

## Good Sailors

*"A good sailor picks a point and sails straight towards it."*

by: Jim Iagmin, CASD President

**M**y best friend told me this the first time I piloted a boat. It's excellent advice. Sailing is essentially finding balance between the wind direction, the sail trim, and the point of sail. When one of the three changes, the others must adjust. When in harmony, the sailing is smooth and the boat can cover great distances. I am honored and humbled to take my turn at CASD's helm.

CASD attorneys are dedicated to helping and protecting California's and the USA's most vulnerable and deserving people. As I write this column, I just read that Robert Vaage (CASD's 2014 Trial Lawyer of the Year) settled a case that will provide security and comfort for a widower and his children after their wife and mother was killed in a car accident. On the same day, Tim Blood (CASD's 2014 President) resolved a case that will allow a class of truck owners to replace their vehicles that were literally rusting out underneath them. Every day, CASD's attorneys help families and people who could not alone stand up to the world's largest corporations.

CASD, in turn, helps its members help their clients. CASD provides formal legal education from some of the very best trial lawyers in the state. CASD members are constantly educating and assisting each other, facilitated in large part by our List Serve. CASD guides newer attorneys through its Mentorship program and every member can get help preparing for trial through the Trial by Masters program. CASD serves the public through its Community Outreach program. These are just a few of the ways CASD serves its members and community.

Justice for our clients, a search for Truth, and the Courage to face powerful adversaries are the values that guide CASD. These values coalesce at a point on the horizon where dogged determination is tempered by civility and professionalism. As we set sail in 2017, the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee, and I will hold a course towards this point.

I encourage CASD members to get involved. Join a committee. Come to a Board of Directors meeting. Attend a seminar. Reach out to your colleagues for help on a case. Enjoy the ride. **TBN**



Jim Iagmin is a partner at Williams Iagmin LLP. For nearly twenty years, Jim has represented only plaintiffs, primarily in catastrophic personal injury and employment cases. Jim has been a member of CASD since 2000 and is a four-time recipient of CASD's Outstanding Trial Lawyer award. Jim earned his Bachelor's degree at Loyola Marymount University and his Juris Doctorate at the University of San Francisco.

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