CHL[®] News

A Publication of California Women Lawyers

Summer 201

Covering Women Lawyers: Why Media Bias Hurts

e are 50 percent of most law school classes, but make up only 19 percent of partners in law firms. In 2010, our median salary was approximately 77 percent of our male colleagues' median salary. During the recessionary period of 2008 to 2010, our median salary decreased, whereas male lawyers' median salary enjoyed a modest increase.

The gender disparity in the distribution of power and wealth in our profession is highly visible in prominent legal periodicals. We reviewed one such publication over a six month period ending February 28, 2011, recording the frequency with which men and women were pictured, as well as their professional titles. Only 19 percent of above-the-fold, front page images displayed women, most of whom were modestly compensated judicial officers or government officials rather than private or corporate practitioners. Particularly disturbing, however, were the publication's "who's who" type inserts — presumably chosen by an editorial board with considerable latitude in creating these lists. These inserts displayed women well below 50 percent of the time. For instance, women comprised only 16 percent of the "Top 100 Attorneys of 2010."

Although this particular publication acted commendably in printing our findings regarding its pictorial under-representation of women, its practices have not changed since the article's March 23, 2011 run date. Despite a letter to the Editor from CWL's president in April 2011 decrying continued biased coverage, it has continued. For example, this particular legal periodical published an insert on June 22, 2011, listing the "25 Leading General Counsel in California," but managed to find only four women general counsel worthy of mention in the entire pictorial insert. This stark underrepresentation is particularly shocking given that in-house counsel has been viewed as one of the few successful areas for women lawyers. On July 13, 2011, this publication issued its top Labor and Employment Attorneys in California. Here again, in an area that has seen some success among women lawyers, the publication was able to find only 25 women worthy of mention out of 75 total lawyers listed.

Our local daily legal newspaper is not alone in its discrimination. As Lauren Stiller Rikleen recently wrote in an article entitled "The Ultimate Men's Club," "The smaller number of women among the legal teams honored in the NLJ's 2011 Appellate Hotlist suggests minimal progress for women in the profession. ... The percentage of women on the list is sadly similar to the percentage of women partners in firms nationally." Indeed, pick up any publication on your desk. For example, the Expert Witness Directory for 2011 put out by the Forensic Expert Witness Association, which was recently mailed to me, has only 38 women experts listed out of 295 total recommended experts. Similarly, the July 2011 issue of Plaintiff, the magazine for Northern California plaintiffs' attorneys, contains no photographs of women lawyers as authors of any of its articles.

Of course, these issues are not confined to the legal field. Jennifer Siebel Newsom's recent documentary, Miss Representation, examines the media's misrepresentation

Continued page 4...

By Gay Grunfeld and Leslie Thornton

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Editor's Note: We are proud to introduce the new CWL News. Our redesign takes advantage of our online format, with more content, full color and easier navigation. Enjoy!

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Women Lawyers of Santa Cruz

President's Message

ummer can sizzle in Sacramento, and CWL's energy and activism have helped to heat things up. Assembly Majority Floor Leader Charles Calderon ignited a spark or perhaps a conflagration with his personal remarks about California's Chief Justice, Tani Cantil-Sakauye, during a hearing before the Assembly Judiciary Committee on AB 1208, his controversial bill to decentralize control of California's courts. Inexplicably, he had this to say about her: "It isn't 'Is she nice?' 'Cause she is," 'Is she smart?' 'Cause she is. 'Is she attractive?' 'Cause she is. It isn't about that."

Senator Noreen Evans, head of the Legislative Women's Caucus, immediately called those remarks



degrading and inappropriate. In an interview with the LA Times, Calderon disparaged Evans' assertions as a "sideshow" and added, "I certainly apologize if anybody misunderstood. Those were hardly contrite or reassuring words. Following Senator Evans' lead, CWL partnered with the National Association of Women Judges to send a letter to Assemblyman Calderon the next day. We expressed our outrage at his comments and his refusal to acknowledge and apologize for his disrespectful remarks in a letter which appears at <u>page 4</u>.

This incident illustrates a larger problem of disparate treatment of women in society and the media, about which Gay Grunfeld writes in this issue. She points how women are often overlooked. But even when there is coverage, it frequently includes commentary on appearance and tastes. It seems no woman is immune from these personal comments; remember the incessant coverage of Hillary Clinton's pants suits when she was running for President. And recently when Christine Lagarde was on the short list to be the new head of the International Monetary Fund, a position of considerable power and prestige, the New York Times observed in a story about the leading prospects: Lagarde is "tall and stylish, with a shock of silver hair and a penchant for Chanel jackets." The article made no similar assessment of the size, hair or clothing of the men.

Despite these distractions, CWL has been active and effective in the legislature, largely because of the excellent work of CWL's Legislative Committee, co-chaired by Rebecca Dietzen and Rebecca Roberts. We took a position strongly opposing AB 1208, which was uneventfully consigned to legal purgatory. Assemblymember Calderon declined to bring it up for a full vote on the last day to move Assembly bills to the Senate, making it two-year bill on which there will be no action before next year.

Ō

President's Message - cont.

We wrote supporting AB 90 and AB 12 as important steps towards eliminating human trafficking and sex crimes against minors and endorsed using forfeited funds and fines for these crimes to pay for necessary community programs and counseling. We supported AB 1147, which would carry out the intent of the Teen Parents in Foster Care Act by requiring an additional child welfare agency case management-report to help monitor what age and developmentally appropriate services are provided to a minor parent in foster care. And we added our support to AB 52, which would give the Departments of Insurance and Managed Health Care the authority to disapprove requests for excessive premium increases by insurance companies and HMOs.

In the spring we also held an inspirational and well attended annual conference in Los Angeles and served the community through supporting Alameda County District Attorney Nancy E. O'Malley and Health Care Director Alex Briscoe's unveiling of H.E.A.T. Watch, the Alameda County model program to combat Human Exploitation and Trafficking (H.E.A.T.) and by involvement in Food From the Bar and other community programs. Consequently, we can reflect with pride on our successes so far this year, while looking forward with excitement and enthusiasm to our upcoming events. On July 29th, CWL hosted a well attended judicial reception honoring Chief Judge Irma Gonzales of the United States District Court for the Southern District, who received the Joan Dempsey Klein award. This prestigious award, named for one of CWL's founders, recognizes a distinguished jurist from southern California for judicial excellence and for longstanding vigorous service and inspiration to the state's women lawyers.

Our celebrated and celebratory annual dinner and silent action will, as always, be on September 15th, the first night of the state bar convention, in Long Beach. The Chief Justice will be our keynote speaker and will swear in CWL's officers and Board, continuing the tradition established by former Chief Justice Ronald George. In accordance with our theme of Embracing Our Past, Forging our Future, we will again acknowledge a dozen women, including Judge Gonzalez, and Judge Isabella Horton Grant who have accomplished something notable in 2010-2011. And we will honor the memory and legacy of Judith Soley, a lifetime CWL member and long time CWL Board member, whom we deeply admire for her commitment to community and public service. We eagerly anticipate another enjoyable and inspirational evening.

Patricia Aunderat

<u>CWL's 37th Annual Dinner, Long Beach</u>

Celebrate with us in Long Beach on September 15th Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye, keynote speaker, heads a female majority California Supreme Court Acknowledge the accomplishments of a dozen notable women Congratulate Hannah-Beth Jackson, winner of the Fay Stender Award Honor Judith Soley and her legacy of community service Networking Reception and Silent Auction See flyer on page 30 for registration information and details.

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of women and the underrepresentation of women in powerful positions (http://www.missrepresentation.org/ welcome.html). The film features influential women from news and politics, including Katie Couric, Dianne Feinstein, Nancy Pelosi, and Condoleezza Rice. Couric states, "Media

can be an instrument of change. [But] it depends on who is piloting the plane." Young women will not begin "piloting the plane" until they perceive that powerful positions are available to them.

CWL's No Glass Ceiling Initiative and similarly committed groups must continue to insist that biased coverage cease. CWL members must continue to speak out when they observe under-representation of women in media coverage, especially who's who type coverage that involves editorial choices. When young female lawyers picture themselves above the fold, they will begin to insist on staying in their firms. And when clients and referring lawyers see women above the fold they will begin to refer them business — the most likely path to partnership. A natural stepping stone to that coveted above the fold spot is the subjective insert such as being a "Top 20 under 40." Legal publications should make a conscious effort to produce award-type publications in a manner that recognizes the contributions of women lawyers,

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN JUDGES 1341 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20036 Ti 202 393 0222 F; 202 393 0125 W; www.nawj.org CALIFORNIA WOMEN LAWYERS 650 Howe Avenue, Suite 1050 Sacramento, CA 95825 Assemblyman Charles Calderon State Capitol P.O. Box 942849 Sacramento, CA 94249-0058 Dear Assemblyman Calderon: As Presidents of the National Association of Women Judges and California Your response that your "comments were misconstrued" is disingenuous. There is no way to take them as other than as offensive. The issue of the merits of Assembly Bill 1208 is irrelevant. Your comments show that your characterization of women is decades out of date and extremely degrading. You now say that you "see women as equals," but your actions say otherwise. And you offer "to apologize if anybody misunderstood." That accepts no responsibility for your remarks and strains credibility. It is hard to believe that there is any way to "misunderstand" what you said. In our view, you owe not only Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye an apology, but you owe one to all women. Your characterization of women is insensitive, and unacceptable, and it is even more distressing that you are unwilling to acknowledge and apologize for your disrespectful remarks .

