

GUEST COLUMN

Gun laws: fact and fiction

By Juliet Leftwich

Few provisions of the U.S. Constitution are as controversial — or are the subject of more misinformation — as the Second Amendment. According to the National Rifle Association and other members of the gun lobby, the Second Amendment guarantees the absolute right of every American to own any gun, any place, any time, and is therefore an obstacle to laws seeking to reduce the senseless gun violence that plagues our nation. But that’s not what the courts have said.

In 2008, in *District of Columbia v. Heller*, the U.S. Supreme Court held for the first time that the Second Amendment protects an individual right to possess a firearm unrelated to service in a well-regulated state militia. The court struck down

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DAILY APPELLATE REPORT

CIVIL LAW

**Administrative Agencies:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has power to issue rule regulating wholesale demand response and rule is adequately reasoned, resulting in reversal and remand. *Federal Energy Regulatory Commission v. Electric Power Supply Association et al.*, USSC, DAR p. 801

**Native American Affairs:** Tribe not entitled to equitable tolling where no extraordinary circumstances beyond Tribe’s control caused delay in filing contract claim against federal government. *Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin v. United States*, USSC, DAR p. 770

**Securities:** Ninth Circuit fails to properly assess ERISA action of AMGEN employees by not using test set forth in ‘Fifth Third Bancorp v. Dudenhoeffer.’ *Amgen Inc. v. Harris*, USSC, DAR p. 796

**Utilities:** PUC lacks authority to review and regulate user fee imposed by local government agency collected through regulated public utility. *Monterey Peninsula Water Management District v. Public Utilities Commission (California-American Water Co.)*, CASC, DAR p. 818

CRIMINAL LAW

**Constitutional Law:** A sufficiency-of-the-evidence challenge should be assessed against the elements of the crime charged, not against jury instructions that erroneously added an extra element. *Musacchio v. United States*, USSC 5th, DAR p. 773

**Criminal Law and Procedure:** ‘Miller v. Alabama,’ which prohibits mandatory life without parole for homicide juvenile offenders, adopts a new substantive rule that applies retroactively on collateral review. *Montgomery v. Louisiana*, USSC, DAR p. 778



Daily Journal photo

State Supreme Court Justice Leondra R. Kruger penned a 14-page opinion handed down Monday that placed limits on the state’s Public Utilities Commission to regulate surcharges levied on water suppliers by local governments.

High court rules on PUC’s authority over water charges

By Saul Sugarman  
Daily Journal Staff Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — The California Public Utilities Commission cannot regulate surcharges levied on county water suppliers by their local governments, the state Supreme Court ruled Monday.

The 14-page opinion by Associate Justice Leondra R. Kruger has been heralded by attorneys for the petitioner, the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District, as a “clear message” to the PUC about keeping its nose out of local utility fees.

“It’s a very short decision, which gives one the impression that the Supreme Court thought it was an easy case,” said Michael G. Colantuono, a Grass Valley-based lawyer who represents the district in a related matter but is not involved in the arguments referenced in Monday’s opinion.

“The PUC was way out of their jurisdiction. They did not have strong arguments for being there, and the court said so,” said Colantuono, a partner with Colantuono Highsmith & Whatley PC.

In the case, the district has levied a fee on customers who get their water from public utility California American Water Co. since 1983.

The district applied the revenues to research into reducing the negative effect of drawing so much wa-

ter from Carmel River in Monterey County.

In 1991, the district began a five-year program to mitigate such effects. It continued the program after its term expired in 1996.

‘PUC regulation is not the only mechanism for addressing questions about the amount of the user fee or the efficiency of the district’s mitigation work.’

-Leondra R. Kruger

The PUC, which carries the job of approving rates customers pay for utilities, approved an increase in how much California American charged for its water in 2009.

When they did so, however, PUC regulators “raised a number of questions” about whether the fees levied by the Monterey water district were valid.

Ultimately, the commission determined there was not enough evidence to justify the fees and ordered a halt to them.

“There are alternate processes in state law to do [what the PUC did],” said David C. Laredo, the general counsel for the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District.

Laredo, a Pacific Grove-based partner with De Lay & Laredo, said he felt “vindicated” by Monday’s decision.

“This has been a long, long path,” said Laredo, noting the fees have been halted since 2011.

In their ruling, the state Supreme Court justices agreed with Laredo. *Monterey Peninsula Water Management District v. CPUC et al.*, 2015 DJDAR 818.

“PUC regulation is not the only mechanism for addressing questions about the amount of the user fee or the efficiency of the district’s mitigation work,” Kruger wrote.

“If [California American] customers believe that the district is charging excessive and disproportionate fees, they can bring a legal action challenging the district’s activities,” she added.

An emailed statement from a California American spokeswoman stated simply that the utility would “abide by the [Supreme Court] decision and future ones based on it.”

Lawyers for the PUC could not be reached.

saul\_sugarman@dailyjournal.com

Challenges ahead for \$125M win

Verdict in case involving Prop. 213 could be tied up on appeal for years

By America Hernandez  
Daily Journal Staff Writer

A record-breaking \$125 million jury verdict in a Ventura County drunk driving case, which left the plaintiff a quadriplegic, may be tied up for years on appeal as a post-trial motion from the defense raises questions not yet settled by case law.

“This is a case of first impression you’ll see go all the way up to the Supreme Court,” said Beverly Hills-based plaintiff’s counsel Gary A. Dordick.

“Right now what we have is a piece of paper with a lot of zeros on it that doesn’t pay the bills for my client, who was evicted from his house during trial,” he added.

About \$42.5 million of the award hinges on whether an injured driver is prevented from collecting general damages if he or she did not own the uninsured car.

Twenty-four-year-old plaintiff Francisco Briones had borrowed his mother’s car to drive to work one morning in March 2013 and was struck by an Oxnard man asleep at the wheel in the pre-dawn dark. *Briones vs. Zink*, 56-2013-00435440-CU-PA-VTA (Ventura County Super. Ct., filed Apr. 25, 2013).

Briones’ neck was broken on impact, leaving him paralyzed for life, a jury was told.

After hearing evidence that the oncoming driver had more than 17 alcoholic drinks in his system, had not slept for 24 hours at the time of the 5 a.m. crash, and had previously been involved in a car accident while under the influence, a jury awarded Briones \$125 million.

That is thought to be the largest such verdict in the county’s history.

Defendant Christopher Zink was represented by Bruce A. Finck, partner at Benton, Orr, Duval & Buckingham in Ventura. Finck declined to comment.

Though jurors only deliberated for one day, Dordick said he does not believe the court will reduce the award for being excessive.

“When you look at each component of the damages, it is not an unreasonable amount, because half of it is compensatory and half of it is punitive,” Dordick explained.

Still up for debate is the interpretation of Proposition 213 — a voter initiative passed in 1996 that is now enshrined into law as California Civil Code of Procedure §§ 3333.3 and 3333.4 — which prohibits owners of uninsured

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Top judge urges patience on derivative lawsuits

By Lyle Moran  
Daily Journal Staff Writer

CORONADO — The chief justice of the Delaware Supreme Court urged securities lawyers Monday to conduct substantial due diligence before pursuing shareholder derivative lawsuits and not join the growing trend of quick filing.

“There should be no improper hurry to file a derivative case because these are usually damages cases,” said Justice Leo E. Strine

Jr., speaking at Northwestern University School of Law’s annual Securities Regulation Institute.

Strine said he is concerned about rushed filing and forum shopping when it comes to derivative suits lodged against company management on behalf of shareholders.

He called on federal judges to apply closer scrutiny to early filings of such matters.

“I think our federal courts honestly need to get more understanding that first filing is suspicious,” Strine said.

He said if a shareholder’s counsel files a derivative case in a more expedited fashion than necessary, judges “should instinctively say they are not a fit representative.”

“If you are dealing with weak lawyers, there is a question of whether those people really represented the class adequately,” he said.

Strine was the chief judge of the Delaware Court of Chancery before elevation to his current post on the state’s high court in 2014.

He said that on the chancery

court, he stayed cases so that a plaintiff whose counsel was properly seeking necessary documentation could be the shareholder representative.

“I couldn’t figure out for the life of me why anyone would file a *Caremark* claim against a majority independent board without seeking the books and records,” said Strine, while referencing the Delaware Court of Chancery’s 1996 *In re Caremark International Inc. Derivative Litigation* decision.

Strine said he would also like to

see further consideration of whether a dismissal of the first derivative case filed on a particular matter should be given collateral effect.

The securities conference held at the Hotel Del Coronado runs through Wednesday.

Mary Jo White, chairwoman of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, was to have addressed attendees Monday, but was rescheduled to Tuesday at 12:15 p.m.

lyle\_moran@dailyjournal.com

Federal judge denies individual arbitration

District Judge Dolly M. Gee’s ruling limits scope of Page 2

Panel rules against late Raiders owner

IRS wins latest round in tax battle with former owner Page 3

Transparency under the Sunshine Act

The act requires pharma companies to disclose information about payments, but remains murky. By David Kirman and Shara Venezia-Walerstein Page 7

Humboldt County judge hit with admonishment

Judge Christopher Wilson submitted false salary affidavits, state regulators say Page 3

Project Juggler

Carla J. Christofferson, GC of infrastrucure firm AECOM, handles a wide range of duties. Page 4

High court decides class action case

The *Campbell-Ewald* decision has implications for class action cases on the high court docket. By Crystal Lopez, Harrison Brown, and Joshua Briones Page 8



# 9th Circuit reversed again on ERISA case

U.S. Supreme Court says standard from 2014 case must be considered on remand

By Amanda Schallert  
Daily Journal Staff Writer

The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday reiterated the strict standard for plaintiffs in Employee Retirement Income Security Act class action lawsuits, reversing a 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decision that said Amgen Inc. was not protected from liability to its employees after drastic stock losses.

Stockholders filed a class action lawsuit against the Thousand Oaks-based biotech company after company stocks fell in 2007 as a result of allegations that Amgen had misrepresented some of its cancer drugs as safe despite concerns.

Plaintiffs alleged Amgen failed in its fiduciary duty under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, or ERISA, which establishes standards for voluntary pension and health plans in an effort to protect employees affected by them. The case has been remanded to district court.

The district court originally dismissed the case, but the 9th Circuit reversed the decision and found that Amgen was not protected under the “presumption of prudence” standard, meaning that fiduciaries are given the presumption that continuing to offer their stocks as an investment option is a “prudent” decision, unless plaintiffs can plausibly allege that the fiduciary knew or should have known the opposite.

The standard has been used broadly to protect companies from liability in similar class actions, but the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in 2014’s *Fifth Third Bancorp v. Dudenhoeffer* that the standard did not apply to ERISA fiduciaries.

The ruling, however, recognized that similar claims against companies could be easily made, and raised the bar for plaintiffs by saying they “must plausibly allege an alternative action...that a prudent fiduciary in the same circumstances would not have viewed as more likely to harm the fund than to help it.”

