



# Inter Alia

San Joaquin College of Law Quarterly Newsletter

Volume XXIV, Number 4

## Winter 2013

- 2 Dean's Message
- 3 Agroterrorism (MCLE)
- 4 New Faculty/Staff
- 5 Got MCLE?
- 6 Barpassers
- 7 Law Review Reception
- 8 Senior Law Day
- 9 Alumni Profiles
- 11 Giving Back

## SJCL Alumni Association's 20th Marjaree Mason Center Party

*For the last 20 years, the San Joaquin College of Law Alumni Association has been hosting a Christmas party for the children of the Marjaree Mason Center.*

Imagine the joy of small children on Christmas morning, munching away on snacks, listening to Christmas music, and oh yes, tearing into those precious packages. Multiply that times fifty. Now you're getting close to the ecstatic joy we see each year at the SJCL Alumni Association's secret party for the kids at the Marjaree Mason Center. We can't show you their faces, only the reflection of the joy in ours.

This tradition started at the Shields campus and we thank Kopi Sotiropulos for being our MC at most of these wonderful celebrations. He brings great joy to the children with his enthusiastic trivia questions and musical renditions that engulf the children with giggles and joy. Our Santa brought delight and smiles to the children.

Special thanks to: the Clovis High Chamber Singers, event co-chairs Brande Gustafson (Law '09) and Judy Rogers (Law '04), Nitza Coleman (Law '03) and Margie Webb (Law '07) for their magic food delivery efforts, SJCL student Kristina Garabedian for her donation of festive (and warm!) blankets and scarves for each child, staff member Missy Cartier who provides books for all the children, and librarian Georgi Leonardo, who selected the appropriate book for each child.



(L-R): Elizabeth Waldow (Law '09), SJCL student Kristina Garabedian, Mary Raterman-Doidge (Law '13), Dede Agrava (Law '07), Santa (Rick Horowitz, Law '06), Santa's Librarian, Georgi Leonardo (borrowed from Tarpey Elementary), Brande Gustafson (Law '09), SJCL staff Joyce Morodomi, and KMPH Great Day Host Kopi Sotiropulos.

NOT PICTURED BUT ALSO PRESENT: SJCL Dean Janice Pearson, Nitza (Law '03) & Jeff Coleman, Roger Wilson (Law '97), and SJCL staff Joan Lassley.



The Clovis High School Chamber Singers under the direction of Mark Lanford who is playing the guitar.



*Here's hoping 2014 is a spectacular and happy year for everyone!*

It is certainly going to be a busy one for San Joaquin College of Law.

May of 2014 is the 40th Anniversary of the first graduating class! SJCL will hold a reception in their honor at the law school. While it honors the first graduating class, the entire SJCL community is invited.

As some of you know, long-time Academic Dean Sally Perring is retiring July 31, 2014. As some of you also know, every year Sally hosted a potluck for the Real Property class. To honor Sally, and at her request, SJCL will hold a party entitled "Sally's Last Potluck" on an evening in June 2014. SJCL will provide the barbequed meat/chicken and, as Sally always did, invite you to bring your specialty side dishes and desserts.

Then November 2014 is the 45th Anniversary of the founding of San Joaquin College of Law. This is deserving of a stellar celebration. I'm sure the founders – Judge Eymann, John Loomis, and Oliver Wanger – never envisioned that the school would be where it is today. I will be asking many of you to serve on a committee to plan this event.

So, stay tuned as the exact event dates are chosen. There may be other exciting happenings at SJCL in 2014, but news of them is for another day!

### Board of Trustees

Douglas Noll, J.D., *Chair*, Ross Borba, Jr., *Vice Chair*, John Loomis, J.D., *Secretary/Treasurer*, Richard Caglia, J.D., Hon. Jane Cardoza, Deborah Ann Coe Hood, J.D., Michael Dias, J.D., Greg Durbin, J.D., Jan L. Kahn, J.D., Dianna Madison, J.D., Anthony Mendes, J.D., Hon. Robert Oliver, Lisa Smittcamp, J.D., Steven Spencer, J.D., Dennis Veeh, CPA, David Weiland, J.D., Bob Whalen, J.D., Melissa White, J.D., Nick Zinkin, J.D., Richard Cartier, J.D., *Faculty Representative*, Dede Agrava, J.D., *Alumni Representative*, Harout Bouldoukian, *SBA Representative*

## Inter Alia

Volume XXIV, Number 4

### Editorial Staff

Janice Pearson  
Sally Perring  
Missy McKai Cartier  
Lonzetta Hightower  
Joan Lassley  
Joyce Morodomi  
Kasi Welte

### Contributing Writers

Andreas Borgeas  
Missy McKai Cartier  
Joan Lassley  
Janice Pearson  
Susan Smilanich  
Kasi Welte

### Design & Production

Mark Enns

### Photography

Missy McKai Cartier  
Michael Kerr

### Publication

Professional Print & Mail



San Joaquin College of Law

901 5th Street  
Clovis, CA 93612  
T: 559/323-2100  
F: 559/323-5566  
www.sjcl.edu

# SJCL to Host Agroterrorism Preparedness Program

By **Andreas Borgeas**, *Professor of International & Comparative Law*

I am pleased to announce SJCL will be hosting an Agroterrorism Preparedness Program on Wednesday, February 19th. The Agroterrorism Preparedness Curriculum for Frontline Responders is a program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in partnership with the Western Institute for Food Safety and Security at the University of California, Davis.

