

## ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS



MMXIII | Issue III

## MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

On July Seventh, the official results were announced for the February, 2013 California Bar Exam. Eighty-nine percent of those graduates from Western State taking the Bar for the first time passed. This was great news, news I was expecting, but had hardly taken for granted. Western State had the fourth highest pass rate of the twenty ABA-approved California schools, and it bettered the statewide ABA average for the seventh time in a row.

Without question, these results validate the programs and course of study the faculty has put in place and the support their efforts have engendered from throughout the Western State community, from the Admissions Department who have been recruiting diverse and well prepared candidates, to the alumni, who have supported the recent bar groups with jobs, mentorships, and scholarship dollars.

In an era of escalating education costs, we can ameliorate the burden of crippling debt and prepare students to practice immediately upon licensure. At our recent site visit, the ABA attested to the merit of our programs and the success of our outcomes, and granted the school the prized seven year re-accreditation.

That only takes us so far.

On September 28<sup>th</sup>, Western State will be holding its annual alumni Hall of Fame Gala Dinner at the Balboa Bay Club in Newport Beach. The event will honor four graduates: Patricia Lee-Gulley, Solange Ritchie, Douglas Schroeder and Eric Traut. Each has made substantial contributions to legal education, and each has built a career that powerfully joins community service and professional achievement.

But the Hall of Fame Gala will be something more. Every dollar in proceeds will be expended towards scholarships for entering and continuing students, and used to reduce the cost of a legal education to those who will be tomorrow's Hall of Fame inductees. It is not just whimsy to say that your attendance at this event – or your sponsorship – is a gift to a future generation of lawyers.



There are any number of great reasons to attend the Hall of Fame Gala Dinner, but perhaps the most compelling is the opportunity to share the *bonhomie* that is only possible between former classmates or professional tyros who have shared time in the trenches and emerged with a degree of success and personal achievement. On that evening, I look forward to your sharing with me what remains an important part of the Western State story.





# HALL OF FAME GALA DINNER

honoring

PATRICIA A. LEE-GULLEY | SOLANGE E. RITCHIE | DOUGLAS W. SCHROEDER | ERIC V. TRAUT

Saturday, September 28 | The Balboa Bay Club  
5:30 p.m. | Casino & Cocktails | 1221 West Coast Highway  
7:30 p.m. | Dinner & Awards Ceremony | Newport Beach, California

  
*Black Tie*





# FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS



**Professor Glenn Koppel**, a member of the American Law Institute, participated in a first-of-its-kind podcast on the ALI-CLE website. For the past two years, the ALI has set up a website at its Annual Meeting and invited members to participate as bloggers, posting their commentary and observations about the three-day meeting's events.



**Professor Monica Todd** presented "Making Group-Work Work: Small-Group Exercises for the Legal Writing Classroom" at the recent *Western Regional Legal Writing Conference*, this past August at Whittier Law School. She discussed the benefits of incorporating collaborative learning experiences into Legal Writing and Research classes and shared examples of various small-group exercises done at Western State.

# WESTERN STATE College of Law

## The Dictum

Friday 13<sup>th</sup>, September, 2013

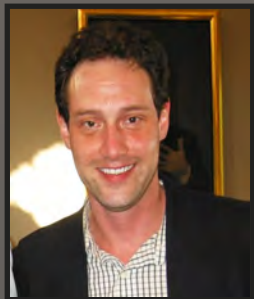
### WESTERN STATE GRADUATES TURN IN STUNNING BAR PERFORMANCE



Eighty-nine percent of those graduates from Western State taking the California Bar for the first time in February passed. Their performance placed Western State fourth among the twenty California law schools who are American Bar Association (ABA) approved.

"We are thrilled that our graduates have outperformed the bar pass rate average for the state of California by nearly 30 percent," said William Adams, Dean of the school. "This marks the seventh consecutive time that our graduates have met or outperformed this bar pass rate. In doing so, they have successfully demonstrated the value of their legal education at Western State and their commitment to the future of the profession."

# FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS



**Professor David Groshoff** was selected to present the research on his forthcoming article: *"Extraordinary Popular Delusions and the Madness of Crowd funding Restrictions and Bitcoin Bubbles"* at the *National Business Law Scholars Conference* at the Ohio State Moritz College of Law in June. Groshoff has previously presented at the conference when it was held at the University of Maryland and University of California Hastings. He is the first Western State faculty member to have presented at the conference.



**Professor Marianne Dellinger's** article, *"Localizing the Law of Climate Change,"* will appear in the forthcoming issue of the *Minnesota Journal of Law, Science, and Technology*, Volume 14, Issue 2 (2013). She has been invited to submit her article: "An Unstoppable Tide: Creating Environmental and Human Rights Law from the Bottom Up," to the forthcoming issue of *Oregon Review of International Law*.



## Colleagues in Law

*A Celebration of Alumni Achievement*



Click here  
for complete  
interview:



A graduating Jeff Witjas accepts his diploma from Dean Maxwell Boas.

**Jeffrey Witjas**

**APA: Senior VP, Talent  
Class of 1979**



### What does being a Western State alum mean to you?

I was always proud to go to Western State prior to it becoming fully accredited. I really enjoyed the learning process. It gave me a great foundation for the alternative career choice that I have chosen. I had some wonderful Professors (i.e. Dean Snyder who taught criminal law). I must admit though when it finally got its full ABA status. I felt "legitimized." I have my diploma hanging front and center in my office.

### Of what success are you most proud?

There are many, but I would say the rejuvenation of BETTY WHITE'S career to become the #1 celebrity in Hollywood. BETTY was always popular. In the last 5-6 years her popularity exploded worldwide. She and I have made a terrific team and there is a lot more ahead for her....I am blessed to do what I do for a living. As a talent agent, I am in one of the most exciting jobs anyone can have: representing, nurturing, creating opportunities for people and then have millions of people enjoy the product--that's the rush; you don't need anything else. I also meet some of the most fabulous people in the world. My law background gave me balance and the ability to be reasonable and understanding. I never get too high or too low. In one day everything could change. My parents always taught me to treat people "right". Put this all together and it equals success.

### What do you like most about the practice of law?

I utilize my knowledge from my law school days in negotiating contracts. I know where the red flags are. I work with many entertainment attorneys as well as business affairs associates at APA who are terrific to collaborate with over deals. I bounce ideas off of them as far as discussing what a good back-end participation in a motion picture would be for a client and numerous other television, motion picture, Broadway, directing, acting, etc., deal points.

It all comes down to protecting the client. That is what I do. I want to protect the client in all types of deals. It is ALL about the client...they depend and trust in me. The last thing I would want to do is have them commence work on a project with a deal different then what they thought it was.

**Jeff Witjas will be speaking at Western State on Friday Oct. 4 to the Entertainment Sports Law Society. Info? Contact: [jcheydleur@wsulaw.edu](mailto:jcheydleur@wsulaw.edu)**



# FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS



**Professor Eunice Park** presented "Not Necessarily a Sea Change: Preparing for the State Bar's Practical Skills Requirement Through Assessment" at the *Western Regional Legal Writing Conference*, hosted by Whittier Law School this past August. She discussed how the changing climate of legal education provides both challenges and opportunities for us to demonstrate the value of the legal writing program, and one way to do that is by assessing our students for the many practical skills intrinsic to the course.

## ALUMNI KUDOS



**David Fox (Class of 1985)** of Myman Greenspan Fineman Fox Light has been selected by *The Hollywood Reporter* as one of the Top One Hundred Entertainment Lawyers in the United States.



## Colleagues in Law

*A Celebration of Alumni Achievement*



Click here  
for complete  
interview:



**Marci Polzin**

Class of 1995

**Clear Talent Group: Director, Commercial and Voice Over**



**What do you like most about the practice of law?**

I only practiced law for six months, during the commercial strike of the year 2000. I took the bar exam—passed on my first attempt—but I always knew I wanted to be in the entertainment industry.

My job is to protect my client. I work for the client—no matter what fee structure. It's similar to tort law in that I make money when my client does.

