Fifth Annual
Chief Justice
Ronald M. George
Distinguished Lecture

ASSOCIATE JUSTICE
MING W. CHIN
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Golden Gate University School of Law
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Dear Alumni and Friends,

My grandfather did not speak much about his service during World War II, but he referenced it just enough that my own setbacks and disappointments were handily put into perspective. Indeed, the challenges and often ravages of war upon individuals, and their families, leave most of us speechless.

After reading David Finkel's recent book, *Thank You For Your Service*, I have a better understanding of why my grandfather did not talk much about his service. Finkel’s extraordinary narrative helps individuals like me, with no military experience, glimpse the visible and invisible wounds of war as well as the impact on the families of those who serve. Describing the complex experiences of heroes on the battlefield who return as veterans with immense obstacles and delays in obtaining the support they earned and require, Finkel helps us understand what veterans face and even how the justice system they defended through their service has sadly failed them in some ways.

Veterans are at the center of this issue of our magazine. In our last issue we profiled some of our veteran students. In this issue, you will learn how GGU is just beginning to fill the justice gap for this deserving population by using our strengths in practice-based education to serve veterans. I encourage you to read the lecture reprinted here, given by Associate Justice Ming Chin of the Supreme Court of California at this fall's Fifth Annual Chief Justice Ronald M. George Distinguished Lecture, the theme of which was Veterans in the Judiciary. In his very moving lecture, Chin discussed his experience in the Vietnam War as a soldier and as a returning soldier, and the valuable service rendered by our service men and women.

In addition to our work supporting our veteran community, in the past two months, GGU Law students, faculty, and alumni have enjoyed an inspiring combination of public recognition, milestone community events, and key student victories. The 12th Annual IP Law & Policy Conference was attended by lawyers and students, the Clinics 20th Anniversary Celebration fundraiser was a wonderful tribute to the clinic founders, and the 2nd Annual Professor Bernie Segal National Mock Trial Competition: *In Vino Veritas* continues to garner rave reviews nationally. GGU Law’s latest program innovations serving students, and record number of student victories in mock trial competitions, help our students hone the skills so critical to their professional success—so much of our work with students, alumni, and the legal community fill me with pride.

I am grateful for the many ways each of you, our alumni and friends, participate with us to strengthen the experience and opportunities of the next generation of GGU alumni. Your continued support is especially important now, when legal education and the legal profession are undergoing significant transformations. Thank you, and happy new year to you, your family and friends.

Sincerely,

Rachel Van Cleave
Dean
A Tremendous Fall Season for GGU Litigation

by Blair Pickus (JD 13), Baxter Fellow

This fall, the GGU Litigation Center and our mock trial teams showed the nation that GGU advocates are a force to be reckoned with. Our litigation alumni share in this success, through their coaching, contributions, volunteerism, and other meaningful support of Litigation, one of GGU Law’s greatest traditions and strengths.

The Fundamentals

Over the past three months, GGU has competed in five competitions and hosted a national competition of our own. However, building championship mock trial teams starts long before each semester begins. Professor Wes Porter’s Summer Trial and Evidence (1st STEP) program provides 25 1L summer students with the foundation necessary to compete at a national level. This past summer, the third annual STEP class followed in the path of each previous class—going through a week-long boot camp led by professors and judges from across the nation, followed by eight weeks of intensive trial advocacy and evidence training—all culminating in a final trial. Whether through STEP or GGU Litigation’s various trial courses, all students must have taken or be enrolled in trial advocacy and evidence in order to compete in mock trial. Professor Porter focuses our competitors on advocacy skills, professionalism, and command of the facts and rules of evidence.

The Hard Work – Practice and Preparation

After tryouts and selection, the teams get to work. The commitment of all players is tremendous. Once case files are released, each team does 3x3’s—three hours three times per week, often Friday nights and Sunday mornings due to the busy work and class schedules of coaches and students. Teams work tirelessly developing case theory and themes, tackling evidentiary hurdles, and making sure courtroom demeanor becomes second nature. With hard work and preparation come championships and awards, but also important skills that translate directly to practice after graduation.
The Pay-Off – Competitions

McGeorge Collaboration

Our first competition was an innovative competition GGU Law created, Mock Trial Collaboration. Teams tried cases from jury selection (voir dire) through closing arguments, in a round robin fashion. Four teams—McGeorge, Southern Illinois, GGU, and a hybrid team of GGU and Southern Illinois students—had just three weeks to prepare. Our students walked away with several individual awards, including Best Advocates, Best Voir Dire, Best Opening Statement, and Best Direct Examination. Teams were coached by GGU Law alumnus and former Baxter Fellow Erik Knuppel (JD 10). Visit the Advocacy Teaching Blog at http://advocacyteaching.blogspot.com/2013/10/more-on-mock-trial-collaborations.html?m=1 for the full article about this collaborative idea that is sweeping the nation.

CACJ National Criminal Mock Trial Competition

One week after the Stetson competition, GGU fielded another 3L team to compete in a national criminal competition against 24 teams. Our team advanced to the finals. After a hard fought final trial against Northwestern, our team took second place in the competition. This team was coached by GGU alumna VJ Chetty (JD 10).

Stetson National Civil Pretrial Competition

In October, four 3Ls traveled to Florida to compete in the National Pretrial Competition, along with 16 of the best schools in the country. There, our team performed very well, coming away just two points shy of advancing to the elimination rounds of the competition. This team was coached by GGU alumnus Alex Jones (JD 09).

ABA Labor and Employment National Trial Advocacy Competition

One week later, two GGU teams geared up for a civil competition—the regional championships for the ABA Labor and Employment competition. For two days, our teams fought it out against schools from all over the country (although this was a regional, schools from Texas and South Dakota were somehow in the San Francisco region). The GGU Law team emerged victorious over Hastings in the final round to advance to Nationals. Alumni and former Baxter Fellows Julia Levitskaia (JD 12) and Brandon Schantz (JD 11) and current Baxter Fellow Katya Salganick (JD 13) served as coaches for our teams.
San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association Trial Advocacy Competition

With the bar raised by GGU's first and second place finishes weeks before, our 2L SFTLA team was ready to keep the winning attitude. The SFTLA competition, hosting Bay Area schools, is the one-day “Best of the Bay” contest for law students. This year, Stanford, Hastings, Santa Clara, and GGU competed. At this competition, GGU Law's team was crowned “Best of the Bay” for the second year in a row! This team was coached by alumnus and former Baxter Fellow Erik Knuppel (JD 10).

Leading Litigation

In addition to our success in others' competitions this fall, GGU hosted its Second Annual Prof. Bernie Segal National Mock Trial Competition: In Vino Veritas. The competition consisted of 21 trials over three days in five different courthouses. Over 70 volunteer judges and evaluators helped create a seamless competition.

In the final round, Barry University, as prosecution, defeated Denver University before a full jury of judge/practitioner evaluators and community leaders. Teams from Hastings and Fordham were semi-finalists. In Vino Veritas is a perfect reflection of the strength and engagement of our alumni community, many of whom served as judges and evaluators or volunteered to make this event, and our program, a tremendous success.

The Stats

23 Fierce Competitors
6 Teams and Coaches
5 Competitions
2 First Place Finishes
1 Second Place Finish

Sylvia Nguyen bringing jurors to tears during voir dire.
Engaging Issues

Eric Christiansen
Professor, Faculty Chair
Empowerment, Fairness, Integration:
South African Answers to the Question of Constitutional Environmental Rights

Benedetta Faedi Duramy
Associate Professor
Gender Violence in Haiti:
Women’s Paths from Victims to Agents
Book to be published by Rutgers University Press, April 2014

Judicial Developments in the Application of International Law to Domestic Violence
American University Journal of Gender, Social Policy and the Law, 2013

A Path to Scholarship
The Recorder, October 2013

William Gallagher
Professor, Co-Director of The IP Law Center at GGU Law
The IP Law Book Review, Vol 3, No 2, 2013 (Editor)

Teaching Innovation

Practice Intensive Courses (PIC)
PICs combine substantive competencies and objectives with intense simulation training, research and writing, and feedback from a professional that mirrors practice in the field of study. This fall, Professors Yates and Gallagher taught Torts as PICs and Professor Porter taught a Criminal Law PIC. This spring, Associate Dean Stanley will teach a Characterization of Income and Expenditures PIC and Professor Porter will teach an Evidence PIC.

