



# Inter Alia

SAN JOAQUIN COLLEGE OF LAW • Volume 29, Issue 4



NEWLY INDUCTED SJCL ALUMNI HALL OF FAME MEMBERS (L-R): **Rayma Church** (Law '91) and **Judge Brian Alvarez** (Law '95)

## Judge Brian Alvarez, Rayma Church, and Michelle Green join SJCL's Hall of Fame

**T**he 2018 additions to the San Joaquin College of Law Alumni Hall of Fame at the Federal Courthouse on September 13th enjoy diverse backgrounds and success in completely different fields.

Honorable Houry Sanderson (Law '87 and Hall of Fame member), who introduced each honoree, made the point that the founders of the Law School were visionaries who faced a lot of naysayers 49

years ago, but still succeeded against the odds. That persistent determination demonstrated by each of the new inductees.

Honorable Brian Alvarez (Law '95) recalls he had just graduated from Fresno State when he was recalled to active duty with the U.S. Air Force for Operation Desert Storm. When he returned, he took a job in the Bureau of Investigation for the Fresno County District Attorney's Office by day, while attending SJCL at night.

Judge Alvarez says his wife, Teresa, was a "law school widow" during that time, including giving birth to his daughter, Jessica, on the first day of law school.

It was during that busy time he met Judge Sanderson, who was working as a Deputy D.A. at the time.

She remembers he was always the one who could deliver what she needed for court. He was the "go to" guy.

SEE **HALL OF FAME** PAGE 17

# Fifty Years

SAN JOAQUIN COLLEGE OF LAW'S  
50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION  
BEGINS JANUARY 2019

1969-2019



Janice Pearson  
*Dean  
San Joaquin College of Law*

On November 28, 1969 Articles of Incorporation were filed with the State of California to create San Joaquin College of Law, a non-profit law school in Central California. The founders – Judge Dan Eymann, John Loomis, Esq., and Judge Oliver Wanger - wanted to ensure that residents of the San Joaquin Valley had a meaningful and quality opportunity to follow their dreams in law. They started with \$200 and an abundance of commitment and energy. The hard work of Faculty, Board, Staff, and Students has continued to build on the founders' vision. SJCL graduates show they created an incredible success.

Over 1,600 individuals have graduated from SJCL. They represent 33% of the practicing lawyers in Fresno County in

2018. SJCL graduates are 37.5% of women lawyers and 39% of Hispanic lawyers. SJCL graduates shine in leadership capacities and practice in every area of law, from judges to transactional counsel from dynamic trial attorneys to in-house counsel.

It is time to celebrate and reconnect!

Although the celebration will last yearlong, SJCL plans two major events in 2019. There is no charge for either of these events.

Look for the 50th Anniversary logo on banners, flags, letterhead, and swag through the year.

All of us at SJCL would really like to see many, many SJCL graduates again and hear of their accomplishments. Please plan on visiting us and your memories at one of these events.

## 50TH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

### Family Picnic

Saturday, May 11, 2019 • 11AM - 3PM  
Clovis Memorial Park

At this Family Picnic In the Park, food, games, and reunion are planned. Since May 12th is Mother's Day, there will be a special tribute to all the mothers and spouses who supported their law students during law school, as well as the mothers who attended law school, some of whom even became mothers while in law school.

### Anniversary Reception

Friday, October 18, 2019 • 4pm - 10pm  
San Joaquin College of Law

School history and pictures of every era and every class from 1974 to 2019 will be on display throughout SJCL. You can count on food, music, laughter, and reminiscing with special appearances by notable faculty, board, and staff.

# Inter Alia

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## Get Social with SJCL



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**Vision:** *To be the premier provider of legal education, scholarship, and service in the San Joaquin Valley.*  
**Mission:** *To educate and develop individuals to become highly skilled attorneys and problem solvers who will benefit their communities through public and private service. In seeking this vision and attaining this mission, SJCL shall embody the values of civility, excellence, integrity, intellectual inquiry, and service.*

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# Focus on the Law

Alumni Perspectives on Practice

## The Green Rush – Navigating the Legal Opportunities of Cannabis

The Wild West. The New Frontier. The Green Rush. After a 46-year attempt at the legalization of cannabis in California commencing with Proposition 19 in 1972, the state opened its doors for the legal commercial operation and use of recreational and medical cannabis on January 1st, 2018.

BY COURTNEY CARON, CLASS OF 2007

This monumental shift of the law created an entire industry filled with employment and business opportunities, but also initiated confusion of mass proportion. Now, nearly one-year after legalization, the State of California still has not released a final version of the State's cannabis regulations. To further complicate matters, every incorporated city and county (overseeing unincorporated territories) are individually responsible to draft regulations pertaining to their specific jurisdiction-

tions. Less than half of local jurisdictions have even begun this process. In addition, licensing for cannabis-related operations is vast. The areas of Retail Sales, Delivery, Manufacturing, Distribution, Transportation, Cultivation and Testing of cannabis all require extensive licensing.

So, how does one tap legally into this growing green rush? In general, the cities and counties allowing commercial and/or medical cannabis activity must first prepare an ordinance, followed by a license application. Through the application process, interested parties are given the opportunity to apply for a state license. While simplistic in nature, this process is anything but simple. Each jurisdiction's application can require vastly different information and the locality can cap the number of licenses offered, making the process extremely competitive. Tax rates, zoning, sensitive receptor buffers, operating hours, signage, and incorporation of social equity, for example, can all differ.

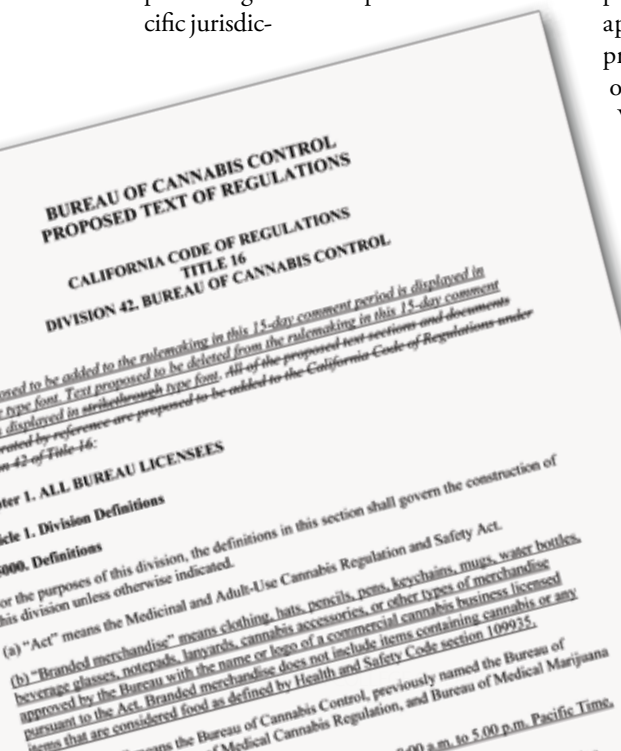
For lawyers, the cannabis industry offers a brand new and developing area of law, the opportunity to be involved on the ground level in shaping the

industry statewide, and a plethora of clients in desperate need of legal services.

My introduction to the industry began several years ago, when a family friend asked for assistance in interpreting some regulations in Los Angeles related to a medical marijuana cooperative. This project piqued my interest in the legalization movement, which at the time was in full swing. Thus, Adamant Law Group, PC was formed.

While undoubtedly there is a perception that cannabis business owners are "pot-heads" or "stoners" and therefore difficult to deal with, I have found this to be a myth. The majority of my clients are business-oriented individuals, with a variety of educational backgrounds and experience, all eager to understand and comply with the regulations put forth both locally and statewide.

