

October 2009

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: BASKING IN THE GLOW OF RECOGNITION FROM MY PEERS

BY: PATRICIA STURDEVANT



Patricia Sturdevant

#### I want to share

with you my delight in receiving the Ronald M. George Public Lawyer of the Year award, which was presented to me by the Chief Justice at a reception on September 11th at the state bar convention in

San Diego. It was particularly gratifying to be the first recipient of the award, newly renamed for our Chief Justice, who inspires us all by his commitment and dedication to public service, and to be described by the Public Law Section as an innovative thinker who pioneered the modern use of cy pres remedies in class action litigation. But the best part of the event was that it was so well attended by members of WLS and CWL, all enthusiastic in their encouragement and support, and by Justice Carlos Moreno and one of my role models and heroes, former Justice Cruz Reynoso.

The announcement of the award also had the unforeseen benefit of providing me a reason and opportunity to reflect on the satisfactions of my career. This is a rare occurrence in our busy lives, but extremely rewarding. It underscored how very fortunate I am to have had the opportunity to have such a fulfilling professional life. And it brought to mind Margaret Mead's famous quote: "A small group of thoughtful people could change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

Throughout my career, it has been my privilege to be a public as well as a public interest lawyer. That role has given me the luxury of advocating positions and principles about which I am passionate and has enabled me, and other public interest and class action lawyers, to effect social change by expanding the rights of low income people and obtaining injunctive relief against wrongful business practices. I have also greatly enjoyed spending

other people's money by crafting and recommending cy pres awards, divesting wrongdoers of their ill gotten gains and seeing those funds used for the indirect benefit of absent class members.

After my first major trial resulted in a \$2.5 million damage award in the early 80s, it became apparent that all of the consumers affected by the unlawful business practices which WLS member Laura Kaplan and I successfully challenged would not be able to be located to receive their share of the damages. In that first experience with a cy pres remedy, we had no idea how the concept would be developed or what an impact it could have. We simply saw a choice between an equitable and fair solution—using the undistributed damages for the indirect benefit of individuals who could not be found to be compensated—and an unfair result—encouraging wrongful practices by letting the defendant keep the monies obtained by its wrongful business practices. At first the company, Avco Financial Services, resisted our demand for a cy pres remedy, insisting that customers were entitled to receive the refunds. We emphatically agreed with that proposition. But after we outlined a strategy for locating those consumers through a statewide media and outreach campaign, complete with public service announcements on radio and television, paid advertising in newspapers and large posters in every Avco office informing Avco customers that they had been overcharged and were entitled to refunds, somehow the prospect of a cy pres award became more palatable to the company. The resulting \$1.5 million award funded a Consumer Credit and Finance Project which advocated for the benefit of California consumers for nearly a decade in the legislature and before administrative agencies.

Cy Pres remedies have proliferated since those early days, and class action lawyers have employed them, with court approval, to accomplish a great deal of good for the

(Continued on Page 3)

#### WHAT'S INSIDE

Luncheon Details	2
President's Message (Continued)	3
CWL's 35th Annual Dinner Megan Lewis	4
Conference of California Bar Associations Jessica Snyder	5
Super Lawyer, Nancy Sheehan M. Jane Pearce	5
Sixteenth Annual Artfest Success Maralee MacDonald	6
Thank You to Artfest Silent Auction Donors	7
WLS Foundation Awards Four Grants Amal Abu-Rahma	8
Announcements & Other News	8-14

REMEMBER TO VOTE—BALLOT ON PAGES 11—12

#### WLS

October 2009

#### Luncheon

Honored Guest Speakers:

**Karen Goodman**

**Nancy Sheehan**

**October 22, 2009**

(See page 2 )

**Women Lawyers of Sacramento is Proud to Present a Panel  
Featuring: Karen Goodman and Nancy Sheehan  
Learn the Secrets to Success for Women Litigators**

**RSVP with menu choice and confirmation of mailed check by October 14<sup>th</sup>, to WLS Member Meredith Felde at (916) 444-3900 or [mfelde@mhalaw.com](mailto:mfelde@mhalaw.com).**

**DATE: October 22, 2009**

**TITLE: "Secrets to Success for Women Litigators"**

**Karen Goodman** is the Owner-Principal of Goodman & Associate. **Ms. Goodman's** practice includes a broad range of civil litigation matters, concentrating on professional liability and real estate litigation. **Ms. Goodman** is a former President of California Women Lawyers and Women Lawyers of Sacramento, and serves as a pro tem settlement conference judge for the Sacramento County Superior Court. Recognized as an ABOTA member, AV rated by Martindale-Hubbell, and named California Super Lawyer® in the area of Civil Litigation Defense from 2005-2009, **Ms. Goodman** received her J.D. from the University of San Francisco School of Law, with honors.

