

## The Red Boudreau Trial Lawyer's Dinner

In my February President's Column entitled "A Noble Profession", I wrote about the state of civility in our profession. In particular, I looked at the evolution of our profession during the past several decades and the impact of that evolution on civility among and between lawyers. My general observation was that civility had become a casualty of another guiding principal that says we must zealously represent our clients.

I was heartened to learn that the California Supreme Court recently adopted rule 9.4 of the California Rules of Court, which will now be part of the new attorney oath. This change is a result of the American Board of Trial Advocates' ("ABOTA) efforts to include civility in the oaths taken by new lawyers nationwide. This provision, which was added to the California Rules of Court effective May 23, 2014, is found in *Title 9. Rules on Law Practice, Attorneys, And Judges*. New lawyers will be required to state as part of their oath that they will strive to conduct themselves with dignity, courtesy, and integrity. The oath is now as follows:

**"I solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of an attorney and counselor at law to the best of my knowledge and ability. As an officer of the court, I will strive to conduct myself at all times with dignity, courtesy, and integrity."**

This new oath is timely as the various bar groups prepare to come together once again to recognize the importance of civility in our profession at the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Red Boudreau Trial Lawyer's Dinner ("Boudreau Dinner") on September 13, 2014.

### Some Background



Red Boudreau grew up on a farm in Missouri, and then went on to become a World War II fighter pilot for the U.S. Navy. He attended law school at the University of Missouri at Columbia and came to San Diego in 1953. During his impressive career, Red was president of Consumer Attorneys of San Diego, an officer of the San Diego County Bar Association, and a member of ABOTA. A founding member of the St. Vincent de Paul Center, Red was committed to helping the poor, and personified the image of the attorney who uses his valuable legal training to help improve the lives of those less fortunate without expecting anything in return. Red took seriously the charge of giving back to the community.

The Boudreau Dinner commenced in 1984 and was intended as a tribute to Red, who epitomized civility, integrity and dignity. The Boudreau Dinner is one of the longest running events in the San Diego legal community and attracts members from both the plaintiff and defense attorney bars.

Beginning in 1990, an attorney in private practice who exemplifies professionalism, integrity and civility has been recognized at the Red Boudreau dinner with the Daniel T. Broderick III Award ("Broderick Award"), one of the most prestigious awards given to San Diego attorneys.

by Raul Cadena, CASD President



Raul Cadena is a partner at Cadena Churchill, LLP, where he represents plaintiffs in the areas of employment law, including wage and hour class actions, insurance bad faith and personal injury. Mr. Cadena received his Bachelor of Arts from Harvard University and his Juris Doctor from the University of California at Berkeley School of Law, Boalt Hall. Mr. Cadena also studied at the Universidad Complutense in Madrid, Spain. He is a member of the Board of Directors and Parliamentarian of CASD and has been the Employment Law column editor for Trial Bar News since 2006.

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The Broderick Award is named after Dan Broderick, a highly regarded local attorney who met an untimely death in 1989. Past recipients have included Susan Hack, Craig McClellan, Dan White, Mickey McGuire, Robert Brewer, and Michael Neil.

### St. Vincent de Paul Village

The Boudreau Dinner serves not only to commemorate the legacy of Red Boudreau but to also raise money for St. Vincent de Paul. St. Vincent de Paul Village is a one-stop center in our community, offering housing and other services to families with children, single women, and men. This includes the chronically homeless, veterans, and people living with addiction or mental illness.

St. Vincent's provides 41 percent of all available transitional housing beds in the City of San Diego on a nightly basis. It is the largest residential homeless services provider in the City of San Diego. St. Vincent's manages 362 units of Permanent Supportive

Housing providing people with a permanent solution to homelessness.

St. Vincent de Paul Village's mission is to end homelessness one life at a time. As of 2011, the Boudreau Dinner has helped over 10,000 homeless children. The San Diego legal community has now supported the charitable works of St. Vincent de Paul Village for more than 29 years through this annual dinner.

### The Tradition Continues

This year's black tie event at the U.S. Grant will be a return to tradition as we pay tribute to Red and honor his son, Steve Boudreau, the recipient of this year's Broderick Award and a past President of the Consumer Attorneys of San Diego ("CASD"). Steve has received numerous honors including the Chapter President of the Year from the Consumer Attorneys of California, the David S. Casey Jr. Award for Service to the Legal Community and the Outstanding Advocate Award

from CASD. In addition to being an outstanding attorney, Steve is well known for his community involvement and has actively participated as a member of the Board of Directors for Father Joe's Villages/St. Vincent De Paul. Steve epitomizes civility, integrity and dignity and I cannot imagine a more worthy recipient for this year's Broderick Award.

As we continue to address the ever-present rallying cry to reclaim civility in our profession, the Boudreau Dinner serves to remind us of all that is great in our profession. What other event allows our legal community to come together to honor the memory of a great man, to recognize those in our midst, who exemplify civility and to raise money for an amazing charitable organization that does so much for the often forgotten and less fortunate in our community. I look forward to seeing you all on September 13, for this year's Boudreau Dinner. You do not want to miss it. **TBN**

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