Maynard Cooper attorney Christopher J. Rillo said Monday’s decision reaffirms the standard set by *Fifth Third*.

“It’s overall a good thing because a lot of meritless claims have been brought and settled based on this litigation,” said Rillo, who filed an amicus brief on behalf of the American Benefits Council in the case.

*Amgen Inc. v. Harris*, 2016 DJDAR 796.

The Supreme Court’s reversal brings into focus the court’s stance on the “more harm than good” standard being a key aspect of its analysis in *Fifth Third*, said Andrew L. Oringer, co-chair of Dechert LLP’s ERISA and executive compensation group.

“There’s now a very clear additional hurdle that may have not been obvious before,” he said. “The effect on litigation will be, at a minimum, to raise the bar for plaintiffs’ lawyers on the effect of their pleadings.”

Oringer said he thinks it’s too early to tell whether this will diminish the amount of litigation moving forward, but it may be challenging for plaintiffs to successfully make the plausible allegation.

Spokeswoman Kristen Davis said in an email to the Daily Journal that Amgen is pleased with the court’s ruling and looks forward to presenting its position in district court in the Central District of California.

Plaintiff’s attorney Mark C. Rifkin of Wolf, Haldenstein, Alder, Freeman & Herz LLP said he was disappointed by the decision and is considering what next steps to take in the litigation.

[amanda\\_schallert@dailyjournal.com](mailto:amanda_schallert@dailyjournal.com)

# Federal judge denies individual arbitration

District Judge Dolly M. Gee’s ruling limits scope of Concepcion

By Matthew Blake  
Daily Journal Staff Writer

California federal court ruling on Friday will either be overturned on appeal or give plaintiff lawyers the argument they need to say employment arbitration contracts prohibiting class action lawsuits are against the law.

U.S. District Judge Dolly M. Gee denied Kellogg Brown & Root LLC’s motion to compel individual arbitration in a wage-and-hour putative class action despite named plaintiff David J. Totten signing a contract to individually arbitrate all grievances. *David L. Totten, et al. v. Kellogg Brown & Root LLC, et al.*, CV14-1766 (C.D. Cal., filed July 22, 2014).

At least since the 2011 U.S. Supreme Court decision in *AT&T Mobility v. Concepcion*, courts have found the Federal Arbitration Act compels enforcement of contracts workers sign to individually arbitrate claims. However, Gee cited the 2012 Obama administration National Labor Relations Board decision in *D.R. Horton, Inc.* that declared class actions lawsuits are a protected activity under the 1935 National Labor Relations Act, akin to unionizing.

Citing no precedent outside

the NLRB, save a lone Western District of Wisconsin ruling, Gee found *Concepcion* only applies to consumer disputes and individual worker cases, not employment class actions.

Appellate specialist Michael Rubin of Altshuler Berzon LLP who represented Totten with Lee R. Feldman of Feldman Brown Olivares APC called the decision “very gratifying,” adding plaintiff lawyers will be quick to cite the order.

The response of defense lawyers observing the case was simple: The U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals or perhaps U.S. Supreme Court would reverse.

“The vast majority of federal courts have rejected the logic of *D.R. Horton*, including the California Supreme Court and several federal appellate courts,” said Felix A. Shafir, an appellate defense lawyer at Horvitz & Levy LLP.

“This case is an extreme outlier,” added Paul W. Cane of Paul Hastings LLP. “The company here will likely appeal to obtain a definitive 9th Circuit ruling on the issue.”

A message left with KBR lawyer Rachel Linzy of New Orleans’ Kullman Law Firm was referred to the company, which released a statement reading, “We respectfully disagree with the ruling and are exploring our appellate options.”

A rigging foreman in San Bernardino County, Totten sued Houston-headquartered KBR, an engineering company and prolific government contractor, for failure to pay minimum



GEE

wage, failure to pay overtime, and missed meal periods among other alleged state labor code violations.

KBR moved to compel arbitration, and Gee took the matter under submission for 14 months, opting not to hold oral arguments.

Gee’s ruling quoted Section 7 of the National Labor Relations Act that, “Employees shall have the right to engage in concerted activities for the purpose of collective bargaining, or other mutual aid or protection,” and argued taking matters to “judicial forms” was an aspect of mutual aid.

The judge acknowledged several courts contravened *Horton* (NLRB rulings are not binding on federal courts). But Gee wrote the Federal Arbitration Act must not run up against another law, and here it conflicted with the National Labor Relations Act.

[matthew\\_blake@dailyjournal.com](mailto:matthew_blake@dailyjournal.com)

# Attorney expects insurance company to fight award

Continued from page 1

cars from recovering noneconomic losses in the event of an accident.

There are two exceptions that allow recovery: if the crash was caused by a drunk driver, and if the injured driver establishes financial responsibility by depositing \$35,000 with the Department of Motor Vehicles before filing a lawsuit. Briones satisfies both, but he did not own the uninsured car he was driving. No case law indicates how an uninsured, non-owner is treated, according to Dordick.

Given the outsized award, Dordick said he expects the insurance company to fight on appeal.

He plans on using a constitutional argument under the Equal Protection clause to resolve how owners and drivers of uninsured vehicles are each treated under the statute.

“If Prop. 213 allows recovery for uninsured owners hit by a drunk driver, there’s much more incentive in logic to extend that exception to a driver who has no idea if the car he borrowed is insured or not,” Dordick said.

Past and future earnings loss for Briones, calculated at minimum wage, totaled about \$2 million. The cost of past medical treatment came in just over \$740,000 according to the special verdict form.


A life care plan prepared by a physician, together with an economist’s tally of the medical costs adjusted for inflation through the year 2058, showed Briones would have to pay nearly \$18 million for care by the time he retired.

The jury awarded an additional for \$42.5 million for past and future pain and suffering.

They then matched the total in punitive damages, doubling the amount.

The judge will rule on whether to strike general damages on Thursday.

[america\\_hernandez@dailyjournal.com](mailto:america_hernandez@dailyjournal.com)



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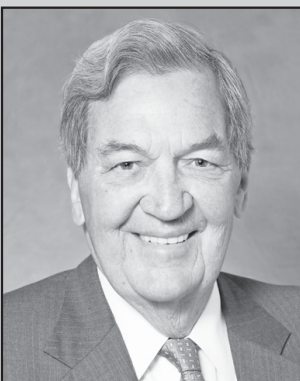
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## BRIEFLY

**The Commission on Judicial Performance publicly admonished San Mateo County Superior Judge Joseph E. Bergeron on Monday.** The commission found the jurist of 18 years in violation of several judicial ethics canons for allegedly disrespecting women. The statement details three alleged instances of impropriety and mentions an incident in 2013 when six female court employees complained to the court’s presiding judge and court executive officer about Bergeron’s “rude, abrasive and condescending manner.” According to the admonishment, Bergeron did not work well with clerks not regularly assigned to him. In one case, Bergeron asked a replacement clerk if she played baseball. Before she could respond, a crumpled calendar allegedly hit her in the chest and fell to the floor. Bergeron allegedly threw another uncaught calendar into the woman’s chest after a hearing. “Judge Bergeron acknowledges that his actions ... were discourteous and undignified,” the admonishment said. During another incident, the admonishment alleges Bergeron screamed when a clerk did not call him back. The report says the clerk did not return his call because he never told the clerk his number. A request for comment from San Mateo Superior Court was not immediately returned Monday.

**A manhunt spanning Southern California was underway Sunday for three inmates described as “very dangerous” who escaped from a maximum-security jail in Orange County, using tools to cut through steel bars and then rappelling from the jail’s roof with makeshift ropes made of linens.** Authorities said they believed the inmates — Hossein Nayeri, 37, Jonathan Tieu, 20, and Bac Duong, 43 — escaped from the Orange County Central Men’s Jail here soon after the 5 a.m. head count Friday. Their absence was not discovered until the 8 p.m. head count that day, the Orange County Sheriff’s Department said.

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# Panel rules against late Raiders owner

*Tax assessments still valid, even if IRS agreement was breached, court says*

By Ashley Cullins  
Daily Journal Staff Writer

The Internal Revenue Service won the latest round of a decades-long tax battle with the former owner of the Oakland Raiders, as a 9th Circuit panel on Monday reversed a Northern District judge’s finding in favor of the late Al Davis.

In 2011 Davis and his wife, Carol, sued the United States government seeking a refund of income taxes, arguing the IRS breached a closing agreement with the partnership that owned the Raiders and assessed the taxes outside the statute of limitations.

The district court granted summary judgment in favor of Davis, holding the breach of contract invalidated the assessment and entitling plaintiffs to recover \$3.7 million in tax and deficiency interest overpayments plus interest.

Chief Judge Sidney R. Thomas and Circuit Judges Sandra S. Ikuta and Andrew D. Hurwitz held, however, that while the IRS admittedly breached the agreement the tax as-

sessments are still valid. *Allen Davis et al. v. United States of America*, 2015 DJDAR 798.

“The IRS’s failure to perform its contract with the Partnership cannot relieve Davis of his statutory obligation to pay taxes,” Hurwitz wrote. “Nothing in the Closing Agreement provided that any taxes assessed on the partners pursuant to statute would be rendered invalid if the government failed to perform.”

According to the opinion, in 2005 the Raiders partnership and the IRS reached a settlement resolving tax court litigation over tax years 1988 through 1994.

The closing agreement, signed by Davis, required the IRS to make computational adjustments to calculate each partner’s tax liability and gave each partner 90 days to review and comment on the proposed adjustments before the IRS assessed those amounts.

“The IRS did not distribute its calculations of each partner’s computational adjustments until June 2007,” Hurwitz wrote. “Davis responded a few weeks later, but by the time the IRS sent revised calculations on August 27, 2007, it had no time to wait 60 days for Davis to review these calculations because the statute of limitations to make assessments was about to expire.”

In September 2007, the IRS issued assessments against Davis

totaling more than \$2.4 million for 1990, 1992 and 1995 and applied a portion of refunds otherwise due to Davis to satisfy the assessments.

The panel held that Davis could have challenged the assessed amounts and then sought consequential damages resulting from having challenged the assessments “in a more expensive manner than that provided for by Paragraph Q” — referring to the section of the agreement outlining the statute of limitations for reviewing and commenting on computational adjustments.

“Instead, he threw a Hail Mary and sought a full refund,” Hurwitz wrote. “That pass falls incomplete. We hold that the IRS’s breach of Paragraph Q did not invalidate the assessments.”

Defense counsel included Assistant Attorney General Kathryn Keneally, and Department of Justice tax division attorneys Richard Farber and Andrew M. Weiner. When asked for comment Monday, government spokeswoman said, “We are pleased with the court’s decision.”

