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Judge Charles S. Crandall Retires
2023 State of the Courts
A Look at the Nation's Top
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Law School: Our Obligations as Lawyers



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*Cover: Judge Charles Crandall retires after 19 years on the bench.
Cover and page 13 photos courtesy of Tara Jacobi.*

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President's MESSAGE



What's on This Year's Docket?

by Gregory Gillett

What a year so far! As we are almost one quarter of the way through 2023, I want to take this opportunity to share some upcoming events and announcements with all of you.

7th Annual SLOCBA's Minor's Counsel Training—March 18-19

Minor's Counsel Training on the Central Coast is a big deal. During the past seven years, the training has grown from a group of local attorneys and judges meeting in Department 4 to hundreds of participants representing more than 30 counties attending the conference at The Cliff's Hotel in Pismo Beach. The SLOCBA will be running the conference with the Family Law Section this year.

For those unfamiliar with Minor's Counsel, under Family Code Section 3150, the court can appoint counsel to children in high-conflict child custody matters and divorces. Serving as counsel for a minor child and giving them a voice in the proceeding is as rewarding as it is complicated. Along with the fundamentals of serving as

counsel for a child, the training includes questioning child witnesses, the generational impact of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and "Parental Alienation."

This training meets the annual required coursework to maintain eligibility to serve as Minor's Counsel. Please join us if you are interested in becoming Minor's Counsel or just need 12 hours of MCLE.

Law Day—Thursday, May 4

This year we will celebrate Law Day on Thursday, May 4, with the theme of "**Cornerstones of Democracy: Civics, Civility and Collaboration.**" The public events will consist of courthouse tours and speakers in the afternoon. Before the public events, we will hold an MCLE panel discussion on civility and culture hosted by the Attorneys of Color Coalition.

Law Day is a reminder of the role that the rule of law plays in maintaining a just society and the fundamental rights and freedoms it protects. Law Day also provides an opportunity for us, as members of the legal community, to come together and reflect on the signi-

ficance of the rule of law and its impact on our daily lives. Finally, it provides an opportunity to educate the public about their rights and responsibilities as citizens and to promote a deeper understanding of the legal system and how it works.

We look forward to your participation in Law Day events.

Ad hoc Committee on Mental Health

The legal profession can be demanding and stressful, and we must prioritize our members' mental health and wellbeing. With this in mind, I am forming an ad hoc committee to explore ways to support mental health in the legal community. I am inviting all members of the Bar Association to consider joining this committee and to bring their unique perspectives and experiences to the table.

This committee will provide an opportunity for us to come together to discuss the challenges that members of the legal community face and to develop innovative solutions to support mental health and wellbeing. Whether you are a practicing

attorney, a law student or a legal professional, your contributions and insights will be valuable as we work together to make a positive impact.

Please contact me directly if you are interested in joining this committee and contributing your time and expertise to this vital cause.

The Morro Bay Triathlon (MBT)

For those of you who attended the annual State of the Courts meeting, you got a preview of my MBT Challenge. If you weren't there, I am challenging all of you to compete against your Bar Board Team in the Morro Bay Triathlon on Sunday, November 5, 2023.

The MBT has a relay option where the course can be divided among three participants. And there is an option to stand-up paddleboard instead of swimming. Easy, right?

I am calling on your firm, organization or group of friends to put a team together, train and compete. I have publicly challenged each section and the bench and have confidence that we will have several teams participate. I'm looking at you, County Counsel, District Attorney's Office, SLOLAF, SLO College of Law....

I recognize this is an out-of-the-box proposal, but I assure you that those participating will have a blast. Email me your team roster and team name as soon as possible. If you don't have a team and are looking for one, reach out, and I will help put one together. Let's go have some fun!

Again, thank you all for the privilege of serving each of you this year.

gfg ■



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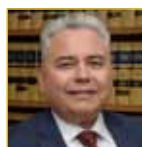


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If self-doubt has held you back from achieving your professional goals, consider that these high-achieving, accomplished jurists once grappled with the same hesitance earlier in their legal careers. Join a free virtual discussion from **Noon to 1:30 p.m. on March 22** and hear their stories and strategies for overcoming self-doubt and building confidence in your qualifications and achievements.

If you aspire to serve in California's judiciary, a judicial mentor is available to guide you through the application process. Don't miss this 90-minute session, sponsored by the California Judicial Mentor Program and hosted by the Los Angeles Superior Court's Judicial Mentor Program.

Please email questions about this program to Marlow Gory at MGory@lacourt.org.

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Editor's Note

by Tara Jacobi

I always remind myself that Anne Frank did not die in vain. Her diary is the most read diary in the world. According to "Publishing Perspectives," it has sold more than 31 million copies and has been translated into 67 different languages. Her work transcended race, ethnicity, gender, culture—anything and everything that makes humans different—to educate us as to what makes humans the same. Nothing short of incredible, yet, only something words from an unbelievable life and horrid story with her artistry could do.

I've been in book clubs before but never a book club connected to a school, such as The George Washington University, where I am attending, and never a book club where the author shows up. The experience is truly a joy in my life right now. Reading "Shelf Life: Chronicles of A Cairo Bookseller" by Nadia Wassef, I found myself immersed in a world where civil unrest dominates.

What it means to be a girlboss holds every page, and the characters cut across the grain of what is usually presented in a novel. I was fascinated to watch three young women, sisters, with no business education, establish and run Diwan, Cairo's leading bookstore at that time. Nadia

Wassef, the lead character, is unapologetic for her grit and determination. At a time when there was no book organizational system in Egypt, such as our ISBN system (International Standard Book Number), government control could hold a shipment of books because it didn't want its citizens to read that book, and theft was always threatening to put them out of business, Diwan prevailed.

What I found fascinating about hearing Nadia speak at our book club was her philosophies on life. In so many words she explained success is not success if you have to speak about it. And sometimes ignorance is what is needed to achieve your dreams. In other words, when she was a recent graduate, but without a business degree, and people were telling her that her dreams of running a book store were something that she shouldn't be doing, well, she didn't listen.

Her family thought her work was cute. Upper-class housewives of maybe similar socio-economic status thought, why would you do something so hard when you can have it so good? And the businessmen in Cairo constantly demanded just what experience do you have to do this, and vociferated that she would fail. Not to mention at the time books were seen by residents as a luxury in Cairo, something not easily sold to its inhabitants.

We briefly discussed the book "One Thousand and One Arabian Nights" because it was mentioned in Nadia's book and is a classic. Ironically, I was reading

it to my son for school that same week. While I was reading it out loud to my son, at times I would pause and say to him, this book is really violent toward women.

At the book club, a discussion arose as to the many versions of the classic. One, an old English version, had been edited without the violence told in the stories. Yet, is the story that story without the violence? Hence our discussion about how cultures edit other cultures began as well.

Later as I continued to read out loud to my son, I hoped Shahrazad would live another day, escaping beheading by her husband by relying on her talents as a storyteller. Yet, who am I to edit the king's practice of choosing a different wife each night only to have her beheaded in the morning because women are worthless wives, fickle and faithless? That is the story. So, I held my breath and continued.

