

Queen’s Bench

NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT’S WELCOME MESSAGE

by Alice A. Purdy



It is an honor to serve as the President of Queen’s Bench in our centennial year. I am approaching this year in awe of the groundbreaking work our former presidents achieved over the last 100 years. This year is no different. With the help of an incredible board, an outstanding year of programming is taking shape.

At this year’s Induction Ceremony on February 18, 2021, it gave me great pride to listen to the committee chairs describe the amazing programs and efforts of each of the committees. We are an organization of dedicated

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Queen’s Bench
Bar Association

QUEEN’S BENCH CELEBRATES A WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH UNLIKE ANY OTHER

by Elisha Jussen-Cooke

Queen’s Bench joins in celebrating Women’s History Month this March.

Women’s History Month began as single day of resistance organized by garment workers and members of the socialist and labor movements in 1908. That year, 15,000 women marched through New York City demanding shorter hours, better pay, and voting rights. Over the next decade, the movement to establish an International Women’s Day gathered traction in the United States and abroad. After women gained suffrage in Soviet Russia in 1917, March 8th became a national holiday there. In 1977, the United Nations began celebrating International Women’s Day on March 8th, a celebration which lives on throughout the world today. This movement continued to blossom in the United States, leading to “Women’s History Week” in 1981, and finally to a month-long observation in 1987.

This year, with the theme of “Valiant Women of the Vote: Refusing to Be Silenced,” we celebrate the ground-breaking new chapter in our nation’s history

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PRESIDENT'S WELCOME MESSAGE

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leaders that each strive to make Queen's Bench and our greater community better through education, outreach, scholarship opportunities, legislation and the many other ways we can be of service.

Personally, I have enjoyed serving as a co-chair on the Centennial/ History Committee with Clarissa Kang and Judge Charlotte Woolard as the 100-year Gala and the debut of our Oral History Project approaches. Clarissa Kang, a longstanding co-chair of the History Committee, which is now the Centennial/History Committee, has been leading efforts to memorialize our history and feature our historical photographs and documents. This

project progressed in 2020, when the Centennial Committee embarked on its Oral History Project with the help of a highly skilled interviewer and professional videographer. Together, with our committee members, we have also spent many hours doing the behind the scenes work of improving our fundraising efforts.

This year's Centennial Gala, scheduled for October, will be the pinnacle of years of work to memorialize our history and collect stories from our esteemed past presidents and influential members. Whether we are in person or virtual, I hope to see each of you in attendance!

I was also excited to hear about the Amicus Briefs Committee's plan to put together programming focused on the Equal Rights Amendment. The opportunity for Queen's Bench to make a meaningful mark in history by participating in a campaign for recognition that could last for years to come is just one of the ways we plan to continue the groundbreaking work of our former leaders.

As we recall our past and learn more about the professional and personal lives of our members, I encourage all members to join a committee and be of service. One day, our future members will be reading your stories. Undoubtedly, our photographs of a

Zoom Induction Ceremony will signify a meaningful moment in history when we rose to the occasion and exceeded everyone's expectations. If there is anything I can do to assist with programming you want to present this year, please reach out to me. Thank you for your participation in Queen's Bench. I am thrilled to be a part of this new era with you.

QUEEN'S BENCH CELEBRATES A WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH UNLIKE ANY OTHER

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marked by the swearing in on January 20, 2021 of Kamala D. Harris as Vice President of the United States of America. Vice President Harris is the first African American woman, the first Indian-American, and the first person of Asian-American descent to hold this office.

On November 7, 2020, Vice President Harris delivered her victory speech, speaking of power of women's dreams, determination, and perseverance in lifting up all of society through the pursuit of justice and equality. On the stage that night, Vice President Harris spoke of her mother, and said:

When she came here from India at the age of 19, she maybe didn't quite imagine this moment. But she believed so deeply in an America where a moment like this is possible. And so, I'm thinking about her and about the generations of women — Black women, Asian, White, Latina, Native American women who throughout our nation's history have paved the way for this moment tonight. Women who fought and sacrificed so much for equality, liberty and justice for all, including the Black women, who are often, too often overlooked, but so often prove that they are the backbone of our democracy. All the women who worked to secure and protect the right to vote for over a century: 100 years ago with the 19th Amendment, 55 years ago with the Voting Rights Act and now, in 2020, with a new generation of women in our country who cast their ballots and continued the fight for their fundamental right to vote and be heard.

Tonight, I reflect on their struggle, their determination and the strength of their vision — to see what can be, unburdened by what has been. And I stand on their shoulders...

But while I may be the first woman in this office, I will not be the last, because every little girl watching tonight sees that this is a country of possibilities. And to the children of our country, regardless of your gender, our country has sent you a clear message: Dream with ambition, lead with conviction, and see yourselves in a way that others may not, simply because they've never seen it before, but know that we will applaud you every step of the way.

In 2021, as we commemorate 100 years of Queen's Bench, we honor and reflect on the contributions of all women to history, society, and culture. To those women who have refused to be silenced, and to all of those who help to amplify the voices of others that may otherwise go unheard, we thank you and we celebrate you.