I get the joy of calling up the client and saying, "You booked the job!" If through my efforts, my client works, that's what it's all about for me. I want them to be excited about working. That means, as a team, we are doing something right.

The client must provide me with tools so I can properly represent them. I use my education—contracts—even constitutional law in right to work states, in the absence of Union guidelines. I use my Intellectual Property class. I don't represent writers, but I use law every day. Even though I'm "inactive" according to the CA State Bar, I can activate my license any time.

**What do you see as the most important/pressing issue in the legal system right now?**

In entertainment, it's being aware of changing issues; it's not so much Feature Films anymore. There are more rules concerning network TV, primetime actors on Pay TV vs. regular Cable, vs. Network, or being in commercials or radio. Some Series go directly to Netflix now—more new media. Never before has "Now known or hereinafter developed" been more salient.

**How has the practice changed since you first started?**

You can't ever stop learning. The meaning of the standard clause, "*all media now known or hereinafter developed*" is expanding. Everything is webisodes, mobisodes, apps, etc. It's constantly changing or improving. Media companies claiming monopolies on different conflict areas of exclusivity. It's not just Nike vs. Adidas anymore.

# ALUMNI KUDOS



**Guillermo Tello (Class Of 2012)**

was elected to the 2013 Board of Directors of the Hispanic Bar Association of Orange County. At Western State, he served as President of the Latino Student Bar Association and as President of the Honors Moot Court Society. He is an associate with the law firm of Rippetoe Miles, LLP.



**Riley C. Walter (Class of 1979)** will be celebrating his “ten-year anniversary” of being designated as a Northern California Super Lawyer for the tenth consecutive year. He has also been selected for the third consecutive year as one of the “Top 100 attorneys in Northern California for 2013.” Walter is an insolvency lawyer in the Valley wide practice of Walter & Wilhelm Law Group, headquartered in Fresno.



## Colleagues in Law

*A Celebration of Alumni Achievement*



[Click here  
for complete  
interview:](#)



**Jack Golden**

**Hall of Fame 2008  
Class of 1979**

**What is your first memory of Western State?**

Probably Dean O'Connell referring to all the know-it-all law students as, “*the ‘Supreme Court Justices’ in the student lounge.*”

**Of what success are you most proud?**

Raising three wonderful daughters. Of course I can only take partial credit for that. As an attorney, I'd have to say I'm most proud of successfully defending jail-expansion cases for the county—in the role I had for about ten years as the county's primary California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) advisory and litigation attorney. Practicing CEQA law is fun for a creative attorney, because it's a combination of playing chess and playing Stratego™: Chess because you have to think moves ahead and anticipate your opponent's moves. Stratego™, because you never know if you're going to land on a mine and have the whole strategy blow-up in your face. Project opponents are generally against it for political reasons, but claim environmental reasons. Winning the entire case at the Court of Appeal, I was able to help the county make progress towards adding the jail beds they will need to house the growing jail population in the future.

**What does being in the Hall of Fame mean to you?**

When I was a 12 year old shortstop for the Chaffee, Missouri Cardinals little league, I dreamed of being in the HOF. But seriously, I am honored to be recognized along with the others—a lot of strong lawyers who have served their clients and the community well.

**How has the practice changed since you first started?**

I heard this when I started in 1980, that the practice used to be more collegial than it was then. It is much less collegial now. It's commonplace that sanctions are asked for by one side or the other in nearly every litigated case these days. Fifty years ago, no lawyer would have asked for sanctions; it was unheard of. It is a sad commentary that in 2007 the State Bar felt obligated to adopt the *Guidelines of Civility and Professionalism for Attorneys*. On the flip side, in our “sue happy” culture, lawyers have had to become much better practitioners to try to avoid becoming defendants themselves.

# ALUMNI KUDOS



**Sherri Honer (Class of 1996)** has been appointed Judge for the Orange County Superior Court by Governor Brown. She previously practiced with the Law Office of Frank Barbaro, as well as the Orange County District Attorney's Office, Appellate Defenders Inc., Callahan, McCune & Willis LLP, and Horton Barbaro & Reilly.