As for the pile of books on my nightstand, each very different in genre, unfortunately many contain the same theme—the mistreatment of women. I put together three books from the pile for a friend to read: "The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo," "The Dictionary of Lost Words," and "The Maid." I noticed that while the treatment of women was not so blatantly violent, each protagonist in each novel was struggling against a system of sexism, be it an actress against Old Hollywood, a young girl learning the English trade of creating a dictionary, or a maid in her role at a hotel and in life. It certainly made me pause. And think.

I believe it is the reason why we have such organizations as Women Lawyers Association (WLA) of San Luis Obispo County. When WLA was formed, the women in the county wished to join together and support each other and still do. This indirectly may serve to combat the traditional patriarchal system the legal system once was—and unfortunately in some ways still is.

That is why it is so important to celebrate women supporting women in our community. One way WLA does this is through its awards. The Outstanding Women Lawyer award is given annually to an attorney forwarding WLA's mission, which is to support the advancement of women in our community. The recipient is honored each March during Women's History Month at WLA's monthly MCLE seminar, where, generally, attorneys may also obtain bias credits.

This March, on Wednesday, March 1, WLA presents the award to Judge Jacquelyn Duffy. Judge Duffy led our Courts, designing unprecedented systems during the pandemic, while navigating her responsibilities as Presiding Judge—nothing short of phenomenal. WLA also presents its Rising Star Award to Sadie Symens (formerly Weller). Symens educated our legal community about housing legislation changing daily during the pandemic, while representing those marginalized, mostly women, by the cost of housing in our county—nothing short of phenomenal.

Join me in congratulating them both. And enjoy the pages ahead, although Anne's diary is with us more in spirit than in verse. ■

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2023 State of the Courts

Text and Photos by Tara Jacobi



Presiding Judge Craig van Rooyen

On January 19, 2023, Judge Craig van Rooyen gave the State of the Courts address at the Madonna Inn. His theme, the consistency of change, carried throughout as he described the courts to be in transition with bench and staff turn over, continuing adaptation to technology, continuing adjustment to remote appearances, shortage of court reporters, efforts in selecting a new courthouse site, changes in the law and case backlogs from the pandemic. His quote from Greek philosopher Heraclitus, “No man ever steps into the same river twice, for it’s not the same river and he’s not the same man,” sang throughout.

He acknowledged his main challenge as Presiding Judge is judicial vacancies, with five retirements in a little more than one year. With just 13 judges on the bench, that equates to 40 percent of the bench gone, but the court is managing to keep moving forward. This is not only a numbers issue. With the retirements of Judge Ginger Garrett, Judge Dodie Harman, Judge Charles Crandall and Judge Linda Hurst, this leaves our bench void of a combined 70 years of judicial experience.

He also gave a tribute to Judge Hernaldo Baltodano, who moved up to the 2nd District Court of Appeal after his five years of service in San Luis Obispo County, saying that with Judge Baltodano’s criminal assignment, he made a huge impact and cared deeply about access to justice. Judge van Rooyen also acknowledged Judge Baltodano’s belief that the court cannot serve people unless the bench truly sees people.

Judge van Rooyen announced the three new bench officers: Judge Erin Childs to preside over family law, Judge Michael Frye to preside over misdemeanors and Commissioner Kenneth McDaniel to preside over family law issues as well. This still leaves the court with vacancies, which retired Judge Jacquelyn Duffy and retired Judge Barry La Barbera graciously agreed to assist the courts with by taking temporary assignments to assist the criminal team.

Judge van Rooyen thanked

the bar for its patience during this transition period. Recognizing the desire for stability, he assured the bar that there are candidates in various stages within the process and believes this will be a short-term issue. He also acknowledged that Paso Robles had no civil judge at the time of his address, but in February the vacancy would be filled on an alternating two-week rotation by retired judges.

Describing the court as a “lean court,” he stated he was proud of their work. Last year saw improvements with the backlog since the pandemic. There was an increase in filings for unlawful detainers and administrative writs focused on land use by public entities, as well as the largest backlog being the law and motion calendar.

With criminal cases, the court handled 20 criminal trials with possibilities of life sentences; the Judge noted that one-third of the criminal trials are life cases. He thanked Judge Duffy for doing a good job settling the less serious cases. Judge La Barbera on Friday mornings presides over a calendar to triage trials set for the following week, working to narrow the cases that need to be tried.

With the family law cases, Judge Childs and the family bar were set to host an event in February, open to the public, to discuss ways to have the family court run smoothly. Ideas included having one courtroom dedicated to domestic violence

Continued on page 10



2023 State of the Courts continued

and 3044 hearings; set days of the week for domestic violence trials; pre-trial procedures to increase sufficiency; and only setting those family law trials down for trial that are ready to go.

He acknowledged that San Luis Obispo County is not alone, as most courts throughout the state are undergoing profound changes. The challenge is for the courts to “stay relevant”—people bringing disputes must be confident in the process. The two key factors essential to a fair process are the integrity on the bench and public access. He explained the bench as a small group with integrity, giving priority to following the law and fairly exercising discretion. With regard to public access, he asked, “How do we make sure our courts are not just institutionalizing inequalities?” For example, “Do our bench officers reflect the diversity of San Luis Obispo County?” And he answered by vowing to continue to question how we do business for the betterment of the process.

With regard to technology, Judge van Rooyen informed us that the court is concerned about the following: using technology while excluding some who might not have access to technology; making the use of technology simple and not confusing, the use of technology as ever-evolving.

With regard to mental health issues, Judge van Rooyen said the court’s focus is on setting parties up for success and not fueling criminality cycles. The court’s focus is for victims to be heard. The court’s focus is for business disputes to be taken care of within our courthouse. He asked, “How can we be more open?”

And answered, with events such as Law Day, this year on May 4, and interfacing within our community outside the adversary process. He did not claim to have all the answers to this question at this time. He asked, “Are we giving people access that makes a difference in people’s lives?” He believes so.

He described a typical Friday morning. Judge van Rooyen presides over the mental health treatment court, while Judge Timothy Covello presides over the mental health diversion court; Judge Duffy presides over the adult drug treatment court; Judge Jesse Marino presides over the veterans drug treatment court; and the civil judges are currently working to establish the CARES court, a civil mental health court.

He closed with a recent experience presiding over the mental health treatment court. A single mother who had faced criminal charges for child neglect from her drug use was able to celebrate her sobriety and reunification with her children. He showed us the courts are making a difference in people’s lives.

Executive Court Officer Michael Powell then addressed county bar members, joking that his staff was whitewater rafting. In the break from the laughter, he acknowledged that despite the bench and staff shortages, San Luis Obispo County courts are fairing pretty well.

He discussed the feedback he received about court services, stating that his staff is viewed as “friendly, knowledgeable and helpful.” While the courts have faced staffing challenges, they are finally seeing an increase in qualified candidates as the hiring



Executive Court Officer Michael Powell

market is doing better. With many new employees, he suspects that things will be looking good in a couple of years once the new employees are trained and become more experienced.

In the future, the courts will create a public portal system that allows access to civil documents and access to the civil docket. Powell, too, discussed the shortage of court reporters, acknowledging that the court should have 11 but only has 8 at this time. This is a statewide issue since there are not enough court reporters throughout the state, and the schools graduating court reporters are closing. Courts are looking into alternative means for creating records.