Please join us in Celebrating the Centennial of
Queen's Bench Bar Association
Coming to you October 2021

Featuring our Special Guest Speaker and the
Premiere of our Centennial Oral History Project

*Please watch for updates and more information on how
to become a Sponsor or purchase Tickets.*

Your generous participation will help us celebrate 100 years of fostering professional and social relationships among women lawyers and help build our strong future! We promote equality and opportunity for all women through education, programs and community outreach.

For more details, please contact Laurie Earp at 510-418-2354 (mobile) or laurie@earpevents.com.



CELEBRATING 100 YEARS: QUEEN'S BENCH REMEMBERS BELLA ABZUG AND OTHER MEMORABLE SPEAKERS

by Beverly Brand

Queen's Bench has had many notable events over the past one hundred years. In this, our Centennial year, we will be highlighting many of these special occasions, both here in our newsletter and on our social media. We also invite members and colleagues to share special memories, photos and other mementos on our social media pages or by emailing the newsletter.

Some of our fondest memories are of the many inspiring speakers who honored us with their company. These include business leaders, like Emily Malcolm (founder of Emily's list), journalists like Belva Davis, politicians such as Jackie Speier, John Garamendi, and Ellen Tauscher, advocates for civil rights and racial justice such as Lateefah Simon (also a member of BART's Board) and poet Janice Mirikitani, as well as numerous attorneys from Dru Ramey to Michelle Banks, and many, many more. In this article we highlight one of our memorable speakers, Bella Abzug, who spoke at a Queen's Bench Judge's Dinner in the 1980's.

Nicknamed "Battling Bella", Ms. Abzug was an American lawyer, U.S. Representative, social activist and a leader in the women's movement. She was a founder of the National Women's Political Caucus

with other leading feminists such as Gloria Steinem, Shirley Chisholm, and Betty Friedan.

Ms. Abzug was admitted to the New York Bar in 1945, at a time when very few women practiced law, and started her career in New York City at Pressman, Witt & Cammer. She specialized in labor rights, tenants' rights, and civil liberties cases. Early on, she took on civil rights cases in the South. She appealed the case of Willie McGee, a black man convicted in 1945 of raping a white woman in Mississippi, and sentenced to death by an all-white jury who deliberated for only two-and-a-half minutes. Ms. Abzug lost the appeal and the man was executed. She was an outspoken advocate of the Equal Rights Amendment, opposed the Vietnam War and the draft, and worked for the American Civil Liberties Union and the Civil Rights Congress. During the McCarthy era, she was one of the few legal attorneys willing to openly combat the House Un-American Activities Committee.

In 1944, Bella married Martin Abzug, a novelist and stockbroker. They met on a bus in Miami, Florida, heading to a Yehudi Menuhin concert, and remained married until his death in 1986. They had two daughters.

In 1970, Ms. Abzug first ran for office. Her campaign slogan was, "This woman's place is in the House—the House of Representatives." She also is quoted as saying:

I've been described as a tough and noisy woman, a prizefighter, a man-hater, you name it. They call me Battling Bella.

—Bella Abzug, in her 1971 Congress journal, quoted by Braden in Women Politicians and the Media.

She was one of the first members of Congress to support gay rights, introducing the first federal gay rights bill, known as the Equality Act of 1974, with fellow Democratic New York City Representative, Ed Koch, a future mayor of New York City. She also chaired historic hearings on government secrecy, being the chair for the Subcommittee on Government Information and Individual Rights. She was voted by her colleagues as the third most influential member of the House as reported in U.S. News & World Report. In February 1975, Ms. Abzug was part of a bi-partisan delegation sent to Saigon by President Gerald Ford to assess the situation on the ground in South Vietnam near the end of the Vietnam War.

Although they were banned on the House floor, Ms. Abzug was known for her colorful and vibrant hats, and was seldom seen without one. She famously reminded all who admired them: "It's what's under the hat that counts!"

After leaving the House, Ms. Abzug remained a high-profile figure. She authored two books, "Bella: Ms. Abzug Goes to Washington" and "The Gender Gap," the latter co-authored with friend and colleague, Mim Kelber.

She was appointed to co-chair the National Commission on the Observance of International Women's Year created by President Gerald Ford's executive order. In early 1977, President Jimmy Carter chose a new National Commission on the Observance of International Women's Year and appointed Ms. Abzug to head it. Numerous events were held over the next two years, culminating in the 1977 National Women's Conference in November. She would continue this work as one of the two co-chairpersons for the National Advisory Committee for Women until her dismissal in January 1979, which would create a flash point of tension between the Carter administration and feminist organizations in the United States.

Ms. Abzug founded and ran several women's advocacy organizations. She was a founder of the Commission for Women's Equality of the American Jewish Congress and was known as a leading figure in what came to be known as eco-feminism.

Recently, Ms. Abzug is among other feminists memorialized in the television drama Mrs. America, which tells the story of the movement to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), and the unexpected backlash led by a conservative woman.