It is an honor to host this program and I believe it is a powerful reflection on the contributions SJCL provides to our community. This day-long program is free of charge, open to the public, and will include two instructor-led courses: *Understanding the Dangers of Agroterrorism* and *Principles of Agroterrorism Detection and Diagnosis*. The curriculum will address the needs of stakeholders and emergency responders, and individuals from a variety of professional sectors are welcome, including, but not limited to, legal, public safety, political, environmental and agricultural. "We are thrilled about this agroterrorism preparedness program, and encourage people to attend this unique and important community education opportunity at SJCL," said Dean Jan Pearson.



Pursuant to Presidential Policy Directives, our food and agricultural system is designated as one of our nation's critical infrastructures. Therefore securing this vital system from vulnerabilities is a matter of national security. Fresno County, as one of the most productive agricultural regions in America, represents a frontline for agroterrorism threats.

Through this program local and regional stakeholders are provided with an awareness of the potential targets and impacts of agroterrorism and how effective pre-planning within a community can mitigate acts of agroterrorism. It also provides strategies to increase detection and diagnosis efficiency, as well as the epidemiological and criminal investigation process.

*Understanding the Dangers of Agroterrorism* will be taught by Dr. Bruce Hoar and David Goldenberg of the Western Institute for Food Safety and Security, and *Principles of Agroterrorism Detection and Diagnosis* will be taught by Dr. Peggy Schmidt of the Western University College of Veterinary Medicine, and David Goldenberg. Participants will receive a certificate for completing the course.

## Schedule

**8:00 – 8:30AM**

Registration

**8:30 – 12:00PM**

Understanding the Dangers of Agroterrorism  
AWR 151

**12:00 – 12:30PM**

Complimentary Lunch

**12:30 – 5:00PM**

Principles of Agroterrorism  
Detection and Diagnosis  
AWR 153

### Location

San Joaquin College of Law  
901 5th Street, Room 213  
Clovis, CA 93612

### Cost

Free and Open to the Public

### Registration

[www.ruraltraining.org](http://www.ruraltraining.org)  
Deadline to register is  
January 31, 2014

SJCL is a certified MCLE provider by the State Bar of California and participants may be eligible for continuing legal education credit.

Seating is limited.

\*Please note all foreign nationals need to complete a Department of Homeland Security Foreign National Visitor Request form to attend the program. For the form please contact Michelle Day at [michelle.day@eku.edu](mailto:michelle.day@eku.edu) or 606/274-0262.

## Full-Time Faculty

Justin B. Atkinson, Andreas Borgeas, Richard M. Cartier, Christine A. Goodrich, Denise M. Kerner, Janice L. Pearson, Sally A. Perring, Gregory Olson, Jeffrey G. Purvis, Peter Rooney, Jessica Smith Bobadilla

## Adjunct Faculty

Hon. James A. Ardaiz, Lawrence M. Artenian, Arthur G. Baggett, Jr., Barry J. Bennett, Alyson A. Berg, Hon. Stanley A. Boone, David M. Camenson, Thomas E. Campagne, Daniel E. Casas, Hon. Hilary A. Chittick, Lisa B. Coffman, Hon. Jonathan B. Conklin, Mark E. Cullers, Matthew R. Dardenne, Jennifer Doerrie, Matthew Farmer, Peter Fashing, Mia Giacomazzi, David J. Guy, Jason P. Hamm, Jeffrey T. Hammerschmidt, Shannon C. Harding, Rachel Hill, Paul Kerkorian, Kathi Kesselman, Stefanie J. Krause, Andrew S. Kucera, Michael R. Linden, Jeremy K. Lusk, Jeff Manning-Cartwright, William T. McLaughlin II, Steven McQuillan, Mark D. Miller, Hilda Cantú Montoy, David Mugridge, Hon. Kimberly Nystrom-Geist, Erik S. Peterson, Dan Rogers, Rose Safarian, Gary W. Sawyers, Michael Sheltzer, Esmeralda Z. Soria, Hon. Oliver W. Wanger, Melissa L. White

# Gregory Olson Joins our Full-Time Faculty

*Gregory Olson has joined the full-time faculty of SJCL as the Legal Director of the New American Legal Clinic. In addition to supervising students in NALC, Gregory will teach Real Property and related courses.*

Gregory obtained his B.A. in Spanish from the University of Utah. He is bi-literate in Spanish. He obtained his J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law where he was the Managing Editor of the *Virginia Journal of Law and Technology*. He served as Research Assistant to Professor Forde-Mazrui at the University of Virginia in the publication of *Ruling Out the Rule of Law* in the *Vanderbilt Law Review*.