A team of Arnold & Porter LLP attorneys, including Steven L. Mayer, Kenneth G. Hausman, Stuart S. Lipton and Julian Y. Waldo, represented the Davis estate. Attorneys could not be reached for comment.

ashley\_cullins@dailyjournal.com

# Humboldt County judge admonished over pay

*CJP: Judge Christopher Wilson falsified workload reports*

By Banks Albach  
Daily Journal Staff Writer

A second Humboldt County judge in the last four months was admonished Friday by the state Commission on Judicial Performance for falsifying workload reports in order to collect salary.

The public admonishment of Superior Court Judge Christopher G. Wilson, on the bench since 1999, contends that he “signed and submitted false salary affidavits on

eight occasions and received his salary for judicial office in violation of law on six occasions,” according to the commission decision.

In April 2013, for instance, Wilson took a case after both sides had filed post-trial briefs and rendered a late decision in August — 123 days after the filing.

Wilson faced an admonishment over similar matters in 2007, according to the commission’s report.

The judge could not be reached for comment at the Humboldt County courthouse, and the Daily Journal could not immediately confirm if he has retained legal counsel in the matter.

In September, the commission also admonished Humboldt County Superior Court Judge Dale A. Reinholtsen for similar conduct,

but on a larger scale, finding that he improperly submitted salary affidavits 13 times and failed to pursue legal matters assigned to him on 20 cases, according to a commission statement.

Wilson’s latest term started in 2011, four years after he was similarly reprimanded by the state. According to a commission document, Wilson received private admonishment for handling matters in “seven cases between 168 and 277 days after they were taken under submission.”

The commission also contends that he filed three false salary affidavits and did not disclose his negotiations with the district attorney on these matters during criminal cases he was presiding over.

banks\_albach@dailyjournal.com

# Sidley adds another lateral partner from Manatt

*LA-based M&A chair David Grinberg is third partner to exit*

By Joshua Sebold  
Daily Journal Staff Writer

Sidley Austin LLP continued its big year of lateral growth in Southern California with the addition of Manatt, Phelps & Phillips LLP’s mergers and acquisitions chair.

David M. Grinberg follows his former co-workers — commercial litigator Chad S. Hummel and government regulations partner Clayton S. Friedman — who made the same jump in July.

Among some of his recent deals, Grinberg, who will be working out of Sidley’s Century City office, advised InvaGen Pharmaceuticals Inc. in its \$500 million sale to Cipla Ltd. in September and represented Heritage Oaks Bancorp in its \$56.4 million acquisition of Mission Community Bancorp in October.

The new partner said the abil-

ity to get in on the ground floor of building an office in Century City, with the resources of a major international law firm, “was an opportunity too good to pass up, quite frankly.”

Grinberg added that his practice has been focused on sell-side deals and he’s looking forward to branching out.

“I would like to make it more balanced between buy and sell and get more active in the private equity arena,” he said. “It’s all about being a self-proclaimed deal junky.”

Like Grinberg, Hummel was a leader at Manatt, who co-chaired the firm’s trial practice and served as chair of firmwide strategic development. He’s represented Roman Polanski and sued the NFL’s union on behalf of former players.

Dan Clivner, co-managing partner of Sidley’s LA office and another mergers and acquisitions partner, is himself a recent transplant who came over from Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP in March after holding the same title there.

In the past year, the firm has also added Peter Benudiz, former

co-head of the gaming and hospitality group for Milbank Tweed Hadley & McCloy LLP, and Matt Thompson, who previously led the entertainment group at Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP.

Grinberg said Sidley’s focus on growth in Southern California has been contagious, as one move generates excitement for future laterals.


“When they make a decision like that, they go all out,” he said. “They’ve done a very good job of selling their story and convincing people of their dedication to LA and Southern California and it shows.”

The firm has also been adding to its Northern California offices.

Intellectual property litigator Michael J. Bettinger joined from K&L Gates LLP in April, corporate partner Martin A. Wellington came aboard from Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP in July and mergers and acquisitions partner Jennifer F. Fitch decamped from Cooley LLP in February.

Representatives for Manatt didn’t respond to a request for comment Monday.

joshua\_sebold@dailyjournal.com




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Melanie Brisbon / Daily Journal

# Project Juggler

CORPORATE  
COUNSEL

Q&amp;A

*Carla J. Christofferson, GC of infrastructure firm AECOM, handles a wide range of duties.*

**C**ENTURY CITY — Carla J. Christofferson went from a high school class of 13 students in a small town in North Dakota to become the top legal officer of the largest publicly traded company in Los Angeles, which employs about 90,000 people.

As executive vice president and general counsel of AECOM, Christofferson spearheads the legal team of a global integrated infrastructure services firm with annual revenue of about \$18 billion.

AECOM provides services including water cleaning and planning new cities. It also designs and builds skyscrapers, arenas, bridges, roads, tunnels and transit systems. The company is currently working on 100,000 projects throughout the world. AECOM operates in all 50 states, Washington, D.C. and Puerto Rico.

"We're helping build the replacement buildings for the World Trade Center," Christofferson said. "We did the first moveable science station that they use in Antarctica."

"We do very large infrastructure projects of all types," she added.

Christofferson leads a team of more than 100 lawyers but nanaging attorneys is not new for Christofferson, a Yale Law School graduate who began her legal career at O'Melveny & Myers LLP. There, she worked her way up through the ranks and became managing partner of the firm's Los Angeles office, the role she had immediately prior to coming to AECOM.

"I was very happy being a trial lawyer at O'Melveny," Christofferson said.

"The projects that AECOM does all over the world are really life changing," she said. "To be a part of something like that was too good of an opportunity to pass

## Carla J. Christofferson

**Executive Vice President and General Counsel**  
**AECOM**

Century City

**Size of legal department:** 110 lawyers

up."

Last year, AECOM bought its San Francisco-based rival, URS Corp., in a \$6 billion deal.

The merger, said to be the largest in their industry, created one of the world's largest firms in the construction and engineering sectors.

The company has four operating groups, the largest of which delivers planning, consulting, architectural and engineering design services to commercial and government clients.

Its other groups include construction services, management services and AECOM Capital, the company's investment division. A fifth group focuses on providing solutions for global collaboration across the company's operating groups. Attorneys are spread across all of AECOM's groups.

"The legal group is here to service the business," Christofferson said. "We try to help each of the groups make better deals, help them stay on track and protect the company from risk."

Christofferson recently sat down with the Daily Journal's Melanie Brisbon in her Century City office to discuss sustainability, managing relationships with outside counsel and more. An edited transcript of their conversation is below.

**Daily Journal: What are some of the differences between leading the legal depart-**

**ment a global company versus leading an office of a major law firm?**

**Christofferson:** I've actually been surprised at how much the skills have transferred. I knew the management side would be running an office versus running the legal department in a company. What I've also found is that my work is a lot like being in a trial every day because I'm largely taking information that I'm gathering from all over the world and boiling it down to two or three salient points to give to my executives and to give to the board so that they know the most important things. That's very much like trial work. I actually feel like I'm in trial everyday here, in a good way, because trials are very exciting.

When you're a trial lawyer, the main thing that you do is dive in to a company that's having a problem and you learn everything about the company because you're then going to have to explain it to jury. For me, coming and diving into the company and learning everything about what we do was sort of a repeat of what I felt like I've done my whole career.

**DJ: How does AECOM procure its projects?**

**Christofferson:** In all sorts of ways. Usually its contacts and it's a bidding process and you're competing and putting in proposals. Or it's relationships that folks have. There are so many ways to get business and we try to do them all. At the end of the day, it's having the right people with the right expertise and the right experience so that the potential client is convinced that you're going to deliver the best project.

**DJ: What types of the clients does AECOM build projects for?**

**Christofferson:** It can be anything from private individuals who are building arenas to com-

panies that are building things like the World Trade Center buildings to governments or government organizations that are building infrastructure. It could be the Army Corps of Engineers that are building dams or diversion programs. It really runs the gamut from private to public. Not just public in the United States but public around the world.

**DJ: Does the company also acquire real estate?**

**Christofferson:** Sometimes. We have AECOM Capital which manages our own money that we can put into projects. We did purchase land in downtown Los Angeles that we'll be developing. It's not the majority of our models but we do have the capacity to do that. We really pride ourselves on that capacity because having your own capital also allows you to participate in the public private partnerships that are becoming the wave of the future.

**DJ: What does the company do to stay ahead of the curve on energy efficient projects?**

**Christofferson:** We actually do a lot of that work. Some for the government, and just in general. More and more of the development that we see, people want sustainability and green buildings. Our professionals in that area are experts in doing that type of construction and that type of renovation. For us, people are the key to our business. Having the most talented people that are up on the latest technology is core to who we are. We also have AECOM University where our employees can choose from thousands of courses online. That could include anything from water treatment to sustainability. It's really our continuing efforts to make sure we provide the best value proposition for our employees so that they can continue to lead their fields as well.

**DJ: What types of cybersecurity risks does the company**

**face?**

**Christofferson:** As with all companies, we're very aware of the growing threat of cybersecurity. We actually are working with a law firm and we have a dedicated team making sure we have the best-in-class cybersecurity program. We're actually working on that as a worldwide project. We feel like we need to do that in order to protect our company, our people and our clients.

**DJ: Do you often deal with international laws?**

**Christofferson:** We have specialists that know the laws in all the countries. We also tend to partner with law firms that have an international reach. On the cybersecurity project, we're working with Covington because they either have similar footprint or they can partner with law firms in those geographic areas. We have to know the laws in all the places we're in, so we make sure that we either have it or we partner with a law firm that can provide that service.

**DJ: What other firms are you using and what types of matters do they handle for you?**

**Christofferson:** It really depends on the project and whom we think the best attorney is for the job. We're using Covington on the cybersecurity project and some other international work. Gibson has done our corporate work for quite a long time. I obviously respect O'Melveny lawyers a great deal and we use O'Melveny for some litigation matters where it's appropriate. We've been using WilmerHale for some of our litigation as well.

**DJ: What do you look for in outside counsel?**

**Christofferson:** They have to know our business or want to know our business. I really like working with attorneys who like their job. I really liked my job as a trial lawyer, so I like working with attorneys who are enthusias-

tic about partnering with us and really understanding our business and wanting to do the best job because they like their work. To me it's all about attitude. I love me my job and I want to work with others who have that same enthusiasm.

**DJ: What are your pet peeves with outside counsel?**

**Christofferson:** One of my pet peeves is where attorneys don't necessarily want to be strategic partners. It can come out of the best intentions. They think they're handling the problem when in fact I want a partner to collaborate on the problem. That probably is my biggest pet peeve.

I like attorneys that come up with solutions instead of just passing information back and forth with the other side. I can do my own talking but I want someone to be an advocate for the company and come up with creative solutions.

**DJ: Did you have a role in the merger with URS?**

**Christofferson:** We closed that deal October 2014. I joined the following spring. Over the past year, we've been doing integration — integrating two companies that were mostly the same size. That was an incredible challenge which we have officially closed. We're very excited that we were able to complete that merger. It was a very heavy lift. Now, we feel like we're really moving forward as one company.

