

Thank You

As my term draws to an end, I write to thank those who have been instrumental in what little success and abundant joy I have enjoyed during my year as President. Bonnie Benitez, our Executive Director, and her outstanding team of Chloe Petcharaporn and Kolin Durrant made my job easy as pie. I thank them not only for their professionalism, but also for their understanding and support as I balanced the demands of the organization, my trial schedule and family.

Your next President, Rebecca Lack Mowbray, was always willing, ready and more than able to step in for me when I couldn't make meetings or events. She is going to be an awesome President and I am grateful for the help she provided this year. Jessica Klarer-Pride and Maria Palmieri helped me tremendously in improving our public image as part of my community outreach series. The amazing lawyers of Casey Gerry Schenk Francavilla Blatt & Penfield and Thorsnes Bartollotta McGuire stepped up to make our community service seminar a smashing success. I am grateful they gave up their time and taught us so much.

Tim Blood and Raul Cadena were amazing all year helping us understand and address imperative political issues. Brett Schreiber did an amazing job on education. Ahmed Diab and Dana Grimes grew our membership and did it with enthusiasm and creativity. Jennifer Chapman Arnold helped us put on events second to none. My Board as a whole was the very best I have seen for our organization. We have a lot to look forward to as they continue to lead us.

Kerry Hoxie, our *Trial Bar News* Editor-in-Chief, always understood when I didn't quite make her draconian deadlines and was always helpful with column ideas. All the amazing trial lawyers and legal professionals at the Gomez Law Firm kept the clients happy and lights on during my very busy year. My gorgeous wife Lisa and three perfect kids, "JD", Michael and Analise, kept me moderately sane. Finally, I give thanks to God for His grace, and the strength, opportunities and happiness that He has blessed me with. I feel lucky every day to have the life I do. Thank you.

by John H. Gomez

A graduate of Yale Law School and Gerry Spence's Trial Lawyer's College, John H. Gomez is CASD's President for 2012. John believes passionately in improving our world through both the law and community service. John's community passions are the Latino community, kids at risk, drunk driving prevention, foster children and legal services for the indigent. CASD has twice named John "Trial Lawyer of the Year" and has awarded him six "Outstanding Trial Lawyer" awards. His Gomez Law Firm is an eight-attorney consumer law firm dedicated exclusively to community service, catastrophic personal injury and mass tort litigation. Most importantly, John is the devoted husband of Lisa and the proud father of son "JD" and twins Michael and Analise.