Marjorie Laird Carter President, National Association of Women Judges atricia Sturdeount

Patricia Sturdevant President California Women Lawyers

even though they typically are not partners in major

firms. Once women begin to see themselves in the paper, perhaps they will see themselves in the partnership meeting.

Gay Grunfeld is a partner at San Francisco's Rosen, Bien & Galvan, where she practices complex litigation, and is a recipient of CWL's Fay Stender Award. Leslie Thornton, Ph.D. is a third year law student at UC Berkeley School of Law.

Women Lawyers, we are writing to express our outrage at your recent comments at the Assembly Judiciary Committee hearing regarding Supreme Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye. They were not only inappropriate, but degrading to all women.

Very truly yours,

May 4, 2011

General WLAC Women Lawyers

May 6, 2011

Assemblyman Charles Calderon State Capitol P.O. Box 942849 Sacramento, CA 94249-0058

Dear Assemblyman Calderon,

We write as Presidents of Women Lawyers of Alameda County and the Queen's Bench Bar Association to register our dismay at your recent comments regarding Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye during your presentation of Assembly Bill 1208 in the Assembly Judiciary Committee.

The time is long past when someone might conceivably believe that it would be appropriate to comment on a woman's attractiveness or "niceness" in connection with her professional work or qualifications.

Your comment to the LA Times that you had been 'misunderstood' fails to acknowledge the entrenched biases and prejudices against women that reverberate throughout our society today and undermine the efforts of all women who seek to participate in the professional arena on an equal footing with men.

Very truly yours,

Sarah M. King President, Queen's Bench Bar Association

Toni Mims-Cochran President, Women Lawyers of Alameda County



Lawyers Club of San Diego wins national award for Pipeline to Leadership program

awyers Club of San Diego has been recognized with the 2010 Outstanding Member Program Award from the National Conference of Women's Bar Associations for the "Pipeline to Leadership: Securing Spots on Boards and Commissions" program.

The NCWBA presented the Lawyers Club with the award at a luncheon during the Women's Bar Leadership Summit in Toronto on August 5th.

The Pipeline to Leadership, presented by Lawyers Club's Leadership Development Committee, drew more than 50 attendees to an evening workshop for women and men interested in taking leadership roles locally and beyond. Run Women Run and Junior League of San Diego cosponsored the program, held in October 2010, which attracted lawyers and non-lawyers alike.

"We're very excited about this award for the Pipeline to Leadership program," said Jodi Cleesattle, co-chair of the Leadership Development Committee. "Lawyers Club's mission of advancing the status of women in the law and society includes getting women into the top ranks of whatever they're interested in. Our committee works to help women – and men, too – get into leadership positions, whether in politics, the legal field, or community organizations."

The Pipeline to Leadership program included a networking reception, a presentation on training for board service by Corporate Directors Forum executive director Linda Sweeney, and a panel discussion with speakers from non-profit, corporate, business-related and government boards. The speakers included Run Women Run founder Barbara Bry; Women's History Museum and Education Center executive director Ashley Gardner; Julia Brown, a board member of biotech companies Tagracept, Inc. and Labopharm, Inc.; and Centre City Development Corp. board member Laurie Black.

Cleesattle and committee co-chair Johanna Schiavoni said their goal was to present a program that featured a crosssection of the types of government, non-profit and corporate boards that women might consider when looking for leadership opportunities. They, along with their committee, compiled a 45-page directory listing more than 100 San Diego boards and commissions spanning 10 categories or issue areas: Arts & Culture, Charitable, Economic, Education, Environmental, Government Boards, Industry, Issue Advocacy, Leadership Development, and Think Tanks/Legal & Policy. "The directory was a great take-home resource for the people who attended the program," Schiavoni said. "We wanted to give people a sampling of the opportunities in our community and help them get started in finding the right organization for them."

In organizing the program, the committee provided speakers with a prospectus listing the issues they hoped to cover, including:

- the local opportunities to serve on corporate, nonprofit and government boards and commissions and in other non-elected positions, ranging from entry-level to more senior positions;
- how they were appointed to serve on their boards, what the experience of service is like, and how it impacted their career, public profile, and personal policy knowledge;
- how board service can be a prerequisite for service on higher profile boards, as well as for local elected office;
- how service on a corporate board differs from a nonprofit board, what special skills are needed for corporate board service, what liabilities are involved, and the appointment process for corporate boards, including the feeder system for corporate boards;
- the skill set required for serving on government boards, the ethical issues that may arise, the impact on career, public profile, and personal policy knowledge, and the application process for government boards, including how governments notice vacancies, how applicants should craft their applications, and what experiences are relevant to government board service;
- the purpose of economic development and industryrelated boards, how appointments are handled, what skills are needed, what difficult issues arise, what liabilities are involved, and the impact on career, public profile, and personal policy knowledge;
- how to choose the right board based on your skills, interest, and time commitment;
- the value to the individual serving on a board in terms of skills development, networking, and personal satisfaction; and
- the value to the community of serving on boards in terms of helping the board accomplish its mission and goals in the community.

"The speakers were terrific and covered all of the issues," Cleesattle said. "They were dynamic and had great advice, and each brought a different perspective on serving on different types of boards."

One of the speakers, Ashley Gardner, executive director of the Women's History Museum and Education Center and a member and former chair of the San Diego County Commission on the Status of Women, encouraged the attendees to consider what they want to get out of board service and then actively pursue those opportunities.

"Think about what your goals are," Gardner said. "Are they visibility, community service, career enhancement? You really have to look at what you're trying to achieve. Visit the organization and make your wishes known that you really want to serve."

Laurie Black, a member of the Centre City Development Corp. and a former Commissioner for the San Diego Port District who also has held seats on the boards of the San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau and the San Diego County Regional Water Quality Control Board, emphasized the importance of choosing to serve on boards that really interest you.



"Serving on a board is a life enhancement," Black said. "Anything I put my time into, I have to love and be passionate about. If I don't love what I'm doing for five days or 30 days in a row, I'm out of there."

Lawyers Club's Leadership Development Committee currently is planning a Political Boot Camp to be held in October – the third time it has sponsored the daylong training session focused on the nuts and bolts of running for political office. Lawyers Club won an Outstanding Member Program Award for the Leadership Development Committee's first Political Boot Camp in 2008.

"The 'pipeline' challenge – that is, getting women in the leadership pipeline within their organizations – is a real one," Schiavoni said. "To meet that challenge, our committee is focused on programs that provide training on concrete leadership skills, in addition to a critical 'networking' component with established leaders in the community and various organizations. We're truly honored that our efforts, and those of our terrific panelists for the Pipeline to Leadership event, are being recognized with this award. We look forward to continuing to train and equip the next generation of leaders in our community."

Jodi Cleesattle, a deputy attorney general with the California Department of Justice, is co-chair of Lawyers Club's Leadership Development Committee and a former Lawyers Club board member. Johanna Schiavoni, an appellate litigation partner with Jacobs Schlesinger & Sheppard LLP, is co-chair of Lawyers Club's Leadership Development Committee and a Lawyers Club board member.

Spotlight on San Francisco: Women Referring Women at SFTLA

ne of the primary benefits of CWL membership is the opportunity to network with hundreds of talented women who practice throughout California. Over the last decade, the Women's Caucus of the San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association has developed a signature event for Bay Area women lawyers to connect for fellowship and business development: the Annual Women Referring Women Event (WRW), where women working in any area of the law are invited to spend an evening mingling and making connections, while enjoying the atmosphere of San Francisco's bustling Financial District. Adding to the business value of the WRW event, each registrant and sponsor is included in a Resource Referral Guide that is distributed to attendees and the SFTLA Board.

By Kristen Law Sagafi, CWL Governor at Large

This year, the event, which typically draws more than 150 women (and a few men) from around the Bay Area, will be held at Sens restaurant, Embarcadero Center 4, San Francisco, on September 21 from 5:30-7:30pm. Individual tickets are available for \$55 and sponsorships are available for \$250. To learn more, register, or sponsor this fabulous event, *click here*.

WRW's 11-year history began with the recognition of a simple need: a welcoming venue for women to gather to discuss their lives in the law. In 2000, Women's Caucus leaders, including Frances Pinnock, Justine Durrell, Nadine Zeltzer and many others, created the first WRW event at Stars restaurant in San Francisco. Even in its first year, the

"The women of SFTLA wanted to create an event in which women, who are not always confident marketing themselves, a chance to network with other professionals in a positive, comfortable environment," says SFTLA Executive Director Juliette Bleecker of WRW's origins. "In the early years, WRW had a 'speed dating' format. Attendees were invited to spend about 10 minutes chatting with someone they didn't know, share a business card, and talk about what they do. The women who attended loved it."

event drew 50 women lawyers, confirming the demand for a legal networking event designed especially for women.



From left: Ayanna Jenkins Tonney, SFTLA Executive Director Juliette Bleecker, and Mary Alexander enjoy the 2010 Women Referring Women event.

From its inception, one of the primary benefits to WRW participants has been the Resource Referral Guide that includes information about each registrant. The guide is sent to attendees and the Board of SFTLA—a meaningful way to reinforce new friendships and connections formed at the event itself.

SFTLA encourages women in any and every field of law to attend the event. This includes attorneys from both sides of the aisle, judges, experts, and other vendors who offer services for attorneys. SFTLA actively recruits women lawyers' organizations to act as Participating Organizations (POs) for the event. These POs spread the word to their membership and in return, the group is listed in the Resource Referral Guide. CWL is proud to serve as a Participating Organization for the 2011 event. We hope to see many of you there.