With regard to the court budget, there will be cuts to the courts as a whole. Yet, the trials courts are slated to receive a 3 percent standard index increase, allowing our courts to fare okay. Finally, a new courthouse and location is still in the works. There are six potential sites, all of which are downtown. He assured us a project advisory group is working diligently to assess the different downtown locations.

Thank you both for addressing and updating our members. ■

A Conversation With Retired Judge Charles S. Crandall

with Tara Jacobi

Judge Charles S. Crandall retired September 1, 2022, after 19 years with the San Luis Obispo County Superior Court.

JUDICIARY

Q. What will be most unforgettable for you about your time on the bench and why?

A. Although this may sound trite, my whole experience as a trial court judge was unforgettable. Writing these responses recalls how fortunate it was for me to have been appointed a judge in San Luis Obispo in the first place, how much support I received from colleagues, court staff, and the bar, and how I was able to immerse myself in supporting judicial and civic education projects.

Q. What might you be most proud of about your service and why?

A. If I may, I would rephrase the question a little. What has mattered most to me is actively participating in judicial and civic education, and helping to improve how judges can better oversee their courtrooms and calendars. For example: 1) co-developing a course on how judges can better manage mentally ill and substance-addicted litigants, which is now taught to all new judges at the annual Judicial College; 2) co-developing webcasts for juvenile court judges on the importance of motivational interviewing, and recognizing and supporting fetal alcohol spectrum disorder children are two other examples; and, 3) my periodic civility training in conjunction with the San Luis Obispo County Bar Association.

During my various civil assignments, I implemented procedures for expediting jury trials, for example by the use of time limits, and for simplifying pretrial discovery disputes (eventually codified by legislative amendments to the Code of Civil Procedure).

I am also fortunate to be an “old dog” eager to learn “new tricks.” During my time in the juvenile assignment (both juvenile justice and juvenile dependency), I learned about “motivational interviewing,” pursued training on the subject (which revolutionized my juvenile court experience) and then incorporated it into several judicial education courses.

Q. What did you find most challenging about your service and why?

A. Being a judge can be both stressful and isolating. In order to succeed, judicial colleagues should be critically important sources of support. Yet, there were several years when, quite frankly, the relationships among bench officers became extremely strained. Unaddressed grievances grew into seemingly insurmountable obstacles and relationships disintegrated. It devolved to the point where I considered resigning my position because the work environment was oppressive.

It is a cautionary tale as to what can happen when open and frank communication among judges breaks down. Eventually, we were able to get ourselves back on track thanks, in part, to the infusion of new judges. Although our current group has great cohesiveness, they should never forget it is easy to lose, and tricky to maintain, an all-important esprit de corps. There will always be disagreements. There **MUST** always be mutual respect and ongoing efforts to maintain friendly personal relationships.

Q. Quoted in *The Tribune* as having a judicial style, “known for his decisiveness, insistence on respectfulness, and ability to expediate the tedious aspects of civil litigation,” according to Niki Wilson’s article (updated July 18, 2011), readers might wonder what drives your judicial style?

A. Much of my experience before becoming a judge was in federal court, and I was fortunate to practice not only in the New Jersey federal court and San Diego federal and state courts but other jurisdictions as well (Alaska, Ohio and Los Angeles come to mind).

Going through trials and other hearings in a variety of federal and state jurisdictions gave me the opportunity to experience a wide range of judicial styles. I tried to model myself on what I thought were the best traits of the finest judges.

GENERAL BACKGROUND

Q. Where did you grow up? What did you study as an undergraduate at Princeton?

A. I grew up in Maplewood, New Jersey, a suburb of Newark. In the 1960s, Maplewood was not all that different from the San Luis Obispo of today. At Princeton I studied political science with a minor in economics; however, my most memorable experiences were as a pitcher on the baseball team and developing robust lifelong friendships.

Q. What drew you to a career in the law? While at the University of Virginia School of Law what did you think you might want to do after law school?

A. Growing up I was privileged to spend many of my summers on Shelter Island, New York. Each year traveling from New Jersey to Long Island, I witnessed the inevitable urbanization of Long Island and the rapid destruction of its precious natural resources (in particular farmland, which disappeared at a frightening rate). This not only made me very sad but also motivated me to do something about it. When I read Professor Joseph Sax's book, "Defending the Environment: A Strategy for Citizen Action," it triggered my career interest in environmental law, which remained steadfast through college and law school.

Interestingly, at UVA I followed the path of taking courses from the professors with the reputation for the greatest teaching ability. Consequently, I often took courses on topics of little real interest to me including, most notably, the UCC, one of the most arcane courses of all! But the instructor was a beloved professor, Bob Scott, who made it enjoyable and easy to learn. Relatedly, I never actually took the environmental law course at UVA, although I was active in the environmental law society.

As fate would have it, I received a job offer from Gulf Oil and almost accepted it. At the last minute, I received a federal court clerkship in the District of New Jersey that entirely changed my career trajectory.

Q. What initially prompted you to decide to become a judge?

A. I was always intrigued by the possibility of becoming a judge because my grandfather, Benjamin Jones, had been a Superior Court judge in New Jersey during the early 20th century, and



my father-in-law, Warren McGuire, had been a Superior Court judge in Marin County for 20 years. Although the environmental cases I took on were exciting and rewarding, over time (especially while setting up and running my own law office) the work became emotionally draining and physically exhausting. Representing impecunious environmental groups, we always felt as though we were living "on the financial edge," especially while raising two small children. My wife, Marian, suggested it might be time to pursue a judicial position, and as they say, the rest is history.

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

Q. Tell us what it means to be an environmental litigator.

A. At the risk of oversimplification, there are two types of environmental litigators. Most such lawyers are paid on an hourly basis (or as in-house counsel) to defend corporations or government agencies from environmental challenges or lawsuits. A much smaller subset (of which I was a member) represent environmental groups trying to prevent corporations or government agencies from acting contrary to environmental laws.

Environmental groups usually cannot afford hourly legal representation, so the work is done on a contingency basis under laws that provide for

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Judge Charles S. Crandall continued

fee-shifting in the event of a successful outcome. Unlike other contingency suits, environmental contingency cases require two victories. First, the lawsuit must be won. Second, the fee motion must be granted by the trial court. There is no recovery out of which your legal fees are paid. As such, the work carries high financial risk and is not for the faint of heart. That said, representing environmental groups involved some of the most heartfelt and meaningful work of my career as a lawyer.

Q. While on the bench you ruled against two environmental groups that tried to shut down vehicle riding at Oceano Dunes and added that the groups could challenge when development and coastal plans are amended. Did this ruling go against your own personal beliefs?

A. The short answer is “yes.” From the point of view of public health and environmental protection, the objective scientific evidence showed that ATV riding should be prohibited on such fragile terrain. However, my job in the early lawsuit was to discern whether the land-use challenge was at that time ripe, which it was not.

Q. How do you see the future of environmental litigation emerging?

A. Given the current makeup of the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS), the prospect of something useful on this important topic emerging from the high court is, sadly, very dim. On the other hand, not every environmental decision will make it all the way to the SCOTUS. Further, California courts lead the way on many environmental issues. Until the SCOTUS tilts back somewhere toward the middle, most of the important and well-reasoned environmental decisions will likely emanate from appellate courts in California and other states. The most important thing is never to give up hope. Adapting a quote from renowned environmentalist David Brower, we should all keep in mind that there are no children to be born, and there is no business to be done, on a dead planet.