Prior to joining the faculty, Gregory worked with Baker, Manock & Jensen, PC in civil litigation practice, focusing on medical malpractice defense. With Cota Cole LLP he practiced primarily municipal law serving as Deputy City Attorney for Taft, California. Gregory says "I have always loved teaching. I love helping others to process information and develop their abilities. In the Clinic, I get to help people by presenting them with new opportunities."



## Welcome to New SJCL Staff

*San Joaquin College of Law is excited to announce that Ramona Garcia and Debbie Yakovetic have joined our staff.*

### Ramona Garcia

Ramona joined the New American Legal Clinic in August of 2013 as NALC's Administrative Coordinator. In this capacity, Ramona is responsible for organizing informational workshops, interpreting, and coordinating student work on client files.

Ramona obtained her B.A. from the University of the Pacific with a major in Sociology. She obtained her Masters in Teaching of Language, Literature and

Culture in the Hispanic World at the University of Alcalá, Alcalá de Henares in Spain. Her second Masters, in Mexican American Studies, came from San Jose State University.

Ramona is bi-literate in Spanish and is a certified BIA Representative in immigration. Prior to joining the SJCL staff, Ramona worked for the UFW Foundation in Fresno where she managed the immigration office.

### Debbie Yakovetic

Debbie became the new Staff Accountant at SJCL in July of 2013, following the retirement of Maureen Hayes. Debbie is responsible for processing payroll, quarterly reports, and Federal Work Study reporting, as well as assisting in preparation of financial statements.

Debbi holds a A.A. degree in accounting from 4C's Business College in Fresno. Debbie has more than 18 years experience working in accounting with extensive knowledge specifically in non-profit and grant accounting.

---

### Staff

Janice Pearson, *Dean*, Sally Perring, *Dean of Academic Affairs*, Justin Atkinson, *Associate Academic Dean*, Missy McKai Cartier, *Public Information Officer*, Lisandra Carrasco, *Admissions Counselor*, Victoria Denny, *Administrative Assistant to the Deans*, Matthew Dillard, *Maintenance Assistant*, Mark Enns, *Senior Graphic Designer, Web Developer, & Helpdesk Manager*, Ramona Garcia, *NALC Administrative Coordinator*, Lonsetta Hightower, *Student Services Assistant*, Joan Lassley, *Facilities Administrator & Alumni Liaison*, Jeannie Lewis, *Director of Financial Aid*, Joyce Morodomi, *Director of Student Services*, Jared Nelson, *Senior Network Systems Engineer*, Lisa Nilmeier, *Accounting Assistant*, Beth Pitcock, *Director of Human Resources and Compliance*, Kerry Prindiville, *Head of Public Services*, Carlyn Robbins, *Administrative Assistant/ Receptionist*, Cyndee Robinson, *Technical Services Librarian*, Rick Rodriguez, *Maintenance Supervisor*, Pete Rooney, *Law Librarian*, Patricia Smith, *Law Coordinator*, Diane Steel, *Director of Admissions*, Jannett Valenzuela, *Accounting Assistant*, Jill Waller-Randles, *Chief Financial Officer*, Kasi Welte, *Annual Giving & MCLE Coordinator*, Derron Wilkinson, *Chief Information Officer*, Debbie Yakovetic, *Staff Accountant*

# Got MCLE? A Decade of Local Legal Community Learning

The tradition began in 2003, the first year the San Joaquin College of Law Alumni Association sponsored the MCLE program we affectionately call “Got MCLE?” On November 9th, over 60 attorneys crowded the 2nd floor of the law school for a morning of MCLE. This year’s program had diverse offerings, including Obamacare Employer Mandate, Ethics in eDiscovery, Bias and the Law as it Relates to Jury Trials, Ethics in the Practice of Law, Tentative Ruling Issues Becoming Rules of Court, Local Rule 2.1.17 New Expedited Procedure for Discovery Disputes, and Substance Abuse in the Legal Profession.

The SJCL Alumni Association’s annual Got MCLE program, typically held in the fall each year, is an excellent way to pick up MCLE hours, including those highly sought after required courses and mingle with fellow attorneys and

SJCL graduates. It was overheard often throughout the morning “This is like an SJCL reunion.” We enjoy seeing you back on campus and catching up. We hope to see you next year. Thank you to this year’s speakers Daniel O. Jamison, Hon. Barbara McAuliffe, Hon. Edward Sarkisian, David Camenson, Hon. Mark Snauffer, Hon. Jeff Hamilton, and Ernest Benck.

Additionally, our success would not be possible but for the generosity of judges and attorneys in our community who, on an ongoing basis, volunteer and support our MCLE program. We extend special thanks to Judge Conklin who recruits local judges for this program every year. The Alumni Association is in debt for their commitment and we want to express our heartfelt gratitude. We could not have done this work without you! Over the past decade, our presenters and facilitators have included: Hon. Gary Austin, Brian Baker, Hon.