Coaching
Our Faculty Coaching program, launched this fall with our 1L class, provides students with professional mentoring to enhance their law school experience, professional development, and transition into the legal community. New students enjoy small monthly gatherings with faculty coaches who serve as allies and mentors. Coaches share opportunities for professional development on and off campus and discuss emerging topics in law with their student teams. This program helps strengthen students’ academic and professional profiles and cultivate the next generation of proud GGU Law practitioners.

Veterans Law Externship Clinic and VOICE
Through our new Veterans Law Externship Clinic, students assist veterans with benefits-related legal needs under the supervision of distinguished veteran, attorney, and alumnus Dan Devoy (JD 10). Devoy also supervises students in a pilot program, the Veteran’s Online Information Center (VOICe). For this course, we have partnered with Pearl.com, which offers pro bono legal information online, to provide veterans with benefits information. Through these practice-based and client-serving courses, GGU Law students have just begun to address the growing legal needs of veterans.
THE 12TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN IP LAW AND POLICY October 25, 2013

Hosted by Professors Marc Greenberg and William Gallagher
   Co-Directors of GGU Law’s Intellectual Property Law Center

Patent Law Year in Review
   Justin Beck, Beck, Bismonte & Finley LLP

Recent Developments in Trade Secret Law
   Charles Tait Graves, Wilson Sonsini

Patent Trolls
   Robin Feldman, U.C. Hastings College of the Law

Managing Outside Counsel for High Technology Companies: A New Paradigm
   Alica Del Valle, Salesforce in Conversation with Professor Marc Greenberg, GGU Law

The Trademark Year in Review
   Sally Abel, Fenwick & West LLP

Serving Community

- Professor Peter Keane was appointed to the San Francisco Ethics Commission.
- Professors Hina Shah and Marci Seville, Co-Directors of GGU’s Women’s Employment Rights Clinic, served as counsel in key victory on behalf of domestic workers, as AB 241 is signed into law.
- Professor Mort Cohen is serving as pro bono counsel in significant case on behalf of the elderly. He also received CBS’ Jefferson Award for his advocacy on behalf of the elderly and mentally ill.
- The Environmental Law and Justice Clinic was honored with the ABA’s Dedication to Diversity and Justice Award, accepted by GGU Law Professors and Clinic leaders Helen Kang and Deborah Behles.

Building Practice

- Dean Rachel Van Cleave serves on the ABA’s newly created Legal Access Job Corps Task Force.
- Professor Marc Greenberg, Co-Director of GGU Law’s IP Law Center, serves on the ABA’s IP Law Books Editorial Board.
- Susanne Aronowitz, Associate Dean of Law Career Services and Alumni Services serves as West/Rocky Mountain regional representative on the National Association for Law Placement (NALP) Regional Resource Council.

LL.M. Program Achievements

- For the third consecutive year, LL.M. programs voted among the top 3 in California by Recorder readers
- LL.M. program in Taxation ranked among the top 10 in the nation for the second consecutive year by 151 heads of corporate tax departments
- GGU Law programs, including 1st STEP and 1L Electives, ranked among the top 25 most innovative nationwide by PreLaw and National Jurist magazines
GGU Law Clinics 20th Anniversary
Twenty Years of Training Social Justice

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Filipino Advocates for Justice

Kathleen Morris
National Domestic Workers Alliance
Annette and Chris Piazza
Yamma Hulch
Stacy Rehberg
Carl Smale
Jon Sylvestre
Barry Weinroth
Celebration: Advocates and Serving the Community

In September, more than 200 community advocates and alumni gathered at Delancey Street for the 20th Anniversary Celebration of GGU Law’s Environmental Law and Justice and Women’s Employment Rights Clinics. The enthusiastic crowd in attendance packed the beautiful bayside venue to honor Clinic founders Marci Seville, Alan Ramo and Cliff Rechtschaffen and celebrate twenty years of working on behalf of underrepresented communities.

The Celebration included a moving ELJC tribute video produced by GGU Law student Ashley Pellouchoud (view at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QWaERQfUXRQ) and presentations by founders’ friends in their honor. Hon. Donna Ryu, Magistrate Judge with the U.S. District Court, Northern District of California, spoke to honor Marci Seville. Wahleah Johns, an environmental justice organizer with the Black Mesa Water Coalition, paid tribute to Alan Ramo for his tireless environmental advocacy, and the Hon. Thelton Henderson presented remarks honoring Cliff Rechtschaffen’s dedication to the environment and public service.

The funds raised for the celebration will support the next generation of social justice advocates providing critical legal services to our communities. Thank you to all of our sponsors and donors for all you do to support the Women’s Employment Rights Clinic and the Environmental Law and Justice Clinic.
Virginia Palmer
Partner, Wendel, Rosen, Black & Dean LLP
Golden Gate University School of Law (JD 80)
California State University, San Francisco (BA 75)

Not Choosing Law
When I told my dad I wanted to be a lawyer, he said, “You’ll be a good legal secretary,” and all I could think of was Della Street from Perry Mason and I said, “I don’t want to do that. I want to be Perry Mason.” I told my high school counselor I wanted to be a lawyer. She said that if I took a career aptitude exam and tested for it we’d have a conversation. I did not. In a sociology course in college, I found out that women couldn’t score for being doctors or lawyers on that test nor could men score for being nurses or teachers. However, even after that discovery, I initially turned away from law. Watergate had tainted the image of lawyers, and I was fairly radical at the time. So I thought being a lawyer was selling out.

Choosing Law
A couple of years later, I decided I wanted to attend a law school, but one that had a significant number of women. In part this was because I am gay, but it was equally about being a feminist during a time when law was still quite male-dominated. There were very few schools that served women students well, and Golden Gate was one of them.

Passion and Purpose
When the AIDS pandemic hit, there was so much terror in the community, including the LGBT community. I was active in BALIF and helped to form the AIDS Legal Referral Panel, which is still thriving. The Panel helped friends, colleagues, and others with settling their affairs, doing wills and powers of attorney. It was a great opportunity to be of service. In every tragedy, you look for the gift. In the LGBT community, with all of the losses suffered in rapid succession, the pandemic really brought the community of men and women together.

Advice to Today’s Law Students
Every few years have a very quiet conversation with yourself, wherever you are in your career, about whether you are doing what you really want to be doing. And if you’re not, determine the steps to change course.

“Virginia’s star resides in the constellation ‘Luminary,’ having been acknowledged as a Super Lawyer for the last several years, an invited member of ACTEC, and most recently as one of the 50 most distinguished female attorneys in the State. Her supporters are fervent, her adversaries very respectful. And she is kind enough to call me a colleague.” — Tim Smallsreed
Not Choosing Law
After visiting classes at a prominent, traditional law school, I was thoroughly dissuaded. I didn’t like the style of education—the sort of bombastic, Socratic method, hide the ball, smoke and mirrors—the style of many law schools and professors. Lawyers need to know how to analyze various storylines in order to advocate for their clients, to be sure. But for me that sort of skills training must be complementary to a different type of teaching, the type I’d later experience at GGU—dedicated to the transfer of applied knowledge and skills as opposed to an overemphasis on adversarial sleuthing and jousting.

Choosing Law
After receiving my MPA at Syracuse, I worked in the Illinois Governor’s Bureau of the Budget, an innovative program at the time, which was modeled after President Kennedy’s Office of Management and Budget. With a team of advisors, I helped develop the state budget, advising the Governor on various proposals. We’d present a proposal, but frequently the legal eagles and politicos would then shoot it down because we were ignorant of important political and legal concerns. What really interested me then, and still does, is how understanding the law allows one to provide useful input with integrity. This certainly applies to my practice and work with clients.

