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LEO A. DEEGAN INN OF COURT: TEAMS KAISER, LITTLEWORTH AND MOORE

by Robyn A. Lewis

The teams of the Leo A. Deegan Inn of Court have continued its custom of honoring prestigious jurists and attorneys in the Riverside legal community by adopting such persons as team namesakes. March and April were no exception.

On March 12, 2008, Team Kaiser honored the Honorable E. Michael Kaiser during its presentation. As a practitioner, Judge Kaiser came to Riverside and joined the firm of Redwine & Sherrill, after practicing at the Los Angeles law firm of Chase, Rotchford, Drukker & Bogust, where he was the managing partner. Judge Kaiser is a past-president of the Inland Empire chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates and of the Leo A. Deegan Inn of Court. He focused on business law and eminent domain before he took the bench in 1990. He became supervisor of the Riverside court's civil department in 1991 and assumed the role of presiding judge in 1993.

Judge Kaiser is perhaps best known for his role in the Stringfellow acid pits civil trials, over which he presided. In those cases, approximately 3,800 residents sued the state of California, alleging that toxic pollution from a hazardous waste dump caused illnesses, including leukemia.

Judge Kaiser has since retired from the bench, but his legacy lives on. He once said: "If I can leave the bench, whenever that may happen, and you can look back and say he was a good judge, he was fair, and say that with a smile, I will have been a success." Based on his reception at the March 12, 2008 meeting, there is no doubt that Judge Kaiser has exceeded his own expectations.

On March 26, 2008, Team Littleworth honored Arthur Littleworth, an attorney who is a legend in Riverside. Mr. Littleworth is one of the preeminent water law attorneys in the United States. A senior partner with Best Best & Krieger, Mr. Littleworth was appointed by the United States Supreme Court as a Special Master to hear a case of original jurisdiction in a dispute between Kansas and Colorado involving the Arkansas River. He was named as one of the top 100 attorneys in 2003 and is listed in *Best Lawyers in America*. Mr. Littleworth is a coauthor of *California Water*, which is considered to be the authority on that subject matter.

Due to an illness, Mr. Littleworth was unable to join his team for its presentation. However, his legal expertise

and commitment to the Riverside legal community and the Inland Empire at large were well-noted. Members were reminded that, during his tenure as Chair of the Riverside Unified School District, it was Art Littleworth who spearheaded the voluntary desegregation of Riverside schools, for which he received the Federal Bar Association's Erwin Chemerinsky Defender of the Constitution Award.

Mr. Littleworth is a past-president of the Riverside County Bar Association. He was awarded the prestigious Krieger Meritorious Service Award, for his outstanding community service and civic achievement in the legal profession, and the Frank Miller Civic Achievement Award, for his outstanding civic leadership, service, and support for his community.

Most recently, on April 30, 2008, the Inn was joined by the legendary David Moore of Reid & Hellyer for a presentation by Team Moore. Mr. Moore, who was met with a standing ovation, is perhaps one of the most well-respected trial attorneys in Riverside history. A civil litigator specializing in business and real estate litigation, tort defense and water litigation, Mr. Moore was named one of the top attorneys in the Inland Empire and one of the "Best Lawyers in America," and he is a recipient of the Leo A. Deegan Inn of Court Award for Legal Excellence. He is a former president of the Riverside County Bar Association, the Leo A. Deegan Inn of Court, and the American Board of Trial Advocates.

Perhaps Mr. Moore is most well-known for being a trial attorney. He is a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, one of the premier legal associations in the United States. Fellowship in the College is by invitation only and presented to those trial attorneys who have mastered the art of advocacy and whose professional careers have been marked by the highest standards of ethical conduct, professionalism, civility and congeniality. There can be no doubt that David Moore embodies all of those qualities and has personified them throughout his impressive legal career.



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