Dennis Beck, Ernest Benck Jr., Beth Best, Mark Broughton, Gary Brunsvik, Richard Cartier, Hon. Hillary Chittick, Hon. Jonathan Conklin, Hon. Kristi Culver-Kapetan, Hon. Nickolas Dibiaso, Katherine Donovan, Sherrie Flynn, Hon. Donald Franson, Hon. Jeff Hamilton, Hon. Kent Hamlin, Debbie Harkness, Katherine Hart, Mari Henson, Julie Hicks, Robert Howk, Hon. David Kalemkarian, Hon. Debra Kazanjian, Robert Kosbie, Roger Litman, Trudi Manfreda, David Mann, Michael McGinnis, Kathryn McTigue-Floyd, Mark Miller, David Mudgridge, Susan Naplitano, Douglas Noll, Hon. Kimberly Nystrom-Geist, Jeffrey G. Purvis, Daniel Rowley, Hon. Houry Sanderson, Hon. Edward Sarkisian, Jr., Hon. M. Bruce Smith, Hon. Mark Snauffer, Adam Stirrup, Hon. Steven Vartabedian, Richard Watters, Marshall Whitney and Roger Wilson.

## Students Tour the U.S. Federal Courthouse



By **Susan Smilanich**, *First Year Student*

Where can you go and speak to two federal court judges, see a judge’s chambers, get to walk where the general public normally never gets to enter in a federal courthouse, speak to a law clerk, and not be in trouble with the law? Well, on a tour of the Eastern District Federal Courthouse, SJCL students were able to do all of this and so much more. The tour started at 9:00 a.m. in the beautiful lobby of the U.S. Federal Courthouse in downtown Fresno. Two federal employees of the court system

met us in the lobby, walked us around throughout the morning to various areas, were so patient to answer all of our questions, and gave us their perspectives on what it is like to work in the court on a daily basis. During this tour, we were able to visit two different courtrooms and listen to Judge Austin (Law ‘76) and Judge Ishii, talk about school, how they got to where they are now, what kind of cases they adjudicate, and what they enjoy about their work. Finally, Nickie Krebsbach, a SJCL second-year student, currently externing with Judge

Ishii, spoke about her position, how much she has learned and the benefits of externing for a Judge. What an impressive tour from an informational standard, but also from an aesthetic viewpoint! The Federal courthouse is beautiful and accurately reflects the local area. As a first year student at SJCL, the whole experience was fantastic. I could not pick a better way to spend my precious time during the week. Thanks to Kristina Garabedian, SJCL and DTP for arranging this tour!

# A Toast for 34 Barpassers!

*San Joaquin College of Law celebrated 34 July Barpassers at the traditional Champagne Reception on the Monday evening following the release of the bar results.*

It happened to be the Monday before Thanksgiving, and there wasn't a person in the house who didn't know the true meaning of thankful after spending four months waiting for this good news.

Barpasser George Vasquez had just returned from his honeymoon in Spain when he was met by friends at his house. They were carrying a huge bottle of wine. Some was consumed before the bar results, and even more was used for the celebration afterwards. Vasquez, like the majority of the barpassers, was already employed as an attorney as he arrived at the reception. He had been clerking for Lozano Smith with the understanding that passing the bar meant passing into the ranks of their attorneys. Vasquez was part of the SJCL team which won the Traynor trophy this year. His fellow team members also say they have already landed their dream jobs. Amanda DeHart is an Associate Attorney with the Law Office of Casey Aitchison in Merced while James Murgidge has been hired as a clerk for U. S. District Judge Anthony Ishii.

Seth Mehrten says he will always remember celebrating his bar passage with his family at Morro Bay. When they arrived at an overflowing restaurant, a gentleman already seated heard what the Mehrten party was celebrating and moved his entire table out of their chairs so Mehrten's group could be seated immediately. He explained that his son had passed the bar last year, and he understood the importance of the celebration.

Two of the barpassers are celebrated by both SJCL and Fresno Pacific University. James McCann and Alicia Hinton earned both a Masters of Arts in Peacemaking and Conflict Studies from F.P.U. and a Juris Doctor from SJCL through



**BACK ROW (L-R): James Murgidge, Kevin Stimmel, Adam Rushing, Seth Mehrten, Gabriel Delgado, Ramon Gonzales, Michael Shaddix, and Andrew Kucera.**

**NEXT ROW (L-R): Henry Campa, Danielle Nunes, Amanda DeHart, Mary Raterman-Doidge, Natalie Packer, and Andrew Driscoll.**

**MIDDLE ROW (L-R): Craig Meredith, Candace Campo, Lisa Craig Flores, Danielle Kjar, and Faith Lisle**

**FRONT ROW (L-R): Eric LiCalsi, Keith Teague, Marla Garcia, George Vasquez, and Sarwinder Dhanjan. Seated: Treanna Garza, Alicia Hinton, and Rachelle Taylor.**

**ALSO PASSING BUT NOT PICTURED: Jennifer Berry, C. Warren Daugherty, Robert Dundas, Bo Koenig, Michael Mazzoni, James McCann, and Tomas Ross**

the Co-operative Degree Program. Both passed the bar on their first try.