**DJ: What role does the legal team have in the company's projects?**

**Christofferson:** Our attorneys have roles in the deals, making sure that we're in compliance with anything that might be governing those types of projects or in those geographic areas. I definitely want an attorney on all of the projects.

*melanie\_brisbon@dailyjournal.com*



# DEALMAKERS

## CORPORATE

### Financing

#### Provider of cancer treatments secures \$32M in funding with help from Gibson Dunn

Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP advised BioTheranostics, a San Diego-based provider of molecular diagnostics for cancer treatment, in its \$32 million round of funding, a financing closing announced Jan. 21.

MVM Life Science Partners, a venture capital firm with offices in London and Boston, led the round with participation from Canepa Advanced Healthcare Fund LP and HealthQuest Capital. As a result of the financing, BioTheranostics will spin out from BioMérieux Inc., a biotechnology headquartered in France. BioMérieux will remain a minority shareholder and operate as an independent company.

BioTheranostics plans to grow its commercial presence and expand its clinical development, according to a news release.

Gibson's team include San Francisco partner Ryan A. Murr (pictured) and associate Henry C. Pruitt.



MURR

### Financing

#### Cooley helps San Francisco-based Splice Machine in \$9M funding round

Cooley LLP advised Splice Machine Inc., a San Francisco provider of a relational database management system, in a \$9 million funding round announced Jan. 21.

The funds came from existing investors, including Mohr Davidow Ventures, InterWest Partners LLC and Correlation Ventures. Splice Machine has received roughly \$31 million in funding since its start, including the most recent investments.

The company will use the new funding to accelerate product, sales and marketing efforts, according to a news release.

Cooley's team included Eric C. Jensen (pictured), a partner who divides his time between the firm's Palo Alto and San Francisco offices, along with and Palo Alto associates Clark Chu and Daniel E. Elefant.



JENSEN

### Deals

#### Seven firms assist in semiconductor acquisition

Cooley LLP advised the special committee of ChipMOS Technologies Bermuda Ltd., a provider of outsourced semiconductor assembly and test services, in its merger into its subsidiary, ChipMOS Technologies Inc., a deal announced Jan. 21.

Prior to the deal, ChipMOS Technologies Bermuda owned 58.3 percent of ChipMOS Technologies. When the deal is completed, ChipMOS Technologies will be the surviving company.

ChipMOS Technologies Bermuda shareholders will receive \$3.71 in cash without interest and 0.9355 American Depositary Shares representing 18.71 shares of ChipMOS Technologies, according to deal terms. Each American Depositary Share will represent 20 new common shares that will be issued by ChipMOS Technologies in exchange for each ChipMOS Technologies Bermuda common share they held, representing about \$19.77 in total consideration.

The merger is a part the ongoing efforts to simplify and streamline the group structure to reduce operating costs, enhance operation efficiency and achieve a more efficient tax structure, according to a media release.

Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP served as U.S. counsel to ChipMOS Technologies.

Lee and Li Attorneys-at-Law served as Taiwan counsel to ChipMOS Technologies with Conyers Dill & Pearman serving as the company's Bermuda counsel. A spokesperson from Lee and Li could not be reached for comment.

The board of directors at ChipMOS Technologies voted to establish a new U.S. American Depositary Receipt program to facilitate the merger and to foster ongoing market liquidity of its shares, according to a news release. When the deal closes, all common shares that ChipMOS Technologies Bermuda held in both companies will be canceled.

The listing of the new American Depositary Shares and the merger are subject to customary closing conditions, including shareholder and regulatory approval. The deal is expected the third quarter of this year.

K&L Gates LLP served as U.S. counsel to ChipMOS Technologies Bermuda.

Appleby Global Group Services Ltd. was Bermuda counsel to ChipMOS Technologies Bermuda.

Johnson and Partners was Taiwan counsel to ChipMOS Technologies Bermuda.

Cooley's team included partners Eric C. Jensen who splits his time between Palo Alto and San Francisco, Nancy H. Wojtas in Palo Alto and Jamie K. Leigh (pictured) in San Francisco.

The Davis Polk corporate team included partners James C. Lin and Miranda So in Hong Kong along with John D. Paton in London.

Richard Hall, a partner in Hong Kong, led the Conyers Dill team.



LEIGH

### Deals

#### Ustream sells to IBM with guidance from Fenwick

Fenwick & West LLP advised Ustream Inc., a San Francisco-based provider of live and on-demand video solutions, in its sale to International Business Machines Corp. or IBM, a deal announced Jan. 21. Financial terms of the transaction were not disclosed, though media reports estimate the deal is valued around \$130 million.

The acquisition will allow incorporation of Ustream's video streaming capabilities into Bluemix, IBM's open cloud development platform.

Ustream's customers are different types of companies, service providers and broadcasters. Ustream reaches 80 million viewers per month through customers including NASA, Samsung Electronics Co., Facebook Inc., Nike Inc. and the Discovery Channel, according to a news release.

A spokesperson from IBM could not be reached for comment.

Fenwick's team included Mountain View partners Ted G. Wang, Kris S. Withrow and Larissa B. Neumann along with associates Ryan R. Slunaker, Richard C. Sapien, Amanda E. Baratz, Kristin O'Hanlon, Alex Y. Galev, Christopher D. Joslyn, Meng Wu and Ora S. Grinberg.

San Francisco partners Blake W. Martell, Stephen D. Gillespie and Ralph M. Pais also advised along with E. Tracy Randall, a senior licensing attorney.

### Financing

#### Davis Polk advises in \$300 million notes offering

Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP advised the representatives of the initial purchasers in connection with a \$300 million offering by TTX Co. The firm disclosed the details of its involvement Jan. 21.

TTX, a privately held provider of railcars, related freight car and freight rail management services headquartered in Chicago, offered \$300 million aggregate principal amount of its 2.250 percent medium-term notes, Series A due in three years.

Proceeds from the notes offering are expected to be used for general corporate purposes.

Davis Polk's Menlo Park-based team included partners Bruce K. Dallas and Rachel D. Kleinberg along with associates Sarah Ahmad, Stephanie W. Lai and Alexander Wu.

### Financing

#### Orrick leads LendUp in \$150M Series B

Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP helped Flurish Inc., better known as LendUp, a San Francisco-based financial technology company, in its raise of \$150 million through a funding round and an expanded credit facility, a deal announced Jan. 20.

Susa Ventures and Data Collective led the Series B round which included participation from investors including Google Ventures, Kapor Capital, SV Angel and Bronze Investments LLC among others. Funding from the round will allow LendUp's to expand its team and platform, according to a news release.

Victory Park Capital provided a second credit facility to support new product growth.

LendUp provides credit products available online or through a mobile phone for people that are unable to get credit from traditional banks. The company also has a payday loan alternative available in 23 states and provides financial education courses.

The new funds will allow the company to expand its platform to include national products that it to solve new challenges and address the needs of more customers, said a LendUp spokesperson in a news release.

Orrick's team includes partner John V. Bautista (pictured) and managing associate Joshua R. Pollick, who split their time between the firm's San Francisco and Menlo Park offices.



BAUTISTA

### Financing

#### Fenwick guides Malwarebytes through \$50M financing

Fenwick & West LLP advised Malwarebytes Corp., a San Jose provider of solutions that aim to combat computer viruses, spyware, adware and other malicious programs, in its \$50 million round of funding announced Jan. 21.

Fidelity Management and Research Co., a global investment management firm based in Boston, invested in the Series B round.

Millions of consumers and thousands of businesses use Malwarebytes' products according to a news release. Last year, the company surpassed \$100 million in annualized billings.

Fenwick's team included partners Kris S. Withrow (pictured), William R. Skinner and Steven S. Levine, along with associates Ryan R. Slunaker, Richard C. Sapien, and Sophia Huang in Mountain View.



WITHROW

### Financing

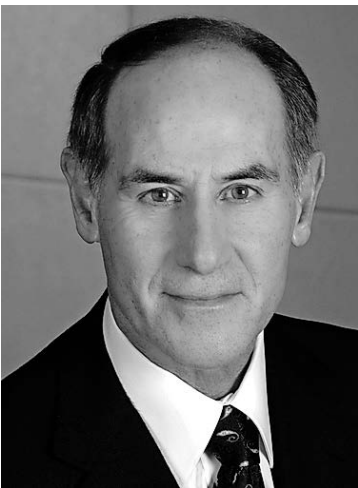
#### Cybersecurity services provider secures \$76M in financing with help from Wilson Sonsini

Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati PC advised ForeScout Technologies Inc., a provider of cybersecurity solutions headquartered in Campbell, in its \$76 financing round, a deal announced Jan 21. Wellington Management Company LLP led the round.

The latest funding gives the company a \$1 billion value. ForeScout Technologies has tripled its valuation during the past year and a half according to a news release.

The capital will be used to expand global field operations, build a support organization and increase research and development in the Internet of Things security space, according to a news release.

Wilson's Palo Alto-based team includes Lawrence W. Sonsini (pictured), name partner and chairman of the firm, along with partners Steven E. Bochner, Rachel B. Proffitt and associates Derk N. Lupinek and Lauren B. Lichtblau.



SONSINI

### Financing

#### Goodwin helps software provider gain \$20M in financing round

Goodwin Procter LLP advised ScaleArc, a Santa Clara-based provider of database load balancing software, in its has completed a \$20 million Series C-1 financing round, a deal announced Jan. 19.

Bain Capital Ventures LLC led the round which included participation from Accel Partners, Trinity Ventures and Nexus Venture Partners.

The investment will be used to fund company growth, including hiring more employees and sales and marketing initiatives, according to a news release.

Goodwin's team includes Menlo Park partner Craig M. Schmitz (pictured) along with counsel Morgan M. Worth and San Francisco associates Matthew G. Flairty and Katherine L. Tyler.



SCHMITZ

### Deals

#### Wilson Sonsini, Jones Day tapped for \$3.56B semiconductor company acquisition

Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati PC advised Microchip Technology Inc. a semiconductor company headquartered in Chandler, Ariz. in its \$3.56 billion acquisition of San Jose-based Atmel Corp., in a deal announced Jan. 19.

Jones Day advised Amtel.

Under the terms, Atmel shareholders, who still have to approve the deal, will receive \$7 in cash and \$1.15 in Microchip common stock per share. The deal includes a \$137.3 million termination fee from Atmel. The deal is expected to close in June. The Amtel sale is the fourth-largest transaction in 2016 to date, according to Thomson Reuters.

Atmel and Microchip are both known for making microcontrollers, or tiny computers on a single integrated circuit used to control functions in electronics.

San Francisco partner Robert T. Ishii led Wilson's team which included partner Mary M. Boshart, along with associates C. Derek Liu, A. Jacob Werrett, Brandon M. Gantus. Myra A. Sutanto Shen, an associate in Palo Alto, provided additional assistance.