Jennifer Keller obtains Bratz verdict: Mattel has to pay \$88 million

In late April 2011, Orange County Women Lawyers member Jennifer Keller obtained an \$88 million dollar verdict in favor of MGA Entertainment Inc. in connection with copyright infringement claims brought by Mattel Inc. in relation to MGA's Bratz line of dolls.

A federal court jury rejected Mattel Inc.'s copyright infringement claims, handing the rights of Bratz line of dolls back to rival MGA Entertainment Inc. Just before the verdict was read, some family members of MGA Chief Executive Isaac Larian started to weep and others bowed their heads. As the verdict continued to be read, Larian also wept but soon began smiling.

"We're so thrilled for MGA and Mr. Larian because they're finally vindicated," MGA's lead co-counsel Jennifer Keller said. "MGA was fighting for its life. If Mattel had won, MGA would be wiped out."



By Solange E. Ritchie, Affiliate Governor

The jury awarded a total of \$88.4 million to MGA for trade secrets misappropriation by Mattel, finding that the latter "acted willfully and maliciously in misappropriation of any trade secrets." That finding gives U.S. District Judge David O. Carter the discretion to potentially double that amount, attorneys for MGA said.

Keller was brought into the case "last minute," started picking a jury on January 14 and began opening statements on January 19. Judge Carter asked the attorneys to work incredibly hard, often through lunch, late into the evening hours and on weekends. Keller says during the trial "there was no rest for the weary" but found it an incredibly rewarding result for her and MGA.

Keller emphasized that every case is really about "people, values and emotions" - "something," she says, "you can never lose sight of."



n August 5th, Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles received the National Conference of Women Bar Association's 2011 Public Service Award for its Power Lunch Program.

The Power Lunch Program is a collaboration between WLALA and the Los Angeles Superior Court to provide education and mentorship for high school students in under-served, high-crime, and ethnically diverse communities. Throughout the year students from various high schools attend the Power Lunch Program at courthouses throughout Los Angeles County. Students have lunch with justice system professionals including judges, lawyers and members of law enforcement. A presentation about

Power Lunch 1 – (center) Hon. Beverly O'Connell (right) WLALA President Angela Haskins.

the Constitution and the legal system is given and students have an opportunity to ask questions of the different justice system professionals. After the presentation, students break out into smaller groups to allow for personal interaction and mentoring from the participating judges and lawyers. The Power Lunch concludes with an interactive game of "Judicial Jeopardy."

The Power Lunch Program is intended to provide students with information about the justice system, a positive understanding of the importance of the justice system and to encourage minority and economically disadvantaged students to consider learning more about, and perhaps aspiring to become a member of, the legal profession.

The Power Lunch Program is staffed by WLALA volunteers and representatives from the Superior Court's Community Relations Office. WLALA Board members Hon. Beverly O'Connell and Nicole Bershon are responsible for the creation and implementation of the Power Lunch Program.

By Kimberly Arnall, Affiliate Governor - Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles



'Lawyer as Citizen Award' established as tribute to murdered attorney Judith Soley

New award for outstanding community service will recognize public service, civic involvement



Fresno's Little Hoover and Charter Review Committees. She was also involved in many service organizations including the Rotary Club.

By M. Prudence Hutton

California Women Lawyers Board of Governors will give special recognition at the upcoming Annual Dinner to Judith Soley, a longtime past CWL Board Member and Lifetime Member, for her contributions to CWL and to the community.

Judith was a family law attorney in Fresno who was not only an outstanding lawyer and counselor at law, but was also deeply committed to CWL and to service to her community. Her legal expertise extended beyond her law practice and she devoted much time and effort to the public good. Judith was very active in CWL and in local bar associations.. She was an honorary member of Fresno County Women Lawyers, a CWL affiliate. She was a leader in her local legal community, was a recipient of the FCWL Pauline Davis Hanson Award, and

a past president of the Fresno County Bar Association. Judith served on many California State Bar committees and was active in Boalt School of Law alumni activities. She served on the State of California's Transportation Commission and was a member of the City of



Judith Soley and her daughter, attorney Leslie Soley at USF Law School graduation.

Women Bar Leaders Meet in Fresno 2005. Left to right, Honorable Sandra Synder; the late Emilia Mayorga; Pearl Mann, President CWL; Deborah Coe, President Fresno County Women Lawyers; Karen Lynch CWL Board of Governors, FCWL Affiliate Rep; CENTER: Judith Soley, CWL 5th District Governor.







CWL Meeting in Fresno 2005. Left to right, Bobby Lee, FCBA; Honorable Edward Sarkisian; Honorable Hilary Chittick; Pearl Mann CWL President, 2006; Dorothy Carroll President FCBA; Honorable Sandra Synder; Karen Lynch, CWL Board of Governors; the late Emilia Mayorga; Deborah Coe, FCWL President, Center, Judith Soley, CWL Board of Governors.



CWL Swearing in 2006, Judith Soley bottom row, 2nd to the left.

CWL and FCWL leadership at Soley Memorial Service, left to right, Victoria Bernhardt, 2007 President Fresno County Women Lawyers; Karen Goodman, President CWL 2008; Karen Lynch, CWL Board 2004-8; Prudence Hutton, Governor, CWL; Deborah Coe, 2005 President Fresno County Women Lawyers; Christine Levin, President Fresno County Women Lawyers 2010, Board of Governors CWL; Pearl Mann, President CWL 2006. Sadly, Judith was murdered by a client's estranged husband prior to a court hearing in Bass Lake, California in January. 2011. Her client was also killed. Judith practiced law with her daughter Leslie Soley, who will attend the Annual Dinner and acknowledge CWL's tribute to her mother's life and legacy.

In recognition of her values, public service, and civic involvement, CWL will establish the Judith Soley Lawyer as Citizen Award. This special CWL award will honor her memory, and encourage others to emulate her stellar example. The Lawyer as Citizen Award will recognize and honor the following attributes, which Judith epitomized.

- Possesses a demonstrated commitment and passion regarding civic and charitable engagement;
- Embodies the elements of being an excellent, civil and honorable lawyer;
- Values compassion and empathy along with advocacy when addressing clients' individual needs;
- Works to improve the legal system through education and involvement in bar associations;
- Participates in the public life of her community, state and nation; and,
- Is a leader, a role model and mentor.

Judith Soley was a true Lawyer as Citizen and CWL is proud to honor her life and legacy.



Photo credit Courtesy of Howard K. Watkins: www.watkinsphotoarchive.com

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FCWL Welcomes New Judicial Officers to the 9th Judicial Reception

resno County Women Lawyers honored four women judicial officers appointed within the last year at their ninth annual Judicial Reception on June 30, 2011. The event has been graciously hosted by the law firm of Baker, Manock & Jensen each year.

Honored at the event were Hon. Jennifer R.S. Detjen, California Court of Appeals, Fifth District; Hon. Rosemary McGuire, Fresno County Superior Court; Hon. Kathleen A. Meehan, Fresno County Superior Court Commissioner; Hon. Valli Israels, Stanislaus County Superior Court, and Hon. Ann Q. Ameral, Stanislaus County Superior Court.

Judge Detjen was elevated to the 5th District Court of Appeals in 2010 after serving as a trial judge in Madera Superior Court for nine years, including two years as presiding judge. She had been a Deputy District Attorney in Fresno and Madera Counties and a certified criminal law specialist. Detjen graduated in 1981 from the University of San Diego School of Law.

Judge McGuire was appointed to the Fresno County Superior Court. She had been a partner in the firm of Weakley, Ratliff, Arendt, and McGuire since 2001. "Rosie" had been active in local Bar Associations, volunteered as a pro tem judge for nine years, and served on the Ninth Circuit Judicial Advisory Committee. She graduated from San Joaquin School of Law 1994.

Judge Meehan was appointed as a Fresno County Superior Court Commissioner in 2010. Meehan attended UC Davis Law School and became an attorney in 1985. She worked at the LA law firms of Strook, Strook & Lavan; Freshman, Marantz, Orlanski, Cooper and Klein; and Bachalter, Nemer, Fields & Younger before returning to her hometown of Fresno in 1994 where she was a shareholder of Baker, Manock and Jensen. In 1998 she became a Deputy Attorney General prior to her appointment as Fresno County Court Commissioner She has been active in local and state bar organizations and a past president of Fresno County Women Lawyers.

Judge Israels, appointed to Stanislaus County Superior Court, is an experienced prosecutor since 1995, active in local Bar Association leadership and lecturer. She is a graduate of the McGeorge Law School, University of the Pacific.



Hon. Kathleen Meehan, Fresno County Superior Court Commissioner; Hon. Rosemary Mc-Guire, Fresno County Superior Court Judge; Hon. Valli Isreals, Stanislaus Court Superior Court Judge; Hon. Jennifer Detjen, Justice, Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals; and Hon. Ann Ameral, Stanislaus County Superior Court.