Passion and Purpose
When building relationships, understanding the other’s perspective is paramount. Whether serving clients, mentoring new attorneys or law students, or spending time with friends and family, I understand that their needs cause them to trust in me. I put great emphasis on listening to and addressing what I hear and observe. This is true in my law practice working with individuals on personal matters and with businesses which are also personal matters to someone. It’s true in my board work with the East Bay Community Foundation, the East Bay Estate Planning Council, and when I labor for Rebuilding Together Oakland. Appreciating that I can render a service is what drives me to mentor GGU Law students and to serve on the Dean’s Advisory Board. In each of these situations, their success also rewards me.

Advice to Today’s Law Students
During an informational interview I had after graduation, I was told to ask in every subsequent interview for referrals to other attorneys. One of those resulted in my first job in estate planning and probate with a leading firm in Marin. So, I encourage students to seize opportunities for informational interviews and to leverage them by building a network founded upon those referrals. I have witnessed the success of GGU students who have been referred to me to whom I provided further referrals in hopes of helping them kick start their careers. My success has been rooted in relationships and nurtured by diligent effort. The best way I have to express my gratitude continues to be by counseling others to build careers based upon relationships of their own.

“Tim is one of the most solid forces in my career. He also has an amazing ability to connect with people. His relationships with clients are profound, deep, and rich. He is open and vulnerable while maintaining a completely professional relationship. His clients become friends. He just has a way of reaching in and finding the core of what the issue is. He’s more of a counselor at law than most lawyers are.” — VIRGINIA PALMER
The Annual Chief Justice Ronald M. George Distinguished Lecture Program

- **Welcome**
  - Rachel Van Cleave, Dean
    - Golden Gate University School of Law
  - John Fyfe, on behalf of President Dan Angel
    - Golden Gate University

- **Lecture**
  - Associate Justice Ming W. Chin
    - Supreme Court of California
    - Former Captain, U.S. Army
      - including a year in Vietnam
      - Army Commendation Medal and Bronze Star Recipient

- **Panel**
  - **Introduction**
    - Rachel Van Cleave, Dean
  - **Moderator**
    - Gordon Erspamer, Partner (Ret.)
      - Morrison & Foerster LLP
      - Veterans Advocate
  - **Panelists**
    - Associate Justice Ming W. Chin
    - Judge James E. McFetridge
      - Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento
      - Lt., U.S. Navy JAG Corps (Ret.)
      - Judge and Trial Advocacy Supervisor, California Army National Guard
    - District Judge Henry T. Wingate
      - United States District Court
      - Southern District of Mississippi
      - Former Lt., U.S. Navy JAG Corps

- **Closing Remarks**
  - Rachel Van Cleave, Dean

*View video of all events at http://www.youtube.com/user/goldengatelaw*

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2013 Veterans Law Conference
Presented by the Law Students Veterans Coalition of Northern California

- **Welcome**
  - Rachel Van Cleave, Dean, Golden Gate University School of Law
  - Sarah Yohay Eaquinto, President, Veterans Law Student Association
    - GGU Law Student Representative, Law Student Veterans Coalition

- **Keynote Address**
  - Col. Maritza S. Ryan, Professor and Deputy Head, Department of Law
    - U.S. Military Academy, West Point, Former Major, U.S. Army JAG Corps

- **Veterans Courts Panel**
  - Hon. Cynthia Ming-mei Lee, (JD 74, Doctor of Laws OJ)
    - Presiding Judge, Superior Court of California, County of San Francisco
  - Elizabeth L. Brett, Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist
    - Veterans Administration San Francisco Medical Center
  - Kevin Dunlavy, Chief Assistant District Attorney, Alameda County
  - Gary Solis, Lt. Col., U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.), Professor of Law, U.S. Military Academy (Ret.)
    - Adj. Professor Georgetown University and George Washington University
  - Moderator: Katy Tang, Supervisor, City of San Francisco, District 4

- **Luncheon and Keynote Address**
  - Kyndra Rotunda, Associate Professor and Executive Director of Institute for Military Personnel, Veteran, Human Rights & International Law and AMVETS Legal Clinic
    - Chapman University; Lecturer: Berkeley Law; Former Major, U.S. Army JAG Corps

- **Veterans Benefits Panel**
  - Dan Devoy, (JD 10), Jones & Devoy LLP, Adjunct Professor, GGU Law’s Veterans Law Externship
  - Edward Fabi, In-House Counsel, Sutter Health
    - Lt. Col. in the U.S. Airforce JAG Reserve
  - Teresa Panepinto, Legal Director, Swords to Plowshares

- **Mentoring Mixer**
  - Firm attorneys, HR representatives, and JAG attorneys will host small, roundtable conversations to advise law students interested in pursuing military and veterans law. Students are encouraged to bring their CVs for review.

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- 2013 Veterans Law Conference
- Presented by the Law Students Veterans Coalition of Northern California
- Program
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  - Sarah Yohay Eaquinto, President, Veterans Law Student Association
    - GGU Law Student Representative, Law Student Veterans Coalition
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  - Kevin Dunlavy, Chief Assistant District Attorney, Alameda County
  - Gary Solis, Lt. Col., U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.), Professor of Law, U.S. Military Academy (Ret.)
    - Adj. Professor Georgetown University and George Washington University
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- Mentoring Mixer
  - Firm attorneys, HR representatives, and JAG attorneys will host small, roundtable conversations to advise law students interested in pursuing military and veterans law. Students are encouraged to bring their CVs for review.
Between the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, more than two million Americans have been deployed overseas, many on multiple deployments. According to the National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics, California is home to nearly two million veterans, more than any other state in the country. While California veterans live primarily in rural areas of the state, more than 26,000 veterans call the Bay Area home. Even those living in surrounding communities rely on services, and in particular legal services, available in the Bay Area.

This October, GGU Law held two days of events centered on veterans in the judiciary and veterans law, celebrating the launch of our Veterans Legal Advocacy Center. Through the Center’s work, the school seeks to open the profession to veterans and to create programs that both serve law students and support the legal needs of the broader veterans community.

These programs featured amazing veterans advocates and veterans in the judiciary who shined a spotlight on the need for advocacy on behalf of our returning soldiers. Community partners for these events include the Association of Corporate Counsel, the Bar Association of San Francisco, Equal Justice Works’ Veterans Legal Corps, Jones & Devoy LLP, the National Guard Association of California, OneJustice, the San Francisco and Palo Alto VA’s, and Swords to Plowshares. The Law Students Veteran Coalition of Northern California (LSVC) hosted the conference. Member schools include Pacific McGeorge School of Law, Stanford Law School, UC Davis School of Law, UC Hastings College of the Law, and University of San Francisco School of Law.

“These events and GGU Law’s Veterans Law Advocacy Center mark the beginning of fruitful collaborations among law schools and legal advocates from the public and private sectors to tackle the justice gap our veterans face. Efforts like these—those that contribute to the public good—are among the most important work our law school does.”

—DEAN VAN CLEAVE
INTRODUCTION

This evening, I am going to share with you some of my experiences as a Captain in the U.S. Army. I am then going to discuss the importance of protecting freedom of speech, particularly during times of war — when it is so tempting to do just the opposite. I will close with some observations about the very poor treatment our veterans have received.

Coincidentally, November 11th is Veterans Day. On that day, 94 years ago, World War I ended. It was supposed to be “the war to end all wars.” Each year since 1919, at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, our nation pauses to pay tribute to its veterans and to honor their service and their sacrifice. Because of their commitment to duty, honor, and country, we live today in the most prosperous and the freest country in the history of the world. The freedom we enjoy today was made possible by their sacrifice and their courage. Members of the legal profession have a unique and special responsibility for defending the Constitution, particularly during times of war. We also have a similar responsibility to ensure those who served in these wars are cared for and protected.

