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Breaking Ground January 2016
CONGRATULATIONS TO
TONIGHT’S HONOREES

THE HON. ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
THE HON. HARRY PREGERSON
ORRICK, HERRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE

We are grateful for your partnership and dedication to our mission to provide equal access to justice.

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Your dedication, passion and commitment in the fight for equal justice is unparalleled

Congratulations to tonight’s honorees
Hon. Zev Yaroslavsky
Hon. Harry Pregerson
&
Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP

You’ve made Los Angeles a better place for all of us!

Silvia Argueta
Executive Director
Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles

“Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope.”

– Robert F. Kennedy
Seventeenth Annual Access to Justice Dinner

Paying Tribute to

Access to Justice
Lifetime Achievement Award
The Hon. Zev Yaroslavsky

Maynard Toll Award
for Distinguished Public Service
The Hon. Harry Pregerson

Pro Bono Service Award
Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP

Monday, November 9, 2015
Cocktails 6:00 PM | Dinner 7:00 PM

The Beverly Hilton Hotel
9876 Wilshire Boulevard, Beverly Hills
Greetings from Our Executive Director and Board President

November 9, 2015

Dear Guests, Donors and Friends:

Welcome to LAFLA’s 17th annual Access to Justice Dinner! Your attendance tonight supports LAFLA’s ongoing efforts to provide critical services and honors tonight’s deserving honorees who join with LAFLA to remove obstacles in the paths of those seeking to improve their lives. Access to Justice Lifetime Achievement Award recipient Zev Yaroslavsky has been a leader in health, environmental and transportation issues.

The Hon. Harry Pregerson, recipient of the Maynard Toll Award for Distinguished Public Service, was instrumental in fashioning environmental solutions to protect the Santa Monica Bay, addressing housing issues along the path of the 105/Century Freeway and developing programs to assist homeless veterans.

Pro Bono Service Award recipient Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP developed the Permanency Project, a pro bono model that paired lawyers and law students to assist individuals navigating the immigration system.

All three join a long line of distinguished individuals and law firms that have made major contributions to furthering access to justice for the communities LAFLA serves, and we are grateful for this opportunity to publicly recognize their exemplary commitment and express our gratitude.

As the frontline law firm for poor and low-income people in Los Angeles County, LAFLA is the first place thousands of individuals and families turn when facing systemic barriers to equal justice, equal opportunity and, too often, basic human rights. Last year, LAFLA’s poverty law experts, working from offices in Crenshaw/Koreatown, Long Beach, East Los Angeles, Santa Monica and South Los Angeles, and aided by a network of 1,500 pro bono attorneys and volunteers, provided legal services to nearly 80,000 people.

Tonight is a moment for us to pause and celebrate those in our community who give their time and serve those in need. We also take time to thank and salute you for providing the support we need to continue to transform the lives of our clients. Your support helps victims of domestic violence, homeless veterans, seniors, children, people with disabilities, immigrants and others move past their legal issues to seek a better life in the United States and in our great city.

On behalf of the board and staff of the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles and most importantly, our clients, we thank you for your support and commitment to making Los Angeles a better place for all.

Martin T. Tachiki
President, Board of Directors
Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles

Silvia R. Argueta
Executive Director
Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles
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The Board of Directors of Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles is proud to present the 2015 Access to Justice Award to Zev Yaroslavsky for his passionate advocacy of behalf of the poor and underserved communities LAFLA serves.

Zev Yaroslavsky served Los Angeles for more than 40 years, first as a city councilman and as a county supervisor from 1994-2014. He spearheaded multiple projects to reform both the LAPD and the LA Sheriff’s Department, encouraging better relationships with the communities they serve. He also championed a compassionate, housing-first approach for the chronically homeless, which led to a permanent change to the county’s previous policy.

Yaroslavsky was first elected in 1975, winning the Los Angeles City Council’s coveted 5th District seat at the age of 26. On the council, Yaroslavsky tackled controversial issues, including the Los Angeles Police Department’s use of excessive force and its improper spying on law-abiding residents. He co-authored two landmark initiatives — one that cut in half the size of new commercial developments near residential neighborhoods, and another that banned oil drilling along the city’s shoreline.

In 1994, Yaroslavsky was elected to the five-member Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, representing about two million people in the Third District. Because of term limits, he left office in 2014.