Many barpassers were marveling at what it was like after their first day on the job as an attorney. Adam Rushing says he spent part of the day picking out his new desk at the Goldberg Law Firm while Marla Garcia was excited to receive her business cards with the "Attorney at Law" inscription at Perez, Williams, Medina & Rodriguez, adding "I've never had business cards before!"

Others moving into attorney positions include Keith Teague at Baradat and Paboojian, Kevin Stimmel at the Law Office of Mark D. Johnson, Tomas Ross goes to the legal department at Allstate, Faith Lisle is an associate attorney with Fishman, Larsen, Goldring & Zeitler Andrew Kucera is an associate attorney with Cuttone & Associates, Lisa Craig Flores becomes an associate attorney at

the Law Offices of Thomas P. Hogan, Craig Meredith is an associate attorney with Caswell, Bell & Hillison, and Andrew "A.J." Driscoll is an attorney with Yrulegui and Roberts, while both Candace Campo Moore and Danielle Nunes are now Deputy D.A.s at the Tulare County District Attorney's Office.

Meanwhile, others were creating their own employment opportunities. Barpasser Henry Campa's wife is a C.P.A., and they intend to open a firm offering both legal and financial services. Robert Dundas, who has been employed as an IT Program manager at Seagrade Technology, says his next step is to take the patent bar, adding "since Friday, I've never felt I had as many options!" They include not only opportunities at Seagrade, but also the possibility of working for a patent firm or opening his own.

# Law Review Reception

*On October 18, 2013, the San Joaquin Agricultural Law Review held a reception to celebrate the release of the 22nd Volume of the journal.*



The Editorial Board and writers for the 22nd Volume of the *San Joaquin Agricultural Law Review*, including (L-R): **David Benton**, **Bradley Kalebjian**, **Sally Noxon Vecchiarelli**, **Attorney Ronald Henderson** (Law '80), **Candace Clark**, **Nicole Kozycki**, Notes & Comment Editor, **Mary Raterman-Doidge**, Production Editor, **Angelica Ambrose**, Executive Editor **Jesse Molina**, **Wes Carlson**, Editor-in-Chief **Lisa Flores**, Notes & Comment Editor **Conlin Reis**, and **Amanda Kjar**.

By **Conlin Reis**

*Editor-in-Chief, SJALR Volume 23*

**A**uthors and editors for the law review, both current and former, faculty of SJCL, and members of the legal and agricultural community came together at the Pinot Wine Bar and Bistro in Fresno's Tower District to celebrate the continued publication of the nation's oldest agricultural law review. With a lead article on taxation of marketing cooperatives by Fresno attorney Ronald A. Henderson and student articles on topics ranging from agricultural terrorism to mandatory labeling of genetically modified foods, Volume 22 continues the journal's tradition of practical and objective analysis of legal issues relevant to the agricultural community.

The *San Joaquin Agricultural Law Review* Board is grateful for the continued readership and support of our journal.

For an electronic copy of this, or previous volumes of the law review, or for information on how to submit an article, please visit [www.sjcl.edu/sjalr](http://www.sjcl.edu/sjalr).

## Volume 22

### Article

*Scherbart V. Commissioner: Does Agency Swallow Cooperative Taxation?*

By Ronald A. Henderson

### Comments

*The Impact of Mandatory Recalls on Negligence and Product Liability Litigation Under the Food Safety Modernization Act*

By David Benton

*Please Consider The Environment: NEPA Environmental Review and ESA Consultation in San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority v. Salazar*

By Wesley Lawrence Carlson

*The Asian Citrus Psyllid and the Regulatory Takings That Organic Farmers in the State of California May Face with its Eradication Program*

By Candace M. Clark

*The Effect of Terminated Federal Marketing Orders on Small Farms, and a Reflection on the Jeffersonian Spirit*

By Bradley John Kalebjian

*U-Visa Certification Requirement is Blocking Congressional Intent Creating the Need for A Writ of Mandate and Training – Undocumented Immigrant Female Farmworkers Remain Hiding in the Fields of Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment*

By Amanda M. Kjar

*Agro-Terrorism In California: Responding To Legitimate Biological Threats With Effective Legislative Responses*

By E. Nicole Kozycki

*Should the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971 Be Reined in or Turned Out to Pasture?*

By Elizabeth A. Thomasian

*Mandatory Labeling of Genetically Engineered Food: Constitutionally, You Do Not Have A Right to Know*

By Sally Noxon Vecchiarelli

# Senior Law Day

*Kudos and thanks to those who put their time, talent, and love into the latest SJCL Alumni Association Senior Law Day!*



Senior Law Day Chair **Elizabeth Waldow** (Law '09) (far right) introduces this year's presenters, including (L-R) **Deborah Boyett** (Law '01), **Jeff Hill**, **Mike Brummel**, **Jonathan Pena**, **Dr. David Margolin** (Law '11), and **Hilda Ramirez**.

