



WOMEN LAWYERS OF SACRAMENTO

March 2017 Newsletter

P.O. Box 936 • Sacramento, CA 95812
www.womenlawyers-acramento.org

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President's Corner

By: *Sonia Fernandes*



In honor of Women's History Month, I would like to briefly highlight two local trailblazers – the Honorable Frances Newell Carr (1923-1992), and Virginia Mueller (1924-2016). Both women have contributed significantly to the advancement of women in the legal profession, and the formation and success of Women Lawyers of Sacramento (WLS), which celebrates its 55th year.

The daughter of migrant farm workers, Justice Carr decided to become a lawyer because “all the important men were always lawyers.” She worked her way through college and law school, graduating from Boalt Hall School of Law in 1948. Justice Carr was a founding member and the first president of WLS. In 1975, she became the first woman appointed to the Sacramento County Superior Court. Five years later, she was elevated to the Court of Appeal, Third Appellate District, where she served until her passing.

Notably, WLS's most prestigious award is the Frances Newell Carr Achievement Award, an annual award given by WLS to an outstanding lawyer, judge, or scholar in the Sacramento community in celebration of the awardee's professional achievements, commitment to furthering legal opportunities for women in the law, and contribution to the lives of women and children in our community. WLS also awards a student scholarship in honor of Justice Carr. The Frances Newell Carr Scholarship is awarded to a financially needy first or second year law student with an outstanding academic record. Special consideration is given to candidates who have overcome personal adversity.

Virginia Mueller practiced law for over half a century, having become a member of the California Bar upon graduation from Cornell University Law School in 1946. In 1959, she was hired as the first woman Deputy in the

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**Join Us At This
Month's Luncheon**

**Your Jury Trial:
What You Don't
Know Can Hurt You**

Featuring Dr. Dana Meeks

March 23, 2017

Lucca Restaurant



WOMEN LAWYERS OF SACRAMENTO

March Luncheon:

Your Jury Trial: What You Don't Know Can Hurt You

Featuring Dr. Dana Meeks



Come join us to learn about jury psychology and bias, pre-trial preparation, tips and tools for jury selection and trial. Dr. Dana Meeks, PsyD is a Psychologist and Jury Consultant who has been providing a strategic advantage to attorneys for over 15 years. Her passion is using a scientific and research-driven approach to provide valid and reliable information to litigation attorneys that informs their decisions regarding jury selection, case strategy and demonstration of evidence.

WHEN: March 23, 2017

WHERE: Lucca Restaurant and Bar, 1615 J Street, Sacramento, CA

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

MENU: Patchwork Salad with Chicken, Stuffed Sweet Peppers, Spicy Penne with Sausage or Roast Beef Sandwich. **Each menu item comes with choice of soda or iced tea.**

COST: \$30.00 for current WLS members, past presidents of WLS, and judges; \$35.00 for all others, except law students, whose cost is \$25.00. Without advance reservation, it may not be possible to get the entrée of your choice.

RSVP with menu choice online at www.womenlawyers-sacramento.org (please use the Note function to identify name of attendee and menu choice) **or with confirmation of mailed check to Kelly Babineau at kbabineau@klblawoffice.net.** Please mail your check, payable to WLS, with menu choice **for receipt by March 22, 2017** to WLS, Attn: Luncheon, P.O. Box 936, Sacramento, CA 95814. **Please indicate if you are a current WLS member, past president, or judge on the check.** WLS is charged for cancellations. Payments must be received in advance and are not refundable. Seating at the door is subject to availability.

This Program qualifies for MCLE credits.

Please bring any unused toiletries and women's personal items to the luncheon for donation to Maryhouse, a non-profit organization that helps homeless women and children.

