs
Post-Trial and Anti-SLAPP Motions
Appellate Opinion Letters
Trial & Post-Trial Consultations
805.899.4777
hfox@foxappeals.com
www.foxappeals.com

Eighteen Published Opinions
Southern California Appellate Superlawyer®
AV® Rated / AVVO® Rating 10
Hourly, Flat and Contingency Fees Considered
*Board of Legal Specialization, Cal. State Bar
Last Thursday, I woke up at 4:45 a.m. to catch a three-hour train ride from the Bay Area to Sacramento. I wasn’t there to receive an honorary recognition from my state representatives for some high school accomplishment. Nor was I there for a student tour of the Capitol. I was there for one purpose: To lobby an amendment to the Constitution of the State of California.

For the past six months, I have advocated a state constitutional amendment to limit judicial recall to only cases of proven judicial misconduct as determined by the independent state Commission on Judicial Performance. Why am I doing this? In 2016, when I was a rising junior at Saint Francis High School, the ruling of Judge Aaron Persky in the case of Stanford swimmer Brock Turner first made national headlines. Turner was given what was considered by many to be a light sentence for the sexual assault of an unconscious woman after a party. Being a Democrat and a feminist, I initially took the mainstream opinion that this ruling was so egregious that the judge clearly must be recalled, and I held this opinion for over a year. However, when the recall campaign finally launched, my cousin, a female Santa Clara County public defender, took me aside for a conversation.

She warned me about the repercussions that would result from recalling Judge Persky. First, she laid down a basic fact: The judge’s ruling was within the boundaries of California law and does not exhibit bias. This fact is echoed by the nonpartisan state Commission on Judicial Performance, [Santa Clara County] District Attorney Jeff Rosen, and [Santa Clara County] Public Defender Molly O’Neal. From my cousin’s point of view as a public defender, if a judge is recalled for making an unpopular but legal decision, that would send a dangerous message to judges throughout the state that they must factor the political fallout of their rulings into their decision-making process. Furthermore, because the public generally favors “hard on crime” rulings, such a political predisposition will likely result in harsher sentencing practices that most adversely affect poor and minority defendants. In a liberal county like Santa Clara, judges would be incentivized to dole harsher sentences for sex crimes; while in a conservative county like Orange, drug crimes would likely be punished more harshly.

I still disagreed with Judge Persky’s ruling but found myself in philosophical opposition to the recall out of concern for judicial independence. As a strong believer in restorative justice and skeptical of harsh sentences, I became gravely concerned that fear of unpopular rulings would corrupt judges to favor politically expedient draconian sentences.

I wrote a statement laying out the reasons to limit judicial recall to only cases of legal misconduct through a state constitutional amendment. I circulated this statement among members of the California legal community, and the support shocked me. As a high school senior, my statement received over 75 signatures from influential legal professionals, including ten law professors, four superior court judges, two deputy district attorneys, nine private attorneys, and 54 public defenders. Encouraged by the support of rank-and-file individuals fighting in the frontlines of courtrooms and universities for social justice, I began to broaden my scope to attain organizational support. Most recently, my statement received the official support of the California Public Defenders Association and Napa County Young Democrats. Additionally, seventeen county bar associations and several civil rights organizations have scheduled votes on their
agendas this month to consider endorsing this proposal.

Bolstered by profound support from the legal and political communities, a month ago I began scheduling a lineup of meetings in Sacramento. When I entered the State Capitol at 9 a.m., I began my first of seventeen back-to-back meetings with lawmakers, legislative staff, committee staff, and lobbyists.

Several meetings stand out in particular: Assemblymember Marc Berman, the chair of the critical Elections and Redistricting Committee, listened very intently as I described my own and my supporters' concerns for judicial independence, and he said he would seriously examine the proposal in the next legislative session. At Senator Bob Wieckowski’s and Assemblymember Bill Quirk's offices, I was taken aback by the level of support their legislative staff members displayed for the amendment, and they claimed their respective bosses would in concept support the proposal. On the other hand, Darion Johnston at Assemblymember Aguiar-Curry’s office held my feet to the fire with pointed questions that have forced me to consider solutions to her concerns regarding the political perception of women's issues that would accompany this amendment, and I preempted my conversation with feminist Senator Connie Leyva’s staff by immediately addressing those concerns.