**Nancy Sheehan** is a Shareholder with Porter Scott. **Ms. Sheehan** enjoys a distinguished reputation among members of the bench and bar as an expert in employment litigation. **Ms. Sheehan** also serves as a judge pro tem for the Sacramento County Superior Court, assisting in resolving employment cases. **Ms. Sheehan** is the current President of the Sacramento Valley Chapter of ABOTA. AV rated by Martindale-Hubbell, and named California Super Lawyer® in the area of Employment Law from 2004-2009, **Ms. Sheehan** received her J.D. from McGeorge School of Law.

**Join us** in learning the tips and secrets to success for women litigators.

**Pending .75 Hours MCLE Credit for Substantive Law.**

**WHERE:** Firehouse Restaurant (Old Sacramento)

**TIME:** 12:00-1:15 p.m.

**MENU:** *Atlantic King Salmon* pan-seared with sauce arlesienne and tomato confit, garlic mashed potatoes, and sautéed seasonal vegetables, or *Chicken Marsala* smoked wild mushrooms and fresh herbs in a marsala wine demi-glacé, garlic mashed potatoes and sautéed vegetables, or *Vegetarian Sandwich* with a blend of three cheeses, grilled zucchini, roasted red peppers, marinara sauce and waffle fries.

**COST:** \$25.00 for WLS prepaid members, past presidents of WLS, and judges; \$30.00 for all others, except law students, whose cost is \$15.00. It may not be possible to get the entrée of your choice unless reservation is made before the deadline.

Please mail your check, payable to WLS, with menu choice **for receipt by October 14**, to WLS, Attn: Luncheon, P.O. Box 936, Sacramento, CA 95812. **Please indicate if you are a pre-paid WLS member, past president, or judge on the check.** WLS is charged for cancellations. Payments must be received in advance and are not refundable.

**RSVPs or Questions about the luncheon?** Contact WLS Member Meredith Felde at (916) 444-3900 or [mfelde@mhalaw.com](mailto:mfelde@mhalaw.com), or WLS Member Angela Lai at (916) 324-7152 or [alai@dmhc.ca.gov](mailto:alai@dmhc.ca.gov).

Seating at the door is subject to availability. Please bring any unused toiletries and women's personal items to the luncheon. These items will be donated to Maryhouse, a non-profit organization that helps homeless women and children.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Saluting Winning Women Within WLS

*Continued From Page 1*

indirect benefit of absent class members and the public generally. Similar awards have funded the Public Justice Foundation's impact litigation on consumer protection, civil rights, and enforcement of environmental laws. They have helped California Rural Legal Assistance ensure access to safe and decent housing for working-poor families, and fight sexual harassment in the agricultural industry. Another, in a case litigated by WLS member and Super Lawyer Wendy York, made substantial funds available to the Sacramento Food Bank to help feed the homeless and hungry in our community. Still others have established Equal Justice Works Fellowships which allow new lawyers to serve the public interest by designing their own projects with substantial impacts on the communities that the fellows serve.

Another cy pres award was just announced on August 31<sup>st</sup> providing \$263,000 to the Reynoso Scholarship Fund at the University Of California Davis School Of Law, to help students with financial needs. This is of great significance to me not only because of the esteem in which I hold Professor Reynoso, but because diversity in the legal profession and on the bench is crucially important to achieving equal justice under the law.

Currently, the settlement of a New York case involving long standing racially discriminatory practices will make millions of dollars available to groups working to benefit African-Americans. The awards will target, among other issues, racial disparities in the diagnosis and treatment of illnesses and systemic problems resulting from the continuing adverse consequences of Hurricane Katrina on predominantly African-American communities. These funds will enhance the quality of life for many disadvantaged members of our society and further the cause of social justice.

Another unanticipated but significant benefit of the award is that with the invitations the Public Law Section provided me, and the beautiful description of the award in the Section's newsletter, I've reconnected with many of the teachers, colleagues and clients who have worked with and influenced me over the years. As a consequence, I have been flooded with congratulatory letters, calls and e-mails and am following Charity Kenyon's advice and basking in the glow.

There are two important lessons in life I derive from this experience. The first is that even if you are a relatively inexperienced lawyer and the way is not clearly defined, you must follow your instincts and trust your judgment; it is hard to envision or predict where that path will lead and great things can be accomplished by building on small first steps. The second is to remember to take the time not only to appreciate and thank your colleagues and peers, but to nominate them for awards and honors; recognition from one's peers is a gift that gladdens the heart and will be treasured.



