



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It's the start of a new year and we entered this year with hope for better but an understanding that 2020's residue would hover over the new horizon. Man.... were we right! Between the lingering effects of the pandemic and the continued social unrest surrounding the elections, 2021 proved to have a rocky start. With that framework, as the leader of TMBA, my goal is to be intentional about the content and message to our membership. As a result, we wanted to take our time and get started on programming for the year. Our 4th Annual Awards & Installation Gala was a fundraiser this year and was held virtually on February 28th. This is our biggest fundraiser for the year and our supporters showed up for us in a big way. We have been able to raise over \$30,000 for the newly formed Thurgood Marshall Bar Association Foundation. We are continuing in our mission to serve the black law students through scholarships and our new summer internship program. Thank you again to all of our sponsors who made the event possible. If you missed the installation, you can watch highlights and the whole virtual program on our website.

Our theme for this year is—Reconnect.Reinvest.Rebuild! We have some amazing programming in the coming months that will hopefully reconnect us as the world is starting to open back up. We will have quarterly general body meetings with raffles and giveaways!

We want to get to know each of you, so expect a call from our Vice-President or myself within the coming weeks!

Lastly, we are so excited to be working with the newly formed Thurgood Marshall Bar Association Foundation on expanding our scholarship opportunities and building a network for our law student and attorney community! Be on the lookout for a revamped website that includes more information about the Foundation!

I can't wait to Reconnect, Reinvest and Rebuild with each of you.

Best,

Rebekah Thomas, Esq.

Thurgood Marshall Bar Association President

SAVE THE DATE

(Tap on the flyer to register and see more information on these programs)

**Saturday, March 20, 2021
10:00 am - 12:30 pm PST**

NCBW
100

**The National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc.
California Chapters**

Central Valley Los Angeles Oakland Bay/Area Orange County Sacramento San Francisco Silicon Valley

Presents
**California Virtual Town Hall
COVID-19 Update
Session I
Public Policy
Session II
Health and Wellness**

RSVP at: http://bit.ly/NCBWCA_TownHall

Esteemed Legislators, Public Officials and Medical Professionals

Keynote Speaker
Dr. Shirley N. Weber
California Secretary of State

Moderator
Dr. Oliver Brooks
Chief Medical Officer
Watts HealthCare Corporation

Hosea Chanchez
"The Game" and "Let The
Church Say Amen"

Explore 1 Ambulance & Medical
Services - First Responders

Matthew Elam
"Chicago PD"
and "Fargo"

Our Partners



Designed By: Cynthia Bluford Mejia | email: info@inspirecreativeagency.com



Tuesday March 23rd 5:30-6:30 pm (PST)

JOIN A CONVERSATION ABOUT GENDER, RACE & VIOLENCE IN AMERICAN POLICING with filmmaker Deirdre Fishel, Dr. Michele Goodwin, and Katherine Spillar

**What do women – especially Black women – bring to public safety?
What are the barriers to recruitment/retention? What are remedies for change?**

The new documentary WOMEN IN BLUE looks at policing from a virtually unseen angle – that of women officers fighting to reform the Minneapolis Police Department. Filmed between 2017 and 2020, the film offers an unprecedented view into the inner workings of the MPD, chronicling a department—and a community—grappling with racism and a troubled history of police misconduct long before an MPD officer killed George Floyd. It reveals the limitations of police reform through incremental change. It also shows how women—especially Black women—could help stem police violence and contribute to greater public safety.

[Register here](#) – You’ll get a Zoom link for the Tuesday, March 23rd, 5:30- 6:30pm (PST) conversation, as well as a link to screen the 88-minute doc, a week ahead of the discussion. We’ll show some clips the day of the panel for those who don’t have time to screen the film.

Deirdre Fishel is the producer/director of Women in Blue, as well as three other features, that have premiered in competition at Sundance, Tribeca and SXSW and been broadcast in 35 countries worldwide. Deirdre is an Associate Professor and the Director of the BFA in Film/Video at the City College of New York.

Dr. Michele Goodwin is a Professor of Law at UC Irvine and the founding director of the Center for Biotechnology and Global Health Policy. Dr Goodwin is also an ACLU board member and an elected member of the American Law Institute. She is a political commentator and the host of the podcast On the Issues with Michele Goodwin.

Katherine Spillar is the President of the Feminist Majority Foundation, editor of Ms. Magazine, and one of the founders of the National Center for Women & Policing. She has been fighting to get more women into public safety, to help stem police violence, for thirty years.

[Watch The Trailer](#)

[Women in Blue streams free on pbs.org till March 10th.](#)

If you have any questions, please write to deirdrefishel@gmail.com



GENERAL BODY MEETING

BARBER SHOP: THE NEXT CUT

-UP TO 20 PEOPLE TO PROMOTE SOCIAL
DISTANCING

-MASKS REQUIRED

-RSVP TO

info@thurgoodmarshallbarassociation.org

MARCH 28, 2021

4:00 PM

AMC THE BLOCK THEATER



This event is sponsored by



AFFILIATE EVENTS

(Tap on the flyer to register and see more information on these programs)

THE CALIFORNIA JUDGES ASSOCIATION &
THE OCBA DIVERSITY & INCLUSION COMMITTEE

PRESENTS

Ethics & Wellness

LEARN TO EXAMINE & OBSERVE YOUR MENTAL & EMOTIONAL PROCESSES.

LISTEN TO JUDGES & LAWYERS PRESENT ON IMPLICIT BIAS, ETHICS, WELLNESS, SUBSTANCE ABUSE, & MENTAL HEALTH.