Again, please post your Queen's Bench memories, and consider a Centennial hashtag, such as #QBCentennial, #Queen'sBench_100years, #QBBA100 or #QBBACentennial.

All of the information on Ms. Abzug comes from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bella_Abzug.



THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT: WHY IT IS CLOSER THAN EVER TO BECOMING THE TWENTY-EIGHTH AMENDMENT

by Kara L. Wild

The Equal Rights Amendment states: “Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.”

For the past one hundred years, women have fought for an amendment enshrining equal rights for the sexes. Part of this fight was documented in the recent Hulu miniseries *Mrs. America*, which focused on the efforts of 1970s feminists to ratify the ERA, and how they fell painfully short. Yet now the ERA is in the best position it has ever been in to become the Twenty-Eighth Amendment to the United States Constitution.

BACKGROUND

In 1923, the National Women’s Party introduced the first version of the Equal Rights Amendment in Congress. At that time, only one woman had served in the Senate, and four women in the House. It would be buried in Committee year after year, until it received a Senate floor vote in 1946, only to be narrowly defeated, thirty-eight to thirty-five. The Amendment finally passed in the Senate in 1950—but with a rider that nullified its equal protection aspects.

In the 1950s, Michigan Congresswoman Martha Griffiths worked to have sex discrimination added to Title VII of the 1964 Civil

Rights Act. She also introduced the Amendment to the House floor every year, until at last the House passed the Amendment in 1971, followed by the Senate in 1972. With passage came a catch: Congress included language in the legislation, but not in the Amendment itself, imposing an arbitrary seven-year deadline for ratification by three-fourths of the state legislatures.

The ERA seemed well positioned to overcome this hurdle. Not only was it supported by notable feminists of the time, but also President Richard Nixon. By March 1973, thirty states had ratified the Amendment. However, during that period, Phyllis Schlafly established the National Committee to Stop ERA. Schlafly’s organization mounted a pressure campaign on state legislatures to reject the Amendment. Chief among their concerns was that an equal rights amendment would create abortion on demand, and force women to be drafted into the military like men.

Between 1974 and 1978, only five more states ratified the ERA. In 1978, women’s rights advocates convinced Congress to extend the deadline another three years, but it was not enough. When the ratification deadline arrived on June 30, 1982, the ERA fell three states short of thirty-eight states necessary

for full ratification. To make matters worse, five of the states that ratified the Amendment went on to pass legislation rescinding its ratification.

CURRENT SITUATION

The coda for *Mrs. America*’s includes a series of texts in black and white. It starts by noting that the leaders of the women’s movement never again had the political influence that they enjoyed in the early 1970s. As the music swells, intermixed with images of the women involved in the movement, the text shows that in 2017, Nevada ratified the ERA. Then Illinois in 2018. Then Virginia became the thirty-eighth state to ratify in 2019. The text then states that the Democratic-controlled House of Representatives passed a resolution to rescind the deadline for ratification of the ERA, before ending with the statement: “The Republican-controlled Senate has indicated that it is highly unlikely to take up the measure.”

What led to the final three states ratifying the ERA? Supporters of the ERA looked to the 1992 ratification of the Constitution’s Twenty-Seventh Amendment (often referred to as the “Madison Amendment”), which had a 203-year ratification period. In light of this, supporters argued that the ERA’s two-decade ratification process should surely meet the Supreme Court’s standards of “reasonable”

and “sufficiently contemporaneous,” which were set forth in 1921 and 1939 decisions. Accordingly, the then-thirty-five existing ratifications should still be legally viable and Congress could exercise its authority to adjust or repeal the previous time limit on ratification of the ERA, determine whether post-1982 ratifications are valid, and recognize the ERA as part of the Constitution once three more states ratified.

Following ratification by the thirty-eighth state in 2019, the Senate did, indeed, fail to consider legislation to rescind the ratification deadline. However, with a new 116th Congress in 2021, both houses have introduced such legislation—HJ Res 17 sponsored by Congresswoman Jackie Speier, with 202 co-sponsors, and SJ Res 1, co-sponsored by Senators Ben Cardin and Lisa Murkowski. Both Resolutions have currently been referred to their respective Judiciary Committees. In addition, a number of cases are pending, seeking to have the ERA recognized as the Twenty-Eighth Amendment. This includes *Equal Means Equal v. Ferriero*, which was denied an immediate hearing by the United States Supreme Court, and now heads to the First Circuit Court of Appeal to determine whether the plaintiff has standing and a ruling could be made on the merits.

Even if the deadline for ratification is

rescinded, other challenges remain. Five states that have ratified the ERA—Nebraska, Tennessee, Idaho, Kentucky, South Dakota—passed resolutions aiming to rescind the ratification. Rescinding ratification may not be legal, given that Article V of the Constitution mentions only the states’ power to ratify an amendment, but not the power to rescind ratification. For example, two states had passed resolutions to rescind their ratifications of the Fourteenth Amendment, but both were still recognized in the official tally of ratifying states by Congress.

WHY THE ERA IS STILL NEEDED

With Title VII and Title IX of the Civil Rights Act (1964), some ask whether the ERA is really needed.