VIETNAM SERVICE

In 1967, when I graduated from law school, that service and sacrifice were brought home to me in graphic terms. I was eager to begin my legal career. But I knew the practice of law would have to wait. There was a war being waged halfway around the world, and the U.S. Army and President Johnson insisted that I show up. Frankly, it never occurred to me to say no. Instead of donning the well-tailored suit of a trial lawyer, I found myself wearing jungle fatigues as an Army captain in Quang Tri, Vietnam, seven miles south of the DMZ. My brother, Tom, was in the army at the same time. Interestingly, there is a rule that only one sibling will be sent to a given war zone — I’ve never let Tom forget it.

I’ll also never forget landing at the air strip in Quang Tri. I was in a C-130 cargo plane with a tank in the center with boots lined up on both sides. As the plane descended, the captain announced, “The air strip is under attack — when we land, off-load smartly to the rear of the plane — this
plane will take off immediately after you disembark.” I said to myself, “Thanks so much for the ride.” That was the beginning of a year-long experience that I seldom speak of but will never forget. I learned from firsthand experience what duty, honor, country, and leadership are all about.

I was assigned to the 1st Brigade of the 5th Mechanized Infantry Division. We were deployed as a unit from Fort Carson, Colorado, to Quang Tri, Vietnam to replace the 3rd Marine Division. I gained newfound respect for military precision and logistics. We moved 5,000 men and all our equipment, including more than 2,000 vehicles, from Colorado to Vietnam, and were fully combat-operational in 5 days. I lived in a tent for 6 months. I have not been camping since.

In the corner of my garage at home is an old Army footlocker filled with memories. In 1969, when I returned home from Vietnam, I sent that footlocker ahead with all of my worldly possessions. I opened it the other day, and memories of the war flooded back. I remembered the family I left behind. I remembered that the burden of my Army service was much harder on my parents than it was on me.

My parents were Chinese immigrant farmers. My father immigrated in 1913. He came without family, without friends, without language. And yet, in this wonderful land of hope, freedom, and opportunity, he was able to carve out a remarkable life for his family. I am the youngest of eight children. My brothers and sisters names are Mary, George, Joe, Betty, Jack, Jeannie and Tom. I have no idea where Ming came from. My father was tough, hardworking, and pragmatic. He lived through extreme racial prejudice as well as the Great Depression. He was not an emotional man; growing up, I never saw him cry.

Before my deployment to Vietnam, I made one final trip home to say goodbye. On the last day, my parents took me to SFO. Before boarding the plane, I gave Mom a hug. I reached out to shake Dad’s hand. He brushed it aside and gave me a long warm embrace. When he pulled away, I saw tears streaming down his face.

Shortly after I came home from the war, my father suffered a paralyzing stroke. He never spoke again. He never walked again.

As I continued to sift through mementos in that footlocker, I also remembered the brave men with whom I had the privilege and honor of serving — outstanding young men from every part of the country, of every race, color, and creed, who didn’t care about the color of your skin, but just wanted to know if you could be counted on when the going got tough. Life-long friendships were forged out of sometimes terrifying and harsh circumstances. Unfortunately, many of my friends did not return home.

Although the Vietnam War’s objectives were unclear, one result is painfully clear — thousands of brave men and women died. Many more were wounded or traumatized by the experience of war.

The day each of us returned home from Vietnam is a day etched in our memories. I can still hear the exhilarating roar of very happy soldiers as our plane touched down on American soil at the Travis Air Force Base in Fairfield. Friends and family welcomed us home with open arms and tears of joy. Across the country, there were countless random acts of kindness — many civilians expressed their appreciation for our sacrifices. For example, some people forfeited their own plane tickets so soldiers could get seats on full flights; others turned their cars around to offer rides to soldiers who were traveling in the opposite direction; and some bought soldiers dinner as a token of their gratitude.

Yet the homecoming for too many vets needlessly added to the traumatic experience of the war. When we left for Vietnam, all of us wore our uniforms with pride. However, when we returned as veterans, our uniform too often became a target for demonstrators who opposed the war. Many protestors were unable to see that the veterans were men who had endured terror and tragedy beyond words in the service of our country, and that personal attacks on veterans only caused them additional injury without advancing the anti-war cause one iota.

The Vietnam War lasted over eight years — and yet it ended abruptly. There was no official “welcome home.” There were no parades. There wasn’t even a simple “Thank you for serving.”
THE VIETNAM MEMORIAL — HEALING THE SCARS

The Vietnam Memorial in the nation’s capital honors veterans for their service to the country in an unpopular war. Initially, the Memorial itself was no less controversial than the war that spawned it. Before the Wall was built, its design had many detractors, some of whom called it the “black gash of shame.” However, once the Wall was completed, it seemed to give voice to the deep and complex feelings caused by the war, and to offer our nation the opportunity to heal.

In 1982, seven years after the war ended, 15,000 veterans marched in a long overdue welcome home parade. A few days later, 150,000 veterans and their families gathered in Washington, D.C., to dedicate the Vietnam Memorial. For many, the Wall allowed them to say goodbye to those they had left behind. They were able to touch the names of those who were lost, and to remember their sacrifices. When the Memorial was erected, a wrong had at long last been righted — and those who fought and died were no longer forgotten.

The Wall was, and is, different from most memorials. When you walk down into it, darkness envelops you. In the midst of that darkness, are the names of those men and women who died. Although their names are forever memorialized in darkness, as you leave you walk up into the light. It is a place where the living can confront the darkness of death and embrace the light of life. It is a place for personal reflection. It engages your senses and your emotions and does not let you leave unchanged. It has become a catalyst for healing.

My visits to the Vietnam Memorial are always emotional. For me, the real poignancy of the Memorial is that as I reach out to touch the names of good friend — I remember their courage, their bravery, their commitment to country — then I see my face reflected in the black granite, and I realize how very fortunate I am to be here.

If my name were on that wall, I never would have met my wonderful and dear wife, Carol. This December, we will have been married 42 years. We would not have had Jennifer and Jason, our two talented and terrific children. I am very proud that both are lawyers and have chosen public service careers. Jennifer is in the General Counsel’s office of the University of California, specializing in employment law. Jason is in the District Attorney’s office of Alameda County, where he heads up the DNA/Cold Hit section. I suppose it’s just a coincidence that I am the author of two Rutter Group Practice guides — one on Employment Law and the other on Forensic DNA. Jennifer and Jason both have charming and loving spouses, Michael and Elizabeth. They have given us three wonderful grandchildren, McKenna, Sydney, and Nolan Ming.

And, finally, if my name were on the wall, I would not have had the honor and the privilege of serving as a judge in California for the last 25 years. There is no doubt about it — I am living the American Dream.

Because I have been so blessed, I feel a special responsibility to the 58,000 men and women who did not return home to contribute more to our community. Let us never forget them and the ultimate price they paid to protect our liberty — let us remember the unfulfilled promise in their lives that now will never come to pass — and let us create communities and a nation that is worthy of their sacrifice. Let us keep the American Dream alive for all of us.

CONSTITUTION v. DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

This American dream of ours was born of the marriage of two important historical documents—the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. The first was written in 1776, while we were at war with England. The second was written in 1787, after we had started building the institutions of government that would make this new idea of democracy work.

The language of these two documents is very different. The Declaration of Independence gives us the sobering rhetoric of war and the passion to pursue excellence and perfection.
The Constitution has less passion, less certainty. There is no reference to the creator. The Constitution gives us the dry discourse of governance—the structure, the road map for a working democracy. The Declaration is the promise; the Constitution the fulfillment. The Declaration gives voice to high ideals; the Constitution puts those ideals into practice. Both have as their purpose the protection of liberty. Our allegiance to their principles is the very foundation of our freedom. It enriches all of us.

THE FIRST VETERANS’ DAY
(ARMISTICE DAY)

In 1919, when President Woodrow Wilson first set aside November 11 to honor our veterans, he said we should look back with pride at “the heroism of those who died in the country’s service and with gratitude for [their] victory,” “because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations.” The selfless sacrifice of our veterans makes our freedom and liberty possible. As members of the legal profession, we have a unique and special responsibility for defending freedom, especially during times of war.