**Justice Ronald George and Pat Sturdevant**



**Justice Carlos Moreno and Sacramento Lawyers in Support of Pat Sturdevant**

# Congratulations



## California Women Lawyers' 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner Celebration

*By: Megan A. Lewis, Treasurer, Women Lawyers of Sacramento*

**California Women Lawyers (CWL)** held its 35<sup>th</sup> annual dinner at the beautiful bayside Hilton hotel in San Diego on September 10<sup>th</sup>. The dinner program featured a video presentation with clips of interviews from several CWL founding mothers regarding their incredible stories about the creation of CWL and the amazing journeys they went through to improve the lives of women lawyers. CWL was proud and honored to have a table of the founding mothers present at the dinner.



**CWL Founding Mothers**

Angela Bradstreet, California Labor Commission, was the keynote speaker who inspired us all while speaking about the differences she is making through her work as Labor Commissioner. Ms. Bradstreet shared stories of the horrible work environments that some people are subjected to on a daily basis. Ms. Bradstreet also spoke about the No Glass Ceiling Initiative she founded and how it continues to improve the lives of women lawyers.



**Angela Bradstreet and Nancy O'Malley**

CWL honored Sharmin Eshraghi Bock, a deputy district attorney of Alameda County with the Fay Stender Award. Ms. Bock has made substantial progress in the fight against human trafficking. She created the Human Exploitation and Trafficking (HEAT) Unit and prosecutes human trafficking cases which involve sexually exploited minors as victims. Ms. Bock also serves as role model for women lawyers and is very deserving of the Fay Stender Award.

Nancy O'Malley was sworn in by Chief Justice George as the incoming CWL President.

Patricia Sturdevant and I were also sworn in to continue our service on the CWL board. It was an inspirational evening that was shared by several attorneys from Sacramento, who also had the pleasure of celebrating Karen Goodman's birthday!



## Conference of California Bar Associations

**By: Jessica Snyder, Legislation & Bar Delegations, Co-Chair**

The Conference of California Bar Associations (formerly known as the Conference of Delegates) was held in San Diego from September 11-13<sup>th</sup> this year. WLS was well represented by five delegates at the 2009 Conference. By working together with the Sacramento County Bar Association and Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles, WLS submitted numerous proposed resolutions affecting the health, safety and wellbeing of women, children and the under-represented. The Conference approved in principle a resolution submitted by WLS that would amend Family Code section 6345 to provide for adequate, actual notice to

the protected party before a restraining order was terminated or modified. The Conference overwhelmingly supported the resolution and WLS has now asked that the resolution be lobbied to the state legislature by the State Bar lobbyist this coming year. More information on this resolution and all of the resolutions approved by the Conference is available online at [www.calconference.org](http://www.calconference.org). If you are interested in learning more about the Conference of California Bar Associations or learning more about this specific resolution, please feel free to contact the Legislative and Delegation Committee for WLS.

## Super Lawyer, Nancy Sheehan

**By: M. Jane Pearce, Membership Co-Chair**



Nancy Sheehan

In the salad days of sexual harassment lawsuits, some defendants proposed a daring and splendid idea: a woman would lead their defense team. Instant credibility! Locally, when the firm now known as Porter Scott had a client request just that, a young associate named Nancy Sheehan, fairly new to the firm and to private practice, stood out as the obvious choice. Well, she was a woman and there weren't too many in the room. Nancy ran with it, one of her first big cases, and the rest is history. Now, 30 trials later, she can laugh at her big break. Of course, she did not do well because she was a woman, but because she had the aptitude, skills, determination and, suddenly, the opportunity.

Nancy Sheehan soon focused her work on the employment cases which were flooding into the courts in the 1980's. Employers required representation to defend against claims including discrimination, wrongful termination, and sexual harassment. She is now one of two female partners at Porter Scott. Based on her experience, she was invited to join the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA) in 1999 and is serving as the President of its local chapter this year. It is a very select group which requires at least twenty trials before a membership offer can be extended. With mandatory ADR for many civil cases and criminal cases receiving preference for courtrooms, it is more difficult now than ever to meet their minimum requirements. There are only a handful of women members. ABOTA's primary purpose is to protect the right to a jury trial, but their members are also filling the need to help guide litigators to respect the rules and practices which keep the process civil. ABOTA members present a program to law students called "Civility Matters" and strive to demonstrate proper demeanor and practice by example.

Nancy has been named a Northern California Super Lawyer for the fifth year in a row. She has been a partner at Porter Scott since 1990 and is mentoring women associates at her firm to make the trek to partnership. She knows that opportunity is a crucial part of success. Nancy does not downplay the challenges to making partner while rearing young children, but she is adamant that it is achievable. She is supportive of young lawyers at her firm while acknowledging that she did not balance children versus career. Fourteen years ago she married a man who had an adult son. She now enjoys all the perks of being a grandparent without having had to raise her stepson. She feels very lucky to have a great family life to balance her work life.