February 2017 WLS Luncheon Highlights

*By: Kelly Babineau, Co-Chair of the Programs Committee and
Alexandra Kamel, Vice Chair of the Programs Committee*

Alana Mathews, Public Adviser for the California Energy Commission, gave an inspiring and lively speech during the February luncheon, which was co-hosted by the Wiley W. Manual Bar Association. Ms. Mathews adapted the book and movie, *Hidden Figures*, into a guide for charting a new course for your career, using her own career to illustrate that application.

Hidden Figures is the story of three brilliant African-American women working at NASA as mathematicians and engineers, who served as the “human computers” that made it possible to launch astronaut John Glenn into orbit. The three women that are the subject of *Hidden Figures*, Katherine G. Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan and Mary Jackson, overcame various obstacles, challenged social norms, charted courses for their careers and, ultimately, paved the way for the women and minorities that followed them.

Ms. Mathew’s discussion began with Dorothy Vaughan. Ms. Vaughan was the first African-American woman to supervise a staff at Langley Research Center in Langley, Virginia. During her career, computing developments from IBM threatened her job and could have replaced her and her subordinates. Ms. Vaughan converted this threat into an opportunity to make herself indispensable. Rather than wait for the day that she would no longer be needed, she taught herself a computer programming language. She also taught it to the rest of her staff and made them all indispensable to NASA.

Ms. Mathew’s used Ms. Vaughan’s story to illustrate the first step in charting a new course for your career: to look at the trajectory in your current role. Ms. Mathews engaged in this step after about ten years as a Deputy District Attorney. She looked at the trajectory of her role and

decided it was time to make a change. Even though she had personal and financial concerns, she changed careers and broke into a new sector.

Next, Ms. Mathews told the story of Mary Jackson. Ms. Mathews described Ms. Jackson as a firecracker. She spent two years working with NASA as a human computer under the supervision of Ms. Vaughan and gained hands on experience with engineering. She wanted formal engineering training. However, these courses were offered at a segregated, all-white high school and Ms. Jackson was barred from attending. She had to petition the city to allow her to attend the courses. Although she was initially met with fierce resistance, she ultimately prevailed and was allowed to attend the engineering classes she needed to advance her career. As a result, Ms. Jackson became NASA’s first black female engineer.



Luncheon presenter Alana Matthews and WLS President Sonia Fernandes

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2017 Conference of California Bar Associations

By: Lauren Foust Sorokolit, Legislation & Bar Delegation Committee

The Conference of California Bar Associations (CCBA) was formed as an independent 501(c)(6) non-profit corporation in 2002. It is the successor organization to the State Bar Conference of Delegates. The original State Bar Conference of Delegates, and its successor organization, CCBA, combined, have more than a 70-year history. Participation is open to all local, minority, statewide, and specialty voluntary bar associations in California. CCBA employs a lobbyist, Larry Doyle, in Sacramento to implement its legislative program. The CCBA is funded entirely by voluntary contributions; no State Bar mandatory dues are used in its operations. The following website provides information regarding CCBA's programs: www.calconference.org.

The CCBA provides a unique forum for California lawyers to work together in a common effort to address issues of importance and provide leadership in improving the law. The yearlong process has historically begun right after the fall State Bar meeting and culminated in a three-day Conference at the State Bar Annual Meeting the following year. In 2017, the Conference will be from October 6–October 8, in Sacramento; however, due to cancellation of the State Bar Annual Meeting, it will be held independently of this event.

The process begins with members of each bar association, with the assistance and guidance of the legal community the bar association represents, drafting resolutions for legislation that the bar association would like to see become the law. The deadlines for submission of resolutions and for bar associations to register to participate in the conference are reflected in the CCBA calendar along with other deadlines.

Once the process of creating, editing, and voting on proposed resolutions within each of the bar associations is completed, representatives from

each bar association called “delegates” come together for an annual meeting to vote on all of the resolutions. The CCBA meets at the Conference of Delegates, which is typically held in September and/or October of each year. The delegates draft, analyze, lobby and vote on an average of slightly more than 100 resolutions.