To illustrate the point, let us take a trip in a time capsule. It is October of 1919. The United States Supreme Court is hearing Abrams v. United States. The five defendants in the case are Russian immigrants arrested for throwing leaflets from the rooftop of a building in New York City, leaflets that criticized U.S. involvement in World War I and advocated a strike in munitions production. The defendants have already been convicted and sentenced to 20 years in prison under the Espionage Act, which makes it illegal to use any false “disloyal, profane, scurrilous, or abusive language” against the government.

Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes listens as the defendants’ attorney argues that the convictions should be overturned because free speech must be absolute and any discussion of public policy must be protected, regardless of its potential danger. The government argues that any criticism of government may be criminalized during a time of war, even if it is unlikely that the views expressed will impede the war effort. A majority of the Court votes to affirm the convictions, as they have in previous cases involving the suppression of seditious speech. Justice Holmes disagrees with both sides. The First Amendment’s protection of free speech is not absolute. The government cannot suppress speech it thinks is dangerous unless the threat such speech poses is imminent. Holmes believes that because the defendants’ protest was unlikely to achieve the ends it sought, the government’s criminalization of their speech runs afoul of the First Amendment, even during a time of war.

This represents a change in his views. Just a few months earlier, Holmes had written for a unanimous court, upholding the conviction of two socialists for attempting to distribute thousands of flyers to American servicemen recently drafted to fight in World War I. The flyers criticized the war effort and urged draftees to resist the draft. In that decision, Holmes wrote that criticizing the war effort was like “falsely shouting fire in a theatre and causing a panic.” When a nation is at war, he wrote, “many things that might be said in time of peace are such a hindrance to its effort that their utterance will not be endured so long as men fight.”

His colleagues are so bewildered by his changed view in Abrams that on November 7, 1919, three travel to his home hoping to persuade him to withdraw his dissent and sign on with the majority. The country is in turmoil and the justices plead that the court should speak with one voice. The war has ended, but race riots and labor strikes have spread across the country. Anarchists have mailed booby-trapped brown paper packages to politicians and judges, including Justice Holmes. Fortunately, this package was intercepted before it could be delivered.

In times of war, it is all too tempting to take liberty for granted. Justice Holmes was no stranger to war. He was a 20-year-old senior at Harvard when he enlisted in the Union Army during the Civil War. He was wounded three times in that war, suffering near fatal bullet wounds to his neck and chest. Earlier, as the editor of the Harvard Magazine, he urged his readers not to avoid “books of an agitating tendency.” He did not fear exposing himself to views different from his own, because he felt that only by such exposure could a vigorous, resilient mind be shaped. In response, Harvard considered shutting down the magazine and Harvard’s president wrote a letter to Holmes’s father about the articles he was publishing. Holmes did not give in.

As a young captain, he was on the front line of the Battle of Fort Stevens. President Lincoln made a visit. The President stood up, not realizing that he was making himself a target. Holmes yelled “Get down, you damn fool!” Before the President left the fort, he sought Holmes out. He said, “I’m glad to see you know how to talk to a civilian.”
In the years after the war, at a Memorial Day address, Justice Holmes said, “this day [is] the most sacred day of the year.” War, he explained, teaches that our “snug, over-safe corner of the world . . . is no eternal necessity, but merely a little calm in the midst of the” storm, and that we must always “be ready for danger.” Freedom, he reminds us, is not our birthright. We cannot treat it lightly; and it sometimes demands sacrifice. As President Eisenhower would later say: “History does not long entrust the care of freedom to the weak or the timid.”

The majority on the court argue in Abrams that the Constitution has never protected seditious speech. In fact, the very first Sedition Act was passed just seven years after the ratification of the Bill of Rights. Holmes counters that the Sedition Act of 1798 had in fact been unconstitutional. James Madison, drafter of the First Amendment, contemporaneously challenged its constitutionality, because it violated the “free communication among the people.”

Holmes was not persuaded by the arguments of his fellow justices. The Espionage Act, he wrote, was so broad it could stifle virtually any criticism of the government. He recognized a natural tendency to want to “sweep away all opposition” to one’s own viewpoint. However, he explained, “the best test of truth . . . is the power of the thought to get itself accepted in the competition of the market, and that truth is the only ground upon which [the aims of government] safely can be carried out. That at any rate is the theory of our Constitution.” He actually called the leaflets “silly,” and observed that their distributors were virtual nonentities in the political landscape.

Holmes’s view did not prevail in 1919, but his dissent would ultimately become the foundation for the Court’s clear and present danger doctrine. In 1964, the Court would finally acknowledge the unconstitutionality of the original Sedition Act. It later barred President Nixon from exercising a prior restraint to suspend publication of the Pentagon Papers, a top-secret Department of Defense study about the history of the United States’ involvement in Vietnam. In another case, the Court overturned a man’s conviction of disturbing the peace for wearing a jacket outside a courtroom in Los Angeles that displayed a four-letter word to protest the draft during the Vietnam War era. A free marketplace of ideas must be prepared to tolerate insensitive and sometimes offensive speech.

As members of the legal profession, we have a unique and special responsibility to defend our constitutional rights and the rule of law. Lawyers and judges consistently have been the conscience of the community. Lawyers and judges have been the protectors of the poor, the weak, and the powerless. We have been the guardians of individual rights and individual liberties.

I would like to talk to you for a moment about veterans’ rights. Last week, I met with two veterans who are now law students. Both left the service with disability claims that took years to resolve and in one case is still not resolved. Erik Christensen and Kevin McCarthy are now working to assist other veterans reentering society. They want a dedicated Veterans Court in San Francisco to match resources with the needs of all veterans throughout the city. As of today, only the needs of veterans residing in the Tenderloin area are served, and only by the Homeless Court. I understand some of tomorrow’s panels include members of the San Francisco Superior Court. Perhaps a dedicated Veterans Court can be discussed.

I urge all of you to step up and assist veterans in securing their rights and benefits. Let us help them to secure the resources they need and the benefits they deserve. I told Erik and Kevin that we need more lawyers to follow the outstanding example of Gordon Erspamer in “standing up for vets.” Keith Wetmore, the former managing partner of
Morrison & Foerster, said “Gordy is a scorched-earth trial lawyer. He is dogged. And that doggedness is fueled by [the] courage of [his] conviction” to Veterans.\(^1\) The case of Cushman v. Shinseki,\(^2\) took Gordy ten years to resolve. Mr. Cushman said, “Gordy’s the only reason I won. Because he didn’t give up on it. But how many veterans have an attorney like Gordon Erspamer?” The decision represented a landmark for veterans. It was the first time a court had ruled that veterans who apply for benefits have due process rights. Formerly, such rights were only granted to veterans who were already receiving benefits.

I ask you to stand with Gordy and Erik and Kevin and offer your assistance to our distinguished veterans who have served and sacrificed. Join these dedicated attorneys to ensure that our promises to our veterans are kept. Following my talk, Gordon Erspamer, Judge James McFetridge of the Sacramento Superior Court, and Judge Henry Wingate of the U.S. District Court, Southern District of Mississippi, will hold a conversation about what needs to be done.

