

## The CASD Foundation – It's a Sure Bet!

**D**id you know there are actually two parts to Consumer Attorneys of San Diego? The first is the one we are most familiar with, regular CASD. CASD is the entity that provides CLE, maintains the listserv, organizes mixers and other networking events, interacts with national, state and local trial lawyer associations to advance shared goals, publishes Trial Bar News, investigates and awards the annual top trial lawyer honors and other commendations, organizes community outreach events and does most of the other tasks one associates with CASD.

The second part is the CASD Foundation. The Foundation is the charitable arm of CASD. It is a separate entity from CASD, but serves the same goals through charitable giving and other means. The Foundation's aspirations are big. Its mission is to protect the rights of consumers, to aid crime and accident victims, to educate the public about the importance of the United States legal system, to offer higher education opportunities through the sponsorship of scholarships and to support other charitable endeavors consistent with the goals of CASD.

As we've done with other parts of CASD, we are completely updating the Foundation's corporate documents, fine-tuning an already great institution.

Throughout the years, the Foundation has awarded money to a wide variety of organizations and purposes. For example, the Foundation has made contributions to the San Diego Volunteer Lawyers Program, contributed, along with other trial lawyer associations, to Consumer Attorneys of California to pool money for public education projects, donated to the San Diego County Public Law Library and the Veterans Village of San Diego Stand Down, sponsored a high school essay contest to award scholarships to seniors writing about civil justice issues, provided grants to organizations like Girls Think Tank and underwritten the cost of bringing renowned speakers on civil justice issues to San Diego.

by: Timothy Blood, CASD President



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Continued on page 4

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The Foundation is currently developing a new initiative – funding one or more fellowships for new lawyers who are dedicated to representing plaintiffs and enhancing access to civil justice. We're very excited about this. You'll be hearing more about it in coming months.

The Foundation is funded by us, the trial lawyer community. Your annual membership dues include the option of making a tax deductible contribution of \$25 to the Foundation. Twenty five dollars isn't much, but when we all stand together, it goes a long way. Also, if you've ever bought a raffle ticket or silent auction item at a CASD event, chances are those proceeds went to the Foundation.

We are also holding the first annual Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament on August 13, 2015. All proceeds will go to the Foundation and the start of the new lawyer fellowships. Fun is the sure bet at the Tournament, whether you've never

played poker before, are a card sharks or something in between (everyone knows the beginners always do the best). We've surveyed other organizations that hold similar charitable organizations, and we're pretty sure we've taken the best from each to make this one a night to remember.

Whether a poker player or not, please give generously. We can do great things through the Foundation. It's not just good for those we represent, but good for the plaintiff's bar and the civil justice system, as well. **TBN**



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