

Merced County Bar Association



Volume 1, Issue 5

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May 2017

President's Column

Darryl Young

Law Office of Darryl E. Young

Law Day lunch on May 4th was a roaring success. As usual, Justice Detjen, 5th District Court of Appeals, gave a wonderful and powerful presentation. This year's topic was the 14th Amendment. About 60 attendees were present.

The MCBA also awarded two copies of the Nolo Press "Essential Guide to Child Custody and Support" to the Merced County Law Library. Librarian Tisa Baker was present to receive the books.

We are working on ideas to grow Law Day in 2018. If you have ideas, please let your MCBA board know!

Come and join us at the upcoming **MCBA Lunch at Bella Luna's on Thursday June 1, at noon**. Speaker will be Paul Mullen, Central California Legal Services, on Ethics.

Our facebook site is up:

www.facebook.com/mercedbar

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2017 MCBA OFFICERS

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Conflict Public Defender Contract up for a Vote

By Darryl Young

President

The CPD contract provides criminal defense services to indigent defendants that the Merced Public Defender's Office [MPD] cannot represent due to conflicts of interest.

The Merced law firm of Morse & Pfeiff have held the CPD contract for 13 years and administered the CPD contract under the name of Merced Defense Associates [MDA]. On January 1, 2016, Tom Pfeiff spun-off MDA into a separate legal entity as its sole owner.

There are three proposals before the Merced County Board of Supervisors:

1. MDA renewing the current CPD contract.
Contact Tom Pfeiff at (209) 384-9070 for more information.
2. MPD obtaining the CPD contract utilizing a separate conflict panel of attorneys.
Contact David Elgin at (209) 385-7692 for more information.
3. Ciummo & Associates, of Madera, obtaining the CPD contract. Their criminal defense practice includes the Madera County Public Defender's Office, the Madera County Alternate Defense, the Fresno Alternate Defense, the Fresno Juvenile Defense and the Fresno Alternate Juvenile Defense.
Contact Ciummo & Associates (559) 673-7227 for more information.

[Continued on page 2, column 2]

Calendar of Events

June 1st at Noon - MCBA Lunch at Bella Luna Bistro; Speaker – Paul Mullen, Central California Legal Services, on Ethics

July 6th - MCBA Mixer at 4 p.m.; location TBD

August 3rd – No Meeting

September 7th at Noon - MCBA Lunch at Bella Luna Bistro: Speaker - Nina Lee on Wills and Trusts

October 5th at 6 p.m. - West Side Dinner at Wool Growers, 609 H Street, Los Banos

November 2nd at Noon - MCBA Lunch at Bella Luna Bistro: Speaker - Judge Ash on Juvenile Law

December 7th at 6 p.m.- Holiday Party at Bella Luna Bistro

Friendly Reminders

If you have not done so already, please pay your MCBA dues of \$110 for 2017.

Merced County Bar dues this year are \$110 and anyone interested in joining can contact Tom Min at tmin1216@gmail.com for an application.

Download a Member Application on the member's resources page of our website: www.mercedbar.org/member-resources/

[Continued from page 1, column 2]

You may also want to contact your county Supervisor:

The Honorable Rodrigo Espinoza, District 1 including Celeste-Tuttle, Livingston, City of Merced, LeGrand and Planada

Rodrigo.Espinoza@countyofmerced.com;

The Honorable Lee Lor, District 2 including City of Merced, lee.lor@countyofmerced.com;

The Honorable Daron McDaniel, District 3 including Atwater, North Merced, Franklin-

Beachwood, McSwain, Dist3@co.merced.ca.us;

The Honorable Lloyd Pareira, District 4 including Ballico, Gustine, Cressey, Delhi, Eastern County (portions outside of LeGrand and Planada)

Hilmar, Snelling, Stevinson, Winton and portions of Atwater, Lloyd.Pareira@countyofmerced.com;

The Honorable Jerald O'Banion, District 5

including Dos Palos, Los Banos, Dos Palos Y,

Midway, Santa Nella, South Dos Palos and Volta, Dist5@co.merced.ca.us.

Court News

By Tom Min

Secretary

News from the Superior Court [Linda Romero-Soles, CEO]:

1) Law Day at the Court:

The Court celebrated Law Day at the court on Friday, May 5th. The Law Day Theme this year was- The 14th Amendment: Transforming American Democracy. Several local high schools and students from UC Merced participated in the courts annual program. The program focuses on educating the students regarding the state court system and includes tours of the court, a Q+A by the Judicial Officers, a Sheriff's display and a Jeopardy game played by the students. In addition, students from Golden Valley High School provided the Art murals that capture the Law Day theme. These murals will be displayed in the old courthouse for one year.

2) Grand Jurors:

The court is currently accepting applications for the 2017/18 Grand Jury. The deadline has been extended to May 19th. If you know of any members of the public wishing to serve please have them contact Shelbi Perino, Sr, Executive Assistant @ 725-4250.

Thank you for your 2017 membership:

Edward Amaral, Vincent Andrade, Casey Aitchison, Eric Beiswanger, Mason Brawley, Geraldine Brown, Corbett Browning, Betty Dawson, Thomas Ebersole, Skye Emery, James Fincher, Kelly Fincher, David Foster, Carlos Fuentes, Shawn George, Arthur Godwin, Jeff Grant, Melbourne Gwin, Emily Haden, Robert Haden, Kyle Hampton, Forrest Hansen, David Haycraft, Kimberly Helms, Bruce Hendricks, Raymond Isleib, J. Scott Jordan, Claire Lai, George Leavell, Nini Lee, Thomas Lewis, Kenneth Mackie, Weldon Mattos Jr., Richard Marchini, Roger Matzkind, Sean McLeod, C. Logan McKechnie, Phillip McMurray, Derek Meyer, Patience Milrod, Thomas Min, Paul Mullen, Michael Murphy, Christine Parraz, Thomas Pfeiff, Kenneth Robbins, Ramnik Samrao, Lisete Silva, Shane Smith, Bruce Sousa, Stuart Spencer, Karen Spinardi, James Stone, Anne Taylor-Boreham, Ralph Temple, Samuel Tenenbaum, Rick Wallace, Charles Wilson & Darryl Young

Merced County Bar Association
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MCBA Development Goals for 2017

We are currently updating our website to increase communication and to promote MCBA attorneys and their respective practices.

Our web address is www.mercedbar.org/

Other developments underway include:

- **An historical essay on the significance of the MCBA;**
- **Re-establishment of a fee arbitration panel;**
- **Collaborate with judicial council for greater input on prospective judges**