On the Board of Supervisors, Yaroslavsky quickly emerged as a leader on fiscal, health care, transportation, cultural and environmental matters. In 1996, he authored a park bond that preserved a broad swath of rural open space and spurred development of urban parks throughout the county. He also authored the 2002 Proposition ‘B’ trauma tax — a measure credited with saving two public hospitals from closing, keeping the county’s emergency services intact.

In the area of social and human services, Yaroslavsky launched a series of groundbreaking initiatives that improved life for individuals and families on the margins of society. Yaroslavsky also has been credited with helping the region’s chronically homeless through his widely praised Project 50 program and its spinoffs, which provided permanent supportive housing for hundreds of people who’ve been identified as most likely to die on the streets.

More recently, Yaroslavsky played a leading role in the sweeping reforms now under way in the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department. In 2011, he authored the board’s motion to create a panel that investigated alleged deputy brutality in the nation’s biggest county lockup and suggested dozens of measures to restore the department’s integrity.

Yaroslavsky was born December 21, 1948 in Los Angeles, California. He earned an M.A. in British Imperial History and a B.A. in Economics and History, both from UCLA. He is a graduate of Fairfax High School in Los Angeles.
Past Access to Justice Lifetime Achievement Award Honorees

1999  David E. Kelley  
CEO, David E. Kelley Productions, Inc.

2000  John B. Emerson  
Former Deputy Assistant to President Clinton and President, Personal Investment Management, Capital Guardian Trust Company

2001  Dana Walden and Gary Newman  
Presidents, Twentieth Century Fox Television

2002  Lightstorm Entertainment  
James Cameron, Jon Landau and Rae Sanchini

2003  Amy Brenneman  
Creator, Executive Producer and Star of Judging Amy

2004  John E. Bryson  
Chairman, President and CEO, Edison International

2005  Bert Fields  
Greenberg Glusker Fields Claman Machtinger & Kinsella LLP

2006  Edward P. Roski, Jr.  
Chairman & CEO, Majestic Realty Co.

2007  Rick Finkelstein  
Vice Chairman, Universal Pictures and Executive Vice President, Universal Studios

2008  Antonia Hernández  
President & Chief Executive Officer, California Community Foundation

2009  Dr. Robert K. Ross  
President & Chief Executive Officer, The California Endowment

2010  Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas  
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors for the 2nd District

2011  Tom Unterman  
Founding Partner, Rustic Canyon Partners

2012  Bobby Shriver  
Attorney, activist, journalist and Santa Monica City Council Member

2013  Gary L. Blasi  
Professor of Law Emeritus, UCLA School of Law

2014  The Women and Men of Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles
Judge Harry Pregerson was born to immigrant parents in East Los Angeles in 1923. After graduating from Roosevelt High School in 1941, he went on to attend UCLA, where he joined the Navy ROTC. In 1943, he was elected UCLA’s student body president.

Judge Pregerson served in the Marine Corps during World War II. He was severely wounded during the Battle of Okinawa in 1945. After spending months recuperating at the U.S. Naval Hospital in San Diego, he finished his senior year at UCLA. He then enrolled at the UC Berkeley School of Law on the GI Bill and graduated in 1950. Judge Pregerson then returned to Los Angeles, where he started a storefront law practice in Van Nuys. He and his wife, Bern, a microbiology professor at Pierce College, raised their two children, U.S. District Judge Dean Pregerson and dermatologist Dr. Katie Rodan.

Judge Pregerson has served on the state and federal bench for over 50 years. Governor Pat Brown appointed him to the L.A. Municipal Court in 1965, then to the Superior Court in 1966. In 1967, President Lyndon Johnson appointed him to the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California. In 1979, President Carter appointed Judge Pregerson to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, where he continues to serve.

Judge Pregerson has dedicated much of his life to serving our community. As a district judge, he structured a consent decree that created thousands of affordable homes for people displaced by the construction of the I-105 Century Freeway. The consent decree established apprenticeship and employment programs for women and minority business enterprises. The interchange of the 110 and 105 freeways was officially named the “Judge Harry Pregerson Interchange” in recognition of his service.

Judge Pregerson later played a role in protecting public health when he required the City of Los Angeles to comply with the Clean Water Act and the Marine Protection Act. He ordered full secondary treatment for all wastewater processed by the Hyperion Wastewater Treatment Plant. The new treatment plant, which helped revitalize marine life in the bay, was named one of the Top Ten Public Works Projects of the Twentieth Century, along with the Hoover Dam, the Panama Canal, and the Golden Gate Bridge. For his efforts to modernize the treatment plant and reduce pollution in the Santa Monica Bay, Judge Pregerson was affectionately dubbed the “Sludge Judge.”