One final bit of luck or providence is that Nancy is a four-year survivor of breast cancer. Her colleagues in her firm, her opposing counsel and judges overwhelmed her with their support through her treatment. Having successfully maneuvered through that hell, she is open to sharing her experience and advice if you come to face it. Congratulations, Nancy, and we look forward to many more years of your presence in the courtroom and the classroom.

## Sixteenth Annual Artfest a Success Thanks to Members, Artists and Sacramento Business Community

### WLS held its sixteenth annual Artfest

event at the Vizcaya on September 2, 2009. Guests enjoyed food and wine while interacting with local artists displaying their work. Jazz trio "Attractive Nuisance" provided the music. The proceeds of the event, including those from the silent auction, support the community grants and law school scholarships to deserving and financially needy law students.

The following artists displayed their works during Artfest and were available to talk with guests: **Sue Barthelow**, a freelance photographer from California's Sierra Nevada foothills living near Auburn; **Laura Holm**, as JEWELS by L Designs, creator of artisan wire wrapped gemstone and glass lampwork jewelry; **Michelle MacKenzie**, of M. MacKenzie Studio, an abstract painter; **Marsha Mobley Kilian**, portrait artist, **Tim Lazer** glass artist; **Laura Morton**, printmaker; and **Rosemarie Kelliher**, of Rosin Knitwear.

WLS would like to extend its sincerest gratitude to all those who supported the event. We especially want to take this opportunity to thank our sponsors and our silent auction donors. Without you, the event would not have been a success.



### Platinum Sponsors

Boutin Gibson Di Giusto Hodell Inc.  
Ellis, Coleman, Poirier, LaVoie & Steinheimer  
Hansen, Kohls, Jones, Sommer & Jacob, LLP  
McDonough Holland & Allen PC  
Wilke Fleury Hoffelt Gould & Birney LLP

### Gold Sponsors

Carlsen Thomas, LLP  
Greenberg Traurig, LLP  
Jacobsen & McElroy  
Evelyn A. Cox  
Virginia S. Mueller  
Low McKinley Baleria & Salenko, LLP  
Pacific McGeorge School of Law

Phillips Legal Services

Porter Scott

Remy, Thomas, Moose and Manley, LLP

### Silver Sponsors

Goodman & Associates  
Michael & Colleen McClelland  
Maggie Roth  
Shaw Valenza LLP

### Bronze Sponsors

David Allen & Associates, Bez Law Firm, C. Athena Roussos,  
Cecily Bond, Hanson Bridgett LLP,  
Hill Law Offices, PC, Vicki Jacobs, Lillian A. Jenks, Joan Jerne-  
gan, Langenkamp & Curtis LLP, Jean C. McEvoy, Jennifer S.  
Rouse, Millstone Peterson & Watts, LLP, M. Jane Pearce

## WLS 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Artfest Silent Auction Donors

**WLS wishes to thank the following silent auction donors. We hope that you, our readers, will also express your appreciation next time you visit them**

Addicted to Massage	Bez Jewelry
Amber House Bed & Breakfast Inn	Bridgette Bez
Crocker Art Museum	Crystal Basin Cellars
Fairytale Town	Florez Bar & Grill
Finderskeepers	Dale and Sheri Stuckey/Little Lake Ranch
Hart Medical Services	Jennifer Rouse, Esq.
IMAX Theatre	Puris Image & Style
It's All Yoga	Rivergrove Winery
Katia's Collections	Sacramento Opera
Laughs Unlimited	Sidley Studios – Your Family Photographer
Markee Personal Training	Sugar Bowl
Twisted Metal	The Robert and Margrit Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts, UC Davis
Massage Envy – Loehman's Plaza	Thomas Photography
River Song Meditation	Twenty Twenty Eyes
Sacramento Magazine	ARareity
Sacramento Massage Studio	Jane Deming
Sacramento Natural Foods Co-Op	Robin Lyle Professional Softwear
Sacramento Traditional Jazz Society	Sacramento Ballet
San Jose Sharks	Dakin Fitness
Shaw Valenza LLP	Women Lawyers of Sacramento
Strands Salon and Spa	Board of Directors
Studio Fit	Taylor's Market
Tower Theatre	Peter and Deanne Franus
Mosaic Salon	
Jamie Errecart & Megan Lewis	
Morton's	
A Place to Call Home	
Arthur Murray Dance Studio	



## Women Lawyers of Sacramento Foundation Awards Four Grants By: Amal A. Abu-Rahma, Grants and Awards Co-Chair

At our September Luncheon, Women Lawyers of Sacramento Foundation granted four organizations \$1,500.00 each to use toward such honorable programs as assisting women and children, the homeless, and at-risk teens. The programs who were awarded the grants were Planned Parenthood Mar Monte, Legal Services of Northern California, Chicks in Crisis, and Diogenes.

