

THE GAVEL

WRITER'S GUIDELINES

The Gavel is the official publication of the Orange County Trial Lawyers Association. It is published quarterly and is distributed by the OCTLA to over 600 members, plus all judges and appellate justices in Orange County. *The Gavel* is designed to provide informative and interesting articles to trial lawyers, experts, and the judiciary.

The Gavel accepts unsolicited manuscripts for consideration. Articles are usually 2-4 single – spaced typewritten pages, but *The Gavel* will consider shorter and longer articles. Articles may be shortened or edited for style or space requirements of *The Gavel*. Articles are judged on the basis of research, writing, topic, and interest to the membership of OCTLA.

The Gavel follows the Bluebook for legal citations. Manuscripts submitted should follow those rules as closely as possible. All citations to authorities from outside California should at least include the West regional reporter, and preferably the state's official reporter. *The Gavel* prefers authors to avoid footnotes or endnotes, but such use will not be a basis for declining to publish an article.

The Gavel retains copyright on all articles. *The Gavel* freely grants permission to others to reprint the article, upon their agreement to acknowledge the copyright. The editors may make editorial changes to an article, without changing its substance.

The Gavel is looking for:

1. Articles that are well written and informative.
2. Although articles should be accurately researched and may provide citations to authorities, *The Gavel* is not interested in printing law review-type articles.
3. Cite only to official reports and do not cite to unpublished cases.
4. Gender-neutral language should be used unless an issue that is gender specific is involved.
5. Articles should be single-spaced and no more than 1,500 to 2,000 words (or under five pages). Shorter pieces are also encouraged. Microsoft Word is the preferred word processing program.

Articles should be submitted by e-mail to the editor, Adina Stern at astern@sternlawoffices.com or by sending a disk with a hard copy to the OCTLA address below.

A photo of the author should accompany the article with a few lines of biographical information. Additional photos related to the article may also be submitted for consideration.

Please Note: The views expressed by the author may not reflect the official policy of OCTLA. No endorsement of those views should be inferred.