

• BULLETIN •

of the San Bernardino County Bar Association

Vol. 38, No. 6

Our 135th Year

April 2010



From the
President's Desk

by
Thomas W. Dominick

"Spring has Sprung"

Spring has finally arrived and, with it, clearer skies and warmer days. Unfortunately, for those of us who suffer from allergies, it's time to break out the Claritin and Benadryl. I got my first dose last weekend when I spent the better part of both days working in my yard weeding, trimming, clipping, fertilizing and planting flowers with my wife, Deborah. Some people ask me why I don't hire a gardener to do these things. The truth of the matter is, while I despised such "chores" as a kid, I actually enjoy them as an adult.

As lawyers, we are usually cooped up in our offices or courthouses during the week and, by the weekend, I suspect most are ready for outdoor time. Moreover, we work hard on our cases for months, or even years, before we get to see results. With yard work, we have the benefits of fresh air and instantaneous results, without expending a huge amount of brain power.

Speaking of the outdoors, shortly after I was installed as your President, I resumed an exercise regimen which I had allowed to fall by the wayside a few years ago. It left me with additional pounds of unwanted weight, mostly concentrated in the midsection. This regimen included jogging two to three miles every other day. To be quite honest, I can't stand the activity, not merely because it requires me to leave the comfort of my cozy bed in the early morning hours, but it is also rather boring. In my younger days, I enjoyed getting cardio exercise from playing sports, such as basketball and tennis. Unfortunately, with so many time demands, the closest I get to that now is an occasional round of golf with my buddies, hardly the type of activity which keeps the heart pumping.

Regardless, there is no question the benefits of jogging outweigh its detriments. First and foremost, instead of listening to myself pant and gasp while going up and down the hilly streets of my neighborhood, I get to "rock out" to music I have listened to since the late 60's on my iPod and Walkman. "Walkman" you ask? Well, like many of us who spent our teen years during the 1970's, I have a collection of almost 200 cassette tapes and get to enjoy listening to classic rock tunes from Aerosmith to Zeppelin. My collection also includes soft rock music from the likes of Elton John, Alan Parsons and Fleetwood Mac, however, I find that those tunes are not conducive to strenuous exercise. Thus, my preference is for the harder genres. My iPod even has classic country hits loaded by my "Texan" wife, but I find those songs more appropriate for the "cool down phase" of my workout.

(Continued on page 4)

McGuire, Welch Tapped for Kaufman-Campbell Awards

By J'Amy Pacheco

Former Presiding Judges James McGuire and J. Michael Welch will receive the Kaufman-Campbell Award in May from the San Bernardino County Bar Association.

Named for former state Supreme Court Justice Marcus Kaufman and former Fourth District Court of Appeal Justice Joseph B. Campbell, both of whom served in San Bernardino, the periodic award honors jurists designated as having served on the bench with distinction and having made substantial contributions to the community as well as the practice of law.

Presiding Judge Douglas Elwell observed that by honoring the two former presiding judges, the bar association is recognizing "the important work done not only by judges serving on the bench, but also the valuable work done by judges serving in an administrative capacity."

In the San Bernardino Superior Court, the presiding judge works full-time in that position and does not handle a court calendar.

Elwell said both jurists have distinguished themselves through their work as presiding judges, and Welch, also through his continued service on the Judicial Council of California.

"It is an honor to know both of them and to count them among my friends," Elwell stated. "I have the utmost respect for them both as individuals, and as jurists. The county has been very fortunate to have them in the leadership positions they have been in."

Welch is currently assigned to a probate calendar. McGuire retired at the conclusion of his term, Dec. 31.

Judge Wilfred Schneider said he worked with both jurists before his appointment to the bench, and described both as having worked hard to secure funding for the local courts.

Schneider, a past president of the San Bernardino County Bar Association, said both jurists were "Johnny-on-the-spot in Sacramento."

"They have really each been a valuable asset and spokesperson for our bench here," he said. The judges' efforts to ensure funding for temporary judges has helped "keep our head above water," he added.

(Continued on page 3)

The San Bernardino County Bar Association
the High Desert Bar Association
and the Joseph B. Campbell American Inn of Court
cordially invite you to attend the 11th Annual

Kaufman-Campbell Awards Banquet

to honor Kaufman-Campbell Award recipients

Honorable James C. McGuire

Honorable J. Michael Welch

on

Thursday, May 27, 2010

at the San Bernardino Hilton Hotel
285 East Hospitality Lane - San Bernardino, California

Social 6:00 p.m. - Dinner 6:45 p.m.