**F**resno County Deputy D.A.s Jeff Hill and Mike Brummel fully engaged Senior Citizens who came to hear about Identity Theft while Attorney Deborah Boyett (Law '01) provided a warm and relatable presentation on Protecting Your Financial Assets. Patti Bower from Valley Caregiver Resource Center rounded out the morning with her lecture on Medicare Fraud and Abuse. Meanwhile, seniors lined up for free legal advice

from volunteer attorneys Jamie Xiong and Jonathan Pena (Law '10) through Central California Legal Services, which provided one-on-one help with simple wills, power of attorney and advance health care directives.

Special thanks to Elizabeth Waldow, Esq. (Law '09) for her attention to all the crazy details each year, along with fellow Alumni Association members who turned out to do some heavy lift-

ing. More thanks goes out to Nitza Coleman (Law '03), Brande Gustafson (Law '09), Dede Agrava (Law '07) and Dr. David Margolin (Law '11). And that's not counting the SJCL students who lent a hand with everything from the continental breakfast to assistance with CCLS appointments. One senior waiting for help commented that she was at the event last year, and would have no way to protect herself without the help she receives from it.

## Students Earn Federal Internships



*Congratulations to San Joaquin College of Law students Wes Carlson and Nikki Krebsbach!*

In addition to their roles in the 22nd and 23rd Volumes of the SJALR, both have been selected to serve as judicial externs for U.S. District Court Judge Anthony Ishii. These externships represent one of many opportunities that are available to SJCL students through clinical placements.

## Alumni Profiles

*SJCL congratulates our alumni celebrating 10, 20 and 30-year anniversaries in 2013. It has been a wonderful opportunity to contact all of our alumni to write their amazing stories. Thanks to all for reading and participating.*

### 1993 Michael A. Dias

After passing the bar, Michael started practicing law with classmates Stan Teixeira and David Minyard. While they enjoyed working together, and are still great friends today, eventually they all ventured off into their own practices in Hanford, Visalia and Fresno. Michael remained in Hanford and started the Dias Law Firm. In 2011, the Dias Law Firm became a professional law corporation and some of the fine individuals who had helped build the firm became shareholders in the Dias Law Firm, Inc.

Of the six attorneys at the firm, five (including Michael), are graduates of SJCL, Jonette M. Montgomery(03), Jimmy J. Rodriquez(04) Ella R. Floresca Soltis (04) and Alicia D. Wrest (10). Also, they have on staff a law clerk, Jarrett Rogers, who is currently attending SJCL. They hope he will also join the team when he graduates in 2015.

The firm handles a broad range of legal work involving agriculture, business and tort litigation, business law, bankruptcy, civil litigation, civil rights, collections, construction law, creditors' rights and insolvency, criminal, employment law, estate planning, estate administration, estate litigation, family law, farm and ranch law, guardianships/conservatorships, juvenile dependency/juvenile criminal, landlord-tenant disputes, mergers and acquisitions, personal injury, tribal law, and real estate and land use. Michael has personally practiced in several areas of the law - family law, criminal law, business, agricultural, wills, trusts, juvenile, and civil litigation.



**11TH ANNUAL  
Judy Wiseman  
Memorial Golf  
Tournament**  
SEPTEMBER 29TH, 2014

*Join San Joaquin College of Law Alumni Association for the Eleventh Annual Judy Wiseman Memorial Golf Tournament on September 29, 2014.*

This tournament was established in honor of Judy Wiseman, a San Joaquin College of Law student who succumbed to cancer in 2002. The Alumni Association will use proceeds from this tournament to fund San Joaquin College of Law Student Scholarships.



**Eagle Springs**  
GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB.

21722 Fairway Oaks Lane  
Friant, CA 93626  
559/325-8900  
[www.eaglespringsgcc.com](http://www.eaglespringsgcc.com)

They have a staff of 15 employees, whose dedication is unmatched. There is no finer group of people than those that he has had the pleasure of working with day in and day out. Every year the entire staff is taken on an overnight trip, all expenses paid, to show the firm's appreciation. Last year they went to Disneyland. Every month staff is taken to lunch for their birthdays, all paid for by the firm. They have a wonderful group that feels more like family than employees. Because of these special individuals they have prospered, and continue to grow.

In 2006, the Dias Law Firm, Inc., relocated from offices above the historic

Hanford Fox Theater to its present location in the historic Hammond Home, originally built in 1938. Michael and his wife, Germaine, restored the home, careful to maintain the historic charm of the building. In 2012, the home was listed in the Chamber of Commerce visitor's guide as one of the Historic Homes of Hanford to see. They have construction plans to expand the building by 2,500 square feet to accommodate their growth and hope to break ground soon. It is truly one of the most beautiful law offices in the area if not the Valley. Michael would be happy to give a personal tour to anyone that wants to stop by and see it.



Michael practices in all California state and federal courts and has had the privilege of temporary admittance in many courts outside of California, most recently in Utah and New Mexico. In addition to a full time practice that takes him all over California and the United States, and even to other countries like China and Mexico, Germaine and Michael also farm walnuts, wine grapes, wheat, and corn. Their operation encompasses over 500 acres of diversified crops. They have six full time employees on the farming venture and in 2014 are expanding into harvesting and fertilizer applications for tree and vine crops.