**Ana Estephan (Class of 2003)** has joined Northrup Schlueter, a full-service law firm based in both Westlake Village and Santa Barbara. She will focus on complex construction defect litigation representing builders, general contractors, subcontractors, material suppliers and manufacturers in all aspects of commercial and residential construction matters. Before joining Northrup Schlueter, Ms. Estephan worked at Los Angeles-based Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP in its construction group, and with Zurich North America as Staff Legal Counsel in its construction defect department.



## Colleagues in Law *A Celebration of Alumni Achievement*



Click here  
for complete  
interview:

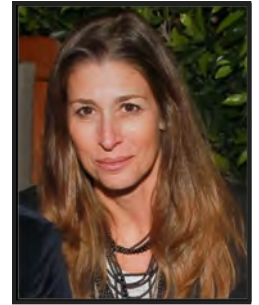


### Michelle C. Kremer

Class of 1992

Surfrider Foundation - Chief Operating Officer

[Click for more info on the Surfrider Foundation](#)



#### Of what success are you most proud?

My tenure at the SURFRIDER FOUNDATION. When I started, we were six paid staff with a half million dollar budget. Now we are 45 paid staff with a six-million dollar budget. We've effected numerous victories over the years, and all for saving the beaches and the waves—the most important things. That's the *definition* of success in my mind.

#### What do you see as the most important/pressing issue in your work right now?

On the environmental side, there are constant threats to our coastal environment: pollution, poorly planned coastal development, sea-level rise. We are like the postal workers—the news mail keeps coming. For every solution, there are two other threats that pop up.

On the Operational side, running a non profit is challenging in the best of times. When the economy is down, it's that much more challenging. There is always too much work and not enough time. 10-12 hour days are common, which is ironic because I have always said that I didn't want to work those long "attorney's hours." <laughs>

#### What do you like least about what you do?

There are so many things right now. <points to stacks of paperwork> Working for a non profit, it's always the amount of work and lack of resources to accomplish what we want. And there is still that stigma—"oh, you're an attorney?" I can only respond with, "—but I work for *the environment*!"

#### How do you view Western State's position in the legal community?

It has a solid reputation of producing knowledgeable attorneys. Chris Evans (class of 1981), a now-retired judge, was the SURFRIDER FOUNDATION's Executive Director from 1999-2004—another Western State Alum.

#### What do you like most about the practice of law?

I have been able to take my law degree and apply it to causes I'm passionate about. I serve as C.O.O. and General Counsel. It gives me flexibility—not practicing 24/7—I haven't gotten burnt out on the practice of law. It's a great basis for everything we do in the non profit/political realm. It's given me a skillset which has proven invaluable for my work.



# ALUMNI KUDOS



**Armond Jackson (Class of 2012)** was invited to appear on the Black Women Lawyers Annual Fireside Chat panel at USC Law School in June focusing on “How to Market Yourself in Tough Economic Times.”



**Kimberly Lessing (Class of 2006)**, the 2012-2013 President of the National Association of Women Business Owners, Inland Empire Chapter, was awarded the Acknowledging NAWBO Who Achieve (ANITA) Award at the Tenth Annual Amazing Women Event on April 18<sup>th</sup>, at Corona’s Eagle Glen Golf Club.



## Colleagues in Law

*A Celebration of Alumni Achievement*



Click here  
for complete  
interview:



**George Rodda, Jr.**  
Class of 1972



### Of what success are you most proud?

Two of my WSU professors challenged me to take on the Nixon Administration on behalf of the Vietnam vets; so, while studying I organized the lawsuit which is said to have obtained the largest collected judgment until 1972. It also was the first successful anti-impoundment suit since 1803, the first recognition of and funding for post-traumatic stress disabilities, the first acknowledged use of community and junior colleges to assist vets in readjusting to life as a student and got my first national client while awaiting bar results. Dean Boas assured me that all those who had finished first in their classes passed their first bar exam. But, who knew? WSU had so few graduates then. Anyway, I felt safe in drafting the “Comprehensive Community College” Bill for my clients, figuring that every Congressional District but one in Nevada had a college and it sailed through both Houses of Congress. Ushering in the Golden Age for Community Colleges had a rude awakening. The Joint Congressional Appropriations Committee didn’t fund the bill then or any time since. Incidentally, all Congressional bills are so similar, drafting one is easier than any mid-term was at WSU.