You may use the form below or make a pledge or a reservation online at www.sbcbba.org/kc

Please reserve _____ dinner tickets @ \$60 each. **OR...** please accept my sponsorship for (circle):

Diamond
\$1,000 includes table for 10

Platinum
\$800 includes 8 meals

Gold
\$600 includes 6 meals

Silver
\$400 includes 4 meals

Bronze
\$200 includes 2 meals

Solo Sponsor
\$100 includes 1 meal

Please indicate the number of meals for each selection:

Rosemary Crusted N.Y. Strip: _____ Seared Atlantic Salmon: _____ Spinach-Mushroom Crepes (veggie): _____

Other (vegan): _____ Special accommodations (allergies, access, etc.) _____

Please list all additional names on separate page, to ensure accurate name tags.

Name(s) _____

Firm Name (if desired) _____

Phone _____ Email _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Please RSVP by May 24, 2010 with your check made payable to the San Bernardino County Bar Association, to:

Kaufman Campbell Awards Banquet
San Bernardino County Bar Association
555 North Arrowhead Avenue
San Bernardino, California 92401

Net proceeds benefit San Bernardino County Bar
Association's Public Service Programs.

McGuire, Welch Tapped for Kaufman-Campbell Awards

(Continued from page 1)

"Our caseload here in the Inland Empire is about twice what other judges handle statewide," he pointed out. "They were able to prevail on the Administrative Office of the Courts and Sacramento to ensure we continue to get our assigned judges, which has really helped us."



Judge J. Michael Welch

He also lauded the jurists for their efforts to secure funding for a new courthouse in San Bernardino.

"They've just done a real good job - not whining and crying about the need - but by demonstrating the need," he said.

Schneider said the pair has also provided "real institutional memory and consistency with a common voice."

"They have been fabulous," he stated.

Thomas Dominick, SBCBA president, lauded McGuire for doing "a wonderful job" of lobbying to get money for more judicial resources in San Bernardino County.

A probate attorney, Dominick also described Welch as "a fantastic judge."

"He is very cordial to attorneys, litigants, and has an excellent judicial demeanor," he observed.

Bryan Hartnell, a probate attorney, credited Welch with having brought uniformity and continuity to the local probate courts.

Welch, who is currently assigned to a probate calendar, earned his undergraduate degree from Loyola University, majoring in history. He earned his law degree from the University of San Diego School of Law.

He worked for the San Bernardino District Attorney's Office, spent time in private practice, then worked for the San Bernardino Public Defender's Office until his appointment as a commissioner in 1990. He was appointed to the bench in 1995, and became presiding judge in 2002.

McGuire attended Chaffey College and World Campus Afloat before completing his undergraduate degree in political science at the University of Southern California. He earned his law degree at USC School of Law, then spent two years with the District Attorney's Office before entering private practice.

He was appointed to the Superior Court in 1989, and completed his two-year term as presiding judge Dec. 31.

The award will be presented at the Kaufman-Campbell dinner May 27 at the Hilton Hotel in San Bernardino.

Past recipients include Judges Margaret Powers in 2009; Michael Dest in 2008; Brian McCarville, 2007; A. Rex Victor, 2006; Christopher Warner, 2005; Bob Krug, 2004; Patrick Morris, 2003; Michael Smith, Jules Fleuret and Dennis Cole, 2002; LeRoy Simmons, Betty Richli and Joseph Johnston, 2001 and Rufus Yent, Frederick Mandabach and John Ingro in 2000.

J'Amy Pacheco is the editor of the San Bernardino Bulletin, a Metropolitan News publication.



Judge James C. McGuire

Please mark your calendars for the next meeting of

I.E. LAW Inland Empire Legal Association of Women

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

at 5:30 p.m.

Office of the Public Defender
303 W. Third Street, San Bernardino

For questions please contact Marcie Gardner at marcie@justdefense.com or 909-635-2028.

Parking is available at the lot on the southeast corner of 3rd and Arrowhead. The meeting will be on the ground floor. Stairs to access the ground floor are to the left of the main entrance to the Court building. Signs within the office will direct you to the meeting room.