In 2016, American women were dealt a blow when then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton won the popular vote, but lost the Electoral vote, to noted misogynist Donald Trump. In the meantime, American women continue to confront a landscape of economic inequality where 7% of Fortune 500 CEOs are women; where women, on average, earn 82 cents for every dollar a man earns, while at the same time paying a “pink tax” in the form of more expensive products; and where paid parental leave is all but non-existent. The gap has been especially noticeable during the

pandemic, when all too many women being forced to juggle their career and the lion’s share of child caregiving, forcing many women to drop out of the workforce altogether.

The value in knowing that the Constitution, which only granted women the right to vote in 1920, finally acknowledges that all sexes have equal rights under the law cannot be overstated. With a constitutional guarantee of equal rights through the ERA, the progress towards eliminating sex discrimination would be much more difficult to roll back. Whereas laws — even ground-breaking law such as Title VII — can be changed or overridden, with rare exception, an amendment to the Constitution remains eternal. The ERA would also increase the likelihood that gender-based discrimination would be reviewed with strict scrutiny by the courts, instead of intermediate scrutiny as it is now. These changes, and the messaging behind them, has the potential to lead to profound shifts in how women are viewed in society and law, and to change our everyday lived experiences.

Queen’s Bench has the opportunity to be part of the movement to recognize the ERA’s ratification. That final chapter remains unwritten. How can we help write it?

INTRODUCING THE 2021 BOARD



President

ALICE ANNE PURDY

Flicker, Kerin, Kruger & Bissada LLP

Alice A. Purdy is a senior associate attorney with Flicker, Kerin, Kruger & Bissada, LLP. Ms. Purdy transitioned from environmental law and civil litigation practice to exclusively family law in 2013, after realizing her passion for family law as a volunteer attorney for low-income victims of domestic violence in restraining order and child custody matters. Her practice includes all aspects of family law matters, including high-asset property division, child and spousal support, complex custody issues including relocation, paternity matters, domestic violence, prenuptial agreements, and post-judgment matters. She is skilled in a variety of representation forms including consulting for mediation, proceedings before private judges, attorney negotiated settlement and litigation.

Ms. Purdy received her J.D. and Certificate of Specialization with Distinction in Environmental Law from Golden Gate University School of Law where she earned the CALI Award for promising student in Water Law and served on the Moot Court Board. She has a B.A. in English as well as a B.S. with honors in Conservation and Resource Studies from the University of California, Berkeley where she completed her thesis in the Environmental Science Honors Research Program.

Ms. Purdy was the recipient of the annual Queen's Bench Service Award in 2019 for her service on the Color of Justice Committee, organized by the National Association of Women Judges and California Women Lawyers. Ms. Purdy has been a

Committee member since 2016, volunteering to further the mission of encouraging young minority and women students to consider a career in law or the judiciary. Ms. Purdy has been a Super Lawyers Rising Star selectee every year since 2019. She was also an American Academy of Attorneys Top 100 Family Law Attorney in 2019. Her speaking engagements include being a presenter at the Family Law Legal Custody Update to the San Mateo County Psychological Association in July 2018.

Ms. Purdy's hobbies include hiking near her Santa Cruz home, yoga, and Italian cooking.



First Vice President

BEVERLY BRAND

California Department of Insurance, Policy Approval Bureau

Beverly Brand is an attorney at the California Department of Insurance in the Policy Approval Bureau. Her current practice focuses on regulatory matters involving disability income, accidental death and dismemberment, and similar types of insurance. Before joining the Department, Beverly was Of Counsel with the Lesser Law Group and the Doctor Law Group, and was in house counsel at Fireman's Fund Insurance Company. Her practice emphasized general business litigation, insurance coverage, insurance bad faith and regulatory matters. Prior to that, Beverly was in the San Francisco office of Barger & Wolen, where she concentrated on civil and business litigation, including of breach of contract, unfair competition, and life and disability insurance disputes. Beverly has considerable experience in most areas of insurance, including general liability, property and casualty, professional liability, personal



Second Vice President

KIMIKO AKIYA

Bartko Zankel Bunzel & Miller

Kimiko is an associate with the San Francisco firm of Bartko Zankel Bunzel & Miller. Her current practice focuses on business and real estate litigation. Prior to practicing civil litigation, Kimiko helped represent federal criminal defendants. She maintains a pro bono practice by recently co-representing an indigent criminal client in his 10th Circuit appeal.

Kimiko has been actively involved with Queen's Bench since joining in 2017 and is currently serving as Education Committee Co-Chair. She received her J.D. from the University of New Mexico School of Law and a B.F.A. in Sculpture from Washington University in St. Louis. Kimiko continues to create her porcelain artwork and run half-marathons around the country.

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Treasurer

JOSEPHINE K. PETRICK

Hanson Bridgett LLP

Josephine is Senior Counsel with Hanson Bridgett’s Appellate Practice Group, where she focuses on appeals and law and motion in the state and federal courts.