At the Assembly Judiciary Committee and Assembly Elections and Redistricting Committee, staff counsels described the many steps my proposal would require for passage, while at the offices of the Senate Pro Tem and Assembly Majority Leader, I gained a critical understanding of the point of view of the Legislature's Democratic leadership. At the offices of Senator Nancy Skinner and Assemblymember Shirley Weber, I touched base about the important role of the Commission on Judicial Performance, as these two lawmakers are involved in temporarily withholding funding from the Commission in light of an audit, and I stopped by Senator Holly Mitchell’s office to also hear their thoughts on the audit. Fortunately, both Joe Kocurek at Assemblymember Weber’s office and Gregory Dresser, Executive Director of the Commission, have confidence that the debacle will be soon resolved.

Finally, in addition to several other legislative meetings, I went to the 12th floor of a nearby building to the office of California Advocates to meet with Mike Belote, Lexi Howard, and Erinn Ryberg. From these well-versed attorneys, I obtained a critical explanation of the lobbyist underbelly of the Capitol and received advice about how best to go forward with my efforts.

I navigated a long but extremely productive day at the Capitol and succeeded in laying the early groundwork that will be critical for the Judicial Recall Amendment to receive traction in the next legislative session. I also learned through one meeting in particular that this proposal may be more easily passed through a legislative package that also addresses the tangential issue of more equal representation in and more active Commission review of the judiciary. The path to judicial independence in California is only beginning. The pursuit of two-thirds support in the Assembly and Senate and of passage on the ballot will be long and arduous, but, as a student in 2018 just graduated from high school and entering college, I have witnessed the power of young people to make a difference in the otherwise adult world of politics. I will not relent when doors are closed. I will not stop advocating for justice. And I will persist.

Arrian Ebrahimi will be a student at St. Edwards University in Austin, Texas this fall. He previously posted this article on his LinkedIn page.
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
ARC Opens Ventura Mediation Center

Hon. Frederick H. Bysshe
Ventura County Superior Court, Retired


- Brings a wealth of experience in all aspects of civil litigation; earned a reputation from both plaintiff and defense bars as an outstanding settlement judge who relentlessly pursues a fair result in every case.

840 County Square Drive
2nd Floor • Ventura, CA 93003
805.643.1052 • www.arc4adr.com

DIAMOND REALTY

Henry & Theresa Robledo
Broker / Owners
805.625.4450
805.625.4451

Recommended by several attorneys in Ventura County! References provided upon request.
Serving Ventura and LA County
www.DiamondRealtyTeam.com
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

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

Lic. #0740274

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

www.kenneyins.com

For the past 40 years, Lawyers’ Mutual Insurance Company has been solely dedicated to protecting and advancing the practices of California lawyers. This is our expertise and we are proud to say that we have served over 40,000 lawyers and handled over 16,000 claims during this time.

Our reputation of stability, consistency, and strength has been cultivated over the past 40 years, and we’re constantly evolving to serve the lawyers of California with the premier professional liability coverage and continued legal education resources.

As a mutual with no outside shareholders, our members invest in and benefit from the Company’s stability. We have always valued our members above all, and we remain dedicated to protecting your future.

Contact us at 818.565.5512 or lmic@lawyersmutual.com ... so you can practice with peace of mind.

www.lawyersmutual.com
The Reape-Rickett Law Firm
is proud to announce the addition of:

Laurence R. Goldman, Esq.
Certified Family Law Specialist*

Alanna Martin, Esq.
Associate Attorney

Samantha Essayan, J.D.
Law Clerk

Chrystal Ferber, J.D.
Law Clerk

To our team of dedicated family law advocates serving our communities:
Calabasas | Santa Clarita | Westlake Village

DivorceDigest.com
*Certified by the State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization
In the late 70s, Ron Stallworth (his book forms the basis of the film) became the first black officer hired by the Colorado Springs Police Department. Like all pioneers, be they racial or gender, he had to navigate the shoals of prejudice. Worse, they stuck him in the records room, a tedious assignment for a man who craved the excitement of police work. But things look up for him when the local black students’ association invites Stokely Carmichael, aka Kwame Ture (Corey Hawkins), to speak to their group. The police chief, worried about “outside agitators,” asks Stallworth to go undercover and attend the rally.