Proposed resolutions cover a wide range of issues. The only limit is whether a resolution is germane to the practice and administration of the law. A resolution is germane if it concerns the legal profession and the people of the State of California and is designed to promote: the improvement of the administration of justice, the education of the profession and the public concerning the justice system and laws, the science of jurisprudence, professional excellence, or respect for the law.

Women Lawyers of Sacramento will participate in this process and encourages and supports members who are interested in doing the same. This year, Lauren Foust Sorokolit, Julia Blair, and Roxanne Strohmeier make up the Committee and plan to attend the CCBA Conference as WLS Delegates. Prior to the Conference, the Committee will review all 2017 proposed resolutions and make recommendations to the Board on whether to support any of these resolutions. Typically, WLS Delegates support resolutions that are in line with the WLS Mission Statement.



If you would like to assist with this process by reviewing and sharing your position on this year's proposed resolutions, please contact Committee Co-Chair Lauren Foust Sorokolit at Lauren.Sorokolit@molinahealthcare.com or Roxanne Strohmeier at RStrohmeier@ucdavis.edu.

President's Corner, continued from page 1

Sacramento County District Attorney's Office. Virginia Mueller was also a founding member of WLS and served as its second president. Through her leadership positions in WLS, the National Association of Women Lawyers and many other organizations, Ms. Mueller vigorously worked to end all forms of discrimination against women.

In 1997, WLS established a scholarship in honor of Virginia Mueller, which is available to third year (fourth year evening) students studying for the bar examination. Special consideration is given to candidates who have worked to expand opportunities for historically disadvantaged persons.

I also would like to congratulate the Career Advancement and Retention Committee for organizing a fantastic Brown Bag Luncheon last month, and thank Cami McLaren for speaking to our group on the topic of self-maintenance.

I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events including the WLS Member Reception on March 14 at 5:30 p.m., at Hot Italian in Midtown, and the March 23 luncheon at Lucca, featuring Dr. Dana Meeks, a Psychologist and Jury Consultant.

February Luncheon Highlights, continued from page 3

Through Ms. Jackson's story, Ms. Mathews illustrated the second step in charting a new course for your career: to chart a course of action and strategy. After Governor Jerry Brown appointed her to the California Energy Commission to serve as Public Advisor, Ms. Mathews engaged in this step. She wanted to broaden her responsibilities and develop areas of expertise in an unprecedented way. Ms. Mathews pitched her idea for her amplified role and ultimately gained the ability to do so by offering to take on more responsibilities without demanding increased compensation.

Last, Ms. Mathews shared Katherine G. Johnson's story. Ms. Mathews described Ms. Johnson as curious and brilliant. She graduated high school and college at the age of fourteen and eighteen, respectively. She began working with NASA as a human computer in Ms. Vaughan's division but was later transferred to a division that was staffed exclusively by male engineers. She was not allowed to attend her division meetings because she was female. Not surprisingly, she wanted to attend those meetings and inquired why she was not able to do so. She was

simply told that women do not attend the meetings. Ms. Johnson argued that there was no law against it, continually challenging the established norms, and persisted until she was allowed to join the meetings.

Ms. Johnson illustrated Ms. Mathews' third step in charting a new course for your career: to speak up to overcome blind spots. Ms. Mathews shared that blind spots are roadblocks that are not necessarily intentional. Rather, they are the product of a lack of information or perspective. In 2016, Ms. Mathews led a study. As part of the study, she wanted to host workshops and provide dinner and childcare to the public in attendance. This idea was originally rejected because state funds could not be spent on food and childcare. Ms. Mathews found another way to fund her study. She reached out to private organizations and obtained the funding she needed so that she could offer the services necessary to make her innovative study a success.

WLS is deeply grateful to Ms. Mathews for sharing her time and insight. Those in attendance were uplifted, inspired, and empowered by her presentation.