Before joining Hanson Bridgett, Josephine served as law clerk to the Honorable James L. Dennis on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. Josephine received a B.A. in Linguistics from the University of California at Berkeley and a J.D. from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law. She was a Senior Articles Editor of the Hastings Law Journal, was a member of the Moot Court Board, and served as an intern for Judge Edward Chen on the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California.

Josephine maintains an active pro bono practice, currently focusing on civil rights and asylum law. She co-chairs the Amicus Committee with Kara Wild, and enjoys following #AppellateTwitter.



Secretary

KARA L. WILD

Ericksen Arbuthnot

Kara L. Wild is an attorney with Hughes Gill Cochrane Tinetti, P.C., specializing in real estate law with an emphasis on common interest developments. She is currently co-chair of the Queen’s Bench Amicus Brief Committee along with Josephine Petrick, and is a member of the Civic and Judicial Appointments Committee.

Kara has long had a passion for social justice, especially with regard to women’s rights. In addition to Queen’s Bench, Kara is a member of the Contra Costa County Bar Association Women’s Section, and the Association of Defense Counsel Women and Law Committee.

In her spare time, Kara researches and writes historical fiction novels about strong, flawed women set in the Victorian Era.



Assistant Secretary/Newsletter

Editor

ELISHA JUSSEN-COOKE

Cooperative Restraining Order Clinic

Elisha Jussen-Cooke is the Victim’s Rights Attorney at the Cooperative Restraining Order Clinic (CROC) in San Francisco, CA, where she has worked since 2017. Elisha advocates for survivor safety and represents domestic violence, stalking, and sexual assault survivors in criminal, Title IX, and civil restraining order matters.

Elisha has a long-standing commitment to advancing women’s rights and advocating for survivors of gender-based violence. Before joining CROC, Elisha represented domestic violence survivors in family law and immigration matters at Bay

Area Legal Aid. After law school, Elisha worked as a research fellow at Haramaya University, Ethiopia, focusing on state and local responses to gender-based violence, and as a law clerk in the Alameda County District Attorney’s Office in the Domestic Violence Unit.

Elisha is an active member of the Queen’s Bench and the San Francisco Bar Associations. Elisha has chaired the Queen’s Bench Domestic and Sexual Violence Committee since 2018. From 2015-2019, Elisha co-chaired the Education Committee of the San Francisco Bar Association’s Family Law Section.



Immediate Past President

SOPHIA MARIA ROMÁN

The Gap, Inc.

Sophia Maria Román leads the Commercial Contracts Team at Gap, Inc., at its headquarters in San Francisco. Her practice areas include commercial transactions with a focus on tech transactions, licensing agreements and other intellectual property matters. Ms. Roman earned her J.D. from Golden Gate University in 2009 and her B.A. in Political Science from the University of California at Davis in 2004. She has served on the Board of Directors of Queen’s Bench since 2012 and prior to that co-chaired the Queen’s Bench Business Development Committee. Ms. Roman lives in the Oakland Hills with her husband, two children and three dogs.

DIRECTORS



ANDREA CARLISE

International Action Network for Gender Equity & Law

Andrea Carlise leads the International Action Network for Gender Equity & Law (IANGEL) with a long history of passionate advocacy for gender equity, diversity, and inclusion. She is a past president of both the National Conference of Women's Bar Associations (NCWBA) and California Women Lawyers. She served on the No Glass Ceiling Monitoring Task Force of the Bar Association of San Francisco, and as the NCWBA's Liaison to the American Bar Association's Commission on Women in the Profession, where she co-chaired the Commission's sexual harassment committee.

Prior to joining IANGEL, Andrea worked as a litigation attorney for 28 years, specializing in labor and employment law. She served as an Assistant County Counsel for the County of Alameda,

leading its Advocacy Division and serving as General Counsel to the County's Human Resource Services Department, and its Diversity Programs Office. Before working for the County, Andrea was the managing partner of Patton Wolan Carlise, LLP, a litigation boutique in Oakland, California. She also serves on and is a past president of, the Board of Directors of her local Girls Inc., an organization that empowers girls to be strong, smart and bold through educational and community programming.



ANGEL L. GARRETT

Trucker Huss

Angel represents plan sponsors, fiduciaries, and service providers in ERISA class action and single plaintiff lawsuits nationwide. She has a broad range of experience in employee benefits law and fiduciary breach matters.

Angel has counseled and defended clients in matters involving employer stock option plans, employee stock valuation, inclusion of employer stock in retirement plans, investment of plan assets, management and recordkeeping fees, executive compensation arrangements, disability claims, and church and governmental plans. She has managed employee benefits and ERISA cases in all stages of litigation in state and federal courts, and before arbitration panels and administrative agencies.

Along with defending her clients in litigation, Angel counsels public and private employers and non-profit organizations on a variety of issues, including those related to fiduciary responsibility, prohibited transactions, benefit claims, disclosure obligations, and qualified domestic relations orders. She also represents plan fiduciaries in Department of Labor investigations.

With her legal and business background, Angel is able to provide practical advice for clients that does not inhibit business operations and consequently helps minimize the need for costly and potentially unnecessary litigation.