### What do you see as the most important/pressing issue in the legal system right now?

With snooping on and storing even the internet and phone communications of the Justices of the Supreme Court, is the United State’s Constitution really safe?

### How has the practice changed since you first started?

IBM “Selectric” typewriters and ditto masters were the technological advances then. Law libraries and federal book depositories were the centers of knowledge in the early 1970’s. Lawyers were the most respected of all the professions and the California State Bar exam was the most difficult of all professional exams. Today, only passing the State Bar is similar.



# ALUMNI KUDOS



**Jon Mitchell Jackson (Class of 1985)**, of Jackson & Wilson, recently won a \$1 million jury verdict in a gross negligence EMT/wrongful death case on behalf of his client, the family of a man who was incorrectly restrained in an ambulance, exited the vehicle during transport, and was struck and killed in traffic.

Jackson received the 2013 CLAY Award for Litigation, in recognition of his innovative work on the case of Plotnik vs Meihaus, which created new law pertaining to the recovery of emotional distress damages pertaining to injury done to a pet.



**Robert Pacheco (Class of 1973)** has been appointed City Councilmember of the City of Walnut. Pacheco is a former California State Assemblyman.

# WESTERN STATE College of Law

## Do you know a terrific candidate for law school?

Dear Alumni,

I am delighted to share with you that we have again welcomed into our fall entering class 8 children and one other relative of Western State alumni. Almost a third of our class said they first heard of Western State from one of our alumni, and 20% cited our alumni network as one of the law school's greatest strengths.

It is clear that you, our alumni, can significantly influence the quality and quantity of applicants we attract each year, and especially their decision to attend Western State. By your words and example, you encourage the aspiring lawyers in your family, office, and circle of friends to choose this law school and our Western State community to prepare for their future as legal professionals.

We have much to be proud of. Our recent graduates are continuing to do well and reflect well on this exceptional institution. Our high bar pass rates in California – well above the ABA law school average for the 7<sup>th</sup> exam in a row – are getting notice. Our young alumni are finding good placements because they are competitive and well prepared even in this challenging market. They receive a solid academic foundation at Western State, acquire practical skills and experience, and make invaluable professional contacts thanks to our alumni and friends in the legal community.

September 1<sup>st</sup> we begin taking applications for our January 2014 class, with options to start full-time or part-time. Western State maintains its commitment to our part-time evening program, of which many of you are the product – one of the few ABA accredited programs in Southern California which allows adults to continue working up to full time while earning a JD degree.

In October we will accept applications for fall 2014. In the upcoming weeks we have scheduled class visits and information sessions where prospective students can get acquainted with us, and a Law School Preview Day on Saturday November 2<sup>nd</sup>. **If you know someone bright and motivated who is thinking about law school, bring them to an event with you, or send them our way!** I promise you the Admission Department will treat them well and assist them as applicants every way we can.

Our community will be the stronger for your referrals.  
Thank you for your ongoing support.

Warm regards,

Gloria Switzer  
Assistant Dean for Admissions



Admissions  
Call 1-800-978-4529 or 714-459-1101 or email us at [adm@wsulaw.edu](mailto:adm@wsulaw.edu).



**Frank Zerunyan (Class of 1985)** recently visited and taught in Bangalore, Dubai, Riyadh, Rastatt, Rio de Janeiro, and Manama, Bahrain as part of his appointment at the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA) and Division of Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM).

He was asked by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs to participate to the Annual conference of the United Nations, namely the 2013 United Nations Public Service Forum Day and Awards Ceremony (UN Forum). The UN Forum was held in Manama, Bahrain. Zerunyan is Mayor of the City of Rolling Hills Estates and is Director of Executive Education at USC Sol Price School of Public Policy.

