

August 9, 2011 Contact: Lisa Brown (949) 440-6700, ext. 123 Ibrown@ocbar.org

OCBA LAUNCHES 'MASTERS DIVISION' New Bar Program Targeting Lawyers with 25-Plus Years of Experience Offers Leadership Development, Educational, Mentoring Opportunities

NEWPORT BEACH, Calif.—The Orange County Bar Association (OCBA) recently launched an elite "Masters Division," eligibility for which is determined by a minimum of 25 years or more of legal practice experience. The Division's inaugural event entitled "Historic Trials Re-Lived: The Tate-LaBianca Murder Trial" will be held Thursday, Sept. 22, 2011, at the Turnip Rose, Grand Newport Plaza, in Costa Mesa, Calif.

"[The Masters Division] will host programs with a historical perspective and continuing legal education in areas such as technology, helping Masters seize upon new opportunities to improve efficiency and competitiveness in the legal market," said 2011 OCBA President and Irell & Manella LLP Partner John Hueston in the June 2011 issue of *Orange County Lawyer* magazine. "And the Masters Division will be led by an impressive and diverse group of leading jurists and attorneys from Orange County, further underscoring [it] as an elite division for our most experienced attorneys."

That leadership includes Honorary Co-chairs Judge Alicemarie H. Stotler and Jones Day Counsel Thomas R. Malcolm, who have recruited OCBA leaders Julie M. McCoy, Dean J. Zipser, Andra B. Greene, and Paul L. Gale to serve as 2011 chair, vice chair, treasurer, and secretary, respectively.

Sponsored by alternative dispute resolution firm Judicate West, "Historic Trials Re-Lived: The Tate-LaBianca Murder Trial" will feature keynote speaker and former Los Angeles County District Attorney Vincent Bugliosi. Famed litigator and best-selling author Bugliosi will discuss his involvement in the Tate-LaBianca case as chief prosecutor as he and audience participants revisit the infamous Manson Family murders.

Yet the Masters Division's focus will extend beyond fresh looks at iconic local cases. In keeping with responses from a survey of more than 300 eligible attorney members, the Masters Division will develop programs to train attorneys on the use of new technological practice tools, seminars on deftly navigating changes within the legal profession, mentoring opportunities, and unique networking events.

"The officers and board of the Masters Division are now meeting on a monthly basis to plan additional programs, benefits, and events," said Hueston. "Membership for eligible OCBA members will be complimentary for the first year. We look forward to ... the continued shaping of this dynamic new [Division] designed to maximize service and opportunities for the Masters of our bar."

About the Orange County Bar Association

Established in 1901, the Orange County Bar Association is one of the largest voluntary bars in California. The mission of the Orange County Bar Association is to enhance the system of justice, to support the lawyers who serve it, and to assist the community served by it.

###