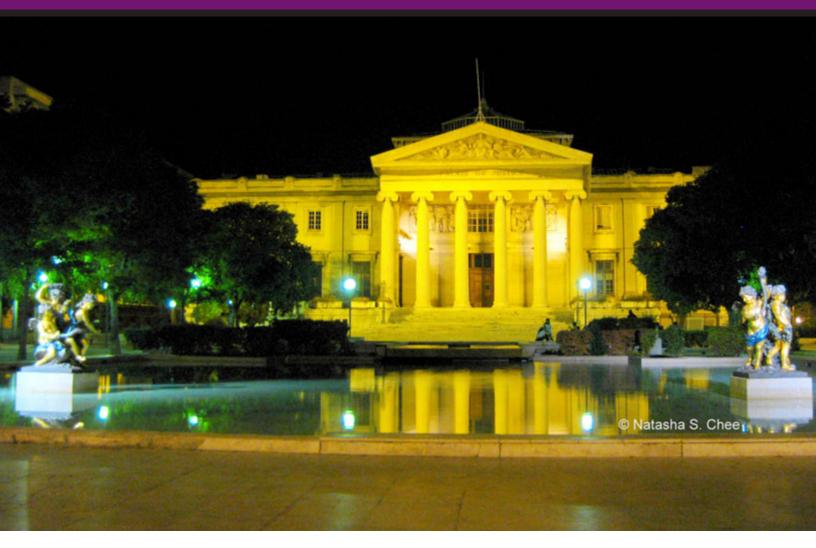
Judge Ameral, Stanislaus County Superior Court, worked in family law as a sole practitioner for over 26 years in Modesto and is a graduate of Hastings School of Law.

All the new judicial officers were appointed by former Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger in 2010.

Fresno County Women Lawyers holds the annual judicial reception to welcome women judicial officers to the bench, many who have received the support of FCWL and California Women Lawyers during their law practice, the judicial selection process, and their elevation to the bench. Women judicial officers throughout the California Women Lawyers' Fifth District are honored and recognized for their accomplishments at this reception each year.

The event was sponsored by: Baker, Manock & Jensen, PC, Weakley & Arendt LLP, and the law firms of Zeppy Attashian, Katherine Donovan, Lenore Schreiber, Susan Medina, and Karen L. Lynch and attorney Margaret Fainer-Towne.





Impeccable French Style Does Not Include Covering Your Face: France Bans Face Coverings in Public

France is an amazingly beautiful country, with bakeries on every corner calling your name, clothes to-die-for, and passionate people. Last fall, I had the wonderful opportunity of interning at a law firm in Marseille, France. Marseille is the second largest city in France and perhaps the most culturally diverse city because it is the main gateway for many immigrants, many of whom are Muslim. Last fall is also when the French government passed a law whereby it would be illegal for any person, including tourists, to conceal their face in public. The French government cites the protection of females who may be forced to ear the veil and security reasons as being the driving force for such an enactment, but this ban affects only one gender—women, and only one religion—Islam.

On July 13, 2010, the French National Assembly passed a bill and on September 15, 2010, the French Senate passed an act of parliament, which prohibits the "concealment of the face in public space." On October 10, 2010, the Constitutional

Council of France declared this law constitutionally valid and it went into effect on April 11, 2011 after a six-month mandatory discussion period. The law prohibits any type of clothing which conceals the face in public places, with exceptions for motorcycle helmets, ceremonial and festival performers, safety workers, and worshiping in a religious place. For example, the burga, which covers the entire face, and the niqab, which covers everything but the eyes, would not be acceptable; however, the hijab, which covers the head but leaves the face unveiled, would be legal. If one is found in violation of the law, a fine of up to 150€ (\$220) and/or mandatory attendance in citizenship education classes will be imposed. Another component of the law imposes a fine of 30,000€ (\$43,500) and up to a year in prison for any person forcing another person to wear a face covering, and a possible fine of up to 60,000€ (\$87,000) if the forced wearer is a minor. France may be the first to enact such a law, but other countries across Europe, including Italy, are considering enacting a similar law.

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The law is worded in such a way as to avoid unconstitutionality by omitting specific references to the words "women," "Muslim" and "veil." Regardless of which words this law omits, it is clear that the import of this ban is directed towards Muslim women who wear the veil. In America, the First Amendment provides that "Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances." Furthermore, in Wisconsin v. Yoder, 406 U.S. 205 (1972), the Court ruled that a law that "unduly burdens the practice of religion" without a compelling interest, even though it might be "neutral on its face," would be unconstitutional. Here, the French law tries to be "neutral on its face" by omitting certain buzz words and tries to cite a compelling interest—secularism and security. However, the reality is that the law "unduly burdens" a specific gender group-women-and a specific religion-Islam-and specifically targets immigrants.

Whether these women choose to wear the veil or not, France is imposing a restriction on some 2000 women who wear the veil, despite citing their protection as a







reason for enforcing the ban. While some women may feel forced to stay at home, others have stood up for their rights by protesting in front of Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris the first day the ban was enforced, and were immediately arrested and fined. When a woman's freedom of choice and expression is restricted in any way, a woman's power and standing in the world diminishes. It is more than mere criticism; it is an attack on women. It is a statement that women should not and cannot make decisions for themselves. This is not the world we want to live in.

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Fay Stender's Revolutionary Clients

ach year CWL bestows a Fay Stender Award, named for one of its founders who dedicated her life to championing unpopular causes. Many younger members have no idea about Fay's extraordinary career. Fay Abrahams grew up in Berkeley as the

older of two daughters of a prominent chemist in the asbestos industry. Born with perfect pitch, she was raised to become a concert pianist and debuted at fourteen with the San Francisco Symphony. Always headstrong, she rebelled shortly afterward and insisted on going to Berkeley High School instead of the girls' private school which left her isolated every afternoon practicing the piano. Fay became radicalized at Reed College in Oregon in the early fifties, before transferring to U.C. Berkeley. She decided to go to law school because she thought lawyers had the opportunity "to change things." She met her future husband, Marvin Stender, in law school at the University of Chicago during the McCarthy Era, where their favorite professor worked on the appeal of a co-defendant in the world famous Rosenberg espionage trial. The couple settled in the Bay Area. Jobs for women lawyers were almost non-existent.

Author: Lise Pearlman

By Hon. Lise Pearlman (ret.)

that launched the '60s protest era. Through Friends of SNCC, the Stenders helped fund-raise for civil rights activists in the South and each spent a week in Mississippi during 1964's Freedom Summer. That winter, Fay helped arrange bail for her friend Mario Savio and

> hundreds of others arrested for a Berkeley campus sit-in that launched the Free Speech Movement. In August 1965, Fay and Marvin co-founded with friends an ambitious "Council for Justice" to provide lawyers for Viet Nam War draft resisters and for Cesar Chavez as he organized the United Farm Workers. Activists often gathered at the Stenders' Berkeley home where Fay and Marvin's two young children wandered in and out of their political potlucks and fund-raisers.

By the fall of 1967, Fay began working full-time. Still, at 35, she despaired of ever becoming a partner and yearned to make a bigger impact. Then Garry invited her to join him interviewing his newest high profile client, Huey Newton, at Oakland's Highland Hospital, where Newton was recovering from a stomach wound. At first sight of the Black Panther Minister of Defense surrounded by police guards, Fay knew this was the cause she had been waiting for. Since the fall of

1966, the Panthers had been shadowing Oakland police patrols in black neighborhoods. Newton was now accused of killing one police officer and wounding another in an early morning shootout. Fay sat second chair at Newton's 1968 murder trial and took over as lead counsel on appeal, all the while orchestrating Movement support to "Free Huey." In early 1970, Fay also took on the defense of Soledad inmate George Jackson, who was accused with two other prisoners of murdering a guard. Between the Soledad Brothers Defense Committee and the "Free Huey" campaign Fay had her hands full. By July of 1970, with two amazing successes for black revolutionaries under her belt, Fay became the most sought after Movement lawyer in the country and devoted herself to national prison reform. Her achievements are chronicled in The Sky's The Limit: People v. Newton, The Real Trial of the Century? which will debut with a book signing at the 2011 California Women Lawyers Annual Dinner. Hope to see you there!

Hon. Lise Pearlman (ret.) is an author and past CWL Board Member. Judge Pearlman was the first Presiding Judge of the State Bar Court, chosen from over 300 candidates. Her prior career involved 14 years of experience in private trial and appellate practice. In 1984, she held the distinction of being the first woman named sole managing partner of an established law firm in the state of California, an experience she credits with giving a jumpstart to her consensus-building skills.

Fay worked for a black solo practitioner who wound up disbarred for trying to bribe witnesses. She then landed a job for a conservative California Supreme Court Justice, only to quit in disgust at two discoveries: she was paid less than a simultaneously hired male clerk, and the justice she worked for despised inter-racial marriage (a right Fay championed in her spare time). Her boss had vehemently dissented against California's first-in-the-nation decision voiding an anti-miscegenation law.

Fay turned excitedly to life as a new mother and devoted her enormous energy to a fledgling women's group promoting family rights, including getting hospitals to allow fathers in the delivery room and creating a hotline for new mothers wishing to breast feed, despite doctors who counseled modern mothers to rely exclusively on the bottle. Yet soon Fay chafed at being a stay-at-home mother amid the increasingly Progressive politics of the Bay Area. Through the Lawyers' Guild, she and Marvin already knew several prominent Leftist criminal defense attorneys, including Charles Garry and Barney Dreyfus, who had made names for themselves establishing California's diminished capacity defense to murder as well as representing accused Communists. Fay secured a part-time job with their firm (their first female associate) shortly after Garry made national headlines by getting a student acquitted of all charges from the "Black Friday" protests of a May 1960 House Un-American Activities Committee hearing at San Francisco's City Hall-the event

The Santa Cruz County Women's Commission's Report on the Status of Women and Girls in Santa Cruz County

ver the past few years the Santa Cruz County Women's Commission began to document the status of women and girls in Santa Cruz County by gathering statistics collected by different agencies in six areas of concern: Health Care, Criminal Justice, Economic Justice, Education, Political Participation, and Violence against Women. The Commission then put the information into a report made to the Board of Supervisors, in order to help improve the status of women and girls through policy recommendations. Incarceration was one of the areas that the Commission reported on, providing a valuable snapshot into the status of women in the criminal justice system.