Join your Alumni  
Network Group

by clicking here:



## Job Alerts!

Would you like to receive Job Alerts from Western State? Every day, Career Services sends out Job Alerts featuring a round-up of current openings from Indeed.com and Symplicity. Even if you are not actively looking for a new position, it's always good to see a snapshot of what's going on in the Southern California legal market. Plus, you could help another Western State alumni find the job of their dreams by alerting them to a new opportunity.

If you would like your e-mail address included on the list, please contact Pam Davidson at [pdavidson@wsulaw.edu](mailto:pdavidson@wsulaw.edu) or 714.459.1106.

## What's on *Your* Must-Read List?

Many of our alumni have a short list of essential books that they recommend to students, usually accompanied by the phrase, "I wish I'd known about this book when I started practice (or was in law school)!" We are asking your help in compiling a list of these must-read books for incoming students, current students, and recent graduates.

Which books do you use on a daily basis, or feel sharpened your attorney skills, or even those that just gave you a different perspective on the practice of law?

Please send us your titles and authors, and a brief explanation of your recommendation.

If you have questions, please contact Pam in Career Services at [pdavidson@wsulaw.edu](mailto:pdavidson@wsulaw.edu).

*Thank you for sharing!*



**Samantha Schroeder (Class of 2012)** was sworn in as a Deputy District Attorney with Fresno County District Attorney's Office on June 17, 2013. It is a position she is enjoying immensely! Samantha has been assigned to a courtroom two days a

week handling arraignments, preliminary hearings, violations of probation, sentencing, and motions. Samantha added that her internship with the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office in Norwalk following her first year at Western State was an important step to securing her current position.

*Congratulations, Samantha!*

## Western State Alum's Enterprise Helps Recent Grads

*"It's better than turnkey ready!"* That's how Dennis Dascanio (Western State, class of 1986) describes the full service executive suites for lawyers that he and his wife, Pat, have created in Santa Ana. Dennis, a sponsor for the May Alumni Mixer at POSCH in Irvine, recently hosted an open house for Western State students and new graduates where they had the opportunity to tour the offices, talk with attorneys about starting up a practice, and enjoy lunch.

The suites, located in the restored Builders Exchange building in the heart of Santa Ana's Artist Village and near the courthouse, provide offices of various sizes, conference rooms, a copy room, break room, and even a gym. Dennis started his law career in a similar office set-up. "I remember starting out in the Fijan Suites with my own practice many years ago and I wanted to recreate that same feel for today's new lawyers."

Thank you, Dennis and Pat, for your support of our students, graduates and alumni. More info: [SantaAnaLegalSuites.com](http://SantaAnaLegalSuites.com)



## In Memory: Judge Robert Thomas



Judge Robert Thomas passed away on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Judge Thomas taught trial practice and evidence at Western State for over twenty years; he considered the influence he had on his students to be one of his greatest legacies.

He was raised in Oxnard and attended the University of Southern California and Southwestern School of Law. After law school he joined the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office and later hired on to the Orange County District Attorney's Office. He was appointed to the Orange County Municipal Court where he served as Presiding Judge for several years and then served nearly twenty years on the Superior Court, after unification. While on the Court, he reformed and streamlined the Juvenile Court. He was named Judge of the Year by the American Board of Trial Advocates, Orange County Chapter, in 1999.

Upon retiring from the bench in 2001, he joined Judicial Arbitration and Mediation Services where he built a successful ADR practice.

Judge Thomas was respected and admired by his colleagues, clients, and former students, and will be widely remembered for his kindness, compassion, and generosity. He is survived by his father, Robert N. Thomas; his wife, Victoria; son, Robert M. (and Jeanie) Thomas; son, Troy (and Melanie) Thomas; son, Cory (and Mollie) Thomas; and grandchildren, Bridget, Maxwell, Claudia, Hadley, Lucy, and Reese Thomas.

