



2009 Calendar of Events

Please mark your calendar for these upcoming NCBA events. Locations to be announced via the newsletter and website (www.nevadacountybar.com) unless otherwise noted.

January 7 Gold Country Estate Planning Lunch

January 14 7:30 – 9:00 a.m. Estate Planning Professionals Roundtable (see Pg. 3)

January 19 Court Holiday

January 21 MCLE Lunch – Holbrooke Hotel
Visiting speaker William Korman's program on Legal Ethics, which had been scheduled for 9/24 but was cancelled due to the closing of the Stonehouse Restaurant, has been rescheduled for January 21 at noon.

January 26 Noon - Effects of post-traumatic stress disorder, (see Family Law Notes).

February 25, Noon - Holbrook Hotel. ADR Lunch

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- + Remember your 2009 Bar Dues.

**Next MCLE Luncheon
ETHICS UNITS
January 21, 2009**

Where: Holbrooke Hotel, Grass Valley

**When: January 21, 2009
11:15 a.m. Executive Committee
12:00 General Membership**

**Price: \$26 ea. Members with RSVP
\$30 ea. No RSVP**

**Program includes 1 hour of
ETHICS MCLE Credit:**

Menu Choices: Chefs Choice Lunch – Buffet
Meat and Vegetarian Options
Buffet to include Bread & Butter, Salad and Chefs choice of appropriate accompaniments. **Please RSVP by Jan 16, '09.**

Attendees should email jfordlaw@yahoo.com with their meal choice in order to receive advance pricing.

Reminder: Have you sent in your '09 Dues?

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

As the New Year rolled in a friend of mine sent me a message worth reiterating and remembering:

"There comes a point in your life when you realize
who matters,
who never did,
who won't anymore...
and who always will...
So, don't worry about people from your past,
there's a reason why they didn't make it to your
future."

May 2009 bring many people to you that matter, and keep those dear to you close. And, more importantly, may you be one that matters to others.

As lawyers we have a unique opportunity to make a difference in people's lives. It is how you go about your daily job that ultimately makes a difference. The

opportunities we have as lawyers and individuals to interact with clients, colleagues, adversaries, judges and friends, create not only our own personal histories, but those of others.

I want to thank everyone who has helped our Nevada County Bar Association be a great organization this year.

Happy New Year! Not only have an exceptional and prosperous 2009, take the opportunity to be exceptional.

Debra Sitzberger
President NCBA

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Please take note of the following judicial assignments for the Superior Court of California, County of Nevada.

Nevada City Division:

- Department I: Judge Candace S. Heidelberger
- Department II: Judge Sean P. Dowling,
Presiding Judge
- Department III: Judge Julie A. McManus
- Department IV: Judge Robert L. Tamietti
- Department V: Commissioner B. Scott
Thomsen
- Department VI: Judge Thomas M. Anderson,
Assistant Presiding Judge

Truckee Division:

- Department A: Judge C. Anders Holmer
- Department B: Commissioner B. Scott
Thomsen

2009 AOC/LAAC Family Law Conference

We are pleased to announce that registration for the 2009 AOC/LAAC Family Law Conference is now open! The 2009 Conference is co-sponsored by the Legal Aid Association of California and the Administrative Office of the Courts. It will take place from February 25-26, 2009 at the Milton Marks Conference Center in San Francisco. There will be a diverse offering of workshops, as well as the opportunity to network and attend the 2009 Family Law Awards Ceremony. We hope you will join us on one or both days of the conference!

Please find the registration forms for this training, with logistical details, descriptions of the sessions, and registration fee information [here](#).

Please note the registration deadline is Friday, February 13, 2009. All late registrations will be subject to a \$20 late fee.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me! We look forward to seeing you at the 2009 Family Law Conference.

Vivian Chen, Training Associate, Legal Aid Association of California (LAAC)(415) 834-0100 x312
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**NEW RULES AND FORMS EFFECTIVE
JAN. 1, 2009**

The list of new and revised Judicial Council forms that go into effect on January 1, 2009 is found at: <http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/forms/latest.htm>. These forms will be posted on-line on January 1. To read the Judicial Council report that explains why the forms were developed or changes were made, and to see the forms with changes highlighted, go to the Agenda for the Judicial Council meeting on October 24, 2008 <http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/jc/meetings.htm>. All of the forms changes were on the consent part of the agenda. Each of the report titles will include the name of the forms and rules considered by the council. The agenda includes a one paragraph description of the item. Click the link to read the full report which will include the forms and chart listing all comments received and the Judicial Council's subject matter committee's response to those comments.