Incarceration Rates and Reasons

Each week approximately one third of the women released from Santa Cruz County jails are homeless. Typically, 75% will be rearrested and cycled back to jail an average of four times. In fact, half will re enter within that year. This extremely high recidivism rate indicates that either the resources allotted for incarcerated women are insufficient, or are targeting the wrong issues, or both.

Most women in this re-incarceration syndrome come from impoverished families, are victims of abuse, and have limited access to education and health care. At least half of the women incarcerated in Santa Cruz are mothers, typically lacking adequate resources to parent their children. As children, many of these women had a parent who was incarcerated. The children of these women are now at an increased risk of becoming the next generation of inmates. At the time of our study, the women in the Santa Cruz jail were incarcerated for robbery; property crimes; disturbing the peace, DUI or for drug related crimes.

Rehabilitation during Incarceration

Basic education is available in jail. Women can take a variety of classes, including cooking courses, parenting lessons, and GED classes. Blaine Street Women's Facility provides women with support groups as well as courses in yoga, domestic violence awareness, gardening, English as a Second Language (ESL), knitting and crocheting, and computers. Every inmate takes classes at no charge; however, once an inmate is released, the courses are no longer free.

The Watsonville men's facility provides men with a wide array of helpful classes in vocational training, anger management, AIDS and HIV awareness and testing, work release and family reunification. In addition, Cabrillo College courses are also available for these men. After their release, men are not required to pay for classes they started while incarcerated. These options are not available for women. While women are provided the opportunity to take various classes, men's options are more sustainable in length, affordability, and practicality. Further disparity between men and women's incarcerations include the fact that men are divided into units in jail appropriate to their crimes, while women are housed in two mixed units, in which the majority of inmates have mental illnesses.

Post-Incarceration Resources

Women have various options for help after jail, but these options are not entirely sufficient, as made evident by the high recidivism rate. One option is Friends Outside, an organization devoted to helping families affected by incarceration. Their parenting program provides visitor centers on jail grounds, temporary shelters, resources, and clothing.

The four sober living houses available in Santa Cruz County are limited to a maximum thirty day stay—which may not be enough time to fully recover from serious addiction.

Gemma, a non-profit organization, provides classes in parenting, relapse prevention, job preparation, nutrition, empowerment, healthy relationships, and housing preparation. Women are aided in securing employment. Enrollment in the program is free, but residents must contribute 50% of their income toward the program. This program is an option some woman cannot afford.

Recommendations made to the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors:

- Increase the length and number of rehabilitation programs. Consider whether a 60 day stay might lower recidivism rates.
- Expand programs that help women find jobs. Women who are employed often have less reason or need to re-offend.
- Increase funding and support for outside programs such as Friends Outside and Gemma.
- Allow incarcerated women the opportunity to benefit from UCSC Women's Center resources such as sexual harassment programs, legal aid, self-defense classes, childcare, and parenting programs.
- Ensure women are given equal access to all available opportunities and treatment offered to men.

In addition to her service on the CWL Board of Governors, Dinah Sapia is a Commissioner on the Santa Cruz County Women's Commission, a non-partisan advisory board that serves to advance the causes of all women. The Commission influences public policy by advising and working with the Board of Supervisors and Santa Cruz County on issues impacting women, educating and informing its



constituencies, and providing opportunities that empower women and girls to make their maximum contribution to society

By Dinah Sapia, Affiliate Governor -Women Lawyers of Santa Cruz County

Third annual conference a HUGE success

Legal profession's rising stars and founding mothers share advice and success stories

n April 29th, CWL affiliates, members, judges, corporate counsel and law students gathered at the Kyoto Grand Hotel and Gardens in downtown Los Angeles for CWL's 3rd Annual Conference. The conference's theme this year was "Building a Fulfilling Career: Lessons for Success."

The conference kicked off with an informative general session by UC Davis Professor Lisa Pruitt about the state of gender in the legal profession. Professor Pruitt highlighted the slow progress women were making towards equality in numbers in the legal profession, and also spoke about the importance of having a diverse faculty in law schools.

Attendees then participated in breakout sessions on a range of topics including opening your law firm, making partner, rainmaking, careers in criminal law, carriers in government, gender's role in mediation and great female trial attorneys. Speakers included top female lawyers and experts in their fields such as former State Bar President Holly Fujie; Pat Gillette a partner at Orrick,







Herrington & Sutcliffe; Nancy O'Malley, the District Attorney for Alameda County; Jacqueline Lacey, the Assistant District Attorney for Los Angeles County; Terry Stewart, Chief Deputy City Attorney for San Francisco; Amy Solomon, litigator and a partner at Girardi Keese; the Hon. Catherine Gallagher (Ret.) of JAMS; the Hon. Michele Flurer, Los County Superior Court; former San Francisco City Attorney Louise Renne and Linda Marks of the Center for Work Life Law.

The lunch keynote speaker was none other than CWL founding mother Justice Joan Dempsey Klein who spoke to full room about the importance of continuing to fight for equality in the profession and on the bench.

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1997 from the American Bar Association, the Ernestine Stahlhut Award from Women Lawyers Association, Los Angeles, and she was the first namesake and first recipient of California Women Lawyers' Joan Dempsey Klein Award "for excellence as a jurist and long standing vigorous service and inspiration to women lawyers," now an annual CWL award.

Following a full-day of workshops and panels organized around the theme "Building a Fulfilling Career: Lessons for Success", attendees received guidance from skilled and successful practitioners in a Justice Klein, the Presiding Justice of the 2nd District Court of Appeals, Division Three, was Founding President of California Women Lawyers and co-founder and first President of the National Association of Women Judges. As President, Justice Klein testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee on behalf of Sandra Day O'Connor's nomination to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Justice Klein is recognized internationally for her leadership in the profession, leading delegations of women judges and lawyers to meet with counterparts throughout the world. Among her many honors, she received the coveted Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award in







broad variety of practices, including some of California's top women lawyers, on how to advance professionally and find fulfillment in our work. At attendees gathered for "speed mentoring" and inspirational tales of best practices in bar groups and professional organizations.

The conference concluded with a cocktail reception celebrating the successes of Honorable Lee Smalley Edmon, the first female Presiding Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court. At the reception, held at the beautiful rooftop Kyoto Gardens, attendees were joined by local judges and dignitaries, as Judge Edmon accepted a CWL Glass Ceiling Award. In accepting the award, Judge Edmon spoke about the path to equality women lawyers had set out on many years ago, honoring Clara Foltz and her contemporaries as trailblazers for all of us.

The annual conference is designed to serve several purposes—educational, career enhancing, collaborative and celebratory. The conference is also intended to encourage attendees to meet and connect with colleagues from other parts of the state, and network with other practitioners and with judges. Next year's Annual Conference will be held in Northern California: see you there!

Legislative Update: CWL issues letters of support for legislation affecting minor parents. human trafficking, healthcare, judicial diversity, redistricting and maternity services

By Rebecca Dietzen, Co-Chair, CWL Legislation Committee



CWL continues its efforts to review proposed legislation and speak out on bills effecting CWL's mission. Below is a summary of the bills for which CWL has issued letters of support.

Teen Parents in Foster Care Act (AB 1147)

This bill serves to carry out the intent of the Teen Parents in Foster Care Act by creating an additional child welfare agency case management-reporting requirement to track whether appropriate services are provided to minor parents in foster care. CWL is committed to protecting the rights of women and children in California and believes this bill aids our mission.

The new reporting requirement will ensure minor parents in foster care are given appropriate parenting tools and help prevent removal of their child.

Health Care Coverage- Rate Approval (AB 52)

Under existing law, health insurers may not change premium rates or coverage without prior written notification of the change. Current law also prohibits a plan from changing the rate of the premium, copayment, coinsurance or deductible during specified time periods.

AB 52 would require insurers to obtain approval from the Department of Managed Health Care and the Department of Insurance for increases in health care premiums, copayments, or deductibles. The state would have authority to reject or modify excessive rates. Insurers which do not comply with these provisions would be subject to civil and/or criminal penalties.

Judicial Demographics (SB 182) – Support as Amended on April 12, 2011

The Governor, State Bar and Administrative Office of the Courts collect demographic information from judicial applicants, judicial appointees or nominees, judicial candidates, justices, and judges. The data is self-reported by the applicant and includes race, gender and ethnicity, but not gender identity and sexual orientation.

SB 182 would add gender identity and sexual orientation to the data collected. Only aggregate data on demographics will be released and the data will not disclose an individual's gender identity or sexual orientation.

Judicial Appointments (AB 126)

This bill would require the Governor to collect and release names of all persons to whom the Governor has provided application materials for judicial office. The bill also would require each member responsible for evaluation of judicial candidates to be trained in the areas of fairness and bias regarding judicial appointments. The Judicial Selection Advisory Committees' influence in the judicial appointment process is well known. Unfortunately, its membership is generally anonymous to all but a select group of insiders, and their effort is masked in secrecy. Insisting members on these local advisory committees remain confidential only serves to undermine the public's confidence in the judicial appointment process. Disclosing the identities of those who serve as the Governor's advisors is vital to ensure that the appointment process is impartial.