Angel has been recognized as a 2015 and 2016 "Rising Star", and as a 2019 "Super Lawyer" by the Northern California Super Lawyers publication. She is admitted to practice in California and Michigan. Angel is also fluent in Mandarin and Taiwanese.



TAMMY HAYGOOD

UBS Financial

Tammy is First Vice President – Wealth Management with the Impact Investment Group at its UBS branch office in San Francisco. Tammy's current practice incorporates a financial planning specialization advising women who are planning or have recently become the primary financial asset controller, often for the first time. As one of the largest financial transactions impacting one's life, Tammy reverse engineers divorce financial plans to determine her client's ongoing needs in support of the most favorable outcome in collaboration with counsel.

Prior to joining UBS and founding the Impact Investment Group, Tammy's diverse nearly 40-year professional career includes positions as an automation and controls engineer after receiving a dual degree in Electrical Engineering and Physics from HBCU Tuskegee University, as well as principal of her own

law firm specializing in corporate securities and tax law during the dot-com boom. Tammy earned her J.D. from Golden Gate University while serving as a project manager at Apple Computer. Tammy's passion for empowering her community and clients through the law and ultimately wealth management in part was inspired by her aunt Cora T. Walker who encouraged her to go to law school. Her aunt's legacy, one of the first African American women to attend St Johns Law School and to be licensed to the New York State Bar in the 1940s, included being founding member of the Harlem River Consumers Cooperative, a food co-op that sold shares for \$5 per household, a solution to Harlem's food desert in the sixties. Tammy aspires to keep her aunt's legacy alive.

Tammy's community work has included service on the Cecil Williams Glide Community Housing Board, Pride Law Board, the Harm Reduction Therapy Center, advisory board member of UCSF's Center of Excellence in Women's Health, and community chairperson of UCSF's Human Gamete, Embryo and Stem Cell Research Committee. Tammy has been a featured conference speaker, and currently splits her time between the Bay Area and Washington, DC. She enjoys cooking (without recipes) and walks on the beach with her family and pooch Wally.

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DIRECTORS

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MICHELLE DYLAN

Law Office of Michelle Dylan & Of Counsel, Vicente Sederberg Law Firm

Michelle (Thomson) Dylan has more than 20 years of criminal defense experience successfully representing clients in state and federal court. During her career, she has consistently obtained favorable results in complex and challenging cases, winning before or at trial on such charges as DUI, domestic violence, marijuana cultivation, and vehicular manslaughter.

Michelle also serves as Of Counsel at Vicente Sederberg Law Firm where she represents cannabis businesses in licensing and regulatory matters.

Michelle has drafted numerous significant motions and appeals, including an Appeal in the California Supreme Court and a Petition for Certiorari in the United States Supreme Court. Over the years,

Michelle has worked to improve the justice system and bring about systemic change, taking on such projects as challenging the use of juvenile adjudications as strikes under California Three Strikes law, aiding in the creation of a diversion program for minors in traffic cases, and objecting to the scientific foundation related to the automated red light system in San Francisco.

Michelle graduated from Boston College with a dual major in Philosophy and Economics. She received her JD from the University of San Francisco School of Law, where she served as a member of the school's Law Review and a Tutor in USF's Student Bar Association Program. Michelle previously served as the Co-Chair of the Education Committee of Queen's Bench and a Queen's Bench Mentor. She has judged moot court competitions and has presented in various venues, including at USF and SFLN and at local bar associations.



SARA CRAIG

Levin Simes Abrams LLP

A Bay Area native, Sara Craig is an associate at Levin Simes Abrams LLP. Her practice focuses on plaintiffs' personal injury and products liability litigation. She is active in several MDLs in federal courts around the country, as well as the JCCPs for Pradaxa and California North Bay Fire Cases, both in San Francisco Superior Court. In her spare time, Sara enjoys reading, traveling on the Pacific Coast, baking, and spending time with her pets and other animals.



CLARISSA A. KANG

Clarissa A. Kang rejoins the Board a director, having previously served on the Board from 2011-2016 and has been serving as the co-chair of the Centennial Committee since 2011.

Clarissa is a director at the employee benefits law firm of Trucker Huss, APC in San Francisco. Since 2003, Ms. Kang has specialized in the area of employee benefits and ERISA litigation, appearing before federal and state courts at trial and appellate levels. Clarissa is admitted to practice before the state and federal district courts of California (Northern, Central, Eastern, Southern), the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, the state and federal district courts of Hawaii, and the U.S. Supreme Court.



Nominations Chair

HANA HARDY

City of San José, Office of the City Attorney

Hana Hardy is a Senior Deputy City Attorney in the Transactional Division at the Office of the City Attorney for the City of San José. Her practice areas include real estate and affordable housing. She received her juris doctor from Santa Clara University School of Law with a concentration in Public Interest Law and Social Justice. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Relations and German Studies from Stanford University.