Announcements & Other News



On February 17, 2017, Carmen-Nicole Cox was appointed Chief of Legislative Affairs for Administration at the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation by Governor Brown. She was sworn into her new position soon after and is excited to support Governor Brown's continued efforts to reform California's criminal justice system. Carmen previously served as a Deputy Legal Affairs Secretary in the Office of Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. Prior to joining the Brown administration, she worked as a civil litigator in two of the region's top law firms, Downey Brand LLP and Weintraub Tobin Chediak Coleman Grobin Law Corporation. Carmen demonstrates her commitment to the advancement of women and minorities in the legal profession by her service on Executive Boards for Women Lawyers of Sacramento, Wiley Manuel Bar Association, and Operation Protect and Defend.

The Career Advancement and Retention Committee was pleased to welcome back certified Performance Coach Cami McLaren at our first Brown Bag Lunch, on February 28, 2017, at Nossaman LLP. Cami spoke and coached on "The Case for Self-Maintenance," giving all those in attendance tools, action plans, and accountability measures to become more effective, efficient, and happy in the practice of law. For more information about McLaren Coaching, visit www.mclarencoaching.com.



CAR's next event will be our Annual Speed Networking Event, to be held in May. Stay tuned for details!

You are invited to the
Women Lawyers of Sacramento
New Member Reception
March 14, 2017



Please join us at Hot Italian, located at
1627 16th Street, Sacramento, CA on
March 14th at 5:30pm.

This is a great opportunity to meet our new members
and mingle with familiar faces. The invitation is open to
returning, new, and prospective WLS members.

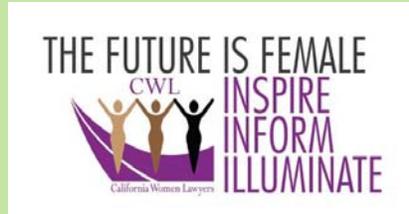
Appetizers and a drink ticket will be provided!

Please RSVP by March 7th to
wls2017membermixer.eventbrite.com.

Announcements continued...

SUN, FUN AND MCLE!

California Women Lawyers 2017 Annual Conference



April 7, 2017

8:30 AM to 5:00 PM

Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina
333 West Harbor Drive
San Diego, California

Register now at: <http://www.cwl.org/events/2017-annual-conference-122/details?dnh=true>

**ARE YOU A MEMBER
OF WLS?**

**HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR WLS
MEMBERSHIP?**

Please remember to return your membership application/renewal form (located at the end of this newsletter) and payment to WLS. Please consider adding the California Women Lawyers membership at a discounted rate in addition to your WLS membership.

SAVE THE DATE

2017 WLS Luncheon Schedule

**Location: Lucca Restaurant and Bar
1615 J Street, Sacramento, California**

- April 27
- May 25
- September 28
- October 26
- November 16
- December 15



Note: The WLS luncheon series *may* take a summer break in June, July and August. Check the upcoming WLS Newsletters for further details!

Announcements Continued...



THE FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION

QUI TAM SECTION

Presents

THE FALSE CLAIMS ACT TODAY

This CLE, hosted by the FBA Qui Tam Section and with support from the FBA Sacramento Chapter, will provide a general overview of the FCA, a discussion of relevant Supreme Court cases, practice tips, recent developments in the Ninth Circuit, and a panel discussion to provide diverse perspectives on FCA practice.

Featuring:

Colleen Kennedy
Assistant US Attorney
ACE Coordinator, Eastern District of CA
Representing the US Attorney's Office

Brooks Cutter
Cutter Law PC
Representing Relator's Counsel

Blanca Fromm Young
Munger Tolles & Olson LLP
Representing FCA Defense Counsel

R. Scott Oswald
The Employment Law Group
Moderator

Honorable Kimberly J. Mueller
Judge
U.S District Court for the Eastern District of California

May 15, 2017
11:30 AM- 2:00 PM
Robert T. Matsui Federal Courthouse
501 I St.
Sacramento, CA 95814

Lunch will be provided.