The greatest challenge I've encountered, hands down, is providing up to date analysis of the shifting law. Earlier this year, I spent several days interpreting the second published draft of the California cannabis regulations. Following my review, I drafted an individual memorandum to each client, explaining how the new changes affected their particular businesses. No sooner had





**Courtney Caron** (Law '07) meets with one of her many cannabis clients.

I emailed out the memos, did the state release yet another version of the regulations, vastly different than the prior. Additionally, while legal in California, cannabis use and sales (as well as other streams of cannabis commerce) remain unlawful under current United States' Federal laws, as it is still deemed a Schedule 1 drug.

Cannabis industry lawyers have a multitude of opportunities when developing practice areas. Adamant Law Group, PC (and many other competing practices) offers business development consulting, application drafting, regulatory and business compliance, site selection assessment and sensitive use buffers, and post-licensure compliance. Of these areas, I find Application Drafting to be the most exciting and creative. During the application drafting phase, I perform a thorough review of the local ordinance, followed by an in-depth analysis of the application and respective scoring criteria. Applications generally require: a Cover Letter; Standard Operating Procedures (records, track-and-trace, employee training, online ordering, customer education, waste management,

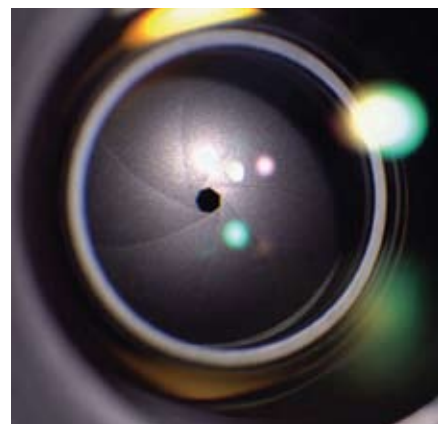
odor control, state testing, environmental precautions, etc.); Business and Financial Plans; Product Offering Plans; Neighborhood Compatibility and Enhancement Plan; Community Benefit Plan; Premises Diagram; Security Plan; Design Concept Plans; Qualifications of Owners.

I have really enjoyed working with clients on creating a Community Benefit Plan specifically designed to support non-profit organizations and civic programs local to the designated application territory.

A unique issue to the field is cash management. As commercial cannabis businesses are not federally recognized, there is concern among the industry that cash received and processed through financial institutions backed by the Federal Government increase the risk of federal governmental interference. Thus, the lack of methods to process and safely store cash continue to plague all those involved in the industry.

Whether an attorney is interested in criminal law, civil litigation, or transactional law, the cannabis industry certainly is providing plenty of opportunities. I have

no doubt that with time, the industry will continue to improve and provide economic opportunities within the state.



Have a perspective you would like to share on your practice?

Please contact Diane Skouti at [dskouti@sjcl.edu](mailto:dskouti@sjcl.edu) or 559/326-1463



# One Cantaloupe and One Client at a Time The Law Office of Darryl B. Freedman, Inc.

BY DIANE SKOUTI, ALUMNI LIAISON

Before opening the wildly successful Law Office of Darryl Freedman in 1994, the sole attorney proprietor was in the grocery game. His focus then, as it is now, was a sincere concern for his clients' needs. Whether finding a perfect cantaloupe, or fair settlement for a personal injury accident, his commitment has always been to provide excellent service.

**A**fter spending some 14 years as a checkout clerk, Darryl decided to act on his interest in law. During his student years at SJCL Darryl maintained his unrelenting work ethic by working the graveyard shift from 7pm to 4am each night.

With a strong sense of commitment to his native Central Valley, Darryl's focus on service has grown exponentially through the years. He brought his personal mantra: "one client at a time," from the grocery store to his law practice, and it remains the firm's collective motto today.

Like Darryl, all four of the attorneys (all SJCL alumni) who have since joined the Freedman firm share that ethic, having worked their way through law school as well. One was a paralegal, one in business administration/IT, one with UPS, and one as a ski racing coach, "and they each go above and beyond in their efforts to serve our clients," Darryl said.

"That says a lot about us," he mused from his seat at a beautiful granite conference table. "Our clients know we truly care about their welfare, and we do a damn good job of trying to please them."

Darryl's unique success in personal injury law has blossomed from its one-man foundation to a local firm that employs 30, including attorneys, litigation clerks, case managers, legal secretaries, and investigators. So intense, in fact, is the firm's focus on community, they employ a full-time staff member just to manage their community service activities.

"The beauty (of our success) is giving back," Darryl says. "We've all gone the extra mile at the client level, and the community level as a whole. We have truly been blessed (in our work)."

Darryl says he didn't set out to hire only attorneys from his alma mater. He describes the melding of each fellow grad into the fold as an organic coincidence. "They were all a great fit," he said. "We all put in the extra time for our clients. Everyone here has been an integral part of (the) success."

Michael Landers (Law '15) described the group's cohesion as a sort of secret sauce. "The commitment (among the attorneys) to helping clients is to such a degree that the rest takes care of itself," he said.



(L-R): **Mark Busick** (Law '87), **Jesse Fretwell** (Law '10), **Darryl Freedman** (Law '93), **Jim Reynolds** (Law '10), and **Michael Landers** (Law '15)

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Each of the smartly suited grads seated at the table were quick to point out they didn't begin their careers as super-star students, with the exception of class valedictorian Jesse Fretwell (Law '10), who is continually labeled by his colleagues as the smartest guy in the room.

Jim Reynolds (Law '10) worked as a paralegal for many years before earning his J.D. at SJCL. "There was nothing exceptional about me when I enrolled in law school," he said. "Unlike Jesse (Fretwell), I was just an average guy attempting law school. Dean Pearson always encouraged me. She shows everyone the same respect and builds your confidence in a way that makes you feel like you are the only student there. She's just an incredible lady," he added.

Darryl too, attributed Jan's encouragement to his success in law school. "I'm a flow chart kind of guy," he said. "I'd meet with Jan in her office with all my charts and diagrams as I tried to understand the concepts. I always knew she was there rooting for me. She is my most cherished memory of law school."

"I don't think any of us (besides maybe Jesse!) would have been here, if not for Jan," Darryl added.

Michael said his fond SJCL memories include the repartee between Professors Cartier and Artenian. "The back and forth between them was fun," he said.



(L-R): **Michael Landers** (Law '15), **Jesse Fretwell** (Law '10), and **Jim Reynolds** (Law '10) reminisce about their time in law school.

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Jesse added "Artenian told us as new law students that we were no longer part of the normal people, that we should think of ourselves as being on the side now, over here!" he said gesturing toward the corner of the room.

The culture of support and mutual respect at SJCL is unique," Jim said. "It's not a school where you rip pages out of books (to sabotage fellow classmates). You treat people well. We can all succeed, we help one another all do well."

"We get calls from other attorneys who comment on how pleasant it is to work with our firm," Darryl said. "It's hard to find that in business, and really, in life."

Mark Busick (Law '87) is the most recent attorney to join the firm. He has worked for 30 years as a litigation attorney with a diverse legal background. After completing his first few months at Freedman, he says he loves the collaborative environment. "You're never alone or on your own when there's a question," he said.

Jim added that putting in the time to do great work is easy when your environment includes people you trust and feel comfortable with. "You never have to suffer in silence," he said. Which is great advice for law students, too. Ask for help, talk to somebody about your questions. It's the very best way to be successful."



**Amy Guerra** (Law '07) is sworn in as a Fresno County Superior Court Judge by the **Honorable Rosendo Peña Jr.**, Associate Justice, Fifth District Court of Appeal, on November 30th.

## Guerra Becomes 50th SJCL Bench Officer

Governor Jerry Brown has announced the appointment of Amy Guerra (Law '07) to the Fresno County Superior Court. She becomes the 21st SJCL Alumni Superior Court Judge, and the 50th SJCL Bench Officer.