Khoa D. Do and Daniel R. Mitz in Palo Alto and Kevin B. Espinola in Irvine led Jones Day team. San Francisco partners Craig A. Waldman and John C. Tang aided the effort. Palo Alto partners Wendy L.M. Davis, Joseph Melnik and Stephen E. Hall provided assistance along with associates David Y. Chen, Ruben A. Garcia, Nicholas M. Janof, Adam M. Braun, Benjamin Carson, An P. Doan, Julia R. Weissman, R.E. Scott Syverson, Molly M. Wilkens and Javier Oliver-Keymorth.

— Melanie Brisbon



# Mergers threaten health care delivery

By David Balto

As consumers suffer from escalating premiums and reduced services from their health insurers, they face a simple truth — a lack of health insurance competition threatens the delivery of health care. Health insurance competition in California is fragile at best. According to the California Health-Care Foundation, insurance markets are highly concentrated with three insurers controlling 83 percent of the small market and 75 percent of small/large group markets.

Unfortunately, this will get much worse unless California regulators act. Along with the recently approved merger of Blue Shield of California with Care1st Health Plan, there are three significant pending health insurance mergers: Anthem-Cigna, Aetna-Humana, and Centene-Health Net. Combining all three transactions, the mergers will harm over 7 million enrollees throughout California in a variety of insurance products including commercial, administrative-services only plans, Medicare Advantage, and Medicaid Managed Care.

Have no doubt, there will be a significant loss of competition from these consolidations. As Consumer Action informed the California Department of Managed Health Care, the Aetna-Humana transaction would reduce competition for Medicare Advantage plans in eight separate counties, including Los Angeles and San Diego. A recent report by Health Affairs found that the merger of Anthem-Cigna would not only diminish competition in certain commercial markets but would also substantially lessen competition for self-insured employers in the administrative-services only market. The



New York Times

Protesters outside the offices of Blue Shield of California in El Segundo in 2014.

ASO market relies on predominantly large employers that assume the responsibility for their own employees' health care costs, but purchase administrative services through an insurer. A combined Anthem-Cigna would have over a 60 percent market share for ASO in California. You do not need a Ph.D. in economics to figure out that a firm of that size can significantly increase prices.

So what does a loss of three insurers and increased concentration mean for Californians? Short answer, nothing good. Evidence from past health insurance mergers, economic studies, and scholarly reports compellingly document that health insurance mergers harm consumers. First, health insurance mergers hit consumers' wallets. As stated by Erin Trish of the University of Southern California's Schaeffer Center for Health Policy and Economics, "[w]

hen insurers merge, there's almost always an increase in premiums."

As Yogi Berra once said, "it's tough to make predictions, especially about the future," but those predictions are not tough when it comes to health insurance mergers. Every economic study has found that insurers raise premiums post-merger. A study by health economist Leemore Dafny found that the 1999 Aetna-Prudential merger resulted in an additional 7 percent premium increase in 139 separate markets throughout the United States. Another study examining the 2008 UnitedHealth-Sierra merger found that the combined entity was able to raise premiums by an additional 13.7 percent in Nevada. In contrast, there is not a single study or scholarly article purporting that insurance mergers will drive down consumer costs. In fact, Professor Thomas

Greaney of Saint Louis University School of Law, recently wrote that insurers have "little incentive to pass along [any] savings to its policyholders."

Californians can ill-afford to see further increases in health care costs. From 2011 to 2014, prior to any of the recent proposed mergers, the median rate increase in the individual market was 9.5 percent, exceeding all other measures of health care inflation.

Next to cost, access to a patient's doctor or hospital is crucial for consumers and these mergers will harm access and deny consumers access. Health insurance mergers often reduce access to providers, a critical concern in underserved rural and inner city areas. As health insurers extinguish competition they drive down reimbursement and narrow networks. What is the result? Few-

er physicians and other providers in underserved areas, longer wait times, assembly line medicine, and preventing providers from providing the full range of services consumers need and desire. The motivations of insurance companies are to provide as little service at the highest price to increase profits. As Judge Richard Posner once observed, an insurance company's "incentive is to keep you healthy if it can, but if you get very sick, and are unlikely to recovery to a healthy state involving few medical expenses, to let you die as quickly and cheaply as possible."

Along with reducing services and driving providers out of the market, health insurers increasingly coerce consumers into narrow networks. According to the Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 75 percent of all individual plans offered in California use a narrow network that only includes 25 percent or fewer of all area providers. These mergers would enable even less access by eliminating providers from a network or cutting off access to patients' preferred health care providers.

Lastly, these mergers can deteriorate health care innovation. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act was passed to not only to ensure an increase in consumer participation in health insurance markets, but also to drive providers and insurers to improve health care. However, by eliminating competition in insurance markets and driving down reimbursement below competitive levels, industry experts have noted that the mergers could very well undercut this much-needed innovation.

The parties also claim astronomical benefits from the mergers, but none of the previous mergers had

led to lower premiums. Cutting staffing, reducing services, and coercing consumers into more restricted networks is no plus for consumers.

California consumers need the strongest response. Fortunately, California Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones has raised concerns about the mergers and concentration within health insurance markets. Both the California Department of Managed Health Care and the California Department of Insurance has or will hold hearings on each of these three mergers. Most importantly, both departments are committed to a public, transparent process in which consumers can voice their concerns. And, California Attorney General Kamala Harris is actively involved in a multistate investigation.

All of the state regulators and enforcers need to take the strongest action to protect consumers. The future of competitive health insurance is at stake.

**David Balto** has practiced antitrust law for over 20 years and is a program fellow at the Health Policy Program of the New America Foundation.



# Transparency comes with costs under the Sunshine Act

By David Kirman and Shara Venezia-Walerstein

Did you know there is a publicly accessible website where you can see how much money pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers pay your doctor and possibly even your hospital? There is. The Physician Payments Sunshine Act requires pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers to report to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) most payments and transfers of value made to physicians and teaching hospitals. Congress passed the Sunshine Act to encourage financial transparency and to reveal relationships between the pharmaceutical industry and doctors. CMS has an official website for its reporting program called Open Payments, available at <https://www.cms.gov/openpayments/>.

Since this data was first published in 2014, CMS has documented almost \$10 billion paid by the pharmaceutical industry to physicians. This money was paid by 1,617 companies and to 683,000 physicians. While most of these transfers of value were for typical expenses, such as research, education and consulting, the data has nevertheless resulted in striking headlines such as "Lat-est Sunshine Bombshell: \$6.5B in doctor-and-hospital payments last year," "Is Your Doctor Taking Bribes from Drug Companies," and "Drug Company Enlists Doctors Under Scrutiny."

To be sure, the Sunshine Act has important business and legal ramifications, and there are several ways that consumers, the press, whis-

tleblowers and law enforcement are using — or not using — the data.

Under the Sunshine Act, "Applicable Manufacturers" must generally report all direct and indirect "value transfers" to "covered recipients." An applicable manufacturer is an entity operating in the United States that is: (i) engaged in the production, preparation, propagation, compounding or conversion of a covered drug, device, biological or medical supply, or (ii) is under common ownership with an entity in paragraph (i) and provides assistance or support to such entity with respect to the covered product. A "covered recipient" includes U.S.-licensed physicians and teaching hospitals. Medical students, physicians assistants and nurses are not "covered recipients" for the purpose of the Sunshine Act. The act exempts certain value transfers from being reported, including certain educational materials, speaker fees for accredited continuing medical education programs, discounts, rebates and small payments of less than \$10 when a covered recipient received less than \$100 annually.

Both direct and indirect transfers of value must be reported. While direct payments to physicians and teaching hospitals are typically reportable, indirect payments frequently require closer examination. Indirect payments are any payment made to a third party where the payor directs the third party to provide the payment to a covered recipient. When an applicable manufacturer is unaware that a covered recipient will receive payment, the applicable manufacturer has no reporting duty, because it did not intend or expect that a covered recipient would re-

## The Facts About Open Payments Data



A screenshot of information provided on the Open Payments website.

ceive any portion of the payment. Whether an applicable manufacturer is "unaware," however, is sometimes difficult to determine and requires an analysis of the specific facts of the transfer of value. A manufacturer "knows" of the physician covered recipient who receives the indirect payment if it has actual knowledge of the identity of the recipient or acts in deliberate ignorance or reckless disregard of the recipient's identity. This "knowledge" standard does not create an indefinite obligation on manufacturers to ascertain whether any doctors or teaching hospitals received indirect payments; CMS created a clear cut-off date of six months into the next reporting year to put an end to the applicable manufacturer's duty to identify any potential covered recipients for an indirect payment.

While CMS's guidance is a helpful starting point as to when indirect payments must be reported, many questions remain. A general rule of thumb is that payments earmarked for use by physicians or teaching hospitals — covered recipients —

need to be reported, while unrestricted transfers of value do not. Thus, if any portion of the payment will be received by a covered recipient, it must be reported. Similarly, if an applicable manufacturer directs payments to a discrete set of covered recipients whose identities the manufacturer may not actually know but could easily ascertain, then the Sunshine Act does not allow the manufacturer to turn a blind eye. It requires these payments to be reported.

While the Sunshine Act has increased transparency, it also has business and legal ramifications. Compliance is a significant burden for manufacturers and businesses. The cost of collecting, maintaining and organizing data for Sunshine Act reporting purposes has made a noticeable dent in budgets — including legal and compliance budgets. And while the Open Payments website empowers consumers by permitting them to review what pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers are paying their doc-

tors and teaching hospitals, this data is not easy to unpack. CMS requires manufacturers to classify the type of data being reported into various "nature of payment" categories, but it is difficult to understand the meaning behind the types of payments reported under some of these broad categories, such as "consulting fees" or "honoraria." And while it remains to be seen how useful the data will be to the typical consumer, it has resulted in striking articles and will provide additional data for law enforcement and whistleblowers to investigate kickbacks and bribes.

Moreover, the public's perception of the data could have a chilling effect on beneficial transactions, such as research payments, education and charitable contributions. Reporting requirements for these types of payments have made doctors and hospitals hesitant to accept some transfers of value from manufacturers, because they fear the potential appearance of impropriety that may be associated with accepting such payments. Such hesitancy could

stifle many productive and useful transfers of value which are made to covered recipients for scientific advancement, medical research, and education.

