Mission & Goals

The Women's Section has been a strong presence in CCCBA for over 25 years and welcomes men and women practicing in all areas of the law who work or live in Contra Costa County.

The goal of the section is to further the advancement of women in the legal profession and the judiciary. To do so, the Section offers frequent networking opportunities, such as "Power Lunches" and happy hours, MCLE classes with notable and relevant speakers, and fundraising and community events, such as the Honorable Patricia Herron and Honorable Ellen James Scholarship, and an annual Awards Dinner.

For membership information, please contact Jennifer Comages, Membership Director for the Contra Costa County Bar Association via email at icomages@cccba.org.



Contra Costa County Bar Association

FALL 2019 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the Fall 2019 Women's Section Newsletter! Thank you for taking time to learn about our upcoming events, awards, and members!

ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER

The Women's Section Annual Awards Dinner was a huge success. Congratulations to our three deserving scholarship recipients Janelle Goulart, Shawntay Jordan, and Constance Holdaway. The Women's Section is also thrilled to congratulate Outstanding Woman Lawyer (O.W.L.) Robin Pearson.



2018 Board

<u>Officers</u> Patanisha Davis-Jenkins, President Key Counsel, P.C.

Rachel H. Leonard, Vice-President, Newsletter Editor Tate & Associates

Janell M. Alberto, Secretary Sasha Gray, Treasurer Brown Gee & Wenger

Members-At-Large Crystal L. Van Der Putten Livingston Law Firm Courtney H. O'Brien Bishop Barry Mujdah Rahim Law Office of Mujdah Rahim Brittany Hendrix-Smith Law Offices of Brittany Hendrix-Smith Celine Simon Strata Legal

<u>Ex-Officio</u> Ariel Brownell Lee Law Office of Ariel Brownell

Congratulations to all of these amazing and deserving women!



MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Join Women's Section President Pa'tanisha Davis-Jenkins as she launches her book, Barren But Not Broken and her book tour. Come enjoy a reading from the book, live music and light refreshments.

> Barren But Not Broken Book Signing and Tour Launch Event November 2, 2019 at 6 PM

> > Lafayette Library Don Tarzan Community Hall 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette CA 94549

BARRE

But Not Broken

is a riveting autobiography and inspirational guide by Author and Attorney Patanisha Davis. It outlines how she maneuvered through obstacles with infertility on her journey to motherhood. This book is a great read for people struggling with infertility, their family members who want to learn how to support them, or people considering adoption.

Patanisha encourages her readers to keep the faith

and to understand that delay does not equal denial. Allow yourself to see there is beauty in everything, including those things that at first glance appear to be stumbling blocks on your road to FORGIVENESS, FREEDOM, REDEMPTION, **JOY, and PARENTHOOD!**

U.S. 13.99

• Congratulations to Monica Nemec who has recently passed her probationary period and is now an associate at Mendes Weed, LLP.



- Ericka L. McKenna, a former President of the Women's Section of the CCCBA and current Member of the Board of Directors of the CCCBA, has formed her own law firm. Ericka, together with two of her colleagues, have formed McKenna Brink Signorotti LLP, which will serve as a business and real estate law firm in Contra Costa. Find out more at <u>www.mckennabrink.com</u>
- Brown Gee & Wenger, LLP, is a boutique business law firm in Walnut Creek. They are proud to announce two recent additions to the Firm:



Marissa Boyd is an experienced litigator who supports the firm's employment, intellectual property, and business litigation practices. Marissa has represented clients in a variety of commercial litigation contexts, including wage and hour class actions, trademark prosecution and brand protection, breach of contract and other business disputes, software and copyright infringement. Her practice includes complex federal and California state court litigation, mediation, and arbitration. Marissa is a committed advocate and dedicated advisor for all her clients, which have ranged from fledgling start-ups and small non-profits to large multinational Fortune 100 companies. Marissa was formerly an associate with O'Melveny & Meyers. Marissa earned her J.D. from the University of California, Berkeley School of Law, Order of the *Coif*, where she received a certificate in Intellectual Property & Technology. While at Berkeley, Marissa served as a judicial extern to the Honorable Jon S. Tigar in the Northern District of California and as an Associate Editor for the California Law Review.



Ingrid P. Rodriguez is an associate in the Brown, Gee & Wenger's business and real estate practice, including Corporate & Business Transactions, Corporate Law, and Real Estate. Prior to joining the firm, Ingrid was an associate at Sidley Austin LLP and a member of their Global Finance, M&A, and Private Equity practices. She has represented public and private companies, financial institutions, and private equity funds in a variety of corporate transactions. Ingrid earned her J.D. from the University of California, Berkeley School of Law (Boalt Hall), where she was Symposium Editor of the Berkeley Business Law Journal and Programming Director of the Women of Color Collective. While attending law school, Ingrid worked as a law clerk in the Strike Force and Violent Crime Unit of the Criminal Division of the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Northern District of California. She was also a member of Berkeley Law's Policy Advocacy Clinic and the California Asylum Representation Clinic. Ingrid received a B.A., magna cum laude, in political science with a minor in public affairs from the University of California, Los Angeles.

• Women's Section Treasurer Sasha Gray & her husband Matt Gray welcome their new baby Rhys Matthew Gray! Congratulations Sasha and Matt!

> Born May 24th, 2019 at 8:38AM 7 pounds 6 ounces 20.5 inches long



UPCOMING SECTION EVENTS

Happy Hour

Come join us at our next Happy Hour. It will be held at Residual Sugar in Concord on November 6th from 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM. We are looking forward to continuing the tradition of socializing and networking together with our members.

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

We encourage our members to reach out to neighboring associations to network and meet others in our area and we will circulate these opportunities as they arise!

Bay Area Women Lawyers Retreat February 28th – March 1st The Lodge at Sonoma https://www.cccba.org/event-info/?eventid=13539

ODDS & ENDS



Wine glasses for sale! The Women's Section is selling our signature stemless wine glasses for the low price of \$5 each! All proceeds go to our scholarship fund. Contact us at <u>cccbawomenssection@gmail.com</u> to place your order today!

Offices for Sublease:

Office available in a 2350 square foot suite in a Class A building right across from BART. Three other attorneys in the suite with a congenial environment. Large conference room available at no additional cost, lots of open space as well as a kitchen. Currently furnished but can lease unfurnished if requested. Phone system and copier/scanner available as well as a receptionist if requested. Parking available at an additional cost of \$200/month for tenant. Monthly rent requested: \$2,200/negotiable. Contact: <u>Tracey@wapnickfamilylaw.com</u>

FEEDBACK

We would love to hear from you! Please send event ideas or any information and feedback about the Section to us at <u>cccbawomenssection@gmail.com</u>. We hope you have enjoyed the Fall 2019 Women's Section Newsletter!