**A**t first glance, Guerra has a classic, accomplished resume as an attorney. She has spent the last eleven years at Alternate Defense Office at Richard Ciummo and Associates, serving as Chief Defense Attorney for the past four of those years. Guerra interned for the County of Fresno Public Defender's Office, and the Patience Milrod Law Office before opening her own practice. Prior to her graduation from San Joaquin College of Law, she earned a degree at Fresno State in cultural anthropology at the age of 21, but there is a two-year gap between finishing Fresno State and starting SJCL. What happened in that gap might explain a lot of her commitment to service.

Guerra and her husband, Daniel, decided to join AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America). She says she was undecided about what she wanted to do following college graduation, but those two years of service "cemented it."

She would go to law school and earn the degree she thought could make the biggest difference.

In AmeriCorps, she initially applied to work with California Rural Legal Assistance, but ended up with the Fresno West Coalition for Economic Development, where she and her husband were tasked with creating a credit union, from chartering to getting the community on board. Guerra says it was an eye-opener, along with being "the best experience in terms of legal career." She credits those years with giving her insight into the challenges facing those living in poverty, from predatory lending to transportation issues. She and her husband took a vow of poverty during their period of service, meaning they were living at the same poverty level as those they were trying to help, and possibly facing some of the same challenges.

At the time of this interview, Guerra says she was surrounded by a "whirlwind"

of activity as she prepared to be informally sworn in on November 19th. She recalls how hard it was to contain her excitement when she received a call while in court, quickly exited to a stairwell, and received the news of her appointment. Then, she had to "head back into the courtroom and pretend nothing had happened." While two days of keeping that secret was hard, other things weigh heavier. She has had to transfer her caseload and her clients seem happy for her success, but she admits she was "not so excited" to tell clients with whom she has work for four to five years that she could no longer represent them.

Mostly, though, it is pure joy. Her husband and three kids, ages 11, 13, and 15-years-old, are thrilled. Guerra adds she is "excited and honored to be serving on the same bench" as other judges she has looked up to and respected over the years.



# Moreno Elected Madera County District Attorney

Sally Moreno (Law '95) prevailed against Paul Hornick to become the first woman to serve as District Attorney for Madera County.

**S**ally Orme Moreno (Law '95) was saddened with the politics she felt enveloped the office when David Linn took the position as Madera County District Attorney in 2015. She had been working there four years, but she made the jump to the Fresno County District Attorney's Office. She says leaving behind friends and colleagues "was very painful," but she didn't believe she could fix it. That's when her years as an L. A. police woman and Desert Storm Army Veteran kicked in. "It occurred to me that I was going to get help and come back."

After a bitter primary in which Linn failed to qualify for the November ballot, Moreno ultimately prevailed against Paul Hornick to become the first woman to serve as District Attorney for Madera County. She doesn't believe it's an especially unique win for women.

"There's a rising tide of women D.A.s if you look across the nation," she says. "In fact, there is a significant number of women D.A.s in the Valley, from Fresno all the way to Sacramento." She believes women bring a lot to the table, adding "It takes someone willing to build coalitions and try new ideas. Women tend to be good at building relationships and coalitions."

She is already building those relationships, having talked with many of the current Deputy D.A.s in the Madera Office, along with praising the County's two police chiefs and sheriff. "I feel I'll be able to build a good team," she says.

She's already started work on some new ideas for the Madera Office, including meeting with its I.T. staff to talk about going paperless. While she sees it as a way to "get ready for the 21st Century," she admits it may be tricky; both the courts and probation are already paperless and the D.A.'s new technology will need to interface with them.



**Sally Moreno** (Law '95) becomes the eighth alumni elected as a County District Attorney.

She also wants to establish a "Family Justice Center," a one-stop hub for families struggling with domestic violence, sexual assault, restraining orders, behavioral health, and other issues. She sees it as compiling "resources to get families and victims back on track." In addition, she wants to embed victim advocates with patrol officers to help people who want to leave prostitution and drug lifestyles.

Moreno says Madera County is "poised to be a net exporter of excellent criminal justice ideas. Madera has the ability to respond when people have good ideas."

Moreno becomes the eighth SJCL alumni to be elected as a County District Attorney, including two who are currently serving in that position: Lisa Smittcamp (Law '95) is the Fresno County District Attorney while Keith Fagundes (Law '97) serves as Kings County District Attorney.

Moreno admits her life has been tremendously busy lately with her job at the Fresno County District Attorney's Office, her husband and four children, and trying to run a campaign, but adds she refuses to feel very sorry for herself. "No 'poor me.' I've been tremendously lucky."

# Mederos Elected to Tulare City Council

After hearing about the controversy regarding comments made by the Mayor of Tulare earlier this year, that many regarded as an attack on agriculture, Dennis Mederos (Law '77) decided to run for the Tulare City Council.

As he was running for a seat on the Tulare City Council, Dennis Mederos (Law '77) reflected on words he was told were attributed to Harry S. Truman – “In a democracy, in the final analysis, the voters get what they deserve.” As senior partner at a successful law firm in Tulare, he was concerned that he might not have time for this endeavor, but Truman’s words haunted him. He decided to “find the time to do it.”

It wasn’t the first time he had to “find the time” for his community. In the nearly 40 years since he entered private practice, he has served as President of the Tulare County Bar Association, Chair of the Tulare High School District Boundary Committee, which made recommendations to the school board on school boundaries, served on a focus committee for the Tulare County Superior Court, was a board member of the Tulare County Branch of the American Cancer Society, served as an alternate public member on LAFCO, served as counsel for the Tulare Chamber of Commerce for 20 years, as well as serving his community in many other ways. His worked did not go unnoticed. In 2013 the City of Tulare named him “Man of the Year.” In 2005, the Tulare Chamber named his firm, Mederos, Soares & Ormonde, “Small Business of the Year.”

Mederos says his firm consists of four attorneys, including three SJCL grads: himself, Brandon Ormonde (Law '10), and Erika Morris Rascon (Law '15). One of the specialties of the firm is Agricultural Law. Mederos grew up on a farm in Tulare County and has returned to those roots, growing almonds and pistachios nowadays along with running his practice. Recently he was unhappy to hear about the controversy regarding comments made by the Mayor of Tulare earlier this year that many regarded as an attack on agriculture. He knew there was going to be an open seat on the Tulare City Council. He thought



**Dennis Mederos** (Law '77) steps into the spotlight of public service to fulfill a need.

“Somebody needs to run. If not me, then who?”

Mederos says he was always “in the background” before, giving advice, reviewing legal documents, and lending support for the community on a volunteer basis whenever needed. He began to step into the public spotlight a bit more three years ago when he, as a citizen, demanded documents from the Tulare Regional Medical Center regarding its agreement with the company running the Hospital. The following year, he was part of an effort to block a bond measure which he says failed to provide voters with necessary supporting

information to justify its need and failed to adequately demonstrate how the money would be used.

Actually running for office was a new experience. While his wife, Cathy, was elected in 2008 to serve on the Tulare Joint Union High School District Board, Mederos had never run for office and faced what he calls “a formidable opponent.” As the polls closed on election night, he was happy, looking at victory with more than 55 percent of the vote. “Voters need to make informed decisions,” he says, “and if they do so, democracy will work.”

# Barreto named new Director of NALC

Linda Barreto's (Law '14) experience in NALC during law school and working as an associate attorney for Lazaro Salazar Law, Inc. have led her back to SJCL to become the Director of the New American Legal Clinic.

Linda K. Barreto (Law '14) says becoming the Director of the New American Legal Clinic brings her "full circle." She remembers being "one of the first NALC students," but adds she "never in a million years dreamed" she could become director. Still, it was not an unlikely thing. She says "My mom is an immigrant. I have dedicated my practice to that solely of immigration law, giving me both the knowledge and experience to understand immigration law as a complete body both in the practical and procedural sense."