Planned Parenthood Mar Monte will use the grant to fund one of its Morgan Scholarships which is a competitive scholarship program for graduates of their Teen Success Program. The scholarship is used to help defray costs associated with enrolling in a four-year college or university, community college or trade/vocational school. Teen Success is a highly successful education program for pregnant and parenting teen mothers ages 12-19 and their offspring. The goal of the program is to motivate teen mothers to maintain their family size during adolescence, complete high school or get their GED, develop mature communication and parenting skills and progress to post-secondary education so that they and their children can become economically self-sufficient.

Legal Services of Northern California will use the grant to fund its Tommy Clinkenbeard Legal Clinic. The Clinic is a cooperative project between the Sacramento Public Defender and Sacramento Loaves and Fishes. Volunteer attorneys helped homeless offenders obtain community service sentences in lieu of paying fines and Loaves and Fishes provided the opportunity for those people to complete their community service. In 2008, the project served over 4,000 people who completed more than 15,000 hours of community service.

Chicks in Crisis will use the grant for operational support and is committed to providing services such as housing, parenting skills, employment training, legal assistance and adoption services for women in crisis. Chicks in Crisis' goal is to give women the opportunity to develop life skills to achieve long-term self-sufficiency.

Diogenes, the bridge to the future for at-risk teens will use the grant to help its more than 400 at-risk youth who arrive at the facility on a yearly basis. Diogenes serves runaways escaping a dangerous environment, providing them temporary shelter, clothes, personal items, and basic life needs. Each teen has an average two-week stay and is introduced into the foster care or group home system. Diogenes is starting Project Dignity, which is designed to ensure that every youth leaving its facility receives a new duffel bag with some important necessities and a small gift to show them that someone cares. The cost is minimal, but the impact is huge.

# Announcements & Other News

## WLS Is Accepting & Publishing Readers' Announcements

Do you have an announcement that you would like to share with the WLS members? If so, please email Ellen Arabian-Lee at [ellen@gurneelaw.com](mailto:ellen@gurneelaw.com) and Susan Hill at [hill.law.office@gmail.com](mailto:hill.law.office@gmail.com). We will make an effort to print your announcement in a future edition of the WLS Newsletter (depending upon available space). The deadline to submit announcements is the 20th of each month. Please attach any digital photos or other art that you would like to share with your email.

### Career Opportunity

NEEDED: An experienced litigator with a command of Federal and State Discovery and Civil Procedures. We are a trial law firm with a number of high profile professional malpractice, predatory lending and business dispute cases. We seek a results oriented lawyer who loves the courtroom. Apply by sending a resume (with references) to:

[Kgoodman@goodman-law.com](mailto:Kgoodman@goodman-law.com).

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO VOTE!!!**  
Women Lawyers of Sacramento is electing its 2010 Board of Directors and WE NEED YOU TO VOTE! The ballot may be found on pages 12 –13 of this issue. THANK YOU!

# McDonough Holland & Allen PC and Sacramento Child Advocates

## suitcases for kids

- ◉ Sacramento Child Advocates currently represents more than 5000 children in Sacramento County
- ◉ In 2008, Sacramento Child Advocates opened—on average—200 new cases each month

### Purpose

- ◉ Foster care children often relocate, carting their possessions in plastic garbage bags because they cannot afford to purchase suitcases of their own
- ◉ *Suitcases for Kids* will collect and distribute new and gently used suitcases for these special children to provide them something to carry their personal belongings
- ◉ The average foster care child relocates seven times
- ◉ A suitcase gives a foster child a place to keep and carry his/her clothes, belongings, and other personal items and shows the child that someone cares

### Suitcase Guidelines

- ◉ New or gently used suitcases can be donated or purchased
- ◉ Suitcases must be clean and the latches/zippers should work properly
- ◉ Cash donations to purchase suitcases may be made to Sacramento Child Advocates



### Suitcases may be brought to

McDonough Holland & Allen PC, 500 Capitol Mall, 18th Floor, Sacramento 95814

Contact Jamie Errecart at 916.444.3900 or [jerrecart@mhalaw.com](mailto:jerrecart@mhalaw.com)  
for pick-up arrangements or other questions.