Hana joined Queen's Bench Bar Association in 2008 and has served on its Board of Directors since 2013. She currently serves as President of the Queen's Bench Foundation and as Chair of the Queen's Bench Nominating Committee. She co-chaired the Business Development Committee from 2011-2012.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

AMICUS BRIEFS COMMITTEE UPDATE

Josephine K. Petrick & Kara Wild

The Amicus Briefs Committee anticipates an exciting 2021. In addition to drafting and supporting amicus briefs that advance issues important to women, the Committee also intends to put on programming that highlights the issues discussed in its past briefs in order to bring it to a wider audience.

Some upcoming programming includes an MCLE on the issue of parental consent regarding abortion. At one time in the early 1990s, California was close to becoming a parental consent state. How did California change course, and where do other states stand on the issue? The MCLE is anticipated for Summer 2021.

The Amicus Briefs Committee will also be partnering with other Queen's Bench committees to produce an MCLE focused on the Equal Rights Amendment. The current status of the ERA is highly relevant at this time and could have significant impact for all women. This MCLE is currently projected for March or April 2021.

Should you wish to be a part of the Amicus Briefs Committee and volunteer for either event, please contact co-chairs Josephine Petrick and Kara Wild.

CENTENNIAL/HISTORY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Hon. Charlotte Walter Woolard, Ret., Clarissa A. Kang, & Alice Purdy

Please join the Queen's Bench Centennial Committee on the last Tuesday of each month for the committee's standing meeting to plan for the 2021 Queen's Bench Centennial. Please contact Centennial Committee co-chairs Clarissa Kang, Hon. Charlotte Woolard, and Alice Purdy at ckang@truckerhuss.com, judgewoolard@adrservices.org, apurdy@fkblaw.com, for more details

CIVIC AND JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE UPDATE

Sara Craig & Andrea L. Russi

The Civic and Judicial Appointment's Committee is continuing its Conversation Series via Zoom. The next installment will be a Conversation about Mediation with Hon. Charlotte Walter Woolard on March 24, 2021, from 5:45 to 6:45 pm. The Zoom will be limited to ten people to ensure that even as a virtual event it remains an intimate conversation.

We are planning future Conversation Series events on mediation and the candidacy process for non-partisan office. We are in the process of scheduling conversations over the summer with an elected judge and district attorney.

Should you wish to be a part of the Amicus Briefs Committee and volunteer for either event, please contact co-chairs Josephine Petrick and Kara Wild.

CONFERENCE OF DELEGATES COMMITTEE UPDATE

Sharon Alkire & Andrea Carlise

While the #MeToo movement focused scrutiny on the issue of sexual harassment, that scrutiny has not yet translated into laws protecting attorneys from harassment by clients. To address this issue, the Conference of Delegates Committee has partnered with Berkeley Law School's student-run Survivor Advocacy Project (SAP) to draft a resolution to reform the governing laws, rules, and/or regulations to better protect attorneys from sexual harassment by clients. Three SAP student volunteers working through the law school's pro bono program are conducting research, with the guidance of the Queen's Bench Conference of Delegates Committee, to determine how the relevant ethical rules and statutes should be revised. Based on the research, students will then help draft a resolution to change the provisions that make it difficult for attorneys to withdraw from the representation of clients who sexually harass them in the course and scope of the attorney-client relationship. Once drafted, the resolution will be submitted to the Conference of California Bar Associations. If the resolution is ultimately passed by the Conference, it may be submitted to the State Legislature and ultimately change our state laws to better protect attorneys. Queen's Bench members are invited to join the Conference of Delegates Committee by emailing Andrea Carlise at andrea@iangel.org or Sharon Alkie at alkirelegal@gmail.com.

DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Elisha Jussen-Cooke

This year, the Domestic and Sexual Violence ("DSV") Committee will continue to draw attention to the unique needs and challenges facing survivors. The DSV Committee hopes to host a virtual event or mixer and to solicit donations for survivors based on their changed in light of the pandemic. The DSV Committee also plans to partner with the Amicus Committee and the Education Committee to organize educational programming highlighting the history and future of the Equal Rights Amendment.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

Kimiko Akiya & Stephanie Smeekens

The Education Committee helps coordinate MCLE programs for the members of Queen's Bench. If you or a committee has an idea for an MCLE program please contact co-chairs Kimiko Akiya or Stephanie Smeekens for further details. We look forward to providing Queen's Bench members with educational and informative virtual events in 2021!

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COMMITTEE UPDATES

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EMPLOYMENT/WORK-LIFE BALANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Denise Mejlszenkier

Please join the Queen's Bench Employment and Work-Life Balance Committee on March 2nd at 6:00p.m. for a timely Zoom conversation on ways to end gendered division of labor at home in order to make lasting changes that are a win for everyone in our homes. Grab your favorite after-hours beverage and let's chat!

SCHOLARSHIPS COMMITTEE UPDATE

Hon. Adrienne Miller, Ret. & Caroline Holmes

On February 9, 2021, the Scholarship Committee interviewed five applicants for the Mildred Levin/Hastings Scholarship.

The interview panel consisted of Judge Ina Gyemant (Mildred's daughter), Irene Dietz (Mildred's daughter), Anne Paris (Mildred's granddaughter), Judge Charlene Kiesselbach, Caroline Holmes (Scholarship Committee Co-Chair), and Judge Adrienne Miller (Scholarship Committee Co-Chair).