That experience includes not only her background working at NALC during law school, but also working as an associate attorney for Lazaro Salazar Law, Inc. where she remains Of Counsel assisting with complex immigration cases.

She also defended the rights of immigrant children as a staff attorney for the non-profit organization Kids in Need of Defense (KIND). Those children were in deportation proceedings where they do not have a right to counsel, but those who are unrepresented are five times more likely to lose their case. Her job was to try to help them either gain asylum or Special Immigrant Juvenile Status. To gain the latter status, they first have to prove they were abused, abandoned or neglected by one or both parents. If they are successful, they are allowed to remain legally in the U.S. where they might later seek citizenship.

She admits that she loved her clients at KIND, but felt limited in how much she could help them. Meanwhile, "NALC's mission statement is in its name. 'New American' means that we want to help them get citizenship, and follow them all the way through to obtaining citizenship." She adds "They're trying to do the



SJCL is excited to welcome **Linda K. Barreto** (Law '14) as the new NALC Director

right thing, which is why they've come to NALC."

Barreto's vision for NALC is "making the clinic the go-to place for community organizations, and anyone who needs help with their immigration case, but also for SJCL students to gain the practical and clinical experience they need to succeed in a law office setting." She would also like to expand the services offered by NALC "to take an even wider breadth of cases."

She feels she has the resources to make it happen. Aside from being "super-excited to be back at San Joaquin," she gives an enthusiastic nod to the rest of the NALC team, who she feels are "motivated, energetic, and committed."

In addition to her duties as Director of NALC, Professor Barreto will also be teaching a basic immigration class.

Barreto replaces Professor Gregory Olson, who left to open his own private practice.



BACK ROW (L-R): **Magistrate Judge Stanley A. Boone**, 5th District Court of Appeal Justice **Mark Snauffer**, and **Hon. Jeffrey Hamilton, Jr.** FRONT ROW (L-R): **Angad Puniani**, **Rebecca Salgado**, **George Harris**, **Samantha Williamson**, **Clare Demera**, and **Surinder Padda**

## Special Thanks to all of our Moot Court Judges

Mr. Robert Abrams  
 Mr. Joshua Adams  
 Hon. Stanley Boone  
 Mr. Mark Broughton  
 Mr. Henry Carbajal  
 Hon. Jonathan Conklin  
 Hon. Jeremias DeMelo  
 Ms. Monrae English  
 Mr. Paul Fata  
 Ms. Tracie Goodwin  
 Hon. Erica Grosjean  
 Ms. Amy Guerra  
 Mr. William Haesy  
 Hon. Jeffrey Hamilton, Jr.  
 Ms. Rhea Ikemiya  
 Hon. James Kelley, Jr.  
 Ms. Tashara Kuspa  
 Mr. Robert Mangano  
 Mr. David Mugridge  
 Mr. James Mugridge  
 Mr. Gordon Park  
 Ms. Connie Parker  
 Mr. Ross Pearson  
 Ms. Kate Schuh  
 Justice Mark Snauffer  
 Mr. Robert Stewart  
 Mr. Philip Tavlian  
 Ms. Anastasya Uskov  
 Mr. Peter Wall  
 Mr. Harry White  
 Hon. Denise Whitehead  
 Ms. Amy Xu

# Hopper Moot Court

Congratulations to Best Oral Advocate Winner Samantha Williamson, Oral Advocate Finalists Clare Demera, George Harris, and Rebecca Salgado, along with Best Brief Winner Angad Puniani.

Magistrate Judge Stanley A. Boone, 5th District Court of Appeal Justice Mark Snauffer, and Honorable Jeffrey Hamilton, Jr. judged the final round of the George A. Hopper Moot Court competition on October 25th.

All three of the judges complimented the finalists, with Judge Hamilton adding

“Picking a winner out of this group of four was very difficult.” The judges also offered tips, including Justice Snauffer advising the students, “The most important thing you can do is have a command of the facts. You should know the facts better than the judge. The judge already knows the law very well.”

SJCL would like to thank Adjunct Professors Stephanie Hamilton Borchers and Jared Marshall, in addition to the many volunteers who served as judges in the earlier rounds.

### Best Oral Advocate

Samantha Williamson

### Best Brief

Angad Puniani

### Oral Advocate Finalists

Clare Demera, George Harris,  
and Rebecca Salgado

### Best Brief Finalist

Surinder Padda



*Congratulations to our July 2018 Barpassers!* FRONT ROW (L-R): **Joshua Hernandez, Darcy Brown, Raquel Busani, and Christina Cardenas-Gonzalez.** MIDDLE ROW (L-R): **Andrew Earl, Tiffany Pack, Osmundo Arguello, and Tejumola Olubeko.** BACK ROW (L-R): **Joshua Milton, Jason Crockford, and Robert Yamamoto.** ALSO PASSING BUT NOT PICTURED: **Jesse Banuelos Jr., Niklas Hugosson, and Joshua Roberts.**

## SJCL Toasts 14 Barpassers

Christina Cardenas-Gonzales was out to dinner with her husband and boss on November 16th. At 6 p.m., she clicked on the State Bar website and started crying. They were tears of joy; she had passed the bar. What do you do when you're the happiest person on earth? "Let's go to Disneyland now!" she said to her husband. After a weekend of celebrating both her victory and Mickey's 90th birthday, she barely made it back in time for the annual Barpassers Champagne Reception the following Monday night. It's a good thing she made it; her grandmother had a huge spray of flowers waiting for her!

Eleven of the 14 Barpassers also made it to the event, where Andrew Earl acknowledged he was "crying, jumping up and down" when he passed, adding "Nothing I would want to admit."

Tears of joy also rolled down Tiffany Pack's face when she saw her results. Her dog, sensing her emotional turmoil, came over to console her. It's been a long road for her; an ugly divorce about eight years ago put her house in foreclosure and left her basically homeless. She regrouped, got a job, and got accepted to SJCL. She says

passing the bar meant she wasn't tethered to flash cards for the first time in four years. She took them everywhere, including her son's wrestling tournaments. She was surprised to learn what wrestling was all about when she finally was able to watch.

The support of partners was a big part of this success story. The relief was palpable in Joshua Milton's wife, Kate. In her words, she "had enough." Raquel Busani's partner, Inez, accompanied her to the bar, cooking for her and prepping her each day. Darcy Brown says her husband was "more relieved than I was that he doesn't have to go through this again."

Brown will also avoid going through the hiring process. She had been clerking at Bolen Franson Sawyers and received a package at graduation with a note not to open it until bar results were released. Inside were her new business cards as an attorney at the firm.

Most of the barpassers had "you pass, you're hired" offers in hand. Christina Cardenas-Gonzales heads to Tomassian, Pimentel & Shapazian; Jason Crockford plans to stay at the Public Defender's Office; Andrew Earl becomes an Associate

Attorney with Palmer Kucera LLP. Joshua Hernandez accepted the job offer from Stockwell Harris. Joshua Milton becomes an Associate Attorney with Stammer, McKnight, Barnum & Bailey LLP. Tejumola Olubeko becomes a Tulare County Deputy D.A.. Tiffany Pack has accepted an offer from Peel/Garcia LLP. Osmundo Arguello has been offered a position at the Law Firm of Michael J. Smith and Associates PC. Robert Yamamoto plans to stay with the Fresno County Public Defender's Office. Jesse Banuelos heads to Doerksen Taylor LLP. Niklas Hugosson plans on being his own boss, opening the Law Offices of Niklas Hugosson, specializing in unlawful detainer, collections, and business formations.

Meanwhile, Raquel Busani was offered the position of partner at the ERISA Law Center. She began as a secretary there 12 years ago, moved up to paralegal, but feels it's too soon to commit to partner. She'll stay as an Associate for now, but adds "it's not enough to do a 9-5 job." She has already volunteered to serve on the USDC Eastern District of California Civil Rights Panel and plans to add other activities.