I am now going to utter the two most important words in any speech: In conclusion . . . After World War II, the great general Omar Bradley, while serving as the Administrator of the VA, had this to say about freedom: “No word was ever spoken that held out more hope, demanded greater sacrifice, needed more to be nurtured, blessed more the giver, cursed more its destroyer, or came closer to being God’s will on earth. . . . [T]hat’s worth fighting for.”\(^3\) About 60 years earlier, on Memorial Day in 1884, Justice Holmes said: “To fight out a war,” or “to carry anything else to an end worth reaching,” “you must believe something . . . with all your might.” “More than that, you must be willing to commit yourself to a course . . . without being able to foresee exactly where you will come out. All that is required . . . is that you [try] as hard as you can. The rest belongs to fate.”\(^4\) To all of you here tonight, and especially to those of you who are, or hope someday to be, members of the legal profession, I urge you to believe in the principles of the Constitution with all your might, to commit yourself to freedom and the rule of law, and to try as hard as you can to improve our legal system, which I believe is the best in the world, even with all its flaws. Let us face the challenges of our time with the same courage, conviction, and resolve as those who have bravely gone before us. Let us fulfill the plea of Abraham Lincoln as he stood upon the battleground at Gettysburg exactly 150 years ago: let us “resolve” that our “honored dead . . . shall not have died in vain,” that this nation “shall have a new birth of freedom,” and “that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.”\(^5\)

Thank you. ///

\(^2\)Id.
\(^3\)Id.
\(^6\)Id.
\(^7\)History of Veterans Day, supra.
\(^9\)Abrams, 250 U.S. at 616-18; see also HEALY, supra.
\(^10\)Abrams, 250 U.S. at 616; HEALY, supra; Espionage Act (section 3, title I, of Act June 15, 1917, c. 30, 40 Stat. 219) as amended by the Sedition Act (May 16, 1918, c. 75, 40 Stat. 553 [Comp. St. 1918, § 10212c]).
\(^11\)HEALY, supra.
\(^12\)Id.
\(^13\)Id.
\(^14\)Id.
\(^15\)Id.
\(^16\)Abrams, 250 U.S. at 627-28 (Holmes, J., dissenting); see also HEALY, supra.
\(^17\)Abrams, 250 U.S. at 630-31 (Holmes, J., dissenting); see also HEALY, supra.
\(^22\)Cushman v. Shinseki (Fed. Cir. 2009) 576 F.3d 1290.
Col. Maritza Ryan, Professor and Deputy Head, Department of Law, U.S. Military Academy, West Point

Kyndra Rotunda, Associate Professor and Executive Director of Institute for Military Personnel, Veterans, Human Rights & International Law and AMVETS Legal Clinic, Chapman University; Lecturer, Berkeley Law; Former Majors, U.S. Army JAG Corps
This fall, I had the honor of participating in the 2013 Veterans Law Conference. The conference was presented by the Law Students Veterans Coalition of Northern California to support the professional development of Coalition members and to facilitate collaboration among members and schools to assist veterans.

The program began with a warm welcome from Dean Van Cleave, who provided the audience with a brief explanation of the Coalition’s beginnings. Col. Maritza S. Ryan served as the day’s first keynote speaker. Col. Ryan shared with the audience her extensive career in the military, including her many high profile assignments and tours of duty in combat zones. Col. Ryan’s remarks focused on the importance of access to benefits, including a variety of health benefits, for military personnel and veterans. For me, the most poignant of her remarks was a personal story of almost losing a leg, which emphasized the importance of having timely access to quality healthcare.

Professor Kyndra Rotunda delivered the luncheon keynote address. She shared the important wins her school’s clinic and students achieved on behalf of veteran clients. Through her clinic, faculty and fellows have represented active duty military families and veterans in all types of civil legal disputes, with a special emphasis on combat wounded troops. Her clinic is a tremendous example of how the legal community and law students may come together to serve veterans and their families.

Panels in the morning and afternoon included judges, VA experts and other veterans advocates, and focused on Veterans Courts and veterans benefits. A response to the growing trend of veterans struggling with substance abuse and mental illness, Veterans Courts serve those struggling with addiction, serious mental illness, and concurrent disorders. Panelists discussed the fiscal strains these courts face and shared some best practices in establishing Veterans Courts. The afternoon panelists discussed the enormous need for legal representation of veterans working to receive much-needed and earned benefits through the VA. Panelists shared astonishing figures, including the backlog of 681,000 claims the VA currently faces, the 2.5 million Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans who have returned from overseas, and the 685 days on average it takes an individual returning soldier’s claims to be processed (compounded by appeals). One panelist explained that it was 2,800 times more likely for a Veteran to succeed in his/her VA claim when represented by legal counsel.

As a law student and a veteran, I was honored and motivated by the enthusiasm and desire to provide services for the veterans community. Unfortunately, our nation’s veterans are still not getting the care and support they need. Fortunately, there are advocates like the participants and attendees at the 2013 Veterans Law Conference who have chosen to take on the challenge and to care, support, and honor those who have served our great nation. I applaud our Dean and all of those who stand tall with us veterans.
Veterans Law Networking Event
by Eugene Felice, 2L with an emphasis in Taxation Law, Veteran, U. S. Navy

The networking event that followed the Veterans Conference provided valuable information for students who were not only interested in joining the military after law school, but also for helping veterans translate their military lingo into terms that employers can understand.

Two military branches were represented, Navy and Air Force, to help students with their resumes in preparation for applying to the Judge Advocate General (JAG) program. I had the opportunity to meet with Tashinda Richardson, a Lieutenant in the Navy, who works as a JAG attorney in Port Hueneme, CA. Lt. Richardson stressed that while grades are important, they are not the only criteria the Navy uses to evaluate candidates. She emphasized that the Navy focuses on the “the whole person,” including student involvement in organizations and clubs, community service, and prior military experience.

Lt. Richardson also briefly explained what JAG attorneys do for their first enlistment of six years. Lt. Richardson said that every new JAG officer gets the full flavor of being a military attorney within their six-year commitment by working for two-year periods in the areas of defense, prosecution, and administrative law. This insightful conversation provided me with a clear understanding of what the Navy is looking for when they hire a new officer, and what the first few years in the Navy are like.

Along with other firm representatives, I had a chance to meet with Ms. Mary Wright, general counsel and recruiter for Ogletree Deakins. Ms. Wright introduced me to onetonline.com. This site helps veterans to search for jobs related to the duties the veteran performed while in the military, as well as translate those military job descriptions into plain English that employers can relate to. 

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Ruth Astle Samas (JD 74, SJD 08) was appointed to the Peer Review Committee for the Fulbright Specialist Program - Law for 2013-2014. An administrative law judge for over 22 years, Judge Astle also teaches in the paralegal program at San Francisco State University.

Ronald D. Foreman (JD 74) was listed among San Francisco’s Legal Leaders by AV Preeminent. Foreman is a partner at the San Francisco law firm Foreman & Brasso.

Samuel A. Norman (JD 74) is the director of operations at The Rios Co. in Fresno, CA. Norman was recently interviewed in The Fresno Bee for an article about the 50 year anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr.’s speech at the March on Washington.

Steven Savner (JD 74) is the director of public policy at the Center for Community Change in Washington, DC.

David M. Grappo (JD 75) is retired and living in Oregon. He recently published a booklet titled How to Answer Questions at Your Deposition.

Timothy H. Smallsreed (JD 77, MBA 78) joined the Trusts and Estates Group of Wendel, Rosen, Black & Dean LLP in Oakland.

Barbara S. Bryant (JD 80) is a mediation coach for Elder Mediation training. Bryant has been teaching MCLE classes on Elimination of Bias and Substance Abuse and teaching Sexual and Gender Harassment Law at University of California, Berkeley’s School of Law. She has been a panelist on several occasions, including for BALIF’s Career & Networking Expo and for California Women Lawyers’ “Women Leaders in ADR.”

Melinda L. Power (JD 80) owns the West Town Law Office, specializing in criminal defense and civil rights in Chicago, IL.

Gail Dekreon (JD 81) was featured in a judicial profile in The Daily Journal on October 30. Dekreon is a superior court judge in San Francisco.

Cynthia A. McGuinn (JD 81) was listed among San Francisco’s Legal Leaders by AV Preeminent. McGuinn is an attorney at Rouda Feder Tietjen McGuinn in San Francisco.

Catherine A. Yanni (JD 81) was listed among San Francisco’s Legal Leaders by AV Preeminent. Yanni is a mediator specializing in intellectual property cases with JAMS.

Michael C. Grimes (JD 83) is a California certified legal specialist in workers compensation law.

Matthew P. Guasco (JD 84) was profiled in The Daily Journal. Guasco is a superior court judge in Ventura, CA.

Hrair A. Balian (JD 85) is director of the Carter Center’s Conflict Resolution Program and an adjunct professor at Emory University Law School, teaching an advanced international negotiations seminar. In May 2009, the New England College awarded Balian the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa, for his “lifetime commitment to the dignity, respect, and self-determination of all peoples” and for his “uncompromising effort to resolve international conflicts.”