**OUT FOR COMMENT - RULES AND FORMS FOR
JULY 1, 2009**

The draft rules and forms for the revised fee waiver statute which will go into effect July 1, 2009 will be circulated for comment beginning December 10, 2008 through January 21, 2009. Among the topics of particular interest to the legal services community will be the proposed rules and forms implementing the new fee waiver statute, new and amended domestic violence forms implementing statutory changes and modifications to guardianship forms to address ICWA (Indian Child Welfare Act) issues. All rules and forms proposals are found at: <http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/invitationstocomment/>

**NEW CLEARINGHOUSE OF NATIVE AMERICAN
RESOURCES**

The AOC's Center for Families, Children and the Courts has developed an interactive database that houses a directory of resources that serve Native American families. The directory contains listings that can be searched by county in California, statewide in California, and nationwide. The search also contains keywords (mental health, legal, etc...) in an effort to make searching for a specific type of resource quick and easy. The directory can be accessed at <http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/cfcc/programs/description/ICWA/>. For additional ICWA resources, see: <http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/programs/cfcc/programs/description/jrta-ICWAResources.htm>

Section Notes

Criminal Law Section:

Taking on the system can be lonely work - so come by and get support from your peers!

The criminal defense group is meeting on **2nd TUESDAY of the month** at 5:30 p.m. (If you would like to receive the group's e-mail notices, call Anita at 265-8508). The meetings are kept to about one hour max, so as many as possible can attend.

There are kudos each month for individual successes, and contributions to criminal defense - if you have a nomination, tell Steve or Anna at 265-8508. - Steve Munkelt

Family Law Section:

"The Family Law Section will resume their lunchtime meetings on Thursday, **January 26** at noon in the mediation room adjacent to Department 3. All mediators, attorneys and therapists are encouraged to attend. Dr. Page Brown is a psychologist who works primarily with veterans. She will be speaking on the effects of war, particularly post-traumatic stress disorder, and how it impacts returning Iraqi veterans in their relationships, their families, and their children vis-à-vis custody cases. Staff Sgt. Doug MacDuff of the National Guard has PTSD after serving a tour of duty in Iraq and will be sharing his experience. Please plan to attend what promises to be a very informative presentation."

Contact: Chuck Eckerman by phone at 477-2440 or email eckerlaw@sbcglobal.net.

ADR Section:

October 22, 12:00 Noon @ The Holbrooke Hotel in Grass Valley (parking in back).

ADR Section: Wednesday, February 25, 2009, Noon, Holbrooke Hotel, front room for lunch (we're moving to a quieter location). We'll be finalizing the agenda for our March 25 MCLE program for NCBA, and sharing ideas on how to convene a mediation to hone our skills as mediation practitioners.

Rosemary Metraier, Law Offices of Rosemary Metraier
PO Box 215, Nevada City, CA 95959
Phone (530)265-3062 or (916)447-7258
Fax (530)265-0601

Contact Rosemary Metraier: rmetraier@metraier.com
(530)265-3062

Gold Country Estate Planning Council:

The GOLD COUNTRY ESTATE PLANNING COUNCIL meets monthly at 11:45 am-1:15 pm, every first Wednesday. The luncheon meetings are

held at the Trolley Junction Café (at the Northern Queen Inn) in Nevada City.

All are welcome!

To RSVP for the next meeting, please call Terry Brown at 530-273-1323.

Or check out the website: www.estateplanningcouncil.net.

Estate Planning Professionals Roundtable: Increasing Value to Family Business Clients.

**January 14, 2009
7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.**

Location: Sutter Auburn Faith Hospital – Conference room A
Free to first 80 registrants.

RSVP to Carol Zobel (530) 888-4557

Legal Aid Association of California's Family Law Awards.

The awards will be presented during the 2009 Family Law Conference which will be held on February 25 and 26th at the AOC in San Francisco.

The three categories to nominate someone in are:

- I. Direct Representation (Legal Services Family Attorney)
- II. Pro Bono Work (Private Attorney)
- III. Family Law Facilitator or Self-Help Center Service Provider

If you have any questions, please contact LAAC Program Associate Chris Moulton at cmoulton@pic.org or Vivien Chen at vchen@pic.org.

The deadline to nominate someone for an award is November 25th.

www.otherbar.org

Confidential Hotline:
(800) 222-0767

Free Confidential Assistance to those in the legal community with substance abuse problems. Weekly Other Bar Recovery Meetings are held in many areas and others are being established. For times and locations or to start a program in your area contact the website above.

Check Out the Library...

New Rules of Court for 36 courts. Check it out at the Law Library or look on line at Courtinfo.ca.gov

PLACER COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

Granlibakken MCLE Conference

April 17 & 18

\$45 early registration deduction (by Jan 31)

\$180 PCBA members

\$225 Non – Members

pcba@hckjs.com

Comings & Goings:

Farewell to Kathleen Hrepich of CDSS. She has been appointed by Gov. Schwarzenegger as Deputy Director and Chief Counsel of State Dept of Child Support. Congratulations Kathy & we wish you well!

Welcome to **Michele Drier** new Executive Director of NCLA!

Note Address Change:

Diane Iglesias
430 S. Auburn St
Grass Valley, CA 94945

Have you moved, added an associate, etc?