Germaine and Michael have been married for 36 years. Germaine is a beacon of strength and is actively involved in the firm and farming. She oversees the law firm as their office manager and oversees the farming operation. Michael says "Without her none of this would ever have been possible." Michael hopes she never wearies of his never ending dreams. They have two beautiful and talented daughters, Kristin and Kaylan. Both live and work in the Hollywood area, in the clothing and fashion industries. Kaylan has recently gone back to school to pursue her master's degree in psychology. In his spare time Michael likes to travel, read, exercise and spend time with his family.

Law school gave Michael the skills to understand and practice the law. His persistence and determination came from his father. Michael lost him recently. He was an amazing and successful man.

Whatever personal success Michael has attained is dedicated to him.

Michael is forever grateful for San Joaquin College of Law, and in an attempt to pay back the school for all it has done for him, he currently serves as a Trustee of the Board.

## 2003 Jeremy Lusk

Since graduating, Jeremy has practiced in workers' compensation. He started with Hanna Brophy as a law clerk while in law school, and then worked at several firms representing both defendants and plaintiffs (applicants) in workers' compensation. When asked why he went into the field of workers' compensation, he replies that the answer is easy – "Hanna Brophy was hiring!" In 2008 he went out on his own and started his workers' compensation defense firm representing government entities, school districts, large self-insured employers, and insurance carriers. He partnered with Paul Rodriguez (Law '99) in 2011 and formed Lusk & Rodriguez, and now works with Spencer Gong (Law '03) and Richard Fritsch (Law '08), as well.

Jeremy remembers well the joys and struggles of law school, all made easier as he still roams the halls to this day. He has been teaching at SJCL for the last nine years. He has taught first year Legal Analysis, Research & Writing, and Analytical Process, all of which have kept him close to students and the fun and fear of law school. Jeremy remembers

taking Con Law with Professor Purvis and having Professor Purvis tell Jeremy that Jeremy was wrong in his brief of a case. When Jeremy stuck to his position, Professor Purvis explained that not only was Jeremy wrong, but the Supreme Court was wrong too!

Jeremy also taught several classes with Axia, a division of University of Phoenix. He has served on the Board of the Fresno Industrial Claims Association, on the Faculty Committee of SJCL, and has been certified as a workers' compensation specialist by the State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization.

These days he splits his time between the firm, SJCL, church, and home. Whenever the schedule permits, he enjoys giving presentations to insurance groups and employers, always having fun when in front of a group. His wife, Jessica, has been through the entire adventure, with their son born weeks before law school started and their daughter born just a few months after it ended.

## Debra Sandoval

Debra worked the first two years after graduation doing private practice workers' compensation defense for Jane Woodcock. After that time she went to work with State Compensation Insurance Fund, where she has been for 6 years doing workers' compensation subrogation then 2 years doing workers' compensation defense.

Debra has two sons who have both graduated from college. The oldest, Lucas, with a B.S. in Biological Science Engineering. He is now doing biofuel research for Berkeley Livermore Labs and applying to doctorate programs. The youngest, Victor, is just graduating from SF State with a degree in International Marketing and is getting ready to go into the Peace Corp.

Debra is still heavily involved in showing rabbits and works as the sweepstakes chairperson for the national club. Her best SJCL memories are about her moot court participation.

*We will open the book.  
Its pages are blank. We  
are going to put words on  
them ourselves. The book  
is called Opportunity  
and its first chapter is  
New Year's Day.*

*—Edith Lovejoy Pierce*

My wish for you is a 2014 full of new Opportunities.

San Joaquin College of Law is looking at a 2014 that will be filled with Opportunities. We are fortunate to have the Opportunity to celebrate several significant milestones made possible because of a community that supports our mission. With the new year and new semester, SJCL professors have the Opportunity to instruct our talented students, so they become excellent advocates and community leaders.

As the New Year quickly approaches, San Joaquin College of Law hopes you will consider it in your year-end charitable giving. Gifts to SJCL ensure the College continues to provide new Opportunities to our current students and future students.

On behalf of all of us at San Joaquin College of Law, Happy New Year!



P.S. San Joaquin College of Law is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and all gifts to the college are tax deductible to the extent of the law.

[www.sjcl.edu/makeagift](http://www.sjcl.edu/makeagift)

# Thank you for your support!

**August 1 – December 11, 2013**

*San Joaquin College of Law thanks the following individuals and organizations for their gifts. Their generosity helps SJCL deliver an outstanding academic program to students.*

## **Gifts of \$25,000+**

Granville Homes, Inc.