TAKE ACTION TO DEVELOP THE LEGAL PROFESSION BY EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION OF LAWYERS.

SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE AND FACILITATE A BREAKOUT GROUP.

EARN 1.5 MCLE CREDITS (.5 FOR ETHICS) BY COMMITTING TO THIS 3 STEP PLAN:

1

Train the Trainers

Monday, March 15, 2021 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. 1.5 MCLE Attorneys ONLY

Hosted by the Honorable Judge Tam Nomoto Schumann, the first Asian American Female Judge appointed to the Orange County Superior Court and program creator & the Honorable Judge Rohanee Zapanta the second Filipina American to serve on the San Diego County Bench.

[Event 1 Register Here](#) >

2

Trainers Meet the Next Generation of Lawyers

Wednesday, March 24, 2021 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Attorneys & Law Students

Judges & Attorneys who participated in our 3/15/21 training will put on their Facilitator/Mentor hat and conduct small breakout groups of 3 Law Students each.

[Event 2 Register Here](#) >

3

Mentorship Roundtable

Thursday, April 8, 2021 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Attorneys & Law Students

Open to all Law Students Statewide who have participated in the Ethics & Wellness workshop. Come meet students from various law schools statewide.

[Event 3 Register Here](#) >



Thurgood Marshall Bar Association is in the process of becoming an affiliate of the National Bar Association, Region IX.

Region IX Presidential Roundtable

Join National Bar Association President
CK Hoffler & Region IX Affiliates on
Saturday, March 20th at 11:00 PM PST
for a Roundtable.

Highlighting the exemplary work and the role of Black
bar associations in nation building; the current national
climate of racial reckoning, the COVID-19 pandemic,
current legislation and criminal justice reform.



CK Hoffler
National Bar Association
President

Register at: <http://bit.ly/3vrQE4f>



Moderated by:
Tamara Benefield
National Bar Association
Region IX Director

Region IX Affiliates



JOHN M.
LANGSTON
INDEPENDENT



AN OPPORTUNITY FOR OUR SOLO ATTORNEY MEMBERS

Introducing the Orange County Legal County Consortium (OCLC)

What is OCLC?

OCLC is an incubator program for new attorneys wishing to start their own solo law practice.

Who is OCLC?

OCLC is a collaborative effort between the four Orange County non-profit legal services firms: Community Legal Aid SoCal, Veteran's Legal Institute, Public Law Center, and the Elder Law and Disability Rights Center. Applications are open to any licensed California Attorney with priority given to 2019 and 2020 graduates.

How does OCLC Work?

OCLC provides mentoring, training, and other benefits to new attorneys in exchange for their commitment to provide 200 hours of pro bono legal assistance under the supervision of the partner non-profits.

What are Some of the Other Benefits?

- An introductory “bootcamp” geared toward helping new attorneys start their firms.
- Membership in Lawyer Referral Service (LRS) with the first year's enrollment fee waived.
- A one-year license to CLIO (practice management software)
- Benefits from CEB including access to Practitioner and discounts on OnLaw.
- Availability of low-cost professional liability insurance.
- Participant fees waived for 2021 inaugural class.
- And more to be added...

Why Support or become a part of OCLC?

The need for free and low-cost legal services has never been greater. This program matches new attorneys with mentors and enables those new attorneys to gain experience by taking on pro bono and low bono cases with the support of experienced attorneys. This helps fill the need for free and low-cost legal services while growing the next generation of attorneys committed to serving the community. Attorneys who participate and build relationships in the non-profit realm are more likely than not to continue to support these organizations throughout their careers.

To apply or to become a sponsor, contact Jordana Furman at Jfurman@eldrcenter.org.

LAW STUDENT CORNER



ACC Southern California Diversity Summer Internship Program

Apply today for this diversity pipeline initiative intended to provide law students in Orange and Los Angeles Counties that may lack access to and/or knowledge of in-house legal practice, exposure to such practice. The focus of the program is on 1L students. Go [HERE](#) for more information. To view the program flyer with link to the application, go [HERE](#).

SOCIAL MEDIA CONVERSATION STARTER



To commemorate [Black History Month](#) and recognize that Black history is part of American history, [Orange County Coalition for Diversity in the Law](#) (OCCDL) and the [Thurgood Marshall Bar Association](#) (TMBA) prepared this media starter reflecting Black history and heritage past and present. We invite everyone, not just OCCDL and TMBA members, to join us in celebrating Black representation, identity, and diversity all year round, whether in law or in our ordinary everyday lives.

NOTE: Some of the material (especially the movies and TV shows) may contain explicit content.

[View the media starter here.](#)

JOB OPPORTUNITIES



Check out our updated job postings ~ Chapman University Dale E. Fowler School of Law seeks an [Assistant or Associate Director Academic Achievement](#).

Also check out the exciting new positions we've just posted on our [website's job corner](#).

BABY ANNOUNCEMENT



We are thrilled to welcome another warrior for justice to the world and TMBA family. Introducing Savannah Laila Grace Thomas, born November 17, 2020 to proud parents TMBA President Rebekah Thomas and her husband, Zachary. Little Savannah was born at 31 weeks weighing 2 lbs 11 ounces but has fought her way to an amazing 11 lbs. She is Small but Mighty! Congratulations!!!!

Follow Thurgood Marshall Bar Association on social media



Our Mission Statement:

Thurgood Marshall Bar Association is a contemporary bar association committed to connect, support, and increase the Black legal community in Orange County. TMBA strives to promote diversity, professional improvement, and the advancement of justice through