Q. What advice might you have for lawyers wishing to pursue a career in environmental law?

A. Representing environmental groups and policies supportive of environmental protection

is, in my experience, incredibly challenging and deeply fulfilling. However, there are significant caveats. First, employment on the staff of large environmental groups is coveted, very competitive, and not at the same pay scale as private law firms. Second, although traditional law firms may occasionally take on an environmental group as a client, they are not likely to do so very often for revenue purposes. Third, most of the well-paying positions in environmental law often place the lawyer in opposition to policies supportive of environmental protection and in favor of business or governmental interests.

My bottom line is: if you feel it in your heart and are willing to accept the economic risks, then seek out others who have managed to advocate on behalf of the environment successfully and go for it!

COURT FUTURE

Q. How was it to serve on the bench during the pandemic? What positive changes, if any, might you have witnessed since that time?

A. I was luckier than most of our judges because the calendars in juvenile court almost immediately adapted to remote technologies (primarily Zoom) and kept chugging along. The absence of jury trials in juvenile court also allowed us to move forward remotely, so I remained very busy and, with an exception or two, did not lose much ground. In large measure this success was due to the lawyers in juvenile court who were fabulous in adapting and leaning into the Zoom environment.

It is now no secret that remote technology has had some significant positive impacts that are likely to remain with us. Most importantly, access to the courthouse has been broadened through the ability to appear on remote platforms. Most judges I think would agree that calendar management has become more palatable, and most calendars move more quickly. On the other hand, without face-to-face communication, judges sometimes are less able to assess credibility, court room misbehavior or effectively settle cases.

Q. In Wilson’s *Tribune* article you were quoted as saying there is not a lot of fat to trim in the court’s budget. Ten plus years later, does that same statement remain true?

A. Well, 10 years is a lifetime in terms of the

judicial branch budgets. Until the financial cliff in 2008-2009, California courts were riding high, and there was probably room for more efficiency. Then came a sudden and dramatic downward budget shift which resulted in courthouse closures, significantly reduced operations and staff furloughs. Further, Governor Jerry Brown was not very friendly to the judicial branch budget, which required us to limp along. Fortunately, Governor Gavin Newsom recognizes the need for a robust judicial branch budget so that our operations are now much better supported. Whether that trend will be maintained requires a crystal ball.

Q. What additional challenges for our court, if any, do you see ahead?

A. It seems to be getting much harder to recruit excellent judges from areas of civil practice, family law and/or juvenile law experience. It is difficult and financially challenging to leave a successful private practice in favor of a judicial job that may well pay less and also presents a daunting learning curve at midcareer. Recent changes to the judicial retirement program may help things by elimination of notorious cliff vesting (no pension until age 70 or 20 years of service). In addition, we must be on the lookout for more ethnic and other diversity.

RETIREMENT

Q. What are your plans for retirement?

A. It's a little too early yet to have concrete plans (except for knee replacement rehabilitation), although I am involved in spreading public awareness of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder and considering returning to the environmental law arena in some capacity.

Q. Anything else you wish to share with our readers?

A. I would like to thank the Board of Trustees of the San Luis Obispo College of Law, of which I am a member, for all their efforts in supporting our law school. And wherein I enjoyed teaching torts to our local law students.

I must close with a tribute to our own Superior Court staff, as well as the Judicial Council education staff attorneys, with whom I worked closely over the years. They really have been the unsung heroes in terms of allowing me to serve and excel. Their abiding support has been priceless. Some have become close friends.

Thank you, Judge Crandall. ■



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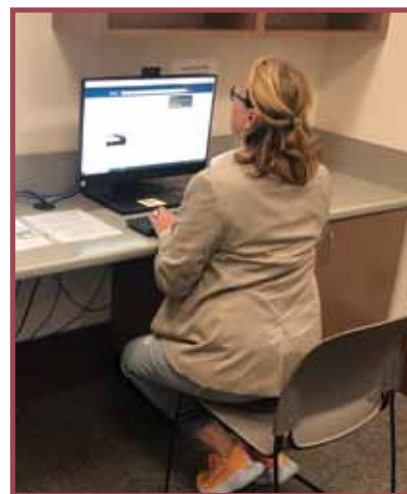
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Jason Czarnezki Directs the Nation's Top Environmental Law Program

A Conversation With Tara Jacobi

My law school is known for its environmental program. While I was in law school, Pace University hosted the National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition (which was started in 1989 and is still going strong!) and was known for its Environmental Litigation Clinic, which represented the Hudson Riverkeeper, a nonprofit environmental organization dedicated to the protection of the Hudson River and its watersheds that provide water for New York City.

Fast forward 25 years later, and my how Pace has grown. I had a conversation with Jason Czarnezki, Gilbert and Sarah Kerlin Distinguished Professor of Environmental Law, and Associate Dean and Executive Director of Environmental Law Programs, to learn more about what it takes to be named by *U.S. News & World Report* for 2023 as the top environmental program in the nation.

Tara: How did Pace achieve this recognition?

Dean Czarnezki: Pace's environmental law program began all the way back in 1978, and since then we have become a program renowned for providing an internationally acclaimed environmental legal education. Our faculty are pioneers in the field of environmental law and leaders in the field, constantly researching and publishing top scholarship.

Since our environmental law

program began, we have evolved ahead of the field and are now pushing the boundaries and reconceptualizing the field of environmental law. Our environmental law program was built on the foundation of environmental litigation and skills training, and we have now developed new programs in food law, sustainable business law and provide an innovative curriculum for our students with courses in environmental justice and climate law—all in an effort to provide real world solutions to real world environmental challenges.

We graduate future leaders in the field of environmental law, and our alumni work in law firms, government environmental agencies, corporations, nonprofit organizations, and law schools and universities across the country and around the world. All of this and more contribute to our top rankings year after year.

Tara: Tell us how Pace law students are solving the environmental challenges we face here at home in the United States?

Dean Czarnezki: One example that comes to mind is through our recently launched Sustainable Business Law Hub where we are training the first generation of sustainable business and "ESG" lawyers. The Hub will serve as an incubator space, student-training program, research endeavor and think tank devoted to addressing global sustainability challenges through policy and research projects, relationships with the



*Dean Jason Czarnezki, Pace University Environmental Law
Photo via Creative Commons*

business community, and capacity building in private environmental governance and incorporating environmental, social and governance (ESG) values.

Our students will work closely with faculty experts, practicing lawyers and business leaders to foster sustainable business practices. The impact of the Hub will be both global and local—on a local level the Hub has opened a dialogue between the Westchester business and legal communities. Haub Law is constantly evolving and improving our environmental law program to meet the environmental challenges in the United States and globally.

Tara: How does the Food and Farm Business Law Clinic, the first in the country, facilitate the development of a more sustainable regional food system and economy?