Let me know hsttauts@nevadacountycourts.com & I'll put it in the newsletter!

SURVEY ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE ELKINS FAMILY LAW TASK FORCE

The [Elkins Family Law Task Force](#), a Judicial Council task force aimed at improving family law is seeking input from California lawyers. Lawyers from around the state are encouraged to go to the survey Web site, www.elkinssurvey.com, and provide answers about their experiences in family court. In addition to including questions about attorneys' practices, the survey asks about the challenges attorneys face in practicing family law, solicits suggestions for improvement, and seeks information about aspects of family law that attorneys believe are

working well.

The goal of the survey is to collect data and suggestions from attorneys throughout the state that will help the courts in achieving efficiency and fairness in family law proceedings and ensure access to justice for all litigants.

The deadline for completion of the survey is January 16th at 5 pm.

Rodney Low, Program Developer, The State Bar of California 180 Howard Street, San Francisco, CA 94105
Tele:415/538-2219 Fax:415/538-2552
Email: rodney.low@calbar.ca.gov

NEWS FROM THE STATE BAR

DECEMBER HEARINGS --- Comments about attorney admissions, disciplinary proceedings and competence will be heard on Dec. 9 in Los Angeles and Dec. 11 in San Francisco.

ANNUAL DUES TIME --- The State Bar's annual fee statement was mailed Dec. 1 to all active attorneys and all inactive lawyers under the age of 70. Dues must be paid by Feb. 2.

CIVIL FEES INCREASE --- The Judicial Council of California has announced a new civil fee and traffic fine structure beginning January 1.

SEI & SOLO SUMMIT IN BERKELEY --- Attorneys can earn MCLE credit at the [Section Education Institute](#) (Jan. 16-18) and the [Solo and Small Firm Summit](#) (Jan. 15-16).

FAMILY LAW EXPERTISE --- A Supreme Court-created task force aimed at improving family law is seeking input from California lawyers.

CONTRIBUTE --- State Bar President Holly Fujie [encourages attorneys](#) to support legal services for low-income Californians by contributing to the [Justice Gap Fund](#) when paying their annual State Bar dues.

NEW AFFINITY PARTNERS --- A new group of affinity partners who provide tools and services to assist attorneys with marketing their practices have joined *CalBar Connect*, the State Bar's members-only Web site.

AOC Fellowship Opportunity

Judicial Administrative Fellows Program applications accepted through **February 25, 2008**. Administrative Office of the Courts & Cal State Sacramento offers a Judicial Administrative Fellowship. Candidates must have a 4-year degree & 20 years of age.

Stipend & Benefits available – 12 graduate units in Public Administration.

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 - Experienced
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in Downtown Nevada City
Renovated suites available, Mediation rooms available.

Offices: 240 sf to 1100 sf – as low as \$1.00/sf
Priced from: \$350 to \$1100 – units available on Deer Creek

Mediation: two room suites available – by the hour or by the day – competitive rates

** Walking distance to the Court house **

Palisades Property Management Inc.
john@grassvalleymanagement.com
www.grassvalleymanagement.com
530.272.8496-P 530.272.8196-fax

**Dispute?
Resolution !**

Judge Albert P. Dover (ret)
Please call: 265 2235 or email at
al@adrwithdover.com

Visit the website for information on rates, fees , and services
at www.adrwithdover.com

Nevada City Branch

- Department I: Judge Heidelberg
- Department II: Presiding Judge Dowling
- Department III: Judge McManus
- Department IV: Judge Tamietti
- Department V: Commissioner Thomsen
- Department VI: Judge Anderson

Truckee Branch

- Dept. A Judge Anders Holmer
- Dept. B Commissioner Thomsen

NCBA CONTACT INFORMATION

OFFICERS

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pbronson@pbronsonlaw.com

Helen Cavanaugh Stauts - Newsletter
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SECTION & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Rosemary Metraier - ADR Section Chair (530)
265-3062 rmetraier@metraier.com

Steve Munkelt - Criminal Law Section Chair
265-8508, smunk@gv.net

Chuck Eckerman - Family Law Section Chair
477-2440, eckerlaw@sbcglobal.net

Andy Harris - Fee Arbitration Program Admin.
272-4250, andy@scottbrowne.com

Kipp Wordell - MCLE Chair
470-0900, kippcharlton@sbcglobal.net

NCBA

**P.O. Box 1473
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www.nevadacountybar.com

**Nevada County Bar Association
Post Office Box 1473
Nevada City, CA 95959-1473**

Nevada County Bar Association

January 21, 2009

**Noon – 1:30 p.m.
ETHICS MCLE Lunch
Holbrooke Hotel**

**Visiting speaker William Korman's program on
Legal Ethics**

RSVP email jifordlaw@yahoo.com with meal choice in order to receive advance pricing.

(Previously scheduled for 9/24/08)