Some weeks later that assignment gives Stallworth a brainstorm. Why not go undercover with the local chapter of the KKK? Since his pigment would blow his cover, he enlists a fellow white officer, Flip Zimmer (Adam Driver), to be his tag team partner. Stallworth will be the phone contact and Zimmer will attend the meetings. It is a high-wire act, and watching these two in action is one of the years’ most entertaining movie going experiences.

As Stallworth, John David Washington (Denzel Washington’s son) has a gift of gab that would make him the perfect con man were he not a man in blue. His phone calls with the local Klan leader and the Klan’s national leader, David Duke (Topher Grace), are inspired. Zimmer may not have Stallworth’s skill at rhetorical riffs but he...
A frustrated federal judge confronted “the latest in a long-running dispute between the parties over home appraisals, mortgage lending, and trade secret non-disclosure agreements.” He began his order, “As the Court, with the assistance of counsel, begins the search for the truth in this matter …” Then the good judge annotated his reference to counsel in a footnote, “Many of whom no doubt have academic credentials of cum laude. When the chief financial officers of the parties receive the bills, they may say, “Lordy, how come?”

For the sake of space, CITATIONS is omitting the court’s six-item list of what is going on in the case. But our readers may enjoy seeing some other parts of the order.

As another old school San Antonio lawyer, Hobart Huson, Jr., was fond of saying, “Texans, you are guarding the wrong river.”

Keeping Things in Perspective

Condensing 14 billion years into a twenty-four hour time line reveals that our ancestors showed up at about a minute before midnight, which means that our biblical three score and ten and the time of this litigation is a nanosecond blink of an eye. Accordingly, may we move toward a reasonable conclusion with or without a trial whether in this Court or some other.

It is so ORDERED.

FRED BIERY
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

8 The History of Earth in 24-hour Clock below is adapted from Carl Sagan’s Cosmic Calendar.
has a special genius for deflecting suspicion whenever it looks as if his cover is about to be blown. Their fellow cast members are equally up to the task. They run from Grace's take on the bland but toxic David Duke, to Jasper Paakkonen (believe it or not a Finnish actor) as a local Klansman whose very being radiates fanaticism and Corey Hawkins as a spellbinder working the crowd.

What I most enjoyed about “Black KKKlansman” was the way Director Spike Lee balanced a “message” with moments that would gladden the heart of a standup comic and, towards the latter part of the film, the tension of a thriller. It is no coincidence that one of the producers is Jordan Peele, the director of last year’s stellar “Get Out”.

Some of the scenes which are of special note are:

• Harry Belafonte’s cameo playing an old man recounting a lynching he witnessed as a young boy fearfully peeking out of a window. Lynching was just the final step in the torture endured by the innocent victim while scores of onlookers cheered the tormentors on.

• David Duke’s appearance at the local Klan chapter. Standing before his white robed and hooded acolytes he spews forth a cascade of “white pride” bromides, ending with a chilling statement as to why he will never be labeled Holocaust denier. The embodiment of evil cloaked in the demeanor of a shoe clerk.

• The manner in which Lee elected to end the film – footage from last year’s Charlottesville, Virginia white
Neutrals Like No Others

Access to the best mediators and arbitrators practicing today—that’s the power of difference™ only JAMS delivers.

Hon. Richard D. Aldrich (Ret.)
Bruce A. Friedman, Esq.
Joel M. Grossman, Esq.
Hon. Melinda A. Johnson (Ret.)

Barbara A. Reeves, Esq.
Hon. Steven J. Stone (Ret.)
Hon. Diane Wayne (Ret.)

800.352.5267 | www.jamsadr.com | Resolving Disputes Worldwide
Recipient of Platinum Awards and Ranking among the Top Twenty Top Producers within Remax Gold Coast Realtors, the brokerage with the most market share within Ventura County! As a Broker Associate, Castro’s greatest achievement is her unsurpassed reputation for honesty, integrity, and knowledge in the industry.

Yolanda is a true professional. She is always checking in with her clients and referral partners and going above and beyond for them. She is easy to talk to and her dedication to ensuring that her clients receive the best outcome, whether it is to sell or buy a home, is clear in the way she conducts herself in every transaction.