\$15 for FBA Members, \$20 for Non-FBA Members and Gov't Employees, \$10 for Judicial Law Clerks and Law Students

Please Register Online at <http://www.fedbar.org/fcasacramento.aspx>

Announcements Continued...

What Have You Been Doing All Day?

Learn to Manage Time for Greater Results

April 26, 2017 (Wednesday) 9am - 11am

Presented by Cami McClaren

So many busy professionals get to the end of their workday and ask themselves “What did I accomplish today?” They know that they’ve been running, but they don’t feel they have achieved anything. Do you ever have this experience?

Often we feel ineffective and out of balance. This workshop will teach you ways to be intentional in managing your time, your tasks and your energy - in a way that feels better and produces the results you say you want.

We will introduce you to a “paradigm shift” – a different and more effective way of viewing time and time management — and offer you specific changes that can be implemented right away to improve the way you use your time, ease stress and increase productivity.

Hansen, Kohls, Sommer & Jacob, LLP is a boutique 8-attorney law firm looking to immediately add another litigation associate attorney at our main office in Roseville.

Our largest practice areas are professional malpractice defense, insurance bad faith and business litigation. This position requires a person with excellent verbal and written communication skills, confidence, poise and the ability to think creatively. A minimum of three to five years’ civil litigation experience is required. Our salaries are very competitive and we offer a great working environment. Contact Jennifer Durda, Administrator, via email at jdurda@hansenkohls.com.

Join us and learn:

- Prioritization
- Urgent vs. Non-Urgent Tasks
- Tools to Use for immediate changes

\$85/person

Take \$5.00/person if 2 or more from same company

Sign up now! Don't let time get in your way. <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/mclaren-coaching-3074191754>

TESTIMONIAL

I attended the workshop on time management and it changed the way that I work. I learned to block my time, schedule time to read emails, and I now have more time to get my work done (or at least it feels like I have more time). I also sent my assistant to the same workshop. When she returned from the workshop, she said “we need to change things around here so that you and I can be more productive.” Now, our office has now instituted a designated time for questions so that they don’t interrupt our work time, we are purposeful about when we schedule certain meetings, and set aside time to get work done.

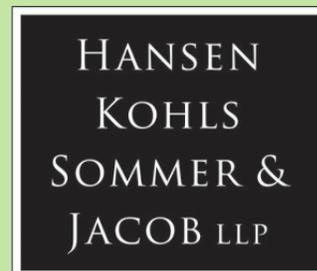
– Alexandria Goff, The Law Office of Alexandria Goff