Regardless of the implications, the Sunshine Act or some future version of the law appears to be here to stay, and its resulting data will remain subject to scrutiny. An individual at every applicable manufacturer is required to attest to the validity of their data. Failure to report could result in civil penalties and known falsification of data could implicate a number of criminal laws. As such, applicable manufacturers should take reporting seriously and invest the necessary resources to comply with the Sunshine Act, including appropriate legal and factual analysis of areas where reporting obligations are ambiguous. Applicable manufacturers should also proactively analyze their data through the lens of a whistleblower or law enforcement investigator to reveal any spending that could be perceived — rightly or wrongly — as a violation of the federal Anti-Kickback Statute or Foreign Corrupt Practices Act. While the analysis will vary, it could include benchmarking against competitors, analyzing outliers, monitoring significant changes in spending, looking for unexplained trends or anomalies in spending, and evaluating the license and practice areas of doctors receiving payments to determine their appropriateness to receive money or benefits. Applicable manufacturers may also look at other applicable manufacturers' data for competitive purposes and assess whether their competitors' spending appears appropriate.

**David Kirman** ([dkirman@omm.com](mailto:dkirman@omm.com); (310) 246-6825) is a partner in the Century City office of O'Melveny & Myers LLP. He is a former assistant U.S. attorney in the Major Frauds Section of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Central District of California. **Shara Venezia-Walerstein** ([svenezia-walerstein@omm.com](mailto:svenezia-walerstein@omm.com); (212) 728-5748) is an associate in the White Collar Defense and Corporate Investigations practice in O'Melveny's New York office. The opinions expressed in this article do not necessarily reflect the views of O'Melveny & Myers LLP or their clients, and should not be relied upon as legal advice.





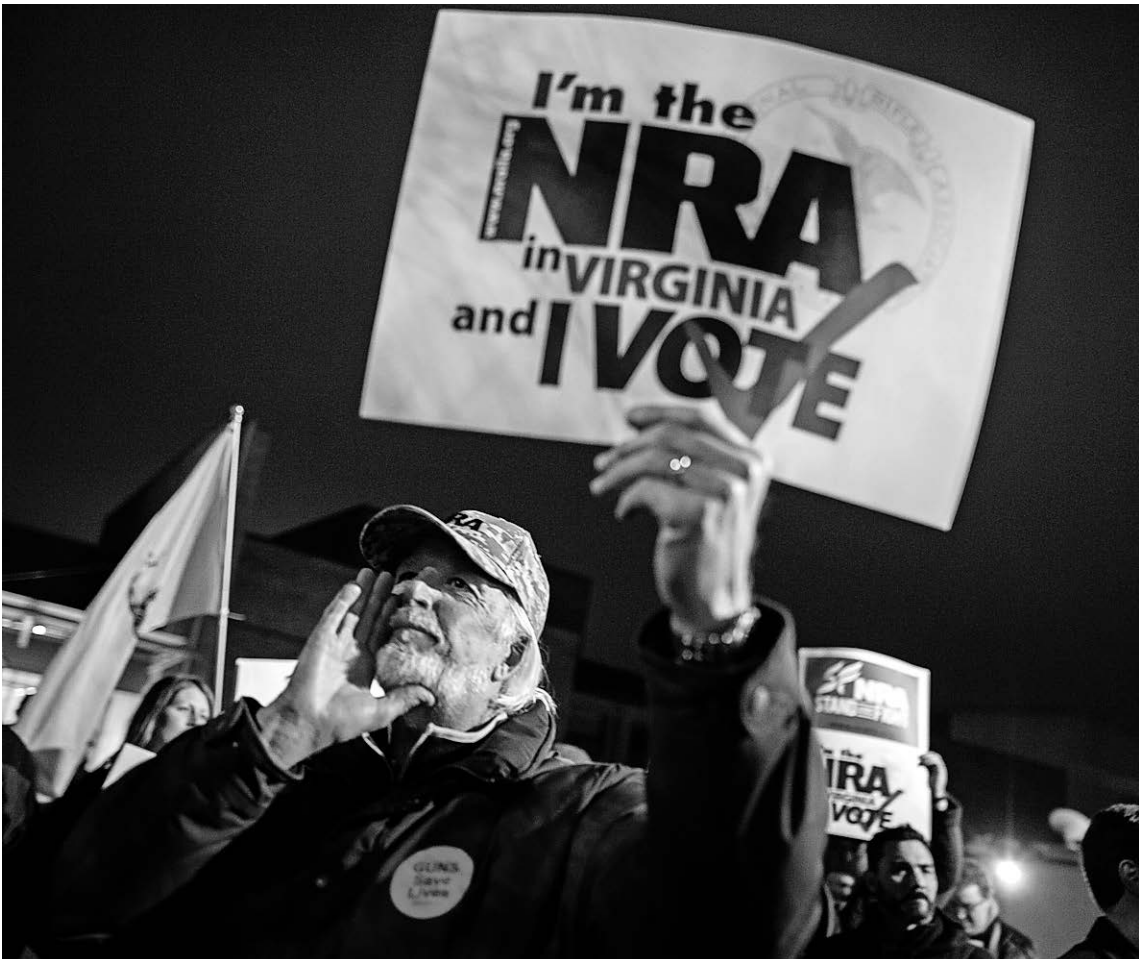
# Separating Second Amendment fact from fiction

Continued from page 1

Washington, D.C.’s handgun ban, finding that the Second Amendment protects the right of law-abiding, responsible citizens to possess an operable handgun in the home for self-defense.

*Heller* wasn’t a surprise given the conservative makeup of the court, but it represented a radical departure from the court’s prior interpretation of the Second Amendment. In a 1939 case, *United States v. Miller*, the court unanimously rejected a challenge to a federal law prohibiting the interstate transportation of sawed-off shotguns, holding that the “obvious purpose” of the Second Amendment was to assure the effectiveness and continuation of the state militia and that the Amendment “must be interpreted and applied with that end in view.” *Miller* provided clear guidance to lower federal and state courts and was the law of the land for nearly 70 years.

Although the *Heller* decision established a new individual right to “bear arms,” the Supreme Court made clear that the Second Amendment should not be understood as conferring a “right to keep and carry any weapon whatsoever in any manner whatsoever and for whatever purpose.” The court identified a nonexhaustive list of “presumptively lawful regulatory measures,” including longstanding prohibitions on firearm possession by felons and the mentally ill, as well as laws forbidding firearm possession in sensitive places, such as schools and government buildings, and imposing conditions on the commercial sale of firearms. The court also noted that the Second Amendment is consistent with laws banning “dangerous and unusual weapons” not in common use, such as M-16 rifles and other firearms that are most useful in military service. In addition, the court declared that its analysis should not



New York Times

Protestors outside an event on reducing gun violence attended by the president in Fairfax, Va., Jan. 7, 2016.

be read to suggest “the invalidity of laws regulating the storage of firearms to prevent accidents.”

Whether the Second Amendment applied to the states was not at issue in *Heller* since that case involved a District of Columbia law. In 2010, however, in *McDonald v. City of Chicago*, the Supreme Court said the Second Amendment does apply to state and local governments. The *McDonald* court reiterated that the Second Amendment right is consistent with a wide range of laws to reduce gun violence and stated that “experimentation with reasonable firearms regulations will continue under the Second Amendment.”

Despite the fact that the *Heller* and *McDonald* decisions created

a relatively narrow constitutional right, they triggered an avalanche of costly, time-consuming litigation challenging our nation’s gun laws. Fortunately, lower federal and state courts have overwhelmingly rejected Second Amendment challenges to a variety of common sense laws to reduce gun violence. A review of over 1,000 of those decisions shows the laws at issue have been upheld 94 percent of the time. Among the many types of gun safety laws found to be consistent with the Second Amendment are federal, state and local laws that:

- Require gun purchasers to undergo background checks, register their firearms, or store their guns safely;

- Prohibit assault weapons and large capacity ammunition magazines (the kind of magazines used in almost all high-profile mass shootings);
- Require “good cause” for the issuance of a permit to carry a loaded, concealed firearm in public;
- Prohibit convicted felons, certain misdemeanants (for example, those convicted of domestic violence) and persons who have been involuntarily committed to a mental institution from possessing guns;
- Require gun dealers to obtain a permit and operate away from residential areas and schools;
- Ban the possession of guns on college campuses, in national parks, or in places of worship; and

- Require that handguns sold within a state meet certain safety requirements, including the incorporation of chamber load indicators to alert a person when a gun is loaded.

Second Amendment challenges have succeeded in a small number of cases. For example, the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals struck down Illinois’ ban on carrying concealed weapons, where the state also prohibited open carrying, and enjoined enforcement of a Chicago ordinance banning firing ranges within city limits, where range training was a condition of lawful handgun ownership. *See Moore v. Madigan*, 702 F.3d 933, 942 (7th Cir. 2012), and *Ezell v. City of Chicago*, 651 F.3d 684 (7th Cir. 2011). Even those cases were careful to note, however, that most laws designed to reduce our nation’s epidemic of gun violence are consistent with the Second Amendment.

Because California has the strongest gun laws in the nation, it has been the frequent target of the gun lobby’s relentless attacks. The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals is currently considering challenges to several of the state’s important gun safety laws, including (in *Pena v. Lindley*) the Unsafe Handgun Act, which requires all handguns to meet certain safety requirements before they may be sold in California. Another case before the 9th Circuit, *Bauer v. Harris*, involves a challenge to the state’s use of the modest \$19 Dealer Record of Sale fee, imposed on the sale of all firearms to help enforce and administer the state’s gun laws. Fortunately, the 9th Circuit has already upheld a number of gun safety laws, including San Francisco’s safe storage ordinance and Sunnyvale’s ban on the possession of large capacity ammunition magazines. *See Jackson v. City and County of San Francisco*, 746 F.3d 953 (9th Cir. 2014), and *Fyock v. City of Sunnyvale*, 779 F.3d 991 (9th Cir. 2015). The 9th Circuit is expected to

uphold the other sensible laws before it, too, since they also do nothing to prevent responsible, law-abiding individuals from possessing a handgun in the home for self-defense.

Significantly, since issuing its opinions in *Heller* and *McDonald*, the Supreme Court has declined to hear a single new case raising a Second Amendment challenge. The Supreme Court has denied cert in over 70 cases, leaving intact lower court decisions upholding an array of laws to reduce gun deaths and injuries.

In short, the *Heller* decision and the avalanche of litigation the decision triggered, provide absolutely no support for the gun lobby’s claim that the Second Amendment is an obstacle to common sense gun safety laws. Gun lobby rhetoric aside, the only real obstacles to the laws our country so desperately needs are the cowardice of our political leaders and the willingness of the American public to continue to tolerate it.

**Juliet Leftwich** is the legal director of the Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence, an organization formed in the wake of the 101 California St. assault weapons massacre in San Francisco that assists legislators with the development and defense of gun safety laws nationwide.



# What’s next for class actions at the US Supreme Court?

By Crystal Lopez, Harrison Brown and Joshua Briones

Does a case become moot, and beyond the judicial power of Article III of the Constitution, when a plaintiff receives an offer of complete relief on his claim? Last week, the U.S. Supreme Court answered “no” to this question, but hinted at a road map for defendants to end class actions in a cost-effective manner. The court will soon decide two more cases that may create efficient options to end no-injury lawsuits before they begin.