-Renenee R. Dehesa, Esq.
Estate Planning, Business Law & Bankruptcy

- Divorce Sale
- Probate/Trust Sales
- Short Sales
- Conservatorship Sales
- Bankruptcy Sales

RE/MAX®
GOLD COAST REALTORS

YOLANDACASTROGROUP.COM
nationalist rally. Many of the marchers displayed Nazi regalia, and their placards and chants proudly announced their Anti-Semitic and racist creed. Amped up, one of them drives his car into the crowd of counter-protesters, killing one woman and injuring scores of others. The scene then switches to President Trump declaring that there were “very fine people on both sides”. Not a comment you would expect to hear from a man whose office is in the shadow of the Lincoln Memorial.

- The very last frame of the film. A heart-breaking image.

One last comment. The audience I saw the film with broke out in applause at the end. A friend of mine saw the film at another theater and the audience at his showing reacted the same way. The applause was earned. “Black KKKlansman” is in wide release.

**“BLACK KKKLANSMAN”**
Continued from page 17
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Entry Level Associate Opportunity - Hathaway Law Firm in Ventura is a 50 + year law firm looking for an entry level civil litigation attorney with good writing skills and a willingness to learn education law and general civil litigation skills. Salary is commensurate with experience. Email resume in confidence to jhvule@HathawayLawFirm.com

Ventura County’s largest law firm, Ferguson Case Orr Paterson LLP, seeks a top caliber litigation associate. The ideal candidate has three to five years of experience, strong academic credentials, and excellent writing and communication skills. Ties to the Ventura County area are a plus. This is an ideal opportunity to build your career in a great community with an esteemed law firm that pays competitive salaries and benefits. Please send a resume with a cover letter introducing yourself and describing your experience. Applicants without litigation experience will not be considered. Please send resumes to sbarron@fcoplaw.com

Looking to strike a better work-life balance? Tired of commuting? Join a team of top-tier attorneys based in the Thousand Oaks area. This warm, friendly, and hardworking team seek an Estate Planning Attorney with 5+ years experience. Full benefits package and highly competitive salary. Please send resumes in confidence to bryan@whalenbryan.com

OFFICE SPACE

A three office Suite available in restored Victorian home in historic Ventura, old town. This Victorian, built in 1897, is a designated Historical Landmark by the City of Ventura. Entry and common reception area have the original inlaid hardware floor, and all of the light fixtures, doors and door hardware, and bathroom sinks and faucets are antiques, dating back to 1897. A truly unique workplace. Landlord provides janitorial, utilities and gardener. No CAM charges. Common furnished reception area. Walk to the beach at Surfer’s Point for a stroll down the Ventura waterfront promenade, and to fine shops and restaurants on Main Street in historic old town. California Court of Appeal is across the street with security provided by the CHP. Plenty of free on site and on street parking (no meters). Easy 101 Freeway and Highway 33 access. Perfect for an attorney with 2 paralegals. You won’t find a more pleasant atmosphere. Entire Suite rents for $1,525/month. Call Don Parrish at 805-340-1204.
After his last round of racially charged
next year to try again for a raffle win…
of the running event, will have to wait until
Andy, who has won a number of categories
dozens of prizes each and every race. So
race prides itself every year by handing out
lots over the years, including the inability
to win one single raffle prize, though the
race prides itself every year by handing out
dozens of prizes each and every race. So
Andy, who has won a number of categories
clearly never to rehabilitate his image, he probably should have stayed gone. Henderson Tweeted, “I’m old enough to remember when a second-class intellect like Sotomayor got onto the court because of her Latinaanness gave us insight into her soul.”