Hansen, Kohls, Sommer & Jacob, LLP

1520 Eureka Road, Suite 100

Roseville, CA 95661

Position: Associate Attorney

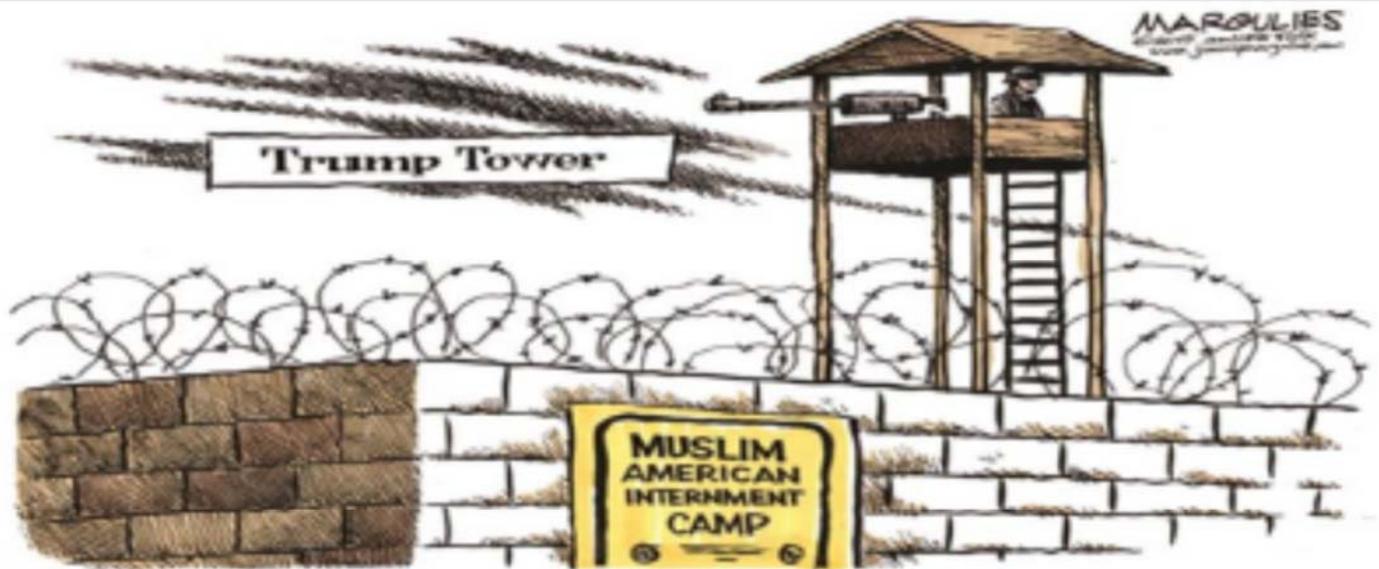


Please include a current résumé and writing sample in your reply.
(To learn more about our firm, visit our website at www.hansenkohls.com.)

OPERATION PROTECT & DEFEND MODERN MASTERS OF AMERICA FINE ART CONTEST

March 31, 2017 5:30pm-7:30pm

Sol Collective Arts and Cultural Center | 2574 21st Street



The 75th Anniversary of Executive Order 9066: Civil Liberties v. National Security:

Through original works of art (painting, drawing, sculpture, performance art), students will express lessons they learned from the unconstitutional relocation and detention of Japanese-Americans.



For more information contact:

Carmen-Nicole Cox, Esq. carmennicolecox@gmail.com (916)308-4650 or
Emily Patterson, Esq. emily.patterson@calawyersforthearts.org (916)441-7979

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.

2017 WLS BOARD

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2017 WLS Board Liaisons

Judicial Liaison: Justice Andrea Hoch,
Third District Court of Appeals

Past-President Liaison: Megan Rowe,
Daponde, Szabo Rowe PC
mrowe@dsrhealthlaw.com



2017 Membership Application

January 1, 2017- December 31, 2017

(If you join on or after October 1, 2016, you will get the remainder of 2016 FREE)

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Please do not include my information in the membership directory

New Member (Referred by: _____)

Renewal

Name _____ CA Bar Number _____ Year Admitted _____

Firm/Office _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Area(s) of Practice _____

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: 6-10 years in practice

\$75: Over 10 years in practice

\$100 or more: sustaining donor

\$1500 or more: lifetime membership

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

Dues Waived

Add-ons:

\$85 : California Women Lawyers dues (WLS Affiliate price)

CWL Law School Student Complimentary

Associate Member:

\$25: Law school graduate not yet admitted to Bar

FREE Law school student (Specify year: _____)

\$____: Foundation donor (tax deductible)

\$____ TOTAL enclosed by check payable to WLS. Please return to **WLS Membership, P.O. Box 936, Sacramento, CA 95812**

COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION

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

Career Advancement & Retention

Grants & Awards

Development (WLS Foundation)

Legislation & Bar Delegation

Membership

Newsletter

Publicity/Community Relations

Programs

Judicial & Other Appointments

Questions? Please contact Membership Committee Co-Chairs

Alanna Lungren at alungren@kingwilliamslaw.com or Amy O'Neill at aoneill@boutinjones.com