Judge Pregerson is also a tireless advocate for the homeless, particularly for veterans and their families. Judge Pregerson has helped facilitate the construction of shelters, transitional housing, and child development centers throughout Los Angeles and Southern California. He played an integral role in establishing and maintaining the Salvation Army’s Haven Program on the West Los Angeles VA campus; the Salvation Army’s Westwood Transitional Village; the U.S. Vets’ Westside Residence Hall in Inglewood; the U.S. Vets’ Century Villages at Cabrillo in Long Beach; and the Salvation Army’s Bell Shelter in East Los Angeles. Judge Pregerson continues to work closely with these facilities that provide a full range of social and supportive services, including mental health and medical care; transitional and permanent housing; job training and job development; child care; and hope for a brighter future.
PAST MAYNARD TOLL AWARD
FOR DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE HONOREES

1985 Maynard J. Toll, O’Melveny & Myers
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1994 John H. Brinsley, Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker
1995 John K. Van de Kamp, Dewey Ballantine
1996 The Hon. Shirley M. Hufstedler and Seth M. Hufstedler, Morrison & Foerster
1997 Paul G. Bower, Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP
1998 Susan Westerberg Prager, Arjay and Frances Fearing Miller Professor of Law and former Dean of the UCLA School of Law
1999 The Hon. Earl A. Johnson, Jr., California Court of Appeal
2000 The Hon. Richard A. Paez, United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
2001 The Hon. Ronald M. George, Chief Justice, California Supreme Court
2002 The Hon. Dickran M. Tevrizian, U.S. District Court, Central District of California
2003 Vilma S. Martinez, Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP
2004 Mickey Kantor, Mayer Brown Rowe & Maw LLP
2005 The Hon. Kim McLane Wardlaw, United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
2006 Maxwell M. Blecher, Blecher & Collins, P.C.
2007 Brad D. Brian, Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP
2008 Harold M. Williams, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP and President Emeritus, The J. Paul Getty Trust
2009 Howard B. Miller, Girardi & Keese and President, The State Bar of California
2010 Stephen D. Yslas, Corporate Vice President and General Counsel, Northrop Grumman Corporation
2011 The Hon. Lee Smalley Edmon, Presiding Judge, LA Superior Court
2012 Stephen English, Molly Munger and Connie Rice, Co-Founders, Advancement Project
2013 The Hon. William A. Norris, United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
2014 The Hon. Laurie D. Zelon, Chair, Access & Fairness Advisory Committee of the Administrative Office of the Courts
LAFLA is proud to honor Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP with the Pro Bono Service Award, recognizing its work on behalf of domestic violence survivors and victims of crime. Along with students from UC Irvine School of Law, Orrick attorneys from the Los Angeles and Orange County office helped clients navigate the US CIS system to help them obtain U Visas. Orrick has contributed greatly to LAFLA’s immigration projects. Since 2010, the firm has spearheaded the Immigration Permanency Project, a collaboration between UC Irvine School of Law students, LAFLA and Orrick. A team of pro bono attorneys from Orrick supervises a group of law student volunteers to provide free legal services to low-income immigrant clients seeking green cards. Much of the project’s success is due to Don Daybell, who doubled the number of attorney volunteers, handled logistics within the office, assisted with training and served as a mentor to the many students who had questions about the project.

Through the years the firm has worked on all types of immigration matters and gone the extra mile, assisting clients with adjustments and family reunification. While some firms shy away from cases when they get difficult (requiring additional documentation or support), Orrick has followed through on all of them. The firm has been one of the strongest supporters of our immigration work, devoting over 2,000 hours and over 70 Orrick attorneys and staff to just the Permanency Project. The firm has also taken on the task of training and supervising over 47 law students, who contributed almost 1,000 hours to the project.