Dean Czarnezki: The Food and Farm Business Law Clinic provides pro bono transactional

Continued on page 18

Jason Czarnezki at Pace University contined

legal services to small farm businesses, artisan food manufacturers, craft beverage entrepreneurs and related nonprofit organizations. Under faculty supervision, law students in the Clinic represent clients in connection with forming and structuring businesses, cooperatives and nonprofits; drafting and negotiating legal agreements, including leases, operating agreements and other commercial contracts; advising on regulatory matters, including related to food regulation and land use regulation; and seeking trademark protection, among other areas of practice.

By providing pro bono legal representation to its clients, the Clinic seeks to facilitate the development of a more just and sustainable regional food system and economy.

Tara: I have heard of environmental law certificate programs. And I am aware of internships, externships and clinics, which provide valuable work experience for law students becoming attorneys. I have heard of joint degrees such as a JD/MBA program and others, but I have never come across a blended degree called an SJD (Doctor of Judicial Science in Environmental Law). Tell us why and how the SJD came to be.

Dean Czarnezki:

The Doctor of Juridical Science (SJD) in Environmental Law is a graduate research degree intended to prepare legal scholars to research, publish and teach in the field of environmental law. It is a very intense degree program, often considered the most advanced law degree. Before even enrolling, SJD candidates should

have completed substantial graduate coursework in environmental law and, ideally, a full LLM degree in environmental law. Over the course of three years (and up to five years in some cases), the candidates complete preliminary coursework, research, development of a prospectus, and eventually the commencement of their dissertation leading to the ultimate completion of the dissertation. Many of our SJD candidates are international students who return to their home countries—many from Brazil and Saudi Arabia in recent years—to become law professors and judges.

Tara: What are some of the challenges with administering a program such as Pace's environmental law program?

Dean Czarnezki: Prioritizing.

There is so much that we can do and want to do, and sometimes the biggest challenge is just finding the time to do it all. We have to stay focused on making sure our students' time in law school leads to careers of meaning and significance, which means constantly evaluating the curriculum, finding our students amazing internships and externships with law firms, nonprofits, government agencies, and businesses and, ultimately, helping them find employment after graduation.

We also have a lot of activities that benefit our students, engage our alumni and the community, and foster faculty scholarship such as our Pace Environmental Law Review annual symposium, our Garrison and Kerlin Lectures on Environmental Law, the

Future Environmental Law Professors Workshop, and our Environmental Law and Policy Hack. These activities take resources, so fundraising is always a priority, and we are fortunate to have supportive alumni and friends of the environmental law program.

Tara: What would you recommend to a student wishing to pursue a career in environmental law?

Dean

Czarnezki: My advice to an environmental student isn't different than what I would say to a non-environmental student. Work hard and build your network. Look a few years past graduation. You're not going to graduate from law school and the next day be Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Many graduates have to do other work before landing their "dream job." They might do real estate law or work for a large law firm or do general litigation for a few years before finding that niche environmental law job they daydream about. While you're in school, think about what skills you need to have to do that dream job down the line. Look at the resumes of people with your dream jobs, see what they did, and try to meet them.

Finally, do not rob from your future self, as my spouse likes to say. There's so much you don't know. You might be interested in a job you didn't think you would



like. Be open-minded. All law contains environmental issues.

Tara: You've taught National Resource Law, Sustainable Business and the Environment, Property, and various environmental law seminars. What have your students taught you?



Dean Czarnezki: I learn from my students every day. Each individual has a unique way of looking at issues and their own perspective—that is invaluable. Our international students might teach me how environmental harms are regulated in their home country. JD students with science

degrees might share the latest climate research. Students from around the United States might share how natural resources controversies impact local communities. And most importantly, students teach me how to be a better teacher. Over the last 20 years, technology has dramatically changed how one can teach, and students can let you know what works and what does not.

Tara: What do you hope for in the future for our environment?

Dean Czarnezki: I wrote a book called "Everyday Environmentalism," and there are so many actions, big and small, that each of us can take that will ultimately make a difference for the future of our environment. I hope we do this.

The low-hanging fruit include, to name a few: try to eat organic, eat less meat and shift away from red meat, live close to where you work and play, see if your

household can get along with only one car (and try to make it a fuel efficient one), walk and take public transit, compost as much as possible, stop engine idling, adjust down the thermostat, decrease household water temperature, keep proper tire pressure, and work to educate yourself about the ecological, social, economic costs of your actions in the long term—and demand that companies you buy from do the same.

Tara: Is there anything else you wish to share with our readers?

Dean Czarnezki: Come to law school and join us at Pace | Haub Environmental Law! Thank you for having this conversation.

Tara: I appreciate you sharing your insight with our readers. Everyone should be aware of environmental issues and engaged for a beneficial future for our environment. Thank you. ■

A blue banner advertisement for CAMS (California Arbitration & Mediation Services). The top half features the CAMS logo, which consists of a stylized white 'C' and 'M' forming a circle, followed by the word 'CAMS' in large white letters. Below this, the text 'CALIFORNIA ARBITRATION & MEDIATION SERVICES' is written in smaller white letters. Further down, the tagline 'PREPARATION • PERSPECTIVE • PATIENCE • PERSISTENCE' is displayed, followed by 'CALIFORNIA'S AFFORDABLE PREMIUM ADR SERVICES'. The contact information '(820) 600-3565' and the website 'WWW.CAMSMEDIATION.COM' are also included. The bottom half of the banner features a row of eight small portrait photos of CAMS mediators, each with a small CAMS logo in the top right corner.

WLA Presents Annual Awards— OWL to Judge Jacquelyn Duffy & Rising Star to Sadie Symens

by Tara Jacobi

The Women Lawyers Association (WLA) of San Luis Obispo County created the Outstanding Woman Lawyer (OWL) Award and the Rising Star Award to honor female attorneys in San Luis Obispo County who embody the organization's mission to promote the advancement of women within our community.

Presented annually in March to coincide with Women's History Month, the OWL Award is given to a female attorney working in SLO County for seven or more years, while the Rising Star Award is given to a female attorney working in SLO County for less than seven years.

WLA presents the awards to remind our legal community that these women, these attorneys, are deserving of recognition because of their contributions. The award winners are honored in WLA's local history of women lawyers.

Jacquelyn Duffy—2022 OWL (Outstanding Woman Lawyer)

Judge Jacquelyn Duffy is being honored in March as the recipient of the 2022 Outstanding Women Lawyer Award. During her career on the bench, since 2010, she has mentored and inspired women in SLO County with her leadership. When



Judge Jacquelyn Duffy

the pandemic halted all court business, Judge Duffy invented the processes that would keep criminal cases running, allowing for access to justice and protection of rights for all involved.

Her work establishing unprecedented live and remote protocols, using technology to best serve all involved, is phenomenal. Her leadership within our legal community during the pandemic was the cornerstone that allowed our legal system to continue during challenging times.

Judge Duffy and I had the following conversation.

Q. How did you learn to navigate design while juggling?

A. Developing procedures to keep our courts safely functioning during the pandemic was a team effort. We were in uncharted territory, so we were extremely fortunate to have innovative and talented people in management, IT and Jury Services who came up with creative solutions. With the collaboration of our justice partners, we were able to create remote processes that allowed us to carry out critical operations. CEO Michael Powell and Assistant Presiding Judge Craig van Rooyen worked with me every step of the way.