Mary Ann O’Malley (JD 85) is chair of the Litigation Management Committee of the Judicial Council of California which oversees legal claims against the judicial branch. O’Malley is a superior court judge in Contra Costa County, CA.

Morgan Christen (JD 86) was recently profiled in The Daily Journal. Christen is a circuit judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

John T. Wick (JD 86) is director of Sonoma County’s Permit and Resource Management Department.

Michael Winter (JD 95)

Michael Winter was promoted to executive director at Ernst & Young LLP in San Francisco. Winter is a member of Ernst & Young LLP’s Advisory Practice – Financial Services Office where he provides advisory services to clients in the financial services sector, including asset managers, consumer and commercial banks and capital markets firms, with a focus on regulatory compliance, operational risk management and business process improvements. He is a member of the California State Bar, a certified anti-money laundering specialist and a certified Six Sigma Black Belt.
Francis Ryu (JD 95) Receives GGU Volunteer of the Year Award

At the 2013 Alumni Awards Luncheon, distinguished alumnus Francis Ryu (JD 95) received GGU's Volunteer of the Year Award for his exceptional service to the university. Honored as a Super Lawyer in 2012 and 2013, Francis is founder and general partner at Ryu Law Firm, a Los Angeles-based business litigation firm. He has earned a reputation as a champion for GGU students and recent graduates, many of whom he has mentored. He also hosts GGU Law alumni and admissions events in Los Angeles. Ryu is the former president of the California Bar's Young Lawyers' Association and the Beverly Hills Bar Association's Barristers.

Laurie S. Brady (JD 88) was voted the 2012 Trial Judge of the Year by the Alameda-Contra Costa Trial Lawyers Association. Brady is a superior court judge in Contra Costa County (CA) currently in a Civil Fast Track assignment.

Anne M. Michaels (JD 88) was appointed assistant district attorney in the Monterey County District Attorney's Office in Monterey, CA.

G. Anthony Wolusky (JD 88) is an affiliate faculty member at Metropolitan State University of Denver in Denver, CO. Wolusky was a JAG officer for 14 years, an associate professor of law at the Air Force Academy and later a senior legal advisor to the Superintendent.

Donna L. Stashyn (JD 91) was appointed to a judgeship in the Solano County (CA) Superior Court.

Steven A. Greenburg (JD 92) was recently featured in California Lawyer magazine. Greenburg is a special education and education law attorney in Santa Cruz, CA.

David S. Hershey-Webb (JD 92) argued an appeal at the New York State Court of Appeals in September. Hershey-Webb is a partner at Himelstein, McConnell in New York, NY, representing tenants.

Valerie J. Gross (JD 94) is the author of Transforming Our Image, Building Our Brand and was interviewed in The Business Monthly. Gross is the president and CEO of the Howard County Library System in Columbia, MD.

Alexander H. Lubarsky (JD 94, LLM 98) spoke at "The Intersection Between Information Governance and ESI Best Practices," a CLE luncheon on September 25 in San Francisco. Lubarsky is a director at TERIS in San Francisco.

Sean E. Brearcliffe (JD 95) was appointed to the Pima County (AZ) Superior Court by Governor Jan Brewer.

Lowell Haky (JD 95) spoke at "The Intersection Between Information Governance and ESI Best Practices," a CLE luncheon on September 25 in San Francisco. Haky is chief litigation counsel at Charles Schwab & Co. in San Francisco.

Kevin Kilty (JD 95) opened ASURA Risk Management, a commercial insurance risk management brokerage firm in Pleasanton, CA.

Susan W. Leff (JD 95) was co-coordinator of the California Public Defenders Association (CPDA) 42nd Annual Basic Trial Skills Institute in San Diego, where she presented on "Cross-Examining Police Officers." Leff is an adjunct professor of law and acting director of externship programs at GGU Law, was the chair of the CPDA Annual Statewide Convention in April in North Tahoe, and recently received an award at the GGU Litigation Awards ceremony.

Michael E. Winter (JD 95) was promoted to executive director in Ernst & Young LLP's San Francisco office.

Young S. Lee (JD 96) is an associate with Audet & Partners LLP in San Francisco.

Laura M. Petty (JD 96) was designated a state certified criminal law specialist by the California State Bar. Petty is a partner at Petty and Warshawsky in Vacaville, CA.

Daphne D. Edwards (JD 97) is an assistant attorney general at the North Carolina Department of Justice. Edwards teaches legal research and writing and appellate advocacy at Campbell Law School in Raleigh, NC.

Linnea Sosa (JD 97) retired as vice president and senior trust officer of Mechanics Bank in San Francisco.

Paul E. Beadleston (JD 98) earned his certified management accountant designation. Beadleston is CFO of ClearVision Consulting in Alameda, CA.
Juan C. Araneda (JD 00) is a partner at Meckler Bulger Tilson Marick & Pearson in San Francisco.

Benedicte Ghanassia (LLM 00) celebrated her fifth year as senior manager at eBay in September. Ghanassia is also a lecturer at the University Pantheon Sorbonne, teaching e-commerce law.

Dawn M. Knepper (JD 00) is a shareholder in the Orange County (CA) office of Ogletree Deakins. Knepper was named a Super Lawyers Rising Star in 2010, 2011 and 2012.

Maeve K. Bergman (LLM 05, LLM 09) moved from interim to permanent director of special projects at Berkeley City College in Berkeley.

Kevin Cunningham (JD 05) joined the board of Bayview Hunters Point Community Law. Cunningham owns the Law Office of Kevin Cunningham in San Francisco.

Kayla Grant (JD 05) is an attorney at Galanti & Copenhaver Inc., an estate planning law firm in Santa Rosa, CA.

Robert L. Boucher (JD 06) owns Boucher Law, an employment litigation and family law practice in Sacramento.

Shaun H. Ghafouri (JD 06) is corporate counsel for E2open Inc. in Foster City, CA.

Paul Hogarth (JD 06) is the associate campaign director at Daily Kos in San Francisco.

Claire Hulse (JD 06) was accorded the status of certified legal specialist, immigration and nationality law, by the California State Bar Board of Legal Specialization. She is an associate attorney with Jewell & Associates PC in San Francisco.

Margaret Ghidella (JD 07) is senior corporate counsel for Juniper Networks in Sunnyvale, CA.

Peter W. Hoefs (JD 07) is an attorney at Thompson & Knight in San Francisco.

Jason S. Luros (JD 07) and wife Mary Hudson (JD 08) celebrated the fifth anniversary of their law firm, Hudson & Luros LLP in Napa, CA.

Arnaud Montouche (LLM 07) is an associate at UGGC & Associates in Doha, Qatar.

Dije Ndreu (JD 07) is a prosecutor with the Monterey County District Attorney’s Office, in the consumer and environmental protection unit. In November 2012 Ndreu welcomed her second daughter, Liriana.

Silvia Roell (LLM 07) is a senior project attorney at Cleary Gottlieb in Brussels, Belgium.

Sanaz Alasti (SJD 08) is a scholar-in-residence at the US Library of Congress.

Erika A. Copenhaver (JD 08) is co-owner of Galanti & Copenhaver Inc., an estate planning law firm in Santa Rosa, CA.

Ken D. Duong (JD/MBA 08) serves as legal counsel for the Vietnamese American Chamber of Commerce of Orange County (CA), chair of the Fountain Valley Chamber of Commerce and on the board of directors of the Coastline Community College Foundation.

Norbert I. Ebisike (SJD 08) had an article on “The Investigative and Evidential Uses of Chelioscopy (Lip Prints)” cited by the US District Court, District of Nevada, in the case of JL Beverage Company, LLC v. Beam, Inc., et al.

Mary Hudson (JD 08) and husband Jason Luros (JD 07) celebrated the fifth anniversary of their law firm, Hudson & Luros LLP in Napa, CA.

Andrea Piras (LLM 08) is a senior policy manager at Microsoft in Seattle, WA.