As for the long-term future of the Barpassers, Tejumola Olubeko summed it up best: "I can do anything."

# Maria Shriver's Seat at the Table

Inspiring women (and men) to make a difference.

BY DIANE SKOUTI, ALUMNI LIAISON

**M**aria Shriver spoke candidly about her upbringing: “I had a kick-ass mother who told me to get out there and do something, be something!” at the 2018 Fresno Women’s Conference in September. The sold-out event was electrified by her presence, and her key-note chat didn’t disappoint. Shriver described her mother, Eunice Kennedy Shriver, as strong and tough, not at all like the lovey-dovey or huggee type moms, “but she taught me about strength,” she said.

Like Shriver, women in the legal profession know something about strength as well. The number of female law students enrolling at SJCL has fluctuated between just under 50% to over 60% (in 2017), and is reflective of a nationwide trend.

During her sit-down chat at the conference, the award-winning journalist, NBC News Anchor and best-selling author shared personal stories reflecting this year’s theme: “Be the Difference.”

As the only girl amid four brothers, Shriver told the packed convention center crowd how she grew up tough. She identified service as the family legacy she has imparted to her own children. “As a

kid growing up, and now with my kids, I believe strongly that we should all have something we do for the greater good, something where you are making a positive difference. Helping others is the key” to a life well-spent, she said.

As an early architect of the women’s empowerment movement, Shriver says she uses her voice and platforms to advance some of our nation’s most pressing issues, among them Alzheimer’s disease and families living in poverty. As First Lady of California, (she was formerly married to then Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger) she helped grow the women’s conference of Long Beach into a formidable event, setting a high bar for such gatherings, because she views them as vital – for women, as well as men. On this day, her message was a call for “architects of change.”

“We must all be architects of change as we make our way through life. Someone else does not always know better – you are who you have been waiting for,” she said to wild applause.

Shriver encouraged conference attendees to use their voices in ways different from those of the past. “Children’s lives, parent’s lives, our own ability to be different

from how men have led in the past,” are at stake, she said.

“We all deserve a seat at the table – we are all divine. Anyone who doesn’t support this should be out of your life. Fill your tables (both dining and conference) with people who are different from you. If you surround yourself with people who are just like you, it’s boring. We learn through diversity,” she said.

Shriver shared a mantra her father, Sergeant Shriver, taught her as a young girl. “You make the room better because you have walked into it. It doesn’t matter if you were invited or not, walk in with the knowledge that you deserve to be there,” he told her. It’s advice she has followed throughout her life.

Her latest book, “I’ve Been Thinking” is a New York Times best seller filled with tidbits of positivity. She hopes it will find its way to the night stands of those who can’t sleep, who might need help to move forward, no matter what they are facing.

Shriver noted how we are all in the midst of some sort of transition, most of the time. “It’s how we navigate these transitions that tells how well we’ll navigate our future.”

She said she learned late in life how to shift. Shift thoughts away from that nagging negative head voice, to positivity and change. “I’ve learned to push myself into things I’m afraid of, like public speaking (hence the casual “chat” format of her visit). We all seem to allow self-doubt and fear to play a large role in our lives, but we have the power to navigate through that by shifting our self-talk.”

Quoting a favorite line from Emerson, Shriver added, “What lies behind and before you are tiny matters compared to what lies inside you.” It’s all about perspective, she said, and what you do with your time here on earth.

Side note: Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg has repeatedly said that there will be “enough” women on the Supreme Court when there are nine.



# CCBA Institute “Bankruptcy Never Dies”

The Central California Bankruptcy Association, in association with San Joaquin College of Law, presented their 32nd Annual Bankruptcy Institute in September. During the two-day institute, a total of twelve sessions and 26 speakers presented topics providing over 12 CLE credits for attorneys and CPAs working within the field of bankruptcy. Legal professionals from all over the state converged on The Falls Conference Center to discuss the trends and changing regulations in bankruptcy and tax law. Session titles included “Dr. No - a Judges Panel,” and “For Your Eyes Only – Tips and Tricks on How to Avoid Pitfalls and Get your Case Confirmed.” The James Bond-ish theme for the 32nd Institute? “Bankruptcy Never Dies.”



Institute speakers **Kathleen McCarthy**, **Susan Spraul**, and **Terri Didion**



CCBA past president **Don Pool** and institute organizer **Alana Gabrielson**.

## 2018 Constitution Day at SJCL



It was quite the crowd for this year’s Constitution Day Lecture at San Joaquin College of Law. Professor Jeffrey G. Purvis presented his annual lecture, this year titled “Why Shouldn’t the President be a Dictator? – How to destroy the Constitution, subvert the rule of law, and end our freedom in one easy lesson.” Several attendees asked equally provocative questions at the conclusion of Professor Purvis’ presentation, and pledged to return for his Constitution Day Lecture again next year, as seekers of knowledge and perspective.

# Closing the Rural Legal Gap in California

UC Davis Law Professor Lisa Pruitt, a widely recognized expert on rural poverty, presented some of her research findings at SJCL's 2nd Annual Rural Legal Access Summit in October.

As the third largest and most populous state in the nation, California is dotted with rural pockets in every direction. An area is considered rural when it lies outside the borders of a large municipality and counts under 50,000 residents in any one group. California's vast expanse of land from top to bottom is considered about 95% rural, with dense metro areas making up the rest. Given that our rural communities represent more residents (estimated at over 46 million by the 2010 Census), than some entire state populations, it is surprising to note that rural community dwellers face serious shortages in legal representation. Historically, attorneys tend to cluster in large metropolitan areas near hubs of activity. The issue has been taken up by some at SJCL in a big way.

UC Davis Law Professor Lisa Pruitt, a widely recognized expert on rural poverty, presented some of her research findings at the 2nd Annual Rural Legal Access Summit here on campus in October. The day-long summit, organized by Professor Andy Kucera and the Law Students for Community Advancement (LSCA), was a component of the SJCL course "Practice for the 99 Percent," with the goal of growing independent law practices to serve rural and low-bono clients (which includes 99% of the population), in a way that is both socially responsible and profitable.

The summit was attended by attorneys, judges, educators, community leaders,



U.C. Davis Law Professor **Lisa Pruitt** presenting her research findings.

social justice experts, and law students from several law schools. The need to improve legal access to these underserved residents, and specifically here in the San Joaquin Valley, is a pressing issue. Discussion panels and a key-note presentation by Professor Pruitt integrated the topics of rural poverty, invisibility, and the lack of resources thereof.

Law students from UC Davis made the trip to Clovis a day early, so they could meet with California Rural Legal Assistance (CRLA), and residents of the West Park community, a small area in rural southwest Fresno. Their goal was to learn first-hand about the challenges rural residents face when seeking legal aid. In addition, some of the Davis students joined SJCL students for a meal and informal chat on the law school experience.

Professor Pruitt co-chairs the Rural Task Force of the California Commission on Access to Justice and is a faculty affiliate of the UC Davis Center for Poverty Research.

Only three states in the country: Georgia, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, have larger rural populations than California.

Other presenters at the summit included local community leaders and social justice experts like Philip Gallegos – Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services for the City of Kerman; Educator Aileen Rizo; and Fresno County Public Defender Antoinette Taillac.

In addition, Fresno County Deputy District Attorney Andrew Janz, Attorney Frank Huerta, and Leah Tuisavalalo, of Pasifika Immigration Law Group, spoke on Low Bono and Pro Bono service.

Program evaluations of the summit gave glowing assessments of the presentations and panel discussions, as did Pathway to Law School students attending from the College of the Sequoias (COS). Alex Chavez says the summit gave him an in-depth analysis of the dire need for attorneys in our rural areas. Like many, Alex says he considered a rural law practice economically unfeasible, but he says now he may consider it.