“This project is a wonderful opportunity for us to have a significant and direct positive impact on the lives of individual clients who truly need our help,” Daybell said. “I am glad that the firm’s commitment to pro bono work allows us to put on projects such as this.”
PAST PRO BONO SERVICE AWARD HONOREES

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What We Do

Eviction Defense Center
• Provides free direct representation for indigent individuals and families facing eviction
• Negotiates with landlords to ensure families can stay in their homes
• Defends residents of public housing and Section 8 voucher holders against losing their housing or housing subsidy
• Helps clients living in uninhabitable conditions to get reductions in rent

Economic Stability
• Assists vulnerable populations in getting needed benefits for basic needs: food, medical care or services
• Fights wage theft, wrongful terminations and discriminatory employment practices
• Removes barriers to employment related to criminal records so that individuals can become or stay employed
• Discharges student loans based on disability or school fraud

Housing and Communities
• Addresses systems change through litigation, policy and education aimed at creating and preserving affordable housing and homeownership opportunities
• Increases economic power
• Seeks environmental justice on behalf of poor and low income residents
• Partners with community-based organizations to build healthy, economically vibrant neighborhoods

Supporting Families
• Helps survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault get restraining orders, divorces, child custody, visitation and support
• Secures the return of concealed and abducted children
• Supports torture victims seeking asylum in the United States with the immigration process
• Represents survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking, sexual assaults and other serious crimes to obtain protection and permanent residency
• Offers legal help to families facing health crises and domestic violence through the Greater Long Beach Medical-Legal Partnership
• Protects vulnerable unaccompanied children throughout the immigration process
• Provides comprehensive case management to victims of domestic violence and survivors of torture

Veterans Justice Center
• Obtains life-sustaining income, health, and housing benefits so veterans can thrive
• Prevents veteran homelessness by fighting wrongful evictions
• Removes barriers to employment to promote veteran self-sufficiency
• Advocates to upgrade unjust less-than-honorable military discharges
• Works with hundreds of pro bono legal volunteers annually to hold large-scale legal clinics for homeless veterans

Asian & Pacific Islander Community Outreach Project
• Advocates for language services in civil courts, administrative proceedings, and other government agencies for limited-English proficient clients
• Provides legal help in all areas of practice including family law, immigration and government benefits in Korean, Mandarin, Cantonese, Japanese, Khmer and Thai

Self-Help Legal Access Centers
(Inglewood, Torrance, Santa Monica and Long Beach)
• Assist self-represented litigants regardless of income or immigration status by completing and reviewing court forms with issues involving family law, evictions, and a limited range of other civil matters
• Provide attorney referrals for other areas of law

Domestic Violence Clinics
(Downtown LA, Santa Monica and Long Beach)
• Provide holistic help to survivors of domestic violence, including:
  Restraining orders
  Custody arrangements
  Property control orders
LAFLA seeks to achieve equal justice for poor and low-income people in greater Los Angeles. We change lives through direct representation, systems change and community education.

LAFLA is the frontline law firm for poor and low-income people. For more than 85 years, LAFLA has provided civil legal services to poor and low-income people in Los Angeles County.

LAFLA has five community offices, operates four Self-Help Centers and has three Domestic Violence Clinics where we provide much needed free legal services.

For more information, to support or volunteer, visit us at www.lafla.org.
The Dolo Coker Scholarship Foundation Inc. is a nonprofit organization committed to assisting youth in their musical training and to perpetuating jazz by nurturing the seeds of jazz proficiency in the young minds and hearts of students.

The Foundation was founded on April 13, 1983 upon the death of jazz pianist, arranger, composer, Xanadu recording artist and teacher Charles “Dolo” Coker, who succumbed to cancer. Dolo, a master teacher, loved young people and in his lifetime taught them, counseled them and did all he could to encourage them. It was his dream to participate in the musical training and development of youth through the granting of scholarships and also to ensure that jazz, America’s only indigenous musical art form, does not die out but stays alive for the enjoyment of future generations.

Each year in April, the Foundation conducts a benefit jazz concert where the annual scholarships are presented to full-time high school or college students between the ages of 15 and 25 who are pursuing careers in the field of jazz music. In June, The Jazz Showcase takes place, featuring the scholarship recipients of the current year and a special guest artist. In September, a free Jazz Clinic is presented targeting high school and college jazz musicians from throughout Southern California.

Tonight we are pleased to welcome as our featured musical guests:

Jonathan Richards - Bass (Leader)
Dan Reckard - Piano
Daniel Richardson - Sax
Michael McTaggart - Guitar
Mathew Jamele - Drums

The Dolo Coker Scholarship Foundation is composed solely of dedicated volunteers who give their time, knowledge and skill freely, from the heart. The Foundation has an ongoing need for financial support for the Scholarship Awards as well as to sustain its minimal operating expenses. Tax-deductible contributions can be made to: The Dolo Coker Scholarship Foundation Inc., P.O. Box 480028, Los Angeles, CA 90048-1028 or by contacting Sybil Coker at (323) 935-1374.
Thank you to the following firms for supporting us during our 2015 Law Firm Campaign:

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