



CONSUMER ATTORNEYS OF CALIFORNIA

Seeking Justice for All

CAOC to hold 51st Annual Convention this weekend Brian Kabateck to be installed as president in San Francisco fete

SACRAMENTO (Nov. 6, 2012) – Consumer Attorneys of California’s 51st Annual Convention gets underway Thursday, Nov. 8, featuring a full weekend of continuing legal education seminars, a keynote address by California Attorney General Kamala D. Harris, the installation of Brian S. Kabateck as the association’s president for 2013 and the announcement of the 2012 Consumer Attorney of the Year.

Kabateck will be sworn in as CAOC President at the annual awards dinner Saturday night. He was deeply involved in CAOC affairs in 2012 as President-Elect and served as the association’s Legislative Chair in 2011. A graduate of the University of Southern California and Loyola Law School, Kabateck is the founding partner of Kabateck Brown Kellner LLP in Los Angeles. He has been honored by the Los Angeles Daily Journal as one of California’s Top 100 Lawyers three times and is a finalist for this year’s Consumer Attorney of the Year award, although as President-Elect he withdrew his name from consideration before the vote to determine the winner. His past noteworthy cases include a class action on behalf of Armenian Genocide victims and another as lead counsel in the NAACP’s battle against more than a dozen national banks for discriminatory lending practices.

The Consumer Attorney of the Year winner will be announced at Saturday’s awards dinner, with 11 finalists in the running for the honor. The award is given to recognize a plaintiff’s lawyer who achieved a significant result in a case that assisted consumers or changed consumer law for the better in California and was finally resolved between May 15, 2011, and May 15, 2012. Also announced Saturday will be the winner of the Street Fighter of the Year award from among six finalists. Those eligible for that honor include attorneys who have been practicing law for ten years or less or who work at a firm that has no more than five attorneys.

Also at the awards dinner, CAOC members Michael A. Kelly, Kathryn A. Stebner and John A. Montevideo will be honored for their contributions to the association. California Assembly Member Mike Gatto (D-Burbank) will receive the Assembly Member of the Year award and California Senate President pro Tem Darrell Steinberg will be given the Senator of the Year award.

Attorney General Harris will speak on “The Role of the Attorney General in Protecting Consumers” at Friday’s keynote lunch. Saturday’s keynote lunch speakers will be CAOC Past Presidents Browne Greene and Bruce A. Broillet, their topic being “Where Is the Future and How Do We Get There?” Continuing legal education seminars will be offered from Friday through midday Sunday. Among the presenters at the seminars will be California Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones, who will speak on “The (Health Insurance) State of the State” as part of a panel Saturday at 3 p.m. The convention runs through Sunday, Nov. 11, at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco.

Consumer Attorneys of California is a professional organization of plaintiffs’ attorneys representing consumers seeking accountability against wrongdoers in cases involving personal injury, product liability, environmental degradation and other causes.

For more information:

**J.G. Preston, CAOC Press Secretary, 916- 669-7126, jgpreston@caoc.org
Eric Bailey, CAOC Communications Director, 916-669-7122, ebailey@caoc.org**