# UNITY BAR DINNER 2009

PRESERVING OUR LEGACY

Thursday, October 22, 2009

Unity Bar Association of Sacramento

An Association of the:

Wiley W. Manuel Bar Association  
La Raza Lawyers Association of Sacramento  
Sacramento Lawyers for the Equality of Gays and Lesbians

Women Lawyers of Sacramento  
South Asian Bar Association of Sacramento  
Asian/Pacific Bar Association of Sacramento

MASTER OF CEREMONIES  
JUDGE MORRISON C. ENGLAND, JR.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER  
KAMALA D. HARRIS, DISTRICT ATTORNEY



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA



SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE  
OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

Join Us in the Celebration of Unity, the Presentation of Law Student Scholarships, and the Honoring of Citizens of Our Community for Outstanding Service

ENTERTAINMENT PROVIDED BY SAXOPHONIST  
STABE WILSON

5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Registration, cocktails, silent auction  
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Dinner, awards presentations, and Keynote Speaker  
Doubletree Hotel Sacramento, 2001 Point West Way, Sacramento, CA 95815, (916) 929-8855

\*\*\*\*\* Detach here and return as instructed below \*\*\*\*\*

Purchase Tickets in Advance by Friday, October 16, 2009

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Dinner @ \$75.00 each = \_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ # of Seats to be Donated

Seating preferences: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Student @ \$40.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Group Table (10) @ \$750.00 = \_\_\_\*

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Student Group Table (10) @ \$400.00 = \_\_\_\*

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Please provide names of individuals to be seated at the table by calling the telephone no. below on or before October 16, 2009.

Make checks payable to "Unity Bar Association of Sacramento" and send to P.O. Box 1407, Davis, CA 95617  
Contact Information: Patricia Tsubokawa Reeves. e-mail: vtrees@sbcelocal.net; T: (530) 757-8490; F: (530) 757-8491



2010 BALLOT FOR WOMEN LAWYERS OF SACRAMENTO

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

INSTRUCTIONS: You may vote if you are a dues-paying member of WLS and you are (1) admitted to the practice of law in California or another state, (2) a law school professor in Yolo or Sacramento counties, or (3) an attorney retired from active practice. Law student and honorary members (non-dues-paying past presidents and judges) are not eligible to vote. WLS must receive ballots from at least 21 active members to establish a quorum.

Please provide your name at the top of the ballot so we can verify eligibility. Or, you may place your ballot in a sealed envelope with your name on the outside. Please mail your ballot to WLS Election, P.O. Box 936, Sacramento, CA 95812, or email it to patstur@sbcglobal.net. We will count ballots received before Friday, November 20, 2009.

Please check one of the following:

- Admitted Attorney – Paid Dues, Past President – Paid Dues, Judge – Paid Dues, Retired Attorney – Paid Dues, Law School Professor-Yolo/Sacramento- Paid Dues

To vote for the entire slate, check here: To vote for a particular nominee, please check the appropriate blank. To write in one or more candidates, please write the name(s) in the blanks provided.

Officers:

President: Jennifer Rouse Write-In: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice President: Jamie Errecart Write-In: \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary: Megan Lewis Write-In: \_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer: Christine Jacob Write-In: \_\_\_\_\_

Committees:

Career Advancement and Retention:

Co-Chairs: Peg Toledo Nina Santo Write-In: \_\_\_\_\_

Development:

Co-Chairs: Maralee MacDonald Dena Bez Write-In: \_\_\_\_\_

Theresa Stein Write-In: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice-Chairs: \_\_\_\_\_

Grants/Awards:

Co-Chairs: Amy Halloran Rebecca Dietzen Write-In: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice-Chair: Bhavani Murugesan Write-In: \_\_\_\_\_

Judicial/Other Appointments:

Co-Chairs: Jennifer Hartman King Colleen Truden Write-In: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice-Chair: Shama Mesiwala Write-In: \_\_\_\_\_

**Legislation/Bar Delegations:**

Co-Chairs: Maria Sanders   
Write-In: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice-Chairs: Amber Pearce   
Write-In: \_\_\_\_\_

Melissa Borelli   
Write-In: \_\_\_\_\_

Crystal Leas   
Write-In: \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership:**

Co-Chairs: M. Jane Pearce   
Write-In: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice-Chairs: \_\_\_\_\_

Kelly Pope   
Write-In: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Newsletter:**

Co-Chairs: Ellen Arabian-Lee   
Write-In: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice-Chair: Athena Roussos   
Write-In: \_\_\_\_\_

Susan Hill   
Write-In: \_\_\_\_\_

**Programs:**

Co-Chairs: Erin Weber   
Write-In: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice-Chairs: Kathryn Patterson   
Write-In: \_\_\_\_\_

Emily Haenselman   
Write-In: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Publicity/Community Relations:**

Co-Chairs: Angela Lai   
Write-In: \_\_\_\_\_

Vice-Chairs: \_\_\_\_\_

Sonia Fernandes   
Write-In: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Past President Liaison:** Karen Goodman