Ester Banuelos, another COS student and summit attendee, serves on the COS Mock Trial team and is personally part of an immigrant community. "I feel I can now speak up about the programs that are available to immigrants and rural citizens," she said.

Professor Kucera says the summit provides a starting point for informing attorneys and would-be attorneys of where the need for legal aid is greatest, and to start the discussion about finding solutions.



U.C. Davis and SJCL students exchanging ideas in SJCL's lecture hall.



# Hall of Fame (From Page 1)

After graduation from SJCL, Judge Alvarez became a Fresno County Deputy D.A. until he was recalled to active duty following the September 11th attack in 2001. When he returned, he was hired by the California Attorney General, and was soon Supervising Deputy Attorney General. He was appointed to the Fresno County Superior Court in 2009 by then Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. In addition to presiding over civil and juvenile cases, Judge Alvarez assisted in the creation of the Veterans' Treatment Court for veterans involved in the criminal justice system. He has also authored several published opinions and serves on the Fresno County Law Library's Board of Trustees and chairs the Fresno County Superior Court's Judicial Education Committee.

Known for his impressive command of the law, Judge Alvarez has also been described as a shining example of dedicated and thoughtful public service. Perhaps most notable, however, is his reputation for fairness and mutual respect. Everyone with whom he works, including defendants, victims, witnesses, deputies, court reporters, clerks, and attorneys, report being treated with kindness.

Judge Sanderson admits she was a bit taken back when she read about the interests of the next Inductee. Hiking? Rafting the Grand Canyon? A safari in Africa? Climbing Half Dome? Diving in New Guinea? "Everything you enjoy, I enjoy," she said in introducing Rayma Church (Law '91). "We should be best friends!"

Church attained her undergrad degree from Fresno State before attending SJCL, and has distinguished herself as a stand-out legal professional. She was one of the first women inducted into the American Board of Trial Advocates (San Joaquin Valley Chapter). Her first ever trial out of law school ended before the California Supreme Court. Her 1993 victory in *Gooch v. Hendrix* still stands as law today.

Church has been the managing partner of Emerson Church Law since 2016 and is a Technology Master Advocate and

member of the Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel. She also serves as an arbitrator for the Fresno County Bar Association and is a National Women's Political Caucus of Fresno County member.

In addressing the applauding crowd, Church said "Nobody gets here alone," and pointed out she feels she has three families: biological, friends, and work. She specifically mention Deborah Coe (Law '91 and Hall of Fame member) who joined her in the early trenches of starting a career in law, and Kathy Hart (Law '77 and also a Hall of Fame member) who told her "Lawyers need to get out of the law and do other things. It keeps you sane!"

Hall of Fame Inductee Michelle Green (Law '97) was unable to attend the Ceremony. She was still in Thailand, part of a month-long trip for her current position as Vice President of HR, Downstream and Chemicals, of the Chevron Corporation.

Green graduated from Fresno State with a business degree before enrolling in SJCL at the age of 20. She was shocked by the level of difficulty of law school, compounded by the fact that she was working days as a substitute teacher. In addition, she began to discover there were certain legal careers she did not want.

An internship with a federal magistrate caused her to eliminate what she considered boring research and social security cases from her list of potential careers. A prestigious 3rd year clerkship in the US Attorney's Office unearthed her dislike of the courtroom, as well. By her final year, Green thought about quitting law school altogether. Maybe the legal profession wasn't for her.

Green went to her professors in search of a purpose. A Human Resource professor at Fresno State, who also had a JD degree, suggested she consider Human Resources. Upon learning that a master's degree in HR was required by most big corporations, Michelle took the GRE exam and began applying to the top five HR graduate programs in the country.



Hall of Fame Inductee  
**Michelle Green** (Law '97)

She was accepted by all five, and chose Cornell University. She took the bar exam and two days later, packed up and drove across the country to New York. She and her husband rented what she describes as "a crappy apartment" and moved just in time for orientation. When Michelle returned that evening, she told her husband they had made the right choice; she loved HR! In her 20 years with Chevron, she's held multiple executive management and leadership positions, including in Thailand and Angola, and is currently based at their corporate headquarters in the Bay Area.

Art Baggett (Law '93 and Hall of Fame member) noted in his closing remarks the "breadth and quality" of the new inductees. As an adjunct professor at SJCL, he sees differences and diversity as an asset, adding that there is "a whole new energy when you see younger students working with the second-career crowd." Along with Baggett, Sanderson, and Coe, other Hall of Fame members in attendance included Honorable Gary Austin (Law '76) and Honorable Alan Simpson (Law '83).

# Alumna & Student Both Hanson Winners

Congratulations to Judy Lund (Law '78) and student Jodie Howard, both winners at the October 17th Annual Justice Pauline Davis Hanson Dinner at Fort Washington Country Club. Lund won the prestigious Justice Pauline Hanson Award, while Howard won the Hanson Scholarship. Lund was introduced by Ana De Alba and gave the following speech – a real eye-opener regarding how things have changed.

BY JUDY LUND, CLASS OF 1978

**T**hank you, Ana, for your wonderful introduction. Just two weeks ago, Ana was given the Champions of Justice Award for all of the incredible work she has done. and then, she was appointed to the Superior Court! Thank you also to my good friends, Judy Barron and Cathi Donovan who nominated me for this award. And thank you to my daughter Lisa who came from Boulder to share this evening.

Hello everyone. I am so impressed as I look around this room at the number of women – professionals—attorneys and judges. Congratulations to you all! Awesome!

I remember a time when things were so different.

In high school, I was very good in math and science and wanted to major in physics and chemistry in college. I was told that I could not, as it was a man's field. I could be a secretary, a nurse, or a teacher.

That no longer happens.

In Indiana in the early 60s, women were not allowed to enter a restaurant unescorted if the restaurant served liquor. I could not open a bank account or obtain a credit card in my name. My husband would have to do so and add my name.

That no longer happens.

Did you know that I was the first woman to wear slacks in the McCormick office? I was Hollis Best's secretary from 1968 until 1972 when he went on the Bench. Women were not allowed to wear slacks in the office – mini-skirts were in vogue and appreciated. I had bought a very nice navy-blue pants suit, and one very cold, rainy day, I wore it to the office.

We were very busy that day, and Holly had a choice of making me go home to change or allow it. The policy changed.



**Judy Lund** (Law '78) receiving the Justice Pauline Hanson Award from **Ana De Alba**, a Hanson Award Committee Representative.

In the mid-1970s after Holly went on the Bench, I was asked to come to work as a paralegal by the hiring-partner of a law firm. I asked whether he needed to check with his other partners, and he told me he did not, so I gave two weeks' notice at my current job. The Wednesday before I was to begin, he called me and told me that when he had informed his other partners, they said that he could not hire me because I was a woman.

I reminded him that I was a woman when he hired me and asked him why that made a difference. He said that his partners were afraid that I might be in the middle of a project and get pregnant. I said that I was divorced, my children were 10 and

13, and I guaranteed that I would not get pregnant.

"Well," he said, "Perhaps some man may want to marry you and wouldn't want you to work." I was incredulous, but he held firm. I had no job.

At that point, I started a secretarial service, The Secretariat, on the Mariposa Mall and did overflow work for many of the attorneys in town.

Several years later, in 1978, I had completed law school and passed the Bar Exam. I thought that it would be easy to get a job, as so many attorneys knew me and my work. Not so. At that time, firms were not hiring women.

I had been working as a law clerk for Dominic Mushines. He could not hire me, as he had just hired two male attorneys, but he offered to clear out a store room and let me use it to start my practice in the afternoons, if I would continue working as his law clerk in the mornings.