**Shutting the Door on Offers of Judgment**

In *Campbell-Ewald Co. v. Gomez*,

14-857, Campbell-Ewald sent recruiting text messages on behalf of the U.S. Navy. Gomez sued Campbell-Ewald under the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA) and sought to represent a nationwide class of “unconsenting recipients of the Navy’s recruiting messages.” Prior to the deadline for Gomez to file a motion for class certification, Campbell-Ewald proposed to settle Gomez’s individual claim and filed an offer of judgment pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 68. Campbell-Ewald offered to pay Gomez his costs and \$1,503, an amount representing more than the maximum that he could achieve under the TCPA. Gomez did not accept the offer. The case was subsequently dismissed at summary judgment, and Gomez appealed.

During the appeal, Campbell-Ewald moved to dismiss the appeal for lack of jurisdiction. Article III of the Constitution requires the existence of a “case or controversy” before a federal court can exercise jurisdiction. Campbell-Ewald argued that its offer to Gomez of everything he could possibly expect to collect under the TCPA rendered the case moot because there was no longer a real dispute between the two sides. The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals denied the motion. Campbell-Ewald subsequently filed a petition for writ of certiorari to the Supreme Court, which the court granted.

Upon review, a bare majority of the court held that an unaccepted offer of relief was not enough to moot Gomez’s claim. The court ruled that “[l]ike other unaccepted contract offers, it creates no lasting right or obligation.” “With the offer off the table, and the defendant’s continuing denial of liability, adversity between the parties persists,” Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg said writing for the majority. “[A]n unaccepted offer is a legal nullity,” she said.

**Opening the Gates to Common Law Tenders**

The Supreme Court left open whether a class representative loses standing to represent the class if the defendants *actually* pay (as opposed to simply offering to pay) the money a plaintiff seeks. Indeed, the last two sentences of the court’s analysis state: “We need not, and do not, now decide whether the result would be different if a defendant deposits the full amount of the plaintiff’s individual claim in an account payable to the plaintiff, and the court then enters judgment for the plaintiff in that amount. That question is appropriately reserved for a case in which

it is not hypothetical.”

Notably, the dissent, led by Chief Justice John Roberts, indicated that they would find that a full payment to the plaintiff would moot a class action. Justice Clarence Thomas, who concurred in the opinion, seemed to agree that complete relief would divest a federal court of jurisdiction, but disagreed that Campbell-Ewald had properly made a common law tender. Even Justice Stephen Breyer, who joined the majority, lauded the common law tender theory during oral arguments, providing a potential fifth and deciding vote.

In light of these opinions, it is reasonable to expect that defendants will take money which they had previously only offered and hand it over to the courts. The courts will then decide whether a tender of full relief moots a claim.

In light of these opinions, it is reasonable to expect that defendants will take money which they had previously only offered and hand it over to the courts. The courts will then decide whether a tender of full relief moots a claim. Perhaps inevitably, the Supreme Court could soon decide whether this strategy moots claims once and for all.

The practical lesson for defendants from the *Campbell-Ewald* opinion is straightforward. Defendants

seeking to moot consumer lawsuits may consider taking funds previously reserved for offers of judgment and depositing them with the court when making the offer. If a plaintiff rejects the offer, the defendant may move for entry of judgment. Defendants should note, however, that such a strategy is not without its drawbacks. The court’s entry of judgment in favor of a plaintiff’s individual claims in a class action could function as an admission of wrongdoing and create a collateral estoppel effect, meaning that another similarly situated consumer that decides to sue may not have to prove liability. Accordingly, before making a Rule 68 offer of judgment, defendants should evaluate the risk that other plaintiffs might come along to try to collect similar judgments.

**Upcoming Cases May Transform Consumer Class Actions**

Defendants, meanwhile, retain at least two arrows in their quivers. The Supreme Court’s upcoming decisions in *Spokeo Inc. v. Robins*, 13-1339, and *Tyson Foods Inc. v. Bouaphakeo*, 14-1146, may prove to be critical turning points in class actions.

In *Spokeo*, the 9th Circuit held that a plaintiff need not plead actual harm to pursue a claim for statutory damages under the Fair Credit Reporting Act and, in turn, certified an FCRA statutory damages class. The Supreme Court granted certiorari to address whether Congress may confer Article III standing upon a plaintiff who suffers no concrete harm by authorizing a private right of action based on a bare violation of a federal statute. It also granted certiorari in *Tyson*, in which it will address, among other issues, whether a class action may be certified or maintained under Rule 23(b)(3) when the class contains hundreds of members who were not injured and have no legal right to any damages.

If the Supreme Court determines a statutory violation is insufficient to confer Article III standing, then plaintiffs in FCRA classes will lack of standing. The damages provision in the FCRA says nothing about no-injury suits. Its reference to statutory damages as an alternative to actual damages can and should be

construed as just that — an alternative damages remedy that in no way seeks to supplant the baseline constitutional requirement that a plaintiff actually have suffered injury-in-fact to bring suit. To hold otherwise would be to endorse transparent, no-damage results.

The decisions in *Spokeo* and *Tyson* could send ripples far beyond the FCRA litigation context. After all, the FCRA is hardly the only law that provides for statutory damages irrespective of whether a plaintiff suffered actual harm. One need look no further than the TCPA, under which each text message, phone call or fax a company sends can lead to statutory damages of between \$500 and \$1,500.

The plaintiffs’ bar has relentlessly pursued a strategy of aggregating statutory damages in these sorts of cases into huge recoveries through class actions. Exposure can quickly reach such staggering levels that companies doing their best to comply with the law nevertheless face enormous pressure to settle meritless cases lest they risk bankruptcy. The upcoming decisions in *Spokeo* and *Tyson*, and the common law tender strategy outlined in *Campbell-Ewald*, may level the playing field.

**Crystal Lopez** is an attorney in Blank Rome’s Los Angeles office. She focuses her practice on class action defense, with an emphasis on consumer fraud and privacy claims. She can be reached at [ELopez@BlankRome.com](mailto:ELopez@BlankRome.com).

**Harrison Brown** is an attorney in Blank Rome’s Los Angeles office. His practice encompasses a wide range of business litigation and class action defense, with an emphasis on consumer fraud and privacy claims. He can be reached at [HBrown@BlankRome.com](mailto:HBrown@BlankRome.com).

**Joshua Briones** is a partner in Blank Rome’s Los Angeles office. He focuses his national practice on bet-the-company class actions and has participated in the defense of dozens of class actions in state and federal courts across the country. He can be reached at [JBriones@BlankRome.com](mailto:JBriones@BlankRome.com).

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F: 805-969-2964  
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W: http://thomasneches.com

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633 West 5th Street, Suite 2800  
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Attorneys' Fees

Andre E. Jardini

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W: www.litcost.com

Attorneys' Fees

Joel Mark

Norman Dowler LLP  
840 County Square Drive, Third Floor  
Ventura, California 93003  
T: 805-654-0911  
F: 805-654-1902  
E: jmark@normandowler.com  
W: www.normandowler.com

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Crossword

**ACROSS**  
1 Zealous  
7 Meh  
11 River near the Valley of the Kings  
15 Avoid attention  
16 Weapon in Clue  
17 One of 10, say, in a supermarket's express checkout lane  
18 Kids' event that goes into the wee hours  
20 Convo  
21 Throw (together)  
22 In stitches  
23 Lay's product  
24 Something in a movie star's frame?  
28 Condensed periodical  
31 \_\_\_\_ sour (drink)  
33 Pianist's practice piece  
34 Mount of the Bible  
37 Water, potentially

**DOWN**  
38 Symbol for water potential  
39 Atypical . . . or like the first word in the answer to 18-, 24-, 51- or 62-Across  
42 Spare bed, often  
43 One of the kings in the Valley of the Kings, informally  
44 See 8-Down  
45 Dweller on the tip of the Arabian Peninsula  
47 Like the population of Alaska vis-à-vis New Jersey  
50 What the remorseful might make  
51 Certain wrinkle remover  
55 Meh  
56 Weeding tools  
57 Clog or pump  
61 Word with googly or goo-goo  
62 Sidestroke component  
65 Mythos

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**  

U	P	D	O	S	A	T	E	A	M	T	H	O		
S	L	E	P	T	M	E	N	L	O	W	E	B		
C	O	N	T	R	A	P	T	I	O	N	O	Y	S	
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D	O	O	D	A	D	S	L	O	G	O	S			
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Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1222

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68													

**PUZZLE BY TOM MCCOY**

**30** Popular musical game beginning in 2005  
**32** Fabled mountain dwellers  
**34** A little night noise  
**35** "Where did \_\_\_\_ wrong?"  
**36** Wimple wearer  
**40** Midmonth date  
**41** CD-\_\_\_\_ (storage objects)

**46** Collection that, despite its name, is orderly and compact  
**48** Awakens  
**49** n(n+1) ÷ 2, for all integers from 1 to n  
**50** "\_\_\_\_ Fables"  
**52** African animal you might get a charge out of?  
**53** Gang  
**54** Hi-\_\_\_\_ monitor  
**55** Had in hand

**58** When repeated, a subtle (or sometimes not-so-subtle) comment  
**59** Eight: Prefix  
**60** Squeaks (by)  
**62** Where you might wear only a towel  
**63** Silent (presidential nickname)  
**64** Caviar, e.g.

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# CITY OF LOS ANGELES

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
**Hearing:** Office of Zoning Administration  
**Date:** Thursday, February 18, 2016  
**Time:** 9:30 a.m.  
**Place:** Los Angeles City Hall, 200 North Spring Street, Room 1020, (Enter from Main Street)  
**Los Angeles, CA 90012**  
**Staff Contact:** Michael Sin  
**Phone No.:** (213) 978-1345, Michael.Sin@lacity.org  
**Sine No.:** 213-2015-3108(CUB/CUX)(ZV)  
**CEQA No.:** ENV 2015-3109-MND  
**Council No.:** 14  
**Plan Area:** Central City  
**Zone:** C2-40  
**Applicant:** Turquoise Room, LLC  
**Representative:** Veronica Becerra  
**PROJECT LOCATION:** 910 South Broadway  
**REQUESTED ACTION:** The Zoning Administrator will consider:

1. Pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 12.24-W.1, a Conditional Use to allow the sale and dispensing of a full line of alcoholic beverages for on-site consumption; Pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 12.24-W.1b, a Conditional Use to permit public dancing and, pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 12.27-B, a Variance from Section 12.21-A.4 to permit 0 vehicle parking stalls and 0 bicycle parking spaces in lieu of the 5 vehicle parking spaces and 1 bicycle parking space required by Code. The project is located on a 3,033 square-foot bar located in the basement of an existing six-story building with seating for 127 patrons and 1200 sq. ft. of outdoor space from 4 p.m. to 2 a.m., daily, within the [C] C2-40-CDO Zone.