# WESTERN STATE

## College of Law

### *OC METRO SELECTS WESTERN STATE ALUMS*

*OC Metro*, a business oriented publication of the Orange County Register, recently published its selection of the top attorneys in Orange County. Using research and survey data provided by the Avvo Corporation, *Metro's* slate included twenty-five attorneys who are graduates of Western State.

Barry Besser (1977)	Chad Maddox (1999)
Roy Comer (1978)	David Murray (1977)
Charles Daff (1977)	Neil Pedersen (1988)
Jacqueline Goodman (1994)	Edgar Reynoso (1996)
Tisha Harman (1993)	Marla Merhab Robinson (1987)
Patricia Hendrickson (1996)	Lew Rosenblum (1980)
Jon Mitchell Jackson (1985)	Richard Rydstrom (1984)
Jeffrey Kent (1992)	William Shapiro (1978)
Michael Kirschbaum (1976)	Marlin Stapleton (1983)
David Klasing (2008)	Eric Traut (1989)
Virgina Landry (1987)	Robert Von Esche (1977)
Henry Lively (1997)	Christine Weiner (1989)
Patricia Lee-Gulley (1989)	

### Recent Alums Take Bar Stipend Awards:

Marina Villavicencio (Class of 2013) was the recipient of the Orange County Women Lawyers Association's Summer Diversity Bar Stipend Award. Martha Suarez Ballesteros (Class of 2013) and Lonisha Thompson (Class of 2013) were recipients of OCWLA's Bar Stipend Awards.



Marina Villavicencio



Martha Suarez Ballesteros



Lonisha Thompson



# Western State HONOR ROLL of DONORS

WESTERN STATE SALUTES  
OUR SUPPORTERS

Western State administers student scholarships through the Education Foundation, a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation established to receive donations on behalf of the school. All donations directly benefit Western State Students.

## Advocate

Bill and Sue Shapiro  
(Class of 1978)

Chambers & Kubota

DiMarco Araujo Montevideo

Douglas Schroeder  
(Class of 1988)

Frank Darras  
(Class of 1986)

Lisa and Bruce Hughes  
(Class of 1975 & 1993)

Robinson Calcagnie Robinson  
Shapiro Davis, Inc.

Shernof Bidart  
Echeverria Bentley

William McCune  
- In Memory of  
Scott McCune  
(Class of 1976)

## Barrister

Callahan & Blaine

Callahan Thompson  
Sherman & Caudill, LLP

Chris Day  
(Class of 1985)

Eric V. Traut

Gordon & Rees

HG Litigation

Jim Hayes  
(Class of 1992)

Karen H. Beckman  
(Class of 1989)

Kevin Calcagnie  
(Class of 1982)

Kim Valentine  
(Class of 1997)

Pedersen McQueen

Lawyers Mutual Insurance, Inc.

Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP

Manuel Garcia  
(Class of 1990)

Michelle Reinglass  
(Class of 1978)

Solange E. Ritchie  
(Class of 1994)

The Law Offices of Steven R. Young

Vincent Howard  
(Class of 2003)

Veritext

## Solicitor

Dr. Allan Sheridan  
(Class of 1989)  
- In Memory of  
Bradley Sheridan  
(Class of 1993)

Andrew Struve  
(Class of 1998)

Arthur Knuckey  
(Class of 1974)

Bill Adams  
Dean and Vice Chancellor

Carolyn Dillinger  
(Class of 2003)

Charles Sheppard  
Dean of Students

Cynthia Gibson  
(Class of 1983)

Dabney Finch  
(Class of 1993)

Don Daucher

Enrique Arevalo  
(Class of 1979)

F. Travis Buchanan  
(Class of 1997)

Heidi Romeo  
(Class of 1994)

Jack Golden  
(Class of 1979)

James Harker  
(Class of 1976)

Jeffrey McConnell  
(Class of 1986)

Jerry Gans  
(Class of 1983)

Joel Thomas  
(Class of 1996)

John Englund  
(Class of 1976)

Joyce Bloom  
(Class of 1980)

Judicate West

Karen Casey  
(Class of 1994)

Karen M. Knab  
(Board of Trustees)