I agreed and began my practice in a windowless store room with an IBM Correcting Selectric II typewriter on a card table. Six months later, I was busy enough that I could move into a real office at L and Merced, sharing space with 3 other sole practitioners.

Even then, I had some unusual experiences. One male attorney called on a case, and asked to speak to “the attorney.” I said that I was the attorney and after some hesitation he said “But you’re a woman!” I acknowledged that I was, and after another long pause, he said “I don’t think that I can deal with that. Can I call you “Mr. Lund?” I said he could and that I would call him “Ms.”

Times have changed.

Judges no longer come up behind women public defenders and grab them by the boobs! Yes, that happened!

I was a member of the Fresno County Women Lawyers Gender Bias Committee,



Student **Jodie Howard** receiving the Hanson Scholarship from Scholarship Committee Representative **Ruth Ratzlaff**.

and we did a poll of law firms asking how many female attorneys they employed and how many were partners. You can imagine the results that we circulated!

Subsequently, things began to improve.

Justice Pauline Hanson’s appointment to the Superior Court and then to the Court of Appeal was a milestone. Now look at all of you! We have come a long way.

You are partners and even managing partners of law firms. Sole practitioners. Starting your own firms. Becoming judges on the Municipal and Superior Courts and Court of Appeal. We even have three women on the Supreme Court!

We worked hard for this. You did it.

I am so proud and impressed with you and again, thank you for this honor.

## Ali Huda awarded the Hopper Scholarship

Congratulations to SJCL student Ali Huda (4L), winner of the 2018 Fresno County Young Lawyers Association’s George Hopper Memorial Scholarship! FCYLA President Nicole Cunningham presented the scholarship to Huda at the Hopper Memorial Luncheon on November 8th.



# So, Cite Me!

This synopsis of a recent student comment featured in the *San Joaquin Agricultural Law Review* is part of an ongoing series for Fresno County Bar Association's Bar Bulletin.

## The End of an Elusive Era: Why The Food Safety Modernization Act Appropriately Holds Irresponsible Corporate Officers Liable

BY JOSEPH GOOD, STAFF MEMBER, SAN JOAQUIN AGRICULTURAL LAW REVIEW

**M**ore than 200 known diseases are transmitted through food. While not all foodborne illnesses are preventable, with proper care and adequate oversight, many outbreak crises may be averted. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) estimates that each year, "one in six Americans (or forty-eight million people) gets sick, 128,000 are hospitalized, and 3000 [people] die [from] foodborne diseases." Foodborne outbreaks occur when at least two people get sick

from eating the same food or drink that is contaminated. In the United States, the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) is in charge of investigating possible outbreaks to ensure that they are controlled.

When a corporate officer fails to ensure the safety of products being released into the market or knowingly allows tainted items to be released to the public, they are seldom held personally liable for the misdeed. This is not only a grave injustice of public policy, but it also goes against the



This Comment, along with the entire 27th Volume and the previous 26 Volumes are available at [www.sjcl.edu/sjalr](http://www.sjcl.edu/sjalr).

Professional articles are always welcome. Contact Gladdey Donsanophit at [donsanophit@student.sjcl.edu](mailto:donsanophit@student.sjcl.edu) for more information.

trend in tort and criminal law to hold those liable for the consequences of their actions or in the alternative inaction.

Regulations that fall in line with health and the broad policy of safe food are necessary to ensure that we have responsible corporate officers putting clean, safe food into the stream of commerce. The Food Safety Modernization Act aims to do just that. The FSMA is the first major piece of legislation passed in decades that strengthens protections, inter alia, for consumers against corporate dignitaries who do not act responsibly. Passed in 2010 with overwhelming bipartisan support and signed into law in 2011 under then President Barack Obama, the FSMA provides updated guidelines and protections for consumers in what appeared to be Congress' response to the Peanut Butter Salmonella Outbreak in 2008 that made at least 700 people ill and contributed to the deaths of at least nine people.

By exploring the policy reasons behind The United States Food and Drug Administration and examining the historic case law regarding corporate personhood and the criminal justice system in general, it is clear that the FSMA is consistent with the public policy for health and food safety. Through a brief history of foodborne illness outbreaks, public policy, and case law, this comment analyzes whether the FSMA is appropriate in holding irresponsible corporate officers liable for their actions or inactions.

## Celebrating the 27th Volume

The staff and writers of the *San Joaquin Agricultural Law Review* celebrated the 27th Volume with a release reception on November 3rd.



(L-R): **Christopher Matthes** (Law '16), Professional Author; **Ryan Lopez** (Law '18), Volume 27 Co-Editor-in-Chief; **Iqbal Bains** (Law '18), Volume 27 Staff Writer; **Maria Valencia**, Assistant-Editor-in-Chief and Volume 27 Staff Writer; **John Soares**, Volume 27 Production Editor; **Syuzana Martirosyan**, Notes and Comments Editor; **Joseph Good**, Production Editor; **Gladdey Donsanophit**, Executive Editor/Community Liaison Editor; **BreAnne Ruelas** (Law '18), Volume 27 Co-Editor-in-Chief; **Jennifer Nguyen-Bui** (Law '18), Volume 27 Executive Editor; **Jeremy Matthews**, Editor-in-Chief; and **Christina Cardenas-Gonzales** (Law '18), Volume 27 Notes and Comments Editor

# Student Internship Opportunities

Students interested in internships have lots of opportunities to find them right here on campus! In October, students met with representatives from the Fresno District Attorney's Office and the Fresno Office of Michael Sullivan and Associates.



(L-R): Associate Academic Dean **Alicia Diaz Wrest**, Dean **Jan Pearson**, and Managing Partner of the Fresno office of Michael Sullivan and Associates **Pilar Mitchell**.

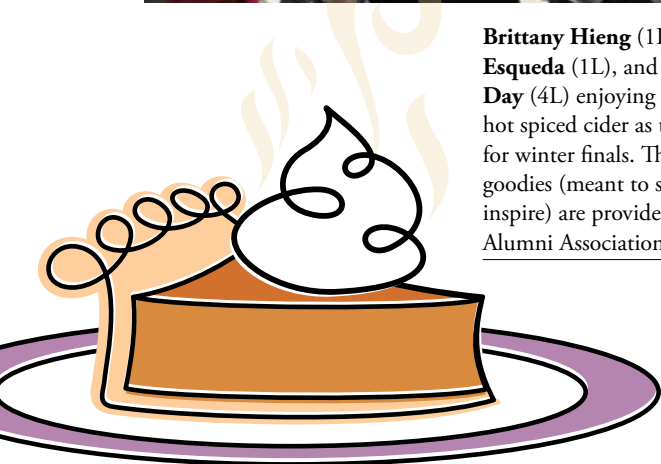


(L-R): Senior Deputy DA **Stacey Phillips**, Assistant District Attorney **Traci Fritzer** (Law '97), and Deputy District Attorney **Richard Burchett**. NOT PICTURED: Deputy District Attorney **Kelsey Peterson**

## Pie Before Finals



**Brittany Hieng** (1L), **Erika Esqueda** (1L), and **Morgan Day** (4L) enjoying some pie and hot spiced cider as they gear up for winter finals. The quarterly goodies (meant to soothe and inspire) are provided by the SJCL Alumni Association.



## Book Drive



The Student Bar Association is taking on the Elizabeth O'Neill Book Drive in a big way! This is the eleventh year for the Drive, which benefits Title I elementary schools in Clovis Unified. This year, the books will be split between Miramonte and Reagan Elementary Schools. Over the past decade, nearly 4,000 books have been donated, including a record 623 in 2017. This year, the SBA hopes to beat that record and is well on the way with more than 500 books already collected. Children's books may be dropped off in the SJCL Library through February 15, 2019.



# SJCL ON THE MOVE

New job? Big promotion? Special honor? Send your info to [mcartier@sjcl.edu](mailto:mcartier@sjcl.edu) and be part of the “SJCL on the Move!”

