

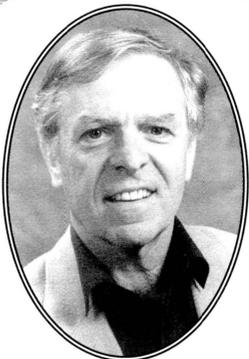


At the request of Senator Dianne Feinstein's office and Public Counsel, **MAGGIE LEVY** and a team from Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP represented Ruth Hairston, an 82-year old widow whose claim for survivor annuity benefits was denied by the federal Office of Personnel Management (OPM) before the Federal Circuit Court in Washington, D.C. In November 2002, Levy argued the Petition for Review, and in January 2003, the Federal Circuit ruled unanimously in favor of Ms. Hairston. The Federal Circuit's precedent-setting published opinion can be expected to have a significant impact on OPM's operations and the rights of civil service employees and their families to obtain survivor annuity benefits.



In September 2003, **RONALD W. STOVITZ**, Presiding Judge of the State Bar Court, was elected founding President of the newly formed National Council of Lawyer Disciplinary Boards. This organization acts to enhance the work of courts and boards who serve nationwide to aid their respective state high courts in the adjudication of lawyer regulatory cases.

The College of Letters and Science at the University of California, Berkeley has honored **DR. CHARLES McCLAIN** with the 2003 Award for Distinguished Research Mentoring of undergraduates. The award is presented to faculty members who have created extraordinary opportunities for students beyond the classroom by devoting their time and effort to encouraging and developing research projects. McClain teaches in Berkeley's Legal Studies program, a law and liberal arts program located in the Letters and Science College but under the supervision of the Boalt Hall School of Law faculty.



Maggie Reyes Bordeaux, front right, is joined by the recipients of the William J. Lasarow Award for Public Service as well as members of the judiciary and court administration of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court.

CSCHS member **MAGDALENA REYES BORDEAUX**, a Public Counsel staff attorney charged with managing the organization's Debtor Assistance Project (DAP), writes that on September 25, 2003, the Los Angeles County Bar Association (LACBA) Law Commercial Law & Bankruptcy Section Debtor Assistance Project Subcommittee recognized the outstanding pro bono participation of its DAP volunteers. The U.S. District Court, Central District of California, and the bankruptcy courts for the Central District supported the event. The DAP began in 1997, with the bankruptcy courts, the LACBA Commercial Law & Bankruptcy Section and Public Counsel working collaboratively to address the pressing needs of low-income debtors. Services now include pre-bankruptcy counseling and advice; representation in Chapter 7 cases, representation in adversary proceedings; and counsel and advice at reaffirmation hearings. The pro bono participation of the volunteers honored enabled Public Counsel to provide greatly needed legal assistance to over 800 consumers over the past year.

JUSTICE EDWARD A. PANELLI received the Peter Burnett Award for Public Service from Santa Clara University at the June 2003 commencement. This award was given at the conclusion of Justice Panelli's 19 years of service as Chair of the University's Board of Trustees. Justice Panelli has served on the Board since 1963 and was named Chair Emeritus. Justice Panelli's birthplace on the University campus was recognized by the following plaque: "Edward A. Panelli, a graduate of

Santa Clara University (B.S. 1953, J.D. 1955), the 100th Supreme Court Justice of the State of California, a member of the University Board of Trustee for over 40 years and Chair of the Board from 1984-2003, was born on this site November 23, 1931." In addition, the CSCHS extends its congratulations to Justice Panelli upon being named one of the California's Top 100 Lawyers by the *Los Angeles Daily Journal*.

PETER L. REICH, Professor of Law at Whittier Law School, is litigating the land use case *Lobato v. Taylor*, which has been appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. The case presents novel issues of the interpretation of foreign law and of a key international treaty. Successors-in-



interest to beneficiaries of an 1842 Mexican land grant, Reich's clients claim grazing, water, and woodcutting rights on the grant's former common lands, now occupied by a ski resort. When the resort owners fenced them out, Reich's clients sued on the basis of prescriptive use and Mexican law theories of usufruct under the 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. The Colorado Supreme Court upheld their claims in June 2002.

"Reached a professional milestone?" we asked. CHARLES LAWRENCE SWEZEY writes, "Now that you mention it, I reached one this past summer: it was 55 years from the time I started my year and a half term as law clerk for the late California Supreme Court Justice Homer R. Spence. I retired 15 years ago after two plus terms as a member of the California Worker's Compensation Appeals Board (appointed by both Gov. Ronald Reagan and Gov. Jerry Brown) but have continued consulting in that field and writing for CEB and the California Workers' Compensation Reporter."

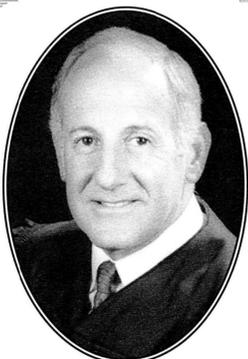
A number of current and former CSCHS Board members were among those recognized by the *Los Angeles Daily Journal* for the extraordinarily high level of business they generated for their law firms in 2002. Topping the \$10 million mark were JOHN A. DONOVAN and MELVIN R. GOLDMAN, while THEODORE J. BOUTROUS JR., ELWOOD LUI, THOMAS R. MALCOLM, and J. THOMAS ROSCH topped the \$5million mark. Congratulations on your success!

The CSCHS extends sincere condolences to the McComb family on the passing of MARGARET MCCOMB, widow of Supreme Court Justice Marshall McComb. Mrs. McComb passed away on November 4, 2003.



R. SCOTT WYLIE has been nominated for the position of Secretary of the Orange County Bar Association, and, if elected, would become OCBA President in 2007. Wylie is Associate Dean of Whittier Law School and a former member of the State Bar Board of Governors. Best of luck, Scott!

From May through July 2003, JUDGE ALVIN H. GOLDSTEIN, JR. served in Iraq as one of four judicial members of a thirteen person Legal Assessment Team. Members of the Assessment Team, acting under the auspices of the U.S. Department of Justice, were disbursed throughout the country and returned to Baghdad to prepare a report that evaluated the Iraqi judicial system and its infrastructure. The Team's primary objective was to assist in the post-war task of re-establishing the rule of law, engendering respect for fundamental human rights, debaathification of the judiciary and reactivation of the Iraqi courts at all levels. In September 2003, Judge Goldstein served as a Legal Reform Consultant to the Office of High Representative in Bosnia-Herzegovina.



The CSCHS congratulates Board of Directors members CHIEF JUSTICE RONALD M. GEORGE, former Justice ELWOOD LUI, and DANIEL GRUNFELD, as well as former board member THOMAS R. MALCOLM, on being named to the *Los Angeles Daily Journal's* Top 100 Lawyers list for 2003.



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