2. Pursuant to Section 21082.1(c)(3) of the California Public Resources Code, regarding the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the above referenced project.

The purpose of the hearing is to obtain testimony from affected and/or interested persons regarding this project. The environmental document will be among the matters considered at the hearing. The decision maker will consider all the testimony presented at the hearing, and the communication received prior to or at the hearing, and the merits of the project as it relates to existing environmental and land use regulations.

**Exhaustion Of Administrative Remedies :** If you challenge a City action in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence on these matters delivered to the Department before the action on this matter will become a part of the administrative record. Note: This may not be the last hearing on this matter.

**Advice To Public :** The exact time this report will be considered during the meeting is uncertain since there may be several other items on the agenda. Written communications may be mailed to the Los Angeles City Planning Department, Office of Zoning Administration, 200 N. Spring Street, Room 763, Los Angeles, CA 90012 (attention: Michael Sin).

**Review Of File :** The file, including the application and the environmental assessment, are available for public inspection at this location between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Please call (213) 978-1318 several days in advance to assure that the files will be available. The files are not available for review the day of the hearing.

**Accommodations:** As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability. The hearing facility and its parking are wheelchair accessible. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. Other services, such as translation between English and other languages, may also be provided upon request.

To ensure availability or services, please make your request no later than three working days (72 hours) prior to the hearing by calling the staff person referenced in this notice.

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
**Hearing:** Office of Zoning Administration  
**Date:** Thursday, February 18, 2016  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m.  
**Place:** West Los Angeles Municipal Building, Second Floor Hearing Room, 1645 Corinth Avenue  
**Los Angeles, CA 90025**  
**Staff Contact:** Kenton Trinh  
**Phone No.:** (213) 978-1290, Kenton.Trinh@lacity.org  
**Sine No.:** 2015-3040(CUB)  
**CEQA No.:** ENV 2015-3041-CE  
**Council No.:** 11  
**Plan Area:** Venice  
**Zone:** C-1  
**Applicant:** Superba Rose, LLC  
**Representative:** Veronica Becerra  
**PROJECT LOCATION:** 533 East Rose Avenue  
**REQUESTED ACTION:** The Zoning Administrator will consider:

1. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 12.24-W.1 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code, a Conditional Use to permit the continued sale and dispensing of a full line of alcoholic beverages for on-site consumption in conjunction with an existing 1,264 square-foot restaurant with 32 interior and 13 patio seats within a 100 square-foot building operating between 9 a.m. and 11 p.m., Sunday through Thursday and 9 a.m. and 12 midnight Friday and Saturday.

2. Pursuant to Section 21084 of the California Public Resources Code, regarding the above referenced project has been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment and which shall therefore be exempt from the provisions of CEQA.

The purpose of the hearing is to obtain testimony from affected and/or interested persons regarding this project. The environmental document will be among the matters considered at the hearing. The decision maker will consider all the testimony presented at the hearing, written communication received prior to or at the hearing, and the merits of the project as it relates to existing environmental and land use regulations.

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**DJ-2838180#**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
**Hearing:** Office of Zoning Administration  
**Date:** Thursday, February 18, 2016  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m.  
**Place:** Los Angeles City Hall, 200 North Spring Street, Room 1020, (Enter from Main Street)  
**Los Angeles, CA 90012**  
**Staff Contact:** Azeen Khanmalek  
**Phone No.:** (213) 978-1336, Azeen.Khanmalek@lacity.org  
**Sine No.:** 2015-1525(CUW)  
**CEQA No.:** ENV 2015-1526-MND  
**Council No.:** 1  
**Applicant:** Turquoise Room, LLC  
**Representative:** Veronica Becerra  
**PROJECT LOCATION:** 1809 West 11th Street  
**REQUESTED ACTION:** The Zoning Administrator will consider:

1. Pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 12.24-W.1, a Conditional Use to permit the installation, use, and maintenance of a new rooftop wireless telecommunications facility comprised of 12 panel antennas, 12 remote radio units, 1 ray-caps, and 1 natural gas stand-by generator, all located on an existing 49-foot in height building in the CR-1-IPOZ Zone.

2. Pursuant to Section 21082.1(c)(3) of the California Public Resources Code, regarding the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the above referenced project.

The purpose of the hearing is to obtain testimony from affected and/or interested persons regarding this project. The environmental document will be among the matters considered at the hearing. The decision maker will consider all the testimony presented at the hearing, and the communication received prior to or at the hearing, and the merits of the project as it relates to existing environmental and land use regulations.

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**Advice To Public :** The exact time this report will be considered during the meeting is uncertain since there may be several other items on the agenda. Written communications may be mailed to the Los Angeles City Planning Department, Office of Zoning Administration, 200 N. Spring Street, Room 763, Los Angeles, CA 90012 (attention: Michael Sin).

**Review Of File :** The file, including the application and the environmental assessment, are available for public inspection at this location between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Please call (213) 978-1318 several days in advance to assure that the files will be available. The files are not available for review the day of the hearing.

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To ensure availability or services, please make your request no later than three working days (72 hours) prior to the hearing by calling the staff person referenced in this notice.

Como entidad cubierta bajo el Título II del Acto de los Americanos con Desabilidades, la Ciudad de Los Angeles no discrimina. La facilidad donde la junta se llevará a cabo y su estacionamiento son accesibles para sillas de ruedas. Traductores de Lengua de Muestra, dispositivos de oído, y otras ayudas auxiliares se pueden hacer disponibles si usted los pide en avance. Para asegurar la disponibilidad de éstos servicios, por favor haga su petición al mínimo de tres días (72 horas) antes de la reunión, llamando a la persona del personal mencionada en este aviso.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
**Hearing:** Office of Zoning Administration  
**Date:** Thursday, February 18, 2016  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m.  
**Place:** West Los Angeles Municipal Building, Second Floor Hearing Room, 1645 Corinth Avenue  
**Los Angeles, CA 90025**  
**Staff Contact:** Kenton Trinh  
**Phone No.:** (213) 978-1290, Kenton.Trinh@lacity.org  
**Sine No.:** 2015-3040(CUB)  
**CEQA No.:** ENV 2015-3041-CE  
**Council No.:** 11  
**Plan Area:** Venice  
**Zone:** C-1  
**Applicant:** Superba Rose, LLC  
**Representative:** Veronica Becerra  
**PROJECT LOCATION:** 533 East Rose Avenue  
**REQUESTED ACTION:** The Zoning Administrator will consider:

1. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 12.24-W.1 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code, a Conditional Use to permit the continued sale and dispensing of a full line of alcoholic beverages for on-site consumption in conjunction with an existing 1,264 square-foot restaurant with 32 interior and 13 patio seats within a 100 square-foot building operating between 9 a.m. and 11 p.m., Sunday through Thursday and 9 a.m. and 12 midnight Friday and Saturday.

2. Pursuant to Section 21084 of the California Public Resources Code, regarding the above referenced project has been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment and which shall therefore be exempt from the provisions of CEQA.

The purpose of the hearing is to obtain testimony from affected and/or interested persons regarding this project. The environmental document will be among the matters considered at the hearing. The decision maker will consider all the testimony presented at the hearing, written communication received prior to or at the hearing, and the merits of the project as it relates to existing environmental and land use regulations.

**Exhaustion Of Administrative Remedies :** If you challenge a City action in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence on these matters delivered to the Department before the action on this matter will become a part of the administrative record. Note: This may not be the last hearing on this matter.

**Advice To Public :** The exact time this report will be considered during the meeting is uncertain since there may be several other items on the agenda. Written communications may be mailed to the Los Angeles City Planning Department, Office of Zoning Administration, 200 N. Spring Street, Room 763, Los Angeles, CA 90012 (attention: Kenton Trinh).

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Judge of the Superior Court  
1/26, 2/2, 2/9, 2/16/16  
**DJ-2838806#**

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME**  
Case No. YS028085  
Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles  
Petition of: Jin Soo Kim and Ji Yoon Jung for Change of Name  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:  
Petitioner Jin Soo Kim and Ji Yoon Jung filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows:  
Ryun Ha Kim to Lillian Rynhna Kim  
Sun Kyung Kim to Vivian Sunkyung Kim  
The Court orders that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.  
Notice of Hearing:  
Date: 3-11-16, Time: 8:30 p.m., Dept.: M  
The address of the court is 825 Maple Ave., Torrance, CA 90503  
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Los Angeles Daily Journal  
Date: Jan. 8, 2016  
Steven R. Carter, Clerk (Secretary), by Cristina Grijalva, Deputy (Adjunto) (SEAL)  
1/16, 2/2, 2/9, 2/16/16

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Sherrri R. Carter, Clerk (Secretario), by Cristina Grijalva, Deputy (Adjunto) (SEAL)  
1/12, 1/19, 1/26, 2/2/16  
**DJ-2833639#**

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You are being sued. Lo están demandando.  
Petitioner's name is Nombre del demandante: Simonette Tantamo  
YOU HAVE 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this Summons and Petition are served on you to file a Response (Form FL-120 or FL-123) to the court and have a copy served on the petitioner. A letter or phone call will not protect you.  
If you do not file your Response on time, the court may make orders affecting your marriage or domestic partnership, your property, and custody of your children. You may be ordered to pay support and attorney fees and costs. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the clerk for a fee waiver form.  
If you want legal advice, contact a lawyer immediately. You can get information about finding a lawyer at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), at the California Legal Services Web site ([www.lawhelpcalifornia.org](http://www.lawhelpcalifornia.org)), or by contacting your local county bar association.  
Tiene 30 días corridos después de haber recibido la entrega legal de esta Citación y Petición para presentar una Respuesta (Formulario FL-120 o FL-123) a la corte y hacerle saber a la corte que desea que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o llamada telefónica no basta para protegerlo. Si no presenta su Respuesta a tiempo, la corte puede hacer órdenes que afecten su matrimonio o pareja de hecho, sus bienes y la custodia de sus hijos. La corte también le puede ordenar que pague manutención, honorarios y costos legales. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario un formulario de exención de cuotas.  
Si desea obtener asesoramiento legal, póngase en contacto de inmediato con un abogado. Puede obtener información para encontrar a un abogado en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California ([www.lawhelpcalifornia.org](http://www.lawhelpcalifornia.org)) o poniéndose en contacto con el colegio de abogados de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.  
Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services ([www.lawhelpcalifornia.org](http://www.lawhelpcalifornia.org)), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), o por contactando your local court or county bar association. The court may grant the petition without a hearing. Notice of Hearing: Date: 12/29/2015, Time: 1:30PM, Dept.: C. The address of the court is 12720 NORWALK BOULEVARD NORWALK, CA 90650  
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: LOS ANGELES DAILY JOURNAL  
Date: 12/29/2015  
MARGARET M. BERNAL  
Judge of the Superior Court  
1/11, 1/19, 1/26, 2/2/16

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