Q. What were your top challenges to keep the courts running during the pandemic?

A. The greatest challenge was protecting our staff and court participants during an emerging public health crisis, while still providing access to justice. Fears about COVID-19 had escalated rapidly, and state and local shelter at home orders were in effect. The same day schools announced they were temporarily closing to minimize the spread of the virus, our court sent two-thirds of our staff home.

Because courts provide an essential service, it was never an option to simply close our doors until the danger had passed. We had to remain open. Managing fear was extremely difficult when very little was known about COVID-19 or its manner of transmission. Trying to keep everyone unified and moving toward a common goal was a challenge, with diverse opinions about how the courts should respond to the rapidly changing circumstances. Our limited staff resources also put tremendous pressure on our employees.

COVID-19 also substantially impacted the pool of available jurors when trials resumed in 2020, with less than 3 percent of summoned jurors appearing in person and indicating a willingness to serve. With such low turnouts, the Court struggled to empanel jurors for the backlog of criminal trials. Keeping jurors safe was another challenge, and we worked hard to develop processes to protect them, along with all court participants.

Q. How did you find the positive energy at a time when most were low on positive energy?

A. Shortly after the start of the pandemic, anonymous white cards began appearing on my desk. Some were handwritten notes, others contained inspirational quotes, but they all shared messages of encouragement: “You’ve got this.” “We believe in you and trust in you.” “May you find the strength to continue your courageous leadership during these challenging times.”

To this day, I have no idea who circulated those cards or who wrote them, but they were a constant source of strength for

me when I was facing challenges. Even now, I keep them in my desk to remind me how lucky I am to be surrounded by such amazing colleagues and staff.

Q. Women have been multitasking since the dawn of time. Some might argue that it is women’s split focus that does not allow them to succeed, but you proved those arguments wrong. How?

A. Multitasking is so common for me that I find it difficult not to multitask. It allows me to maximize efficiency in completing projects so that I can focus on other areas of my life, like spending time with my family.

Q. What motivates you and why?

A. I am driven by a desire to see that people are treated fairly, with dignity and respect, no matter the circumstances. Whether it is a defendant appearing before me or a victim giving an impact statement, I want that person to know afterwards that I have seen and heard them. My assignment in Adult Drug Court has also helped me to see a person’s potential, rather than focusing solely on past behavior.

I am motivated by our incredible staff, who are dedicated to our courts and the community we serve. Many have shared with me their personal struggles, and I am constantly inspired by their stories. My colleagues on the bench are a remarkable and talented group of men and women, and I am motivated by attorneys who are dedicated to their clients and to restorative justice.

Q. What is most rewarding about your career thus far? And why?

A. I have had many opportunities to see people’s lives, and the lives of their families, change for the better. It’s impossible not to be moved by the success of a person who has turned their life around. I’m also extremely grateful every time I receive a card from a juror expressing satisfaction about serving on a trial in my court.

Q. Who inspires you?

A. Throughout my life, I have been most inspired by my husband and my parents.

My husband always looks for the positive in any situation, and he handles difficult issues with wisdom and wit. He loves unconditionally, whether it be his work or his family. I’ve repeatedly met people in the community who told me how he had positively impacted their lives.

My parents, now deceased, taught me courage, integrity and perseverance. My Japanese mother always emphasized “ganbaru”—the concept of doing one’s best and never giving up.

Q. What advice might you have for future women judges?

A. I would encourage them to reach out to their bench colleagues for advice and support. During my time as presiding judge, another presiding judge compared all of us to a grove of coastal redwoods. She explained that giant ancient redwoods, towering over 300 feet, have shallow roots that spread out horizontally instead of vertically. Their roots intertwine with the roots of other redwoods, giving them the strength and flexibility to withstand strong winds.

Thank you, Judge Duffy.

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WLA Annual Awards continued

Sadie Symens— 2022 Rising Star

Sadie Symens is being honored in March as the recipient of the 2022 Rising Star Award. When the pandemic hit, legislators drastically changed housing legislation. And it kept changing. Sadie educated our local legal community about the changes and represented a mostly female clientele faced with losing their housing. During her legal career at SLOLAF, she has mentored women undergraduate students desiring to go to law school. Her work is inspiring. She is one to watch. For these reasons, she is the recipient of the 2022 Rising Star Award.

Sadie and I had the following conversation.

Q. How did you learn to navigate constantly changing laws and procedures while juggling a caseload?

A. Fortunately, for San Luis Obispo Legal Assistance Foundation (SLOLAF) and for our clients financially affected by the pandemic, there was a brief period at the beginning of the pandemic where the only evictions that could go forward were ones involving an immediate health or safety issue. This gave us some time to shift our focus and prepare, as much as we could, for the unexpected.

We knew from the beginning that members of our community were going to struggle to pay rent because of COVID, so making sure we understood what protections were available to them was a top priority. This goal was shared and supported by my supervisor and mentor Stephanie Barclay, who

really made sure SLOLAF staff had the support and resources we needed to continue serving the community during COVID. Educating those on the ground in the community working with tenants was absolutely crucial because SLOLAF doesn't and can't interface with every tenant in the area, and many people don't know what legal rights they have, so the more we could spread awareness, the more people facing eviction would hopefully know how to access us and their legal protections.

Isolation, fear, uncertainty—the same things most of us struggled with. On top of that, many of our clients who were already struggling with their rent or mortgage were forced to deal with a sudden loss of income, not knowing whether they'd be able to pay for their housing that month. Our clients also lost access to, or faced greater difficulty accessing, services they relied on due to stay-at-home orders.

Q. Why might women disproportionately be faced with housing issues and how might we work to change this?

A. This is a question that goes far beyond direct legal services and my expertise, but we do know this is a symptom of systemic gender inequality that we see manifested in pay gaps, the responsibility of childcare that disproportionately falls on women, the myriad harms of domestic violence, and other factors.

We were reminded by the pandemic that women of color particularly are more likely to face housing instability. Working to



Sadie Symens

change this looks like addressing these issues at the root. It means building more affordable housing, providing free or affordable childcare, rethinking the ways we identify and prevent evictions based on implicit gender and racial bias. As lawyers, we have the ability and responsibility to dig into existing legal frameworks and identify all possible means of recourse for our clients, as well as connecting them to service providers and financial assistance where available.

Q. Why might women disproportionately experience emotional and financial abuse and how might we work to change this?

A. Similar to my previous answer, I think it starts with listening to and believing women, doing what we can as lawyers to advocate for them when the legal process would help, and connecting them to needed services.

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WLA Annual Awards continued

Q. What are you most proud of thus far in your career and why?

A. I am most proud of the resources we were able to develop at SLOLAF during the pandemic, such as our online FAQs for tenants and landlords and the legal updates and know-your-rights trainings we gave to our community. When people know they have rights, they are more likely to reach out for legal assistance. Sometimes that meant we were just able to get them a couple extra months or weeks in their homes before they were evicted, but this could mean the difference between being forcefully unhoused or securing alternative housing.

Q. What motivates you and why?

A. I am motivated by the reality that the legal system, at its best, should protect everyone equally. At SLOLAF, that meant representing clients when we had the time and

staff to do so, and providing them with information and connecting them to self-help resources when we couldn't. In my current position with the City of SLO, that means recognizing the responsibility that we have as a local government to act with transparency, integrity and humility to serve this community and further city goals with the backdrop of equity guiding everything we do.

