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MAGAZINE



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Copy Editors Yoginee Braslaw & Juanita Mantz
Design and Production PIP Printing Riverside
Cover Design PIP Printing Riverside

Officers of the Bar Association

President

Kira L. Klatchko
 (760) 568-2611
 kira.klatchko@bbkllaw.com

President-Elect

Jean-Simon Serrano
 (951) 682-6400
 jserrano@heitingandirwin.com

Vice President

L. Alexandra Fong
 (951) 955-6300
 lafong@co.riverside.ca.us

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Jeffrey A. Van Wagenen, Jr.
 (951) 955-1309
 JVanWagenen@rivcoeda.org

Secretary

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 (951) 686-1450
 jack.clarke@bbkllaw.com

Directors-at-Large

Sophia H. Choi
 (951) 955-6300
 sochoi@co.riverside.ca.us

Kelly A. Moran
 (951) 955-6300
 kmoran@co.riverside.ca.us

Nicholas Firetag
 (951) 684-2171
 nicholas.firetag@greshamsavage.com

Brian C. Unitt
 (951) 682-7030
 brianunitt@holsteinlaw.com

Executive Director

Charlene Nelson
 (951) 682-1015
 charlene@riversidecountybar.com

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 (951) 823-5140
 christopher@riversidefamilylaw.com

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Riverside County Bar Association
 4129 Main Street, Suite 100
 Riverside, California 92501

Telephone
 951-682-1015

Facsimile
 951-682-0106

Internet
 www.riversidecountybar.com

E-mail
 rcba@riversidecountybar.com

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THE LEO A. DEEGAN INN OF COURT

The Leo A. Deegan Inn of Court is a professional organization comprised of attorneys and judicial officers and organized under the American Inns of Court. It was founded in 1993 by Sharon Waters, Honorable Robert J. Timlin, Stanley Orrock, James Heiting, and Terry Bridges. The organization focuses on improving the skills and professionalism of the bench and the bar. Each month, the Leo A. Deegan Inn holds a dinner meeting, during which a team of members presents a program that focuses on matters of ethics, skills and professionalism.

The Inn was named for the Honorable Leo A. Deegan, a legend of the Riverside legal community. Judge Deegan first began practicing in Riverside in 1946 as a member of the district attorney's office. After also serving in the county counsel's office, he became the city attorney for the City of Riverside in 1958. He was appointed to the bench by Governor Edmund Brown in 1959. He served on the superior court until his retirement in 1975. In the late 1980s, he served for 14 months on the Court of Appeal, Third Appellate District, in Sacramento.

Each year, the Leo A. Deegan Inn of Court recognizes both an attorney and a judicial officer for their outstanding contributions to the legal community, as well as for their professional accomplishments. The Terry A. Bridges Award honors an outstanding attorney, while the Elwood Rich Award honors an outstanding jurist. Additionally, the inn's membership votes on its favorite presentation, and an award is given to that team.

For the 2013-2014 program year, Team Cahraman (comprised of Judge Thomas Cahraman, Attorney Master Ed Fernandez, Attorney Master Paul Grech, Attorney Master Tera Harden, Attorney Master John Porter, Barrister Nicholas Firetag, Barrister L. Alexandra Fong, Associate Chris Marin, Associate Gareit Newstrom, and Chapman University School of Law Student Chad Elwell) won the award for best team presentation. Team Cahraman's presentation focused on local bar activities and was presented in the form of America's Favorite Quiz Show® Jeopardy!

For the 2014-2015 program year, Team Counselis (comprised of Judge Steve Counselis, Attorney Master Marlene Allen-Hammarlund, Attorney Master John



Trophy for best Inn of Court team

Michels, Attorney Master Robert Rancourt, Attorney Master Gregory Rizio, Barrister Melissa Cushman, Associate Chris Marin, Associate Jenese Pritchard, Associate Jennifer Gerard, and Law Student David DerSarkissian) won the award for best team presentation. Team Counselis' presentation focused on the Trial of George Zimmerman (Trayvon Martin case) and guest speakers Carl Douglas, Daryl Exum, and Public Defender Steve Harmon

spoke about the effects of race in their trials.

On May 27, 2015, at the final meeting of the 2014-2015 program year, three awards were presented. The Honorable Carol Codrington, Associate Justice of the California Courts of Appeal, Fourth District, Division Two, presented the Honorable Betty Ann Richli, Associate Justice of the California Courts of Appeal, Fourth District, Division Two (Retired) with the Elwood Rich Outstanding Jurist Award.

John Michels presented Greg Rizio with the Terry A. Bridges Award, which honors an outstanding attorney for his or her contributions to the legal community. Mr. Michels also presented K. Fredric Willis with the Louise Biddle Book Award. The award is given to an outstanding younger attorney for professionalism and dedication to the legal community and who exemplifies the goals of the Inn. The award is in memory of Louise Biddle, former executive director of the Inn and the Riverside County Bar Association.

Incoming President Justice Codrington presented outgoing president John Michels with a plaque to thank him for his service to the Inn.

For the 2015-2016 program year, the Inn's theme is "Real vs. Reel" and is focused on television shows featuring attorneys and their law firms. The television shows chosen by the Board are *Ally McBeal*, *The Good Wife*, *L.A. Law*, *Perry Mason*, *The Practice*, and *The Simpsons*.

At the first meeting of the Inn of Court, Judge Richard T. Fields and Jeffrey Van Wagenen, Jr. were presented with The Honorable Douglas E. Weathers Distinguished Honoree Award.

The Inn accepts applications every summer. Membership is by invitation only, and decisions are made



Terry Bridges and Greg Rizio



John Michels and Justice Carol Codrington



Judge Richard T. Fields and Jeffrey A. Van Wagenen

in August. If you have questions, contact an Inn member or an Inn officer. This year's officers are President Justice Carol Codrington, President-Elect Jeremy Hanson, Vice-President Judge Jacqueline Jackson, Secretary-Treasurer L. Alexandra Fong, Financial Secretary Sophia Choi, Board Member Ben Eilenberg, Board Member Dorothy McLaughlin, Board Member Gerald Fineman, and Immediate Past President John Michels. Executive Director Sherri Gomez may also be contacted at (951) 689-1910 or SherriGomez4@gmail.com.



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Cloud Based Bookkeeping – IOLTA365

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Complete Resource Center – Marathon-records.com

Marathon-records.com is a complete resource center for the solo and small firm lawyer. IOLTA One is an online bookkeeping application designed specifically for IOLTA accounts that reduces the task of keeping compliant records to a simple data entry function. IOLTA One prevents the most common IOLTA account errors and automatically produces a chronological account register, individual client ledgers, and a three-way reconciliation report in compliance with the rules of professional conduct and ALTA best practices. Visit online at www.marathon-records.com and sign up for a free trial.

Conference Rooms Available

Conference rooms, small offices and the third floor meeting room at the RCBA building are available for rent on a half-day or full-day basis. Please call for pricing information, and reserve rooms in advance, by contacting Charlene or Lisa at the RCBA office, (951) 682-1015 or rcba@riversidecountybar.com.



Riverside
County

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Riverside County Bar Association

4129 Main St., Ste. 100, Riverside, CA 92501
RCBA 951-682-1015 LRS 951-682-7520
www.riversidecountybar.com rcbadrs@riversidecountybar.com

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