store August 18. Without hesitation, John grabbed the ALLEGED thief with a scissors lock until authorities arrived to complete the task. CBS ran with the story August 20 with a pretty kool video of the shenanigans. Chances are this perp won’t being hiring John for any family law assistance (photo sent via email 8.22 am)….A veteran attorney in Cleveland has lost his law license for six months after berating his paralegal for more than two years, calling her a dirt bag and
sent via email 8.22 am)….A veteran attorney in Cleveland has lost his law license for six months after berating his paralegal for more than two years, calling her a dirt bag and
months after berating his paralegal for more than two years, calling her a dirt bag and claiming she was stupid. The Ohio Supreme Court suspended the license of Howard Evan Skolnick of the Skolnick Weiser Law Firm for one year with six months stayed
too with a pretty kool video of the shenanigans. Chances are this perp won’t being hiring John for any family law assistance (photo sent via email 8.22 am)….A veteran attorney in Cleveland has lost his law license for six months after berating his paralegal for more than two years, calling her a dirt bag and claiming she was stupid. The Ohio Supreme Court suspended the license of Howard Evan Skolnick of the Skolnick Weiser Law Firm for one year with six months stayed

Assistant City Attorney for the City of Ventura, Andy Viets, has participated in 30 consecutive Law Day 5K races including our recently held run July 7. Andy has experienced
lots over the years, including the inability
to win one single raffle prize, though the
race prides itself every year by handing out
dozens of prizes each and every race. So
Andy, who has won a number of categories
clearly never to rehabilitate his image, he probably should have stayed gone. Henderson Tweeted, “I’m old enough to remember when a second-class intellect like Sotomayor got onto the court because of her Latinaanness gave us insight into her soul.”

You have until September 24 to nominate an attorney for the Ben E. Nordman Award, which will be presented during the annual bar bash November 17…LOTS
of CLEs scheduled for this month as you
would be smart to notice the September
calendar located inside CITATIONS…

J. Roger Myers led a team of lawyers once again assisting veterans during the annual Stand Down event held recently. I’m not entirely sure how
long Roger has been dedicated to this, but
longer than I have been employed here, which
is a quarter of a century. Helping out through
the course of the day were Jodi Prior, Brian Nomi,
Glen Campbell and Bill Redmond

3,600 hours! That’s how many hours Daniel Bliss, an intellectual property partner at Howard & Howard, billed last year. That
means he averaged 70 billable hours every single week. That’s ten hours every day – for a year. He’s quoted, “You know what? “When the sun shines, you have to make hay.”…
An Oklahoma judge has agreed to resign
after he was accused of using his contempt
powers to jail people for minor infractions. Judge Curtis DeLapp resigned August 20 and agreed never again to seek judicial office. The petition for removal alleged that
DeLapp has ordered people to jail in more than 200 direct contempt citations since 2016. He gave a six-month jail term to a woman talking in his courtroom. In another
case, DeLapp jailed a woman for four days
after she apparently left sunflower seeds on
the courtroom floor…”

An ABAJournal.com reader recently
questioned the publication’s editorial judgment when a story told of two women who pleaded guilty to criminal charges. “This may be a hanged versus hung
question,” said the reader using the name
OKBankLaw, “but shouldn’t pleaded in
the fourth paragraph be pled?” According to Black’s Law Dictionary, “pleaded is the predominate form in American English.” On the other hand, Westlaw research shows
the U.S. Supreme Court used “pled” more than 300 times and “pleaded” only 26
times…

Steve Henderson has been the executive
director and chief executive of the bar
association and its affiliated organizations
since November 1990. He celebrates his 55th
birthday on the tenth in the Maldives and
accepting cerveza in the form of Modelo or
Chihuahua. Shy of said offering, a donation
to Ventura County Legal Aid, Inc. is wholly
appropriate. Henderson may be reached at
steve@vcba.org. FB, LinkedIn, Twitter at
steve_hendo1, Instagram at steve_hendo.
Better yet, call 650.7599.
Client Trial War Rooms

Across the street from the Courthouse
Downtown L.A. - San Bernardino - Van Nuys
Secure conference rooms for you and your clients to strategize, refresh and relax throughout your trial. Catering, WiFi and Parking available. It’s like having your own office at the Court, FOR FREE.

Call 800-43-DEPOS
or email info@personalcourtreporters.com for details.

Seven convenient Southern California locations to serve you
Van Nuys  Downtown LA  Ventura  Ontario  
Santa Barbara  West LA  San Bernardino

Call us to book your next DEPO! 800-43-DEPOS
www.personalcourtreporters.com
First day!!

7th grade!

25 years of trial experience
We appreciate your criminal law referrals!

WWW.DavidLehrLaw.COM
805-477-0070