# Women Lawyers of Sacramento 2009 Membership Application

## APPLICANT INFORMATION

- Please do not include my information in the membership directory
- New Member (Referred by: \_\_\_\_\_)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ CA Bar Number \_\_\_\_\_ Year Admitted \_\_\_\_\_  
 Firm/Office \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

My mail from WLS should be addressed to:  the same as above  the following address:  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

## APPLICANT STATUS

**Active Member:** (Member of the CA/Other State Bar, including retired attorneys and law school faculty)

- \$55 0 - 5 years in practice/gross income under \$50,000
- \$65 - 5 to 10 years in practice
- \$75 - Over 10 years in practice

**Associate Member:**

- \$25 - Law school graduate not yet admitted to Bar
- \$25 - Law school student (Specify year: \_\_\_\_\_)

**Honorary Member:** (Justices, Judges, WLS Past Presidents)

- Dues waived

**Sponsorship Levels:**

- Sustaining Donor: (\$100 or more, includes dues)  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Foundation Donor: (for grants and scholarships)  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ (100% tax deductible)
- WLS General Donor: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## PRACTICE AREAS

Check all applicable areas of your practice that you wish to have listed in the annual membership directory:

- |                                                         |                                                                       |                                                    |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal Law                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Labor & Employment        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alternative Dispute Resolution | <input type="checkbox"/> Education                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal Research            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appellate                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Elder Law                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal Injury           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bankruptcy                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental/Natural Resources/<br>Land Use | <input type="checkbox"/> Probate / Estate Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business/Corporate             | <input type="checkbox"/> Family                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Liability    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Civil Litigation               | <input type="checkbox"/> General Practice                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Interest           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Civil Rights                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Government Affairs/Legislation               | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate               |
|                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Care                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Taxation                  |
|                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Intellectual Property                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____              |

## COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION

Check those WLS committees in which you are interested in participating or receiving more information:

- |                                                                    |                                                       |                                                                                           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Career, Advancement and Retention         | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislation & Bar Delegation | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity / Community Relations                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grants & Awards                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Programs                                                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Development (WLS Foundation)              | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter                   | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>WLS Mentor/Mentor Circle Leader</b> (Identified in Directory) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Judicial & Other Appointments Evaluations |                                                       |                                                                                           |

Please return completed application with check payable to: WLS Membership, P.O. Box 936, Sacramento, CA 95812

Questions? Please contact a Membership Committee Co-Chair at [wlsmembership@excite.com](mailto:wlsmembership@excite.com)



# Women Lawyers of Sacramento 2009 Prepaid Luncheon Application

## APPLICANT INFORMATION

- Prepay for 3 or More Luncheons

Please Indicate # of Luncheons: \_\_\_\_ . Please indicate # of Attendees: \_\_\_\_ .

- Prepay for Entire 2009 Luncheon Series - Buy 11 lunches, Get the 12<sup>th</sup> for Free

Please indicate # of Attendees: \_\_\_\_ .\*\*\*

\*\*\*2009 lunches will be \$25.00 for all prepaid members of WLS, Judges, and Past Presidents; \$30.00 for all others; \$15.00 for students. Prepaid lunches are non-refundable, however, they are transferable. In addition, lunches that are prepaid for the year 2009 can only be used during that year and cannot be forwarded to the year 2010. In addition, if purchasing an entire series of 12 lunches, months cannot be accumulated if unused. We encourage you to transfer any months that you cannot attend, or risk losing that month. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience this may cause and thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Name/Sponsor\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Firm/Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

\*If you or your organization will be sponsoring attendees, specific names need not be given now, but must be provided at the time of your reservation to attend the program.

## MEMBERSHIP STATUS

Indicate #

Indicate #

- \_\_\_\_\_ Active Member of WLS (Dues Prepaid or WLS Membership Application Attached)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Student (Law School or Otherwise)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Non-WLS Member

- \_\_\_\_\_ Honorary Member of WLS (Judge/Past President)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Non-WLS Member

Please return completed application with check payable to: WLS, Attention: Luncheons, P.O. Box 936, Sacramento, CA 95812

Questions? Please contact a Programs Committee Co-Chair at [www.womenlawyers-sacramento.org](http://www.womenlawyers-sacramento.org)

# WOMEN LAWYERS OF SACRAMENTO

**Mission Statement:** Women Lawyers of Sacramento supports and encourages every woman lawyer in her career aspirations and helps promote a society that places no limits on where a woman's skills and talent can take her. Women Lawyers of Sacramento dedicates itself to (1) promoting the full and equal participation of women lawyers and judges in the legal profession, (2) maintaining the integrity of our legal system by advocating principles of fairness and equal access to justice, (3) improving the status of women in our society and (4) advocating for equal rights, reproductive choice, equal opportunity and pay for women, and current social, political, economic, or legal issues of concern to the members of Women Lawyers of Sacramento.