Larry Thorp  
(Class of 1984)

Lucy Dunn  
(Class of 1981)

Michael Fisher  
(Class of 1988)

Michael Libutti, Sr.  
(Class of 1987)

Paige Baker  
(Class of 1991)

Pearl Mann  
(Class of 1985)

Rod Espinoza  
(Class of 1984)

Sandra Wager  
- In Memory of  
Jay Wager  
(Class of 1974)

Scott Hughes  
(Class of 2007)

Shelia Fell & Keith Meyer  
(Class of 1979)

Stephen Chavez  
(Class of 1998)

Steven Bergh  
(Class of 1983)  
- In Honor of  
Jennifer Bergh  
(Class of 2014)

William Nees  
(Class of 1977)



# WESTERN STATE & RCRSD PRESENT THE 2ND ANNUAL INLAND EMPIRE MIXER

AUGUST 29 2013



RCRSD Partner Bill Shapiro ('78) and Scholarship Recipient, Tatiana Yokoyama ('14)

I am personally vested in Western, not only because it is my law school, but because I was one of those students who truly had nothing. Western State provided me part time employment as a student (law library, security guard, the then student-run tutorial program), but I had no money and a \$5000 or \$10,000 scholarship would have made all the difference in the world.

It's been nearly 35 years since I graduated and like many, the law has provided me not only the canvas to practice my chosen profession, but financial security at the same time. For me, it was time to "give back," a little. For some, now may not be the time, but I speak for now and I speak for the future. For those who can give something to the students, do it; it's the kind of assistance they need, and will always treasure.

It is yet another thing we graduates can do for those who truly follow in our footsteps. It may not be \$5 or 10,000; it might be \$100, or \$500 or whatever. But it's something to give back, something to give to the students of Western State who will remember what the alum did.

I am proud to be at a point in my career that I can give back and I plan to continue as long as I am in this position, and I am hopeful it will be some time. I am confident the people at Western State know how I feel about the school. Western State to me is far more than a school, it is a "time period," a time in my life where things clicked, and I know it was that way for many and will continue to be.

So many walk out of school and never go back. I not only went back, I am proud to have taught and participated in alumni programs, my confidence in Western is shown with my children now attending, hopefully going through the same exceptional experience I had. But as it was for me, success is not something given, it is earned and so it will be for my family to see.

I look forward to seeing all at the Hall of Fame Dinner coming up this month.

- Bill Shapiro, Class of 1978 (excerpts from remarks)



RCRSD Partner Kevin Calcagnie ('82) and Peggy Calcagnie



Sue Shapiro and Scholarship Recipient Tatiana Yokoyama ('14)



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2013

# YOUNG ALUM MIXER



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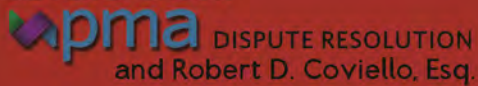
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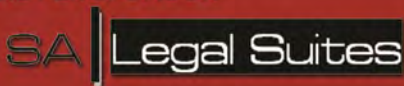
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On May 23rd, over seventy Western State alumni, faculty and friends gathered for our 1st annual Young Alum Mixer. Recent graduates and established practitioners rubbed elbows in the ultra-hip environment of PoSch Restaurant and Lounge in Irvine.

Special thanks to all of the evening's sponsors! We look forward to seeing you at all of our upcoming AlumniNetwork events. Be sure to let us know if you would like to help plan or promote a Western State Area Mixer in your neck of the woods.

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To submit an alumni news item:

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# WESTERN STATE

## College of Law



### IN FOND MEMORY

Clawson Bowman Jr. (Class of 1976)

Dale Edward Donnell (Class of 1972)

Judge Jules Greenberg (Class of 1979)

H. Michael Morand (Class of 1979)

Marvin Nachlis (Class of 1977)

Ronald Wayne Roper (Class of 1979)

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We hope you have enjoyed this issue of *Alumni Highlights*.

Your input is valuable to us, so if you have any comments, ideas, and suggestions, [please let us know](#).

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