Q. Who inspires you and why?

A. I am inspired by women who believe that things can be better than they are and who have the courage to ask how we get there. I am inspired by my sister who is raising children to be kind, compassionate humans while working and going to school herself. I am inspired by my parents who have lived and worked in this community for decades and believe in leaving things better than you found them.

Q. What qualities would you suggest newly minted women lawyers cultivate to find success?

A. Confidence in your experience and training. Curiosity and the courage to ask questions. Setting boundaries and remembering that you cannot give your best to your clients if you are not taking care of yourself. Making genuine human connections with people you work with, for, and even against; this can sometimes take extra effort (it certainly does for me), but it is so worth it.

Thank you, Sadie. ■

In addition to the annual OWL award, WLA also provides annual scholarships to law students with a local connection. To raise money for the scholarships, WLA hosts a headshot fundraiser in March with all of the proceeds being donated to WLA.



The law firm of Glick Haupt Marino LLP has an immediate opening in its civil litigation practice in downtown San Luis Obispo. We are seeking an attorney with a minimum of 3-4 years of civil litigation experience to assist in handling a busy caseload primarily consisting of real property and business disputes. We offer a collegial work environment with a competitive salary and benefits package. We are open to a hybrid and/or remote work arrangement for the right candidate. Please forward your resume in confidence to support@ghmlaw.com.

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Our Obligation as Lawyers to Defend Democracy

by Mitchel L. Winick and Jackie Gardina

Our democratic republic is approaching its 250th year anniversary that, unfortunately, makes it easy to take it for granted. However, it is not an overstatement to believe that democracy and the democratic process are currently under attack in our country. We are being confronted by one of the most polarized, divisive and dangerous political and social periods in recent history.

During the past several years, we have witnessed increasingly hateful rhetoric by members of the public and even elected officials at the local, state and national level. Physical confrontations at local school board meetings, city council sessions and an armed mob attack on the nation's capital are urgent warnings that the rule of law and our democratic institutions are at risk.

As American lawyers, we consider the Constitution and respect for the rule of law to be the foundation of our democracy. This is such an important principle that, *as a condition of licensure*, we take an oath to support both our U.S. and state constitutions. If it has been a while since you took or administered the attorney's oath, in California, it is the following:

I solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of an attorney and counselor at law to the best of my knowledge and ability. As an officer of the court, I will strive to conduct myself at all times with dignity, courtesy, and integrity.

(California Attorney's Oath <https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Admissions/Examinations/California-Bar-Examination/Attorneys-Oath>)

As members of the legal profession and sworn officers of the court, there is no question that we have an important role to play in navigating our country and our communities through these

challenging times. In this context, perhaps we should take a step back to consider whether, individually and collectively, we are adequately meeting our professional obligations to come to the defense of democracy, the rule of law and the Constitution.

As attorneys, we have the professional, intellectual and educational skills to define, discuss and educate about the distinctions between legal vs. illegal behavior, honest vs. fraudulent allegations and factual vs. false narratives.

In fact, we have taken an oath to do so.

If we remain silent when members of our profession, and in rare cases, members of the judiciary, intentionally abuse the justice system by pursuing lawsuits without legal foundation or fact, publicly advocate claims that they know have been judicially determined to be without legal basis, fail to recuse in cases that appear to have specific conflicts of interest, and act openly and publicly in violation of the attorney's oath...

If lawyers in elected office or serving in public or administrative positions of trust sit silently when presented with evidence of alleged fraud, illegal behavior, false filings or intentional non-filings of statutorily required public and financial disclosure information...

If we are not horrified and outraged to the point of feeling compelled to speak out in defense of democracy and the rule of law in the face of an illegal and violent mob attack on our center of democracy—the U.S. Capitol—that disrupted the peaceful, democratic transfer of power and caused our elected officials to literally flee from their Congressional duties in fear of injury or death...

...then as lawyers, law professors and judges we are sitting idle when we have a professional and ethical obligation to act.

Can there be any doubt that we, as lawyers, have an obligation to • defend the process, participation in, and outcomes of free and fair elections • demand the timely investigation, judgment and discipline of lawyers, judges and

elected officials who violate legal and ethical standards • and support equal access to justice and protection of our Constitutional rights, regardless of ideology, financial ability, origin or identity?

These are not issues that can be disregarded by the legal profession under the excuse that they are merely issues of partisan politics and not fundamental attacks against the rule of law. Abandonment of the rule of law cannot be dismissed as politics-as-usual in the face of violent insurrection and the mainstreaming of hate-based rhetoric within our political parties and in our public dialogue.

What weighs in the balance are the foundational Constitutional protections that define our democracy—freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom from discrimination and freedom to participate in free and fair elections. History has taught us that the sustainability of these freedoms requires vigilance and a commitment to act when it is necessary to defend democracy and enforce the rule of law.

And that is the obligation that we have accepted as lawyers.

Although attribution of the quote, “all tyranny needs to gain a foothold is for people of good conscience to remain silent,” may be disputed (with apologies to Edmund Burke), the point is well made. Therefore, what steps should we be taking as lawyers of good conscience to speak out in defense of democracy?

First and foremost, we need to identify more ways to actively and publicly work together... regardless of politics, ideology or identity... to be leaders in our communities speaking out against false, divisive and hateful rhetoric. We need to accept responsibility to stand up to those who attack the most vulnerable in our communities and use our knowledge and ability, as required by our oath, to defend their rights and provide access to justice. Finally, we need to have zero tolerance for members of our profession who intentionally, openly and repeatedly violate our professional ethics.

In this new year, let's commit to work together as lawyers to remind all members of our community that democracy must not be taken for granted and that the rights, privileges and freedoms that are guaranteed under the Constitution and protected by the rule of law are essential to another pledge that we each have taken as Americans...to be “one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.” ■

California Accredited Law School Deans Mitchel L. Winick (President and Dean of the San Luis Obispo College of Law) and Jackie Gardina (The Colleges of Law) are cohosts of the new podcast SideBar (www.sidebarmedia.org) on the Legal Talk Network that discusses current challenges to our individual constitutional and civil rights. Comments are welcome at www.sidebarmedia.org/comments.