**Foundation Mission Statement:** Women Lawyers of Sacramento Foundation is the charitable arm of Women Lawyers of Sacramento. This charitable organization seeks to address the unmet needs of women and children and raises funds to support legal educational opportunities and community programs that satisfy these needs.

**Principles:** Women Lawyers of Sacramento is premised on the belief that women deserve equal rights, respect and opportunities in the workplace and in society at large. Women Lawyers of Sacramento endeavors to support and enhance the participation and representation of women in significant leadership and management positions in the legal profession. Women Lawyers of Sacramento also strives to eliminate all forms of bias, discrimination, and harassment, including all forms of violence against women and children, and supports diversity in the legal profession, in legal education, and in society in general. We work toward these goals through mentoring, legislative and administrative advocacy, community service, networking, educational seminars, and open forums of discussion focused on advancing and supporting women.

## 2009 WLS BOARD

### **PRESIDENT**

Patricia Sturdevant  
Dept. of Managed Health Care  
patstur@sbcglobal.net

### **VICE PRESIDENT**

Jennifer S. Rouse  
Johnson Fort Meissner Joseph & Palley  
rouse@jfmlaw.com

### **SECRETARY**

Jamie M. Errecart  
McDonough Holland & Allen PC  
jerrecart@mhalaw.com

### **TREASURER**

Megan A. Lewis  
Wilke, Fleury, Hoffelt, Gould & Birney LLP  
mlewis@wilkefleury.com

### **CAREER ADVANCEMENT AND RETENTION**

Margaret Toledo  
[toledo@mqslaw.com](mailto:toledo@mqslaw.com)

Margaret Hastings  
Administrative Office of the Courts  
margarethastings@hotmail.com

### **DEVELOPMENT**

Maralee MacDonald  
Boutin Gibson  
mmacdonald@boutininc.com

Erin Weber  
Downey Brand  
eweber@downeybrand.com

### *Vice Chairs*

Jennifer Shaw Brown  
Shaw Valenza

### **GRANTS & AWARDS**

Christine E. Jacob  
Hansen Kohls Jones Sommer & Jacob, LLP  
cjacob@hansenkohls.com

Amal Abu-Rahma  
Dept. of Managed Health Care  
aaburahma@dmhc.ca.gov

### *Vice Chairs*

Bhavani Murugesan  
McDonald Holland & Allen

Melissa Borelli  
Hanson Bridgett

### **JUDICIAL & OTHER APPOINTMENTS**

Tamara Dahn  
tdahn@att.net

Colleen Truden  
UOP-McGeorge School of Law  
ctruden@pacific.edu

### *Vice Chairs*

Shama Mesiwala  
Court of Appeals, 3rd Appellate Dist.

Candace Jackman

**JUDICIAL LIAISON**  
Justice Kathleen Butz  
3rd Dist. Ct. of Appeals

### **LEGISLATION & BAR DELEGATION**

Christine McKenzie  
Jacobsen & McElroy  
cmckenzie@jacobsenmcelroy.com

Jessica Snyder  
Secretary of State  
jsnyder@sos.ca.gov

*Vice Chairs*  
Amber Pearce

Sharon Simms  
Department of Public Health

### **MEMBERSHIP**

M. Jane Pearce  
MjPearce@aol.com

Merswind Reyer  
Resources Law Group  
mreyer@resourceslawgroup.com

### **NEWSLETTER**

Ellen C. Arabian-Lee  
Gurnee & Daniels LLP  
ellen@gurneelaw.com

Susan C. Hill  
Hill Law Office  
Hill.Law.Office@gmail.com

*Vice Chair*  
Athena Roussos

### **PROGRAMS**

Angela M. Lai  
Dept. of Managed Health Care  
alai@dmhc.ca.gov

Meredith A. Felde  
McDonough Holland & Allen PC  
mfelde@mhalaw.com

### **PUBLICITY/COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

Dena Bez  
Bez Law Firm  
dena@bezlawfirm.com

Sonia Fernandes  
Department of Managed Health Care  
sfernandes@dmhc.ca.gov

*Vice Chairs*  
Suzanne Chammout  
Department of Managed Health Care

Catherine Ewing  
Department of Public Health

Gayle Kono  
Law Office of Kenneth Goates

### **PAST PRESIDENT**

Joan Jernegan  
Sacramento County Superior Court

P.O. Box 936

Sacramento, CA 95812

[www.womenlawyers-sacramento.org](http://www.womenlawyers-sacramento.org)