This year's scholarship is for \$2,600.

On February 28, 2021, the Queen's Bench Board voted to confirm the Committee's selection to award the scholarship to law student Emmanuel Garcia. Mr. Garcia is a third-year law student at UC Hastings and has accepted a position with the Los Angeles Public Defender's Office following graduation in May 2021. Mr. Garcia has overcome incredible challenges to get where he is today. Seven years after dropping out of high school to work to help support his family, he obtained his GED, went to community college, and eventually received a full scholarship to UCLA, where he graduated cum laude with a degree in Chicano Studies and Arts History. Mr. Garcia decided to pursue a career in law so that he could continue to be a force for positive change in his community of East Los Angeles. He has served as a mentor to many young people within that community, as well as during his time at UC Hastings, where he mentored several students in the Legal Education Opportunity Program (LEOP). Mr. Garcia is an incredible inspiration and will no doubt continue to be a source of positive change in the legal profession and his community throughout his legal career. We wish him all the best!

The Agnes O'Brien Smith/USF scholarship will be determined in April/May 2021.



GET CJAC'S HELP WITH A JUDICIAL APPOINTMENT

by Sara Craig and Andrea Russi

Have you thought about becoming a judge? Governor Newsom seeks applications from traditionally underrepresented groups including women, people of color, and LGBTQ Californians.

Queen's Bench encourages members who are interested in seeking a judicial appointment to contact the Queen's Bench Civic and Judicial Appointments Committee. The Committee is ready to conduct evaluations of judicial candidates and make recommendations to the Governor on behalf of successful applicants.

The Committee can also help connect members with judicial officers to provide advice and assistance on the judicial application process.

For more information or to start the evaluation process, please contact Andrea Russi, co-chair of the Civic and Judicial Appointments Committee at arussi@horvitzlevy.com.

Any applicant seeking a judicial appointment from Governor Newsom must complete and submit an application. The Ca.Gov website has instructions for completing the judicial application: <https://www.gov.ca.gov/instructions-for-completing-judicial-appointment-applications/>.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Please join us in Celebrating the Centennial of
Queen's Bench Bar Association
Coming to you October 2021

Featuring our Special Guest Speaker and the
Premiere of our Centennial Oral History Project

*Please watch for updates and more information on how
to become a Sponsor or purchase Tickets.*

Your generous participation will help us celebrate 100 years of fostering professional and social relationships among women lawyers and help build our strong future! We promote equality and opportunity for all women through education, programs and community outreach.

For more details, please contact Laurie Earp at 510-418-2354 (mobile) or laurie@earpevents.com.

MARCH

MARCH 24, 2021 - 5:45 AM - 6:45 AM

Conversation Series With Honorable Charlotte Walter Woolard



QUEEN'S BENCH BAR ASSOCIATION

CONVERSATION SERIES
WITH
HON. CHARLOTTE WALTER WOOLARD

Pour yourself your favorite drink in the comfort of your own home and Zoom with the women of Queen's Bench for a unique and intimate conversation about leading in the legal field.

MARCH 24, 2021 | 5:45 - 6:45 PM
ZOOM LINK PROVIDED UPON REGISTRATION

Registration is limited to 10 participants
Register at queensbench.org
FREE MEMBERS ONLY EVENT
Suggested Donation to Queen's Bench Centennial \$10

MARCH 30, 2021 - 5:30 PM TO 7:00 PM

Centennial Event Planning Committee Meeting

Join us on the last Tuesday of each month for the committee's standing meeting to plan for the 2021 Queen's Bench Centennial.

Contact ckang@truckerhuss.com if you can attend. We will send out a conference line closer to the date.

OCTOBER

OCTOBER 2021

The Centennial Celebration Of Queen's Bench Bar Association

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH

MARCH 30, 2021 - 12:15 PM TO 1:15 PM

Lessons Learned: Practicing During Covid and the Future of Remote Proceedings Post-Covid



Queen's Bench Presents:
The Judges Series

Lessons Learned: Practicing During Covid and the Future of Remote Proceedings Post-Covid
March 30, 2021 12:15pm-1:15pm

Please join our esteemed panel from the San Francisco Superior Court:

Honorable Angela Bradstreet
Honorable Christine Van Aken
Honorable Kathleen Kelly

Register at queensbench.org.
Free for Members and \$25 for Non-Members
The event will take place via Zoom
Eligible for General MCLE .75 Hour

Presented by Queen's Bench Bar Association's Education Committee and Civic and Judicial Appointments Committee

MARCH 31, 2021 - 5:30 PM TO 6:45 PM

Mentorship Mixer (Members Only Event)



QUEEN'S BENCH BAR ASSOCIATION
MENTORSHIP AND DIVERSITY
COMMITTEES

MENTORSHIP MIXER

All Members Welcome! Come join us for a Zoom mixer and be a part of the mentorship program.

Wednesday, March 31
(5:30 to 6:45 p.m.)

Register online at queensbench.org

[CLICK HERE TO VISIT OUR CALENDAR ONLINE](#)

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