"Human Trafficking: Minors" and "Human Trafficking: Increasing Fines for the Exploitation of Minors" (AB 90 and AB 12)

Under current law, property and income derived through a pattern of "criminal profiteering activity" may be forfeited. AB 90 "Human Trafficking: Minors" would expand the definition of "criminal profiteering activity" to include crimes in which the perpetrator "induces, encourages, or persuades, or causes through force, fear, coercion, deceit, violence, duress, menace, or threat of unlawful injury to the victim or to another person" a minor to engage in commercial sex. Funds obtained as a result of this expanded definition of "criminal profiteering activity" would be deposited in the Victim-Witness Assistance Fund to fund victim counseling centers, prevention programs and community-based organizations that serve minor victims of human trafficking.

AB 12 would enact the Abolition of Child Commerce, Exploitation, and Sexual Slavery Act of 2011 and require a person who is convicted of seeking to procure, or procuring, the sexual services of a prostitute, if the prostitute is under 18 years of age, to pay a fine not to exceed \$25,000. These funds would be made available to fund programs and services for commercially sexually exploited minors where the underlying offenses were committed.

Redistricting (AB 420)

Existing law charges the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation with various duties and responsibilities in

connection with the incarceration and rehabilitation of prisoners.

This bill would require the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to furnish to the Citizens Redistricting Commission, not sooner than April 1, 2020 but not later than July 1, 2020, specified information regarding the last known place of residence of each inmate incarcerated in a state adult correctional facility, except an inmate whose last known place of residence is outside of California. The bill also would request the Citizens Redistricting Commission to deem each incarcerated person as residing at the last known place of residence, rather than at the institution of incarceration, and to utilize the information in carrying out its redistricting responsibilities. However, the bill does not require that the Commission utilize the information.

Maternity Services (SB 155)—Supported as Amended on June 28, 2011

Under existing law, a health insurer that provides maternity coverage may not restrict inpatient hospital benefits and is required to provide notice of maternity services coverage. This bill commencing July 1, 2012, would require every individual and group health insurance policy to provide coverage for maternity services for all insureds covered under the policy.

If you would like CWL to review and take a position on a piece of legislation, please contact CWL's legislation cochairs, Rebecca Dietzen <u>rdietzen@murphyaustin.com</u> and Rebecca Roberts <u>rroberts@sheppardmullin.com</u>

California Women Lawyers Selects Hannah-Beth Jackson as 2011 Recipient of Fay Stender Award

On September 15, 2011, at the CWL 37th Annual Dinner, former Assemblywoman and Santa Barbara attorney Hannah-Beth Jackson will receive the prestigious Fay Stender Award. Ms. Jackson has been fighting for women's rights since she was a young athlete, unable to play Little League baseball because she wasn't a boy. She turned to tennis instead and became a junior champion in New England. Later, she helped found the women's varsity tennis team at Scripps. After obtaining her law degree at Boston University in 1975, Ms. Jackson worked at the Santa Barbara District Attorney's where she helped found Shelter Services for Women, the predecessor to Domestic Violence Solutions, which

has helped many victims of violence in the home. She was a cofounder of the Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee, as well as Santa Barbara Women Lawyers. Later, while in private practice, she represented the Tri-Counties chapter of Planned Parenthood in defending the "Bubble Ordinance," which provided a safe zone for



Hannah-Beth Jackson

by Laura Dewey, Affiliate Governor - Santa Barbara Women Lawyers

patients to enter and exit Planned Parenthood clinics. Ms. Jackson continued her commitment to women's reproductive health in the Assembly, where she held office from 1998 to 2004. She authored AB 2194, requiring all medical residency programs in obstetrics and gynecology to include training in the performance of abortions. She was also the principal co-author of the Reproductive Privacy Act (SB 1301), ensuring protection of Roe v. Wade principles in California and increasing access to early, non-surgical abortion procedures. Ms. Jackson co-chaired the Assembly Select Committee on Title IX and chaired the Legislative Women's Caucus. Ms. Jackson currently serves as the Executive Director of the Institute of the Renewal of

the California Dream, President of Speak Out California!, a web blog (*http://www.speakoutca.org/weblog/*), and host of a Saturday morning radio program, "Speak Out with Hannah-Beth." CWL is honored to recognize Ms Jackson with the Fay Stender Award for her lifelong efforts to protect the rights of women.

LEGAL EAGLES

CWL News is happy to announce the return of our popular Legal Eagles feature, highlighting the soaring achievements and successes of our members and affiliates throughout California and beyond. Announcements can be sent to Legal Eagle editor Solange Ritchie, <u>solangeritchie@hotmail.com</u>, for consideration and inclusion.



Congratulations to **Pearl Mann**, past CWL President, who has been elected to the State Bar of California's Board of Governors as Governor of District 8 (Orange, Santa Barbara and Ventura counties). Mann, 72, has practiced law in Orange County for more than 25 years and has a law office in

Fullerton where she emphasizes elder law, conservatorships and estates. A graduate of Louisiana State University and Western State University law school, she is on the board of the Orange County Bar Association and is its Law Day Committee chair. In addition to her service to CWL, Mann also served as President of Orange County Women Lawyers. Mann joins Karen Goodman, also a past CWL President, on the Board of Governors, while Angela Joy Davis, another past CWL President, is currently running for State Bar President.

Meehan Rasch selected as fellow at UC Davis: Meehan Rasch, CWL District 7 Governor - Los Angeles, has been selected as a Wydick Fellow at UC Davis King Hall School of Law, and will join the UC Davis faculty in Fall 2011. The Wydick Fellowship Program is designed to support new full time law professors and is named for Richard C. Wydick, Professor of Law Emeritus at UC Davis.

Rasch, formerly of Sidley Austin LLP in Los Angeles, has also had two new law review articles published. The first, A New Public Interest Appellate Model: Public Counsel's Court-Based Self-Help Clinic and Pro Bono "Triage" for Indigent Pro Se Civil Litigants on Appeal, 11 Journal of Appellate Practice and Process 461 (Spring 2011), is a profile of the history, development, and structure of Public Counsel's self-help clinic for pro se indigent litigants at the California Court of Appeal (Second District) in Los Angeles—the only such clinic on-site at a court of appeal anywhere in the country. This topic arose out of her time as a Sidley Public Interest Fellow at the Public Counsel Appellate Law Program. The article is intended to serve as a blueprint for similar efforts in other jurisdictions, and is currently being used by a committee in San Diego that is designing a self-help clinic at the California Court of Appeal there and will be distributed at a panel on state appellate pro bono programs at the ABA/NLADA Equal Justice Conference being held in San Francisco this month.

The second article, Rethinking Rule 59's Appellate "Waiver" for Magistrate Judge Adjudication Post-Olano, 2 Chapman Journal of Criminal Justice 213 (Spring 2011), addresses the topic of so-called appellate "waiver" rules such as that codified as Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 59, whereby the right to appellate review by an Article III judge is defaulted for failure to object to a federal magistrate judge's report and recommendations, and discusses how the language of "waiver" obscures the actual availability of plain error review.

Nanci Nishimura appointed to the Commission on Judicial Performance: Nanci Nishimura, CWL Second Vice-President and District 3 Governor (Alameda, Contra Costa, San Mateo and Santa Clara counties) has been appointed to the Commission on Judicial Performance. She is a partner at Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy, where she has worked since 2002. Previously, Nishimura was in private practice in Los Angeles from 1990 to 2002. She was a legislative assistant for Senator Daniel Inouye in 1988 and was a law clerk to the Overseas Private Investment Corporation in 1988 and the U.S. International Trade Commission in 1987. Nishimura was a member of the Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluation from 2004 to 2008.

Rebecca A. Dietzen makes a move: CWL Affiliate Governor (Women Lawyers of Sacramento) Rebecca A. Dietzen, formerly with Murphy Austin Adams Schoenfeld LLP has accepted a position with the Farrell Law Group. Dietzen's labor and employment practice focuses on defending employers against claims of wrongful termination, discrimination, sexual harassment, breach of contract, wage and hour issues, prevailing wage claims, trade secret/confidentiality and leave laws. She has also developed a sub-specialty representing clients faced with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility lawsuits.

CWL governor Cherri Allison selected as recipient of 2011 Social Justice Service Award: Cherri Allison, CWL District 3 Governor – Alameda, Contra Costa, San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties, is being honored by Santa Clara University School of Law as the recipient of the 2011 Social Justice Service Award. This award recognizes attorneys and students who have significantly contributed to the social justice and public interest community through work or pro bono efforts. Her outstanding contributions include her leadership in transforming the justice system for victims of domestic violence, her leadership in integrating the health care services with legal services for victims of domestic violence, recognizing that domestic violence is not only a justice issue, but a public health issue as well. Allison has served as Executive Director of the Family Violence Law Center and recently was named the Executive Director of

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the Alameda County Family Justice Center, which is a model for comprehensive, collaborative services to victims of interpersonal violence. Allison has also expanded the awareness and vital services for children who witness domestic violence. Allison will be recognized at the Benefit for Justice which will take place on September 23, 2011, from 5 8 p.m. at the Benson Center Williman Room on Santa Clara University's campus. All are welcome to attend.

M. Prudence Hutton, CWL governor and education lawyer, will present on "How Apology Can Promote Exemplary Practices for Reducing Special Education Disputes" at the Fifth National Symposium on Dispute Resolution in Special Education, October 26-28, 2010 in Eugene, Oregon. Philip Moses, Symposium Chair, said of Hutton's proposal that it was "both excellent and relevant" to the event's ultimate success.