## **Gifts of \$10,000-24,999**

The Borba Families  
Pacific Gas and Electric

## **Gifts of \$2,500-4,999**

Randolph Ataide ('86)  
Donna Korotie ('85)  
John Loomis (Board)

## **Gifts of \$1,000-2,499**

Central California Bankruptcy Association  
Fran Christiansen ('79)  
Michael Condry ('80)  
Delta Theta Phi Foundation, Inc.  
Robert (Tax '87) and Kathryn Price  
Joanne Sanoian ('82)

## **Gifts of \$500 – 999**

Hon. Nancy Cisneros ('80)  
Leah Cole ('92)  
Clinton Cummins ('90)  
Diana Dooley ('95)  
McCormick Barstow, LLP  
Mark Miller  
Sally Perring (Faculty)  
Margaret Shainberg ('93)  
Sierra IP Law, PC  
Weakley, Arendt, LLP

## **Gifts of \$250 – 499**

Denise Cahill ('04)  
Cal Northern School of Law  
Missy McKai Cartier (Staff)  
Richard Cartier (Faculty)  
Hurlbett & Olmstead  
Robert Hurlbett  
Joan Lassley (Staff)  
Jennifer Morrison ('99)  
Janice Pearson (Faculty)  
Hon. Nancy Smith ('80)  
Regina Tanner ('95)  
Wells Fargo Foundation

## **Gifts of \$100 – 249**

Harry Brown ('87)  
James Cipolla ('94)  
Lisa Cutts ('11)  
James Demsey  
Judith Hall ('91)  
Rhea Ikemiya ('09)  
Kenneth Jorgensen ('02)  
Pamela McFarland ('85)  
James Mele ('76)  
Erik Peterson ('07)  
Beth Pitcock (Staff)  
Hon. R.L. Putnam ('75)  
Mary K. Rau ('91)  
John Shehadey ('81)  
Hon. Mark Snauffer  
Nancy Stegall ('96)  
Phillip Tavlian ('80)  
J. Stanley Teixeira ('93)  
Howard Watkins  
Kasi Welte (Staff)

## **Other**

Kira Ceballos ('01)  
Mark Cullers  
Sofian Dawood ('04)  
Victoria Denny (Staff)  
Joby Dupuis ('85)  
Maureen Hayes  
Hon. David Kalemkarian  
Jeannie Lewis (Staff)  
Sandra McIntyre ('99)  
Dennis Nard ('95)  
Jared Nelson (Staff)  
Vernon Reynolds ('10)  
Carlyn Robbins (Staff)

## **Donation of Books to the Library**

Ernie Mui  
Phillip Tavlian ('80)  
Richard Watters

## **In-Kind Gifts**

Rich Caglia (Board and '99)  
Steven Spencer (Board)

You deserve to be properly recognized for your contributions, and we strive for 100 percent accuracy. If we have made an error, please contact Kasi Welte at 559/323-2100 or [kwelte@sjcl.edu](mailto:kwelte@sjcl.edu).



SAN JOAQUIN  
COLLEGE OF LAW

901 5th Street  
Clovis, California 93612

Non-Profit Org.  
U. S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Fresno, CA  
Permit No. 721

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SAVE THE DATE

# Lost in Translation

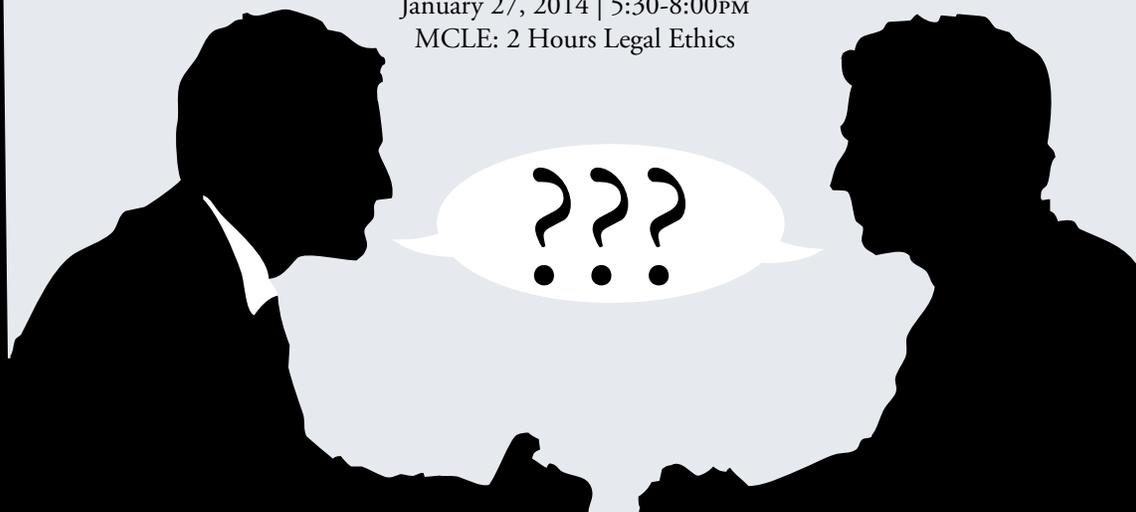
Court Interpreter Matters

Presented by

Rebecca Rubenstein, JD

*Staff Interpreter, U.S. District Court for the Eastern  
District of California, Fresno Division*

January 27, 2014 | 5:30-8:00PM  
MCLE: 2 Hours Legal Ethics



For more information please visit [www.sjcl.edu](http://www.sjcl.edu)

This activity has been approved for Minimum Continuing Legal Education credit by the State Bar of California in the amount of 2 hours of Legal Ethics.