**Osmundo J. Arguello** (Law '18) is now an Associate Attorney at the Law Firm of Michael J. Smith and Associates PC.

**Jesse Banuelos Jr.** (Law '18) is now an Associate Attorney at Doerksen Taylor LLP.

**Linda K. Barreto** (Law '14) is now the Director of the New American Legal Clinic (NALC) at San Joaquin College of Law.

**Darcy L. Brown** (Law '18) is now an Associate Attorney at Bolen Franson Sawyers.

**Raquel M. Busani** (Law '18) is now an Associate Attorney at the ERISA Law Center.

**Christina M. Cardenas-Gonzales** (Law '18) is now an Associate Attorney at Tomassian, Pimentel & Shapazian.

**Deborah A. Coe** (Law '91) becomes President of the Fresno County Bar Association on January 25th.

**Brandon M. Collet** (Law '09) is now a Senior Deputy City Attorney with the City of Fresno.

**Jason R. Crockford** (Law '18) is now a Deputy Public Defender at the Tulare County Public Defender's Office.

**Alison De Young** (Law '15) is now a Criminal Division Staff Attorney for the Kings County Superior Court.

**Andrew Earl** (Law '18) is now an Associate Attorney at Palmer Kucera LLP.

**Melissa A. Garza-Perry** (Law '10) is now the Airports Properties Manager for Fresno Yosemite International Airport and Fresno Chandler Executive Airport for the City of Fresno – Airports Department.

**Joshua E. Hernandez** (Law '18) is now an Associate Attorney at Stockwell Harris.

**Lisa M. Horton** (Law '09) is now an Associate Attorney for Sagaser, Watkins & Weiland PC.

**Niklas K. Hugosson** (Law '17) has opened the Law Offices of Niklas Hugosson, specializing in unlawful detainer, collections, and business formations.

**Ryan B. Kalashian** (Law '16) is now an Associate Attorney at Quinlan, Kershaw and Fanucchi, LLC.

**Mao Lee** (Law '16) is now Deputy County Counsel with the Fresno County Counsel's Office.

**Carlos R. Leyva** (Law '13) is now an Associate Attorney at Quinlan, Kershaw and Fanucchi, LLC.

**Dennis A. Mederos** (Law '77) has been elected to serve as a Tulare City Council Member.

**Joshua D. Milton** (Law '18) is now an Associate Attorney with Stammer, McKnight, Barnum & Bailey LLP.

**Sally Orme Moreno** (Law '95) has been elected to serve as Madera County District Attorney.

**Tejumola M. Olubeko** (Law '18) is now a Tulare County Deputy District Attorney.

**Tiffany A. Pack** (Law '18) is now an Associate Attorney at Peel/Garcia LLP.

**Jeremiah L. Paul** (Law '12) is now Director of Workers' Comp Risk Management at Community Medical Centers.

**Randy J. Risner** (Law '94) is now Chief Assistant City Attorney for the City of Vallejo. He was also recently promoted to Colonel in the California State Military Reserve where he serves as a senior Judge Advocate General.

**Jason L. Trupkin** (Law '17) is now a Deputy Public Defender at the Fresno County Public Defender's Office.

**Craig C. Waters** (Law '16) is now an Associate Attorney at the Law Office of Robert C. Abrams (Law '08).

**Robert J. Yamamoto** (Law '14) is now a Deputy Public Defender at the Fresno County Public Defender's Office.

## *In Memoriam*

San Joaquin College of Law notes with sadness the passing of **Sharon Lessley-Gilmore Stull** (Law '85) on October 6, 2018 and **Christopher C. McLain Sr.** (Law '95) on April 14, 2018.

Sharon is survived by her husband Bill Stull, and her sister Karen Hawk and brother-in-law John, along with numerous nieces and nephews. Christopher is survived by his wife, Denise; his son Chris Jr.; Chris' wife, Ronette; his son Seth; and Seth's wife Margaret, all of Visalia.

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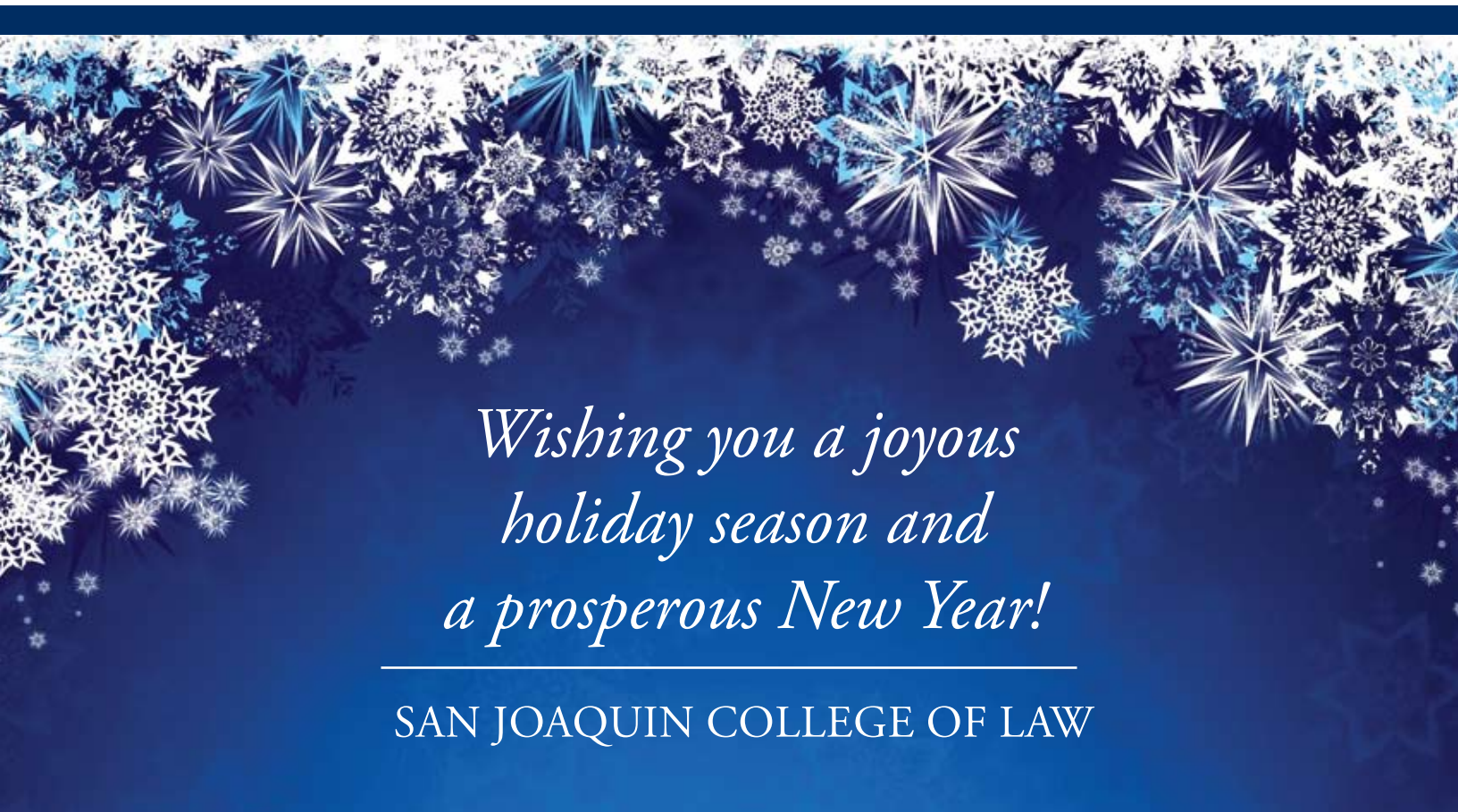


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