CWL governor **Solange E. Ritchie's** firm obtains big judgment in San Bernardino:

CWL Affiliate Governor (Orange County) Solange E. Ritchie was part of a team that obtained a \$17.5 million dollar judgment in San Bernardino Superior Court. Along with her husband, Steven R. Young of the Law Offices of Steven R. Young, Ritchie successfully represented over 1,300 plaintiffs in an employment wage and hour class action case against Riverside Community Hospital (RCH). When the Legislature reinstated overtime in California, RCH continued to pay its nurses and respiratory therapists straight time. In May, 2011, the court awarded plaintiffs \$17.5 million, saying that RCH's pay plan was "deceptive and unfair" - since "the more the employees worked, the less they were paid." This case will likely have far reaching effects in plans to avoid payment of overtime to employees throughout California.

Past CWL President opens her own shop: Past CWL president **Jean Pledger** has started her own firm, Elrich Pledger Law, LLP. The firm brings decades of experience to clients with mineral interests located throughout California. Pledger has more than 12 years of experience handling a wide range of oil and gas and real property disputes along with partner Mel Ehrlich, who formerly worked for major oil companies and has been in practice for more than 35 years. For more information about the new firm, go to <u>http://www.eplawyers.net</u>.

Two CWL Affiliates Honored by NCWBA: Two of CWL's affiliates are going to receive awards from NCWBA **Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles** for their Power Lunch Program and **Lawyers Club of San Diego** for their Pipeline to Leadership: Securing Spots on Boards and Commissions. Read more about these award-winning programs in this edition of CWL News.

AFFILIATE NEWS

Women Lawyers of Sacramento

On June 23, 2011, Women Lawyers of Sacramento hosted Judge Larry Brown for an MCLE luncheon on "The Role of Women in Remaking the California Criminal Justice System." Judge Brown, a long term prosecutor, was appointed to the bench by former Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in January 2010.

At the luncheon, Judge Brown spoke of how, during time spent as head of the California District Attorneys Associate, he came to fully appreciate the transformative role female prosecutors, allied professionals, and policy-makers played in the criminal justice system as he saw the investigation and prosecution of crimes against women, children, the elderly, and the disabled take on greater importance due in large part to the growing number of female prosecutors. These changes elicited modernizations in the areas of law addressing sexual assault, domestic abuse, child abuse and dependent adult abuse.

In other Sacramento news, WLS presented Community Grants totaling \$5,500 to a select group of community organizations dedicated to benefitting women, children, and the broader community. Recipients included The California Coalition for Youth, Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services, River City Food Bank , Loaves & Fishes' Maryhouse , My Sister's House and the Community Against Sexual Harm (CASH).

WLS has also been busy planning the 18th Annual Artfest, set for September 22, 2011, at the Vizcaya, 2019 21st Street, Sacramento. The annual event features local artistry, music, food wine and a silent auction.

AFFILIATE NEWS



Members and friends of KCWLA at Souza Family Vineyard.

Kerm County

On May 14, 2011, Kern County Women Lawyers Association held a wine tasting event at the Souza Family Vineyard located in Tehachapi, California.

The event was sponsored by Union Bank and the Souza Family Vineyard. KCWLA provided transportation for its Bakersfield members. After a brief presentation from the sponsors, members of KCWLA and their guests enjoyed tasting wines from various wineries, a wonderful array of appetizers, and good company. As evidenced by the accompanying photo, a good time was had by all who attended. We look forward to future KCWLA events of this caliber.

Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles

WLALA palooza, Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles' annual summer fundraiser, was held June 23, 2011. At the event, members of the Los Angeles legal and business communities were treated to a wonderful evening of music, food, and a silent auction at the historic Gilmore Adobe, one of California's oldest adobes, adjacent to the Farmers Market.

> In the past, proceeds from this popular event have been used to support projects that advance the status of women, including the

Domestic Violence Project, in which volunteer lawyers provide legal services at the Sojourn legal clinic for battered women; the WLALA Foundation's scholarships and public action grants, both of which provide financial assistance to law students; the Harriet Buhai Family Law Center, which assists low income individuals with family law matters; and the Downtown Women's Center, which provides support and meals to homeless women residing at the shelter.

WLALA's fundraising work doesn't stop there – this year, as part of Los Angeles Food From the Bar, WLALA put on a successful volunteer day at the Los Angeles Regional Foodbank and the Westside Foodbank and raised \$1,399.54, which will provide enough food for 5,598 meals. WLALA also worked to promote the event city-wide, and overall, the Los Angeles Food From the Bar program raised over \$200,000.

Women Lawyers of Santa Cruz County

omen Lawyers of Santa Cruz County has some very exciting upcoming events.

On October 11, 2011 they are hosting California Supreme Court Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye, who will be speaking on "The Current State of the California Judicial Branch". This event is likely to sell out! To purchase your advance tickets go to <u>http://www.wlscc.org/</u> events.html.

On September 9, 2011 they are hosting a lunchtime panel on "Career Changes In and Out of the Law" which includes one hour of MCLE. On November 2, 2011, they host a luncheon program on "Conflicts of Interest: What You Must Know to be an Ethical Lawyer", which includes one hour of Ethics MCLE.

As always, they are also hosting a members-only holiday event. This year it will be on December 1, please come and enjoy a fabulous feast!

Women Lawyers of Santa Cruz County promotes the advancement of women in the legal profession and is an active advocate for the concerns of women in society. For more information about Women Lawyers of Santa Cruz County, or their events, please check their website, <u>http://www.wlscc.org/</u>.

Summer 2011

AFFILIATE NEWS

ORANGE COUNTY WOMEN LAWYER'S 35 ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION A SELL-OUT SUCCESS By Solange Ritchie, Affiliate Governor

On May 19, 2011, CWL affiliate Orange County Women Lawyers Association ("OCWLA") welcomed over 500 attorneys, judicial officers and friends to its 35th Anniversary Dinner at the Newport Marriott in Fashion Island.

The event featured California's new Chief Justice, the Honorable Tani Cantil-Sakauye as the keynote speaker. She delivered a wonderful and truly inspiring speech addressing diversity and the challenges we all face in this changing profession. Also honored for their dedication to OCWLA were Orange County Superior Court Judge Jamoa Moberly as "Judge of the Year" and Wylie A. Aitken as "Attorney of the Year."

The event, titled "Celebrating Our Stars" featured a video presentation which documented many of the female trailblazers who made OCWLA the powerhouse organization it is today.

> OC Superior Court Judge Hon. Jamoa Moberly accepts the award as Judge of the Year



Court of Appeal Justices Hon. Eileen Moore, Hon. Kathleen O'leary and OC Superior Court Judge Hon. Franz Millar enjoy the VIP reception.



Summer 2011

AFFILIATE NEWS

The event could not have occurred without the tireless work of event chair Ashleigh Aitken, Betty Aitken, Melinda Bell, Solange Ritchie, Betty Fracisco, Teri Oliver and a whole host of other wonderful, strong and hardworking women. Not only was the event a great success, it was beautiful too. The grand ballroom was dressed in black, white and pink for this special occasion. Flowers adorned each table and pink lights light up the stage.

The evening was preceded by a sponsors only VIP meeting with the Chief Justice at one of the suites at the hotel. With an unparallel view of beautiful Newport Beach, Dana Point, and the ocean beyond, all in attendance, including many of our Orange County Superior Court and Appellate Court Justices, enjoyed a beautiful afternoon which preceded a very successful evening.

OCWLA would like to thank all those who attended, sponsored and otherwise worked to make this a fabulous one of a kind event. A portion of the proceeds will benefit many worthy causes through the Orange Women Lawyers Foundation.



Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye, Keynote speaker





Jennifer Keller presenting award to Attorney of the Year Recipient Wylie Aitken

Bar Stipend recipient along with Solange Riitchie and President Melinda Bell

AFFILIATE NEWS

SANTA BARBARA SUPERIOR COURT DEDICATES THE DEBORAH TALMAGE CHILDREN'S ROOM



Former County Supervisor Naomi Schwartz, Comm. Deborah Talmage (ret.)

A happy and excited crowd gathered in April to celebrate the dedication of the long-awaited children's room at the Figueroa Courthouse. The Superior Court judges unanimously voted to name the room after retired Commissioner Deborah Talmage, in recognition of her work improving the lives of the children in our community, as well as her status as "Founding Mother" of Santa Barbara Women Lawyers (SBWL), the organization that shepherded the project for the past thirteen years.

California Women Lawyers (CWL) led the Statewide movement for children's waiting rooms in all of the courthouses in California, and the cause was taken up locally by SBWL and led by former SBWL President Renee Nordstrand.

Santa Barbara County Superior Court Presiding Judge Brian Hill opened the ceremonies with thanks to the many people who contributed to completing the project, followed by Nordstrand (who brought her twin baby girls) and Comm. Deborah Talmage. The speakers told the crowd the story of how the room began with an idea, then worked its way through the system, first finding a location, then finding the money, and finally finding a licensed child care provider.

The dedication ceremony took place on the first anniversary of the retirement of Comm. Talmage, who expressed her pride in SBWL, which was inspired by her participation in CWL under the encouragement of Justice Joan Dempsey Klein. The organization has brought many

By Laura Dewey, Affilliate Governor (Santa Barbara Women Lawyers)

improvements to the legal community, both directly and through the SBWL. SBWL's annual Attorney of the Year Award is also named for Deborah Talmage.

Several past SBWL Presidents were on hand for the festivities, and all proceeded to the actual room for the unveiling of the title and to explore the delightful furnishings. In addition to numerous books and toys (many

of which were donated by the judges and staff), there are easels for art, princess tents for exploration and play, and a flat screen TV. Family Court Facilitator and SBWL member Sigrid Twomey donated her large collection of Raggedy Ann and Andy dolls, which are only part of the beautiful decorations.