Taryn E. Ravazzini (JD 08) was appointed coordinator of the Delta Plan Implementation Committee of the Delta Stewardship Council in Sacramento.

Federico Brocero (LLM 09) joined Alain Pinel Realtors in San Francisco.

Sara J. Orsburn (JD 09) was elected to the GGU Alumni Association board of directors in August. Orsburn is an investigator with the San Francisco Office of Citizen Complaints.

Catherine Delcin (JD 10) was profiled in The Contra Costa Times. Delcin owns Delcin Consulting in Walnut Creek, CA.

Aaron G. Freeman (JD 10) is general counsel for the Starlight Children’s Foundation in Los Angeles.

Carissa N. Andresen (JD 11) and Skitch W. Crosby (JD 11) have started the law firm Crosby Andresen in San Francisco.

Sharon M. Brenner (JD 11) is an associate attorney at Surowitz Immigration PC.

Aaron T. Faulkner (JD 11) is working at the Tulare County Public Defender’s office in Visalia, CA.

In Memoriam

Donald M. Haet (JD 52) died June 17, 2013.


Paul L. Armstrong (JD 81) died May 25, 2013.

Andrew M. Bota (JD 91) died May 7, 2012.

Marie E. Galanti (JD 02) died October 10, 2013.
Michele K. Green (JD 11) is an account executive at Robert Half Legal in San Francisco.

Sharon E. Alkire (JD 12) was a speaker at a Queen's Bench presentation on “Domestic Violence at the Intersection of Race and Sexual Orientation: Biases and Challenges To Understanding Domestic Abuse in Minority Communities” on October 16 in San Francisco.

Laura E. Benetti (JD 12) and Thomas Ghaney (JD 12) founded Thirty33 Legal Suites, unique office suites and work spaces designed specifically for attorneys in South San Francisco, CA. Benetti is a partner at Thirty33 Legal LLP, focusing on real estate law and intellectual property. Ghaney is a partner at Thirty33 Legal LLP, focusing on tax and transactional law.

Laura Horton (JD 12), Staff Attorney at Wild Equity, won a Toyota TogetherGreen Fellowship. Laura will receive support to help launch her conservation initiative and will benefit from specialized training and membership in a diverse national network of conservation professionals.

Harmony J. Kessler (JD 12) was featured in the California Bar Foundation’s “Scholar Spotlight.” Kessler is minor’s counsel, representing abused and neglected children in the dependency system in Sonoma County, CA.

Alex J. King (JD/MBA 12) is general counsel and head of operations for Butchershop Creative in San Francisco.

Chandani H. Patel (JD 12) is corporate counsel at POPSUGAR Inc., a global technology company focusing on women's lifestyle media and commerce in San Francisco.

Marie Galanti (1944-2013)

It is with heavy heart that GGU bids farewell to Marie Galanti, a GGU alumna (JD 03), Dean’s Advisory Board member, and stalwart supporter of GGU Law. Marie graduated from GGU Law in 2003 and enjoyed a long successful career before and after graduating.

In her law practice, Marie Galanti & Associates, Inc., in Santa Rosa, Marie assisted clients with Estate Planning, from simple wills to complex trusts. She also specialized in International Private Law and assisted clients with transactions with France, Panama, Italy, Spain, the Philippines and other countries. Marie had a long, successful career in publishing and teaching for years prior to law school.

Marie had a very accomplished career for many years prior to attending law school. She held a doctorate in French literature from the University of Kansas, taught at San Francisco State University and for over twenty-five years was the co-owner and President of France Today and the Journal Français.

Marie is a fine representative of GGU’s non-traditional students and generous alumnae—those who return to school, thrive in their work here, and go on to great success through their combination of professional experience, life experience, and excellent training. In 2010, GGU awarded Marie the Rising Star Award, given to a recent graduate who exhibits extraordinary professional achievements and contributions to the community. Long after her graduation in 2003 and subsequent professional success, Marie supported the law school financially as well as with her time and engagement with a variety of events, including the 2012 Women’s Reunion, in which she led a mentoring session on solo practice for GGU Law’s women students and alumnae.

While professionally active in her local community in Sonoma, where she garnered awards for her extraordinary service and successful practice, GGU will remember Marie for her humility, her generous spirit of participation, and the many ways she supported the next generation of GGU Law students.
A total of 460 donors gave to the School of Law between July 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013 for a total contribution of $1,016,720. This annual report of giving gratefully acknowledges the dedication and generosity of alumni, friends, faculty, students, staff, foundations, corporations and organizations whose financial support has helped to preserve the best of GGU and create further opportunities for intellectual and professional growth in legal education.

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Angela Dalfen
Michael Daw
Rodney O. Fong
William T. Gallagher
Paul E. Gibson Jr.
David Jargiello
Helen H. Kang
Lisa Lomba
Kathleen S. Morris
Mohammad A. Nasralla, 87, 03
Leeor Neta
Susan H. Neuwirth
Jamie Nye
Christian Okeke
Patricia Paulson, 09
Wes R. Porter
Alan Ramo
Leslie M. Rose, 83, 01
Susan Rutberg, 75
Neha M. Sampat
Thomas A. Schaaf
Patricia K. Sepulveda
Marci Seville
Kim Stanley
Jon H. Sylvester
Rachel Van Cleave
Mary A. Wolcott

TRIBUTE GIFTS
In Memoriam
in memory of John P. Baba
Joseph R. Wheeler, 01
in memory of Patricia H. Cody
Martha R. Cody-Valdez, 04
in memory of Dr. William Enderlein
Roberto Q. De Lara, 84
in memory of Gordon R. Gaines
Patricia Paulson, 09
in memory of Verna M. Harris
Patricia Paulson, 09
in memory of Elmo Holsten
Patricia Paulson, 09
in memory of Andres Nagels
Caroline N. Cohen, 11
in memory of Dr. Morris,
Dorothy and Elayne Rubinoff
Morris and Dorothy Rubinoff Foundation
in memory of Stephen M. Ruddy
Swapna Anrhoor, 06
in memory of Dorothy Wilson Schiffer
Patricia Paulson, 09
in memory of Bernie Segal
Sidney J. Hymes, 76
Dale Savage, 04

In Honor
in honor of Steve Ballan
Edith Conyers
in honor of Sharon Mara Brenner, Esq.
Ellis P. Brenner, 78
In honor of Marci Seville
Anonymous
Lainey Feingold
Patricia Gates
Abigail Ginzbeg
Laura Peck
Susan Rutberg, 75
CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2014

JAN 22  THE 2014 JUSTICE JESSE CARTER DISTINGUISHED LECTURE, FEATURING JOHN BURRIS
       Wednesday, January 22, 2014, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm, Contact: Maggie Stone, mstone@ggu.edu

JAN 24  3RD ANNUAL BERNIE L. SEGAL CROSS & CLOSE COMPETITION
       Friday, January 24, 2014
       536 Mission St., Contact: Wes Porter, wporter@ggu.edu

JAN 25  2014 BEAT THE CLOCK MCLE ALUMNI EVENT
       Saturday, January 25, 2014, 8:30 am – 5:10 pm
       Special reception honoring Professor Myron Moskovitz to follow
       536 Mission St., 2nd Floor. Contact: Mateo Jenkins, 415-442-6541

FEB 27  ALUMNI-STUDENT MIXER
       Thursday, February 27, 2014, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm. Contact: alumni@ggu.edu

APR 24  SCHOOL OF LAW CELEBRATION
       HONORING PROFESSOR SUSAN RUTBERG
       Thursday, April 24, 2014, Delancey Street. Contact: alumni@ggu.edu

MAY 15  2014 LAW COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY
       Thursday, May 15, 2014, 11:00 am – 1:30pm
       Davies Symphony Hall, 201 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco
       Contact: Mateo Jenkins, 415-442-6541
SAVE THE DATE
APRIL 24, 2014
SCHOOL OF LAW CELEBRATION
HONORING PROFESSOR
SUSAN RUTBERG

All classes are welcome to join us.


Join the Celebration Committee.
Contact alumni@ggu.edu for more details.