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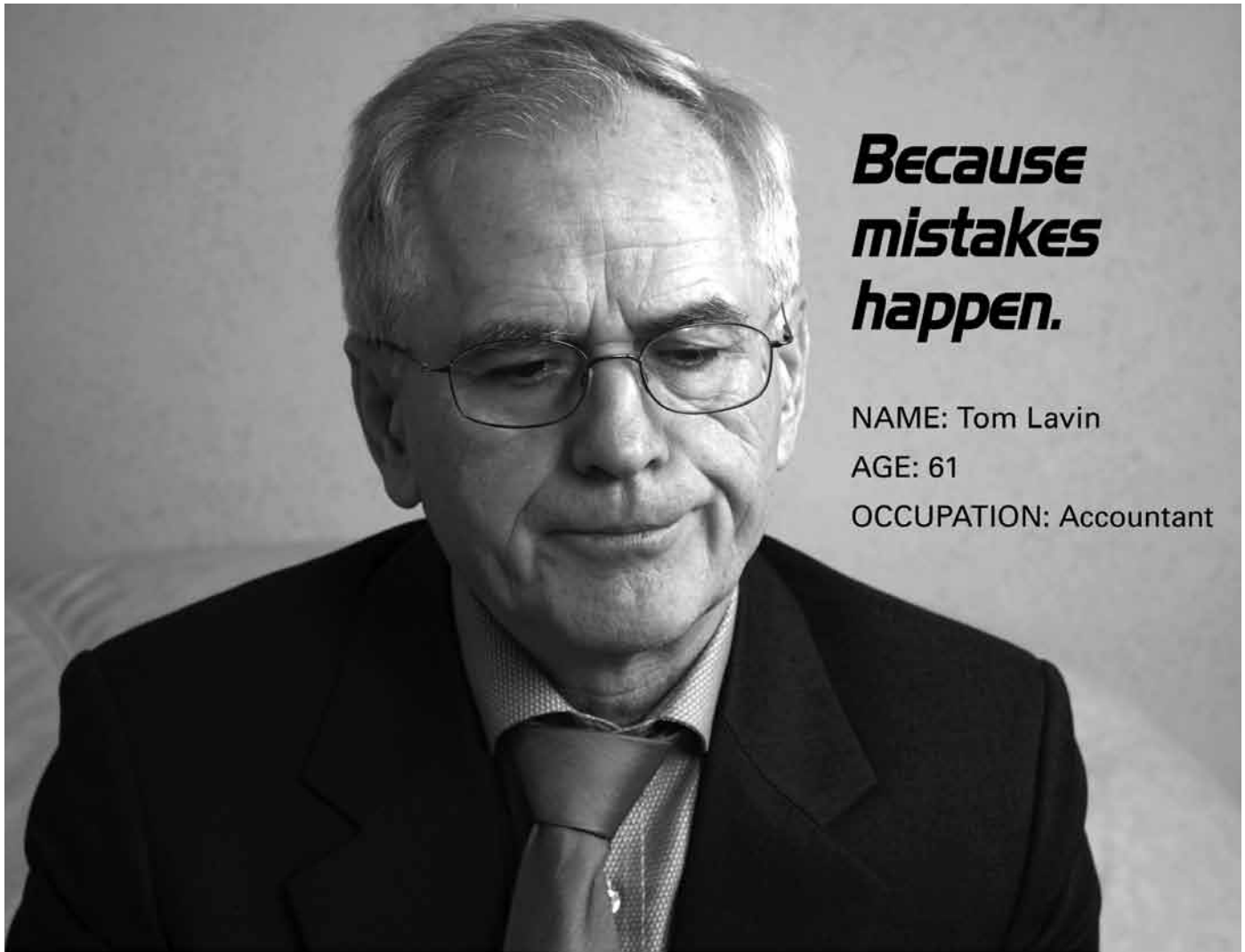


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BOOK ENDS

Readers looking for their next find can enjoy a readability review. Let this serve as a book club of sorts, maybe challenging you to cover new territory. Let's see what is on Jan Marx's bookshelf.

What are you reading?
Cloud Cuckoo Land

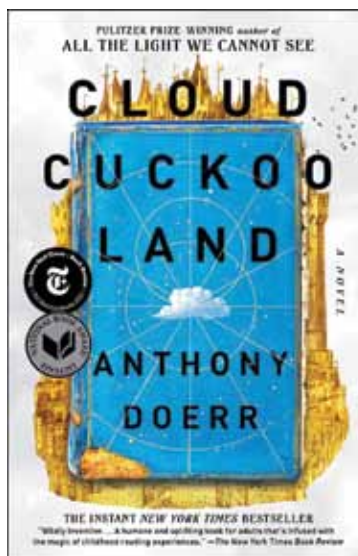
How did this book find you?
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Who is the author?
Anthony Doerr, Pulitzer prize winning author of *All the Light We Cannot See*.

Why does this book have significance?

It plumbs the redemptive significance of a story through the ages. Dedicated to "the librarians then, now and in the years to come," it centers around the timeless evocative power of a lost first century CE Greek story by Antonius Diogenes named "Cloud Cuckoo Land."

Imaginatively intertwining stories of five protagonists in five time periods and places, it is set in Constantinople and Bulgaria in the 15th century, in a small town Idaho in the 1940s, in February 2020 and 2064, in a North Korean prisoner of war camp in 1951, and in the Argos, an Interstellar spaceship trying to save the human race by seeking to find "Planet B" in 2130.



via Simon & Schuster

It explores questions such as:
a) what turns a sensitive young man into an armed killer holding children hostage in a library;
b) how does learning to read a new language save the lives of a young orphan girl and years later, a homosexual prisoner of war; or c) how does a lost, but storied, and truly nonsensical tale—of a man seeking to "escape the trap" of the human condition by being transformed into a bird but ending up in the body of a donkey—persist through time and somehow inspire people to overcome dire situations?



Photo courtesy of Jan Marx

Tell us your praise. Tell us your critique.

The inscription on the mythical box containing the imaginary lost manuscript is "Stranger, whoever you are, open this to learn what will amaze you." This aptly describes this beautiful, daring, ultimately joyous novel.

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BAR BULLETIN SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

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Contributors are encouraged to limit the length of their submitted articles to 2,500 words or less, unless the article can be published in two parts in successive issues. Lengthy lists of footnotes or citations should be incorporated into the article.

Editorial contributions to the *Bar Bulletin* must be submitted electronically **ONLY** in Microsoft Word format directly to the 2023 Editor at tarajacobi@icloud.com

To ensure consideration for inclusion in the next scheduled edition, your articles, photographs and art, advertisements and ad payments must be received by the deadlines listed in the Publications Schedule at right.

The *Bar Bulletin* reserves the right to reject or edit any contributions. By submitting contributions for publication, contributors consent under this policy to the editing of their work, the publication of their work and the posting of their work online.

The San Luis Obispo County Bar Association does not pay contributors for their submissions.

Opinions expressed in the *Bar Bulletin* do not necessarily reflect those of the San Luis Obispo County Bar Association or its editorial staff. The *Bar Bulletin* does not constitute legal advice or a legal resource and must not be used or relied upon as a substitute for legal counsel that may be required from an attorney.

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Your submission of photographs/artwork to the *Bar Bulletin* authorizes their publication and posting online. All photographs must be submitted in jpg or tif format with a resolution of not less than 300 dpi via email or, for large files, via WeTransfer. Please include the photographer's name and that you have permission to use the photograph.

Publication Schedule

The *Bar Bulletin* is published six times per year. **The deadlines for accepting articles, photographs/art, advertisements and ad payments follow.**

ISSUE	DEADLINE
• January–February	11/25
• March–April	1/25
• May–June	3/25
• July–August	5/25
• September–October	7/25
• November–December	9/25

Advertisement Policy

All advertisements in the *Bar Bulletin* must be submitted in jpg, tif or pdf format with a resolution of not less than 300 dpi.

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Information on advertisement sizes and rates can be found online at www.slobar.org. All advertisements should be prepared prior to publication.

Contact Kerrin Hovarter at (805) 541-5930 to reserve advertising space and arrange payment.

2023 Bar Bulletin
Tara Jacobi, Editor
tarajacobi@icloud.com



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