SBWL Past President Renee Nordstrand with husband Doug Black and their twin girls



SBWL Past Presidents: Hon. Colleen Sterne, Comm. Deborah Talmage (ret.), Renee Nordstrand, Laura Dewey, Brandi Redman AFF NEWS Santa Barbara 2 caption: Former County Supervisor Naomi Schwartz, Comm. Deborah Talmage (ret.)

AFFILIATE NEWS

WLAC CONFERS THREE BAR EXAM STIPENDS AT ALAMEDA FETE

By Gail Mitchell, WLAC

Ver fifty local legal glitterati partied poolside at the WLAC Annual Members Reception on Thursday evening, June 23. Alameda County Superior judges Yolanda Northridge and Robert McGuiness generously provided this idyllic spot, complete with cabana and lovely landscaping, for the second year in a row. There was lots of chatting, laughter, food, wine and soft drinks - plus plenty of networking. The party had been scheduled to occur earlier in the season, but was postponed due to inclement weather (read: rain!). This time, however, no one's spirits were dampened.



Event Co-Host Judge Robert McGuiness enforces pool rules with WLAC President Toni Mims-Cochran (L) and Treasurer Tara Flanagan

Amongst those present were Alameda County Superior judges Tara Desautels, Evilio Grillo, Stuart Hing, Iona Petrou, Yvonne Gonzalez

Rogers, Patrick Zika, as well as Commissioner Charles Smiley. WLAC Board member Mala Sahai was the chairman for the reception and headed the committee charged with the difficult task of selecting the recipients of this year's stipends for bar examinees.



WLAC Members and Board Members mingle poolside



WLAC President Toni Mims-Cochran (R) and member Cheryl Hicks enjoy the summer evening

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Margaret A. Gannon Stipend, which was created to provide assistance to deserving law students trying to survive the financial rigors of the bar exam. Ms. Gannon, who served as WLAC President last year and is currently serving as Chairman of the Past Presidents' Council, said she was inspired to initiate the Stipend while attending a California Women Lawyers' function, where she became aware of a similar program. Initially, funding for the stipend program came from her idea of auctioning centerpieces at the WLAC Fall Judges' Dinner. Ms. Gannon only recently learned that there had been a unanimous WLAC Board vote to name the stipend program after her.



WLAC Past President Margaret Gannon and two recipients of the first awardees of WLAC's Margaret A. Gannon Stipend

SUMMER 2011

AFFILIATE NEWS

Recipients of the three student stipends this year are Kathryn W. Londenberg, Lynn Ta, and Natalya Attestatova. Kathryn and Natalya were able to be present at the event to receive their stipend checks. They were introduced by Board member Roksana Bidgoli, who also served on the stipend committee.

Natalya Attestatova recently graduated from University of California, Hastings College of Law. She is the mother of two boys and a girl – all under the age of eight - and is a Certified Public Accountant who operates her own accounting business. Resilient and optimistic, she looks forward to starting her own legal practice and giving back to the community by providing legal services to victims of domestic violence.

Kathryn W. Londenberg was admitted to law school through the Legal Education Opportunity Program (LEOP) and recently graduated cum laude from the University of California, Hastings College of Law. During law school, she served as an executive member of the Hastings Law Journal, interned for California's Legislative Counsel, and externed for former Chief Justice George. While many law students rely on family for financial assistance during law school, Ms. Londenberg has worked since age sixteen to help provide assistance to her family, including an autistic sibling.

Lynn Ta recently graduated from the Boalt Hall School of Law at the University of California at Berkeley. This new mother and prospective bar examinee aspires to be a civil rights attorney, advocating for immigrant and refugee communities. Ms. Ta has worked with the Accountability Counsel, East Bay Community Law Center, International Human Rights Law Clinic, California Asylum Representation Clinic, and the U.S. Department of Justice. In addition, Ms. Ta holds a doctorate in Literature from the University of California at San Diego.

New members and student members were welcomed at the reception, as well. One first-time attendee, Elizabeth Combs, a 2L at Golden Gate University School of Law and summer intern at the Alameda County Courts' Self-Help Center said, "It was a fabulous presentation. I met amazing women and supportive men!"





Alameda Co. Superior Court Judge Hing is welcomed by our hosts, Judge Northridge and Judge McGuiness



WLAC President Toni Mims-Cochran recognize Alameda Co. Superior Court Judge Gonzalez-Rodgers in light of her recent federal court judicial nomination.

Judge Northridge and WLAC members mix and mingle

AFFILIATE NEWS

Santa Barbara Women Lawyers Embraces CWL 'Food From the Bar' Program

Santa Barbara Women Lawyers and other local legal organizations are joining together during the month of July in the community's First Annual 'Food From the Bar' event. The Bar organizations will work together to collect food and monetary donations to help feed local families in need.

All donations will be made to the Foodbank of Santa Barbara County, founded in 1982. Last year, the Santa Barbara Foodbank distributed over ten million pounds of food to over 165,000 people. The Foodbank distributes food to over 200 non-profit programs, food pantries, senior centers, after-school programs and soup kitchens. Notably, 44% of those served by the Foodbank are children under the age of 18.

On April 28, 2011, SBWL President Angela Roach announced and kicked off the drive by presenting a \$500 donation to Jane Lindsey, Senior Development Department Manager of the Foodbank of Santa Barbara County. The donation was strategically timed to coincide with a matching contribution offer of a local philanthropic

FOOD FROM THE BAR

organization, so that the \$500 donation immediately grew to \$1,000 and could be used immediately, pending receipt of donations in July.

CWL's "Food From the Bar" program can be conducted anywhere by coordinating with your local food bank. Spring and Summer are the best times, as those holiday donations are dwindling, and school

year subsidies are not available for children. Some families rely on the breakfast and lunch at school to nourish their children, but these are not available in the summer.

Even in a community as seemingly affluent as Santa Barbara, thousands of families struggle to find meals every day. The homeless shelters are filled, and stomachs are empty. SBWL has set a goal of \$5,000 and 1,000 pounds of food for this drive in its inaugural year and invites its sister organizations to adopt this program as its own.

By Marianne Stein and Laura Dewey. Marianne is the chair of SBWL's Food From the Bar drive, and Laura is SBWL's Affiliate Governor to CWL.

Queen's Bench Congratulates Kelly Robbins Alumni of the Year from San Francisco State Poli-Sci Dept.

Relly J. Robbins, 2008 Queen's Bench Past President, and current CWL Affiliate Governor received the Alumni of the Year Award from San Francisco State Political Science Department, on April 20, 2011, at an evening reception hosted by the Hanson Bridgett Law Firm in San Francisco.

Given that it is 2011, friends and colleagues were simultaneously honored and yet surprised to learn that Ms. Robbins was the first woman to receive this honor!

In addition to the presentation of the award, Ms. Robbins



Queens Bench Former Past President Kelly Robbins accepts congratulations from well wishers after being awarded SF State Political Science Dept. Alumna of the Year



Eliza Rodrigues speaks to an SF State student who aspires to become a lawyer.

joined a panel discussion of the "Agony and Ecstasy of a Legal Career" with panelists Hon. Daniel Hanlon (ret.) of the California Appellate Court (now with JAMS), Hon. John True, of the Alameda County Superior Court, and Eliza Rodrigues, Special Ethics Counsel with Sedgwick, Detert, Moran & Arnold, LLP.

The event was well attended by legal friends and colleagues, SFSU alums, and many current S.F.S.U. political science students, many who plan to pursue a career in law.

Congratulations Kelly!

CALIFORNIA WOMEN LAWYERS **September 15, 2011**

Annual Dinner

6:00 p.m. Networking Reception & Silent Auction 7:00 p.m. Dinner Westin Long Beach - 333 East Ocean Blvd., Long Beach

Join California Women Lawyers and Chief Justice of California Tani Cantil-Sakauye, for a historic evening celebrating the new Chief Justice, the female majority on California's Supreme Court, and the accomplishments of a dozen notable women of achievement.

Silent Auction, Networking Reception and Authors Corner. Meet the Justices, Judges, practitioners and authors Barbara Babcock and Lisa Perlman, who will autograph their new books on Clara Shortridge Foltz and Fay Stender. Bid on fabulous silent auction items to benefit the CWL Foundation, CWL's charitable and educational arm.

Installation of CWL's Officers and Board of Governors including President, Patricia Sturdevant, Deputy Commissioner for Policy and Planning, California Department of Insurance, and winner of the Ronald M. George Public Lawyer of the Year Award from the State Bar Public Law Section in 2009.

Special Recognition: Judith Solely, the consummate Citizen Lawyer, for outstanding service to CWL and the community, in memoriam.

Keynote Speaker

Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye is the first Asian-Filipina American and the second woman Chief Justice. She served for more than 20 years on California appellate and trial courts, both municipal and superior. In 1997, she established and presided over the first court in Sacramento dedicated solely to domestic violence issues. and was a member of the presiding judge's task force on domestic violence. She was appointed to the Court of Appeal, Third

Appellate District in 2005. She was also a member of the California Commission for Impartial Courts, and served as a member of the Judicial Council's Domestic Violence Practice and Procedure Task Force, chairing its Best Practices Domestic Violence subcommittee. She is president of the Anthony M. Kennedy American Inn of Court, an organization dedicated to promoting civility, ethics, and professionalism in the practice of Iaw. Since 2007, she has been a Special Master, selected by the Supreme Court to hear disciplinary proceedings before the Commission on Judicial Performance.



Chief Justice Cantil -Sakauye

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37th Annual Dinner

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