



BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION



**MARISSA A.
BEJARANO**



**Vic
BIANCHINI**



**BRENT
DOUGLAS**



**NICHOLAS J.
FOX**

SOUTH BAY SEAT



**A. MELISSA
JOHNSON**



**KHODADAD DARIUS "Ko"
SHARIF**



**WILLIAM F.
SMALL**



MARISSA A. BEJARANO

San Diego County District Attorney's Office

Years admitted to practice in California: 14 Years

Years practicing in San Diego: 14 years

Years as a member of the SDCBA: 10 years (2007-2011, 2014-Present)

Areas of practice: Criminal Law, Trial and Appellate Practice

What sections or committees do you belong to at the SDCBA?

- Appellate Practice Section
- Leadership Outreach Committee

What other SDCBA projects have you worked on?

- Diversity Pledge
- Diversity Fellowship Program

Have you held any leadership positions at the SDCBA? If so, what positions?

- Young New Lawyers Division, Board Member 2008-2010
- Unity Breakfast Chair, 2009

What leadership roles have you had in other bar associations or other non-legal associations?

- Vice Chair, San Diego County Commission on the Status of Women and Girls, 2017-Present
- Vice Chair, Clerk, Trustee, Chula Vista Elementary School District, 2012-2016
- Board President, Board Member & Program Director, MANA de San Diego, 2004-2016

Awards and honors

- San Diego Metro Magazine, 40 under 40 (2018)
- Women of Color in the Law, First Responder Award (2018)
- San Diego County Bar Association, Outstanding Service by a Public Attorney (2011)
- San Diego Soroptimist, Ruby Award (2011)
- 10News, Leadership Award (2011)
- Girl Scouts San Diego, Cool Women Award (2007)
- Bank of America, San Diego Local Hero (2007)

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MARISSA A. BEJARANO *CONTINUED*

Description of what inspires you

When the impossible becomes possible. Working hard to tackle a problem and never giving up, no matter how challenging. Hearing stories of others who have overcome the odds, worked hard, focused, been relentless, and been catalysts for change. Their stories are inspiring and uplifting.

Description of what you would bring to the SDCBA Board

Description of what you would bring to the SDCBA board

Commitment to Diversity

I will continue to promote and advocate for diversity and inclusion in the legal profession. I will work to increase the number of signatories to the SDCBA Diversity pledge and work with signatories to promote diversity within law firms and legal departments. I will also work to improve the communication amongst the diversity bars and SDCBA.

Serving the Membership

I will make it a priority to serve the needs of SDCBA's diverse membership by developing programs that serve all practice areas.

Endorsements

ORGANIZATIONS

- San Diego Deputy District Attorney's Association
- Tom Homann LGBT Law Association
- Lawyers Club of San Diego
- San Diego La Raza Lawyers Association
- Pan Asian Lawyers of San Diego
- Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association
- Filipino American Lawyers of San Diego
- Korean American Bar Association of San Diego
- San Diego County Native American Lawyers Association

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MARISSA A. BEJARANO *CONTINUED*

INDIVIDUALS

Endorsements:

Past SDCBA Presidents

- Jerrilyn Malana
- Marvin Mizell
- Heather Rosing
- Jon Williams
- Richard Huver

Ilona Antonyan
Dante Pride
Rebecca Zipp
Joy Utomi
Rafael Castellanos
Alex Rodriguez
Camille Guerra
Michelle lallegio
Yvette Lopez-Cooper
Ronson Shamoun
Scott Taylor
Erika Hiramatsu

Summer Stephan
Alejandro Balvaneda
James R. Goodwin
Lilia Garcia
James Frantz
John Gomez
Juan Pablo Zaragosa
Jose Badillo
Nadia Bermudez
Timothy Miranda
Alex Calero
Anna Yum

James Koerber
Leonard Trinh
Alan Brubaker
James Atkins
Jessica Pride
Lorena Slomanson
Lizzette Herrera Catellanos
Pablo Palomino
Leslie Devaney
Peter Quon
Anne Rudolph
Mikhak Ghorban



VIC BIANCHINI

Judicate West Dispute Resolution Services

Years admitted to practice in California: 53

Years practicing in San Diego: 53 (Primarily Judicial)

Years as a member of the SDCBA: 46 (44 years as judge during which I was occasionally eligible for membership based on part-time judicial duties) 20 years as an honorary member

Areas of practice: Mediation, Arbitration, Part-Time U.S.

Magistrate Judge, Central District of California

What sections or committees do you belong to at the SDCBA?

Civil Litigation Section

Alternative Dispute Resolution Section

Business/Corporate Law Section

Formerly Member of Editorial Board, San Diego Lawyer Magazine, Various years

What leadership roles have you had in other bar associations or other non-legal associations?

Association of Business Trial Lawyers (ABTL) Board of Governors, 2018-present

Member of the California State Bar Statewide ADR Committee 2017-present

Lawyers Club Bench/Bar Committee, Present

Alumni Board for the College of Arts and Letters, San Diego State University, Present

Vice President, Kiwanis International San Diego Foundation 2018-Present

California Judges Association (CJA) Executive Board, 2013-2016, CJA Foundation, 2016-Present

Past President of the San Diego County Law Library Foundation, 1994-1995, Current Director

Past President of the San Diego County Law Library Board of Trustees (2 terms) 1994-1996

Superior Court Judge, 1998-2002

U.S. Magistrate Judge, 1974-1982

El Cajon Municipal Court, 1982-1998, 3-Time Presiding Judge

San Diego County Bar Association, Director, Treasurer, Vice President, 1978, 1979, 1980

San Diego County Bar Foundation, Director, 1979-1983

Chair, USD School of Law Board of Visitors 1978-1979

Chair, Ethics Committee, SDCBA, 1973

Past President, Marine Corps Recruit Depot Historical Foundation, Director 2005-2010

Past General Counsel, Present Director, Flying Leathernecks Historical Foundation

2008-Present

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VIC BIANCHINI *CONTINUED*

Past Vice Chair, Director, Veterans Village of San Diego 2007-2016

Commanding Officer, Force Reconnaissance Company (Parachute/scuba Unit) 1969-1971; and
Commanding Officer, Military Attorney's Mobilization Training Unit (MTU), 1976-1979, Colonel,
Retired

Awards and honors

9th Circuit Pro Bono Administration Award for work on Prisoner Civil Rights, 2016;
Alumni "Award of Distinction" as a Distinguished Graduate, San Diego State University, 2018;
Trial Judge of the year, 1992, Trial Lawyers of San Diego (now Consumer Attorneys of San
Diego);

President's Awards for Educational Contributions (Evidence), 1991, Special Recognition 1988,
Trial Lawyers of San Diego

Foothills Bar Association Award ("Big Footie") for Distinguished Judicial Service 2001

El Cajon Court Family Law Service Award for Contributions to Family Law, 1998

"Volunteer of the Year" debate coach at Mt. Carmel High School, by Poway School District,
2007;

Senior Fulbright Scholar, Country of Eritrea, Sub Saharan Africa 2002;

Legion of Merit, Bronze Star w/Combat "V", 3 Air Medals, European Command Commendation
medal, Combat Acton Ribbon, (Vietnam Service) (Desert Shield/Desert Storm), U.S. Marine
Corps Reserve, 1959-1991;

U.S. National Individual Sabre Veterans Fencing Champion, 2012; Veterans Fencing World
Championships, Team Awards, 2 Golds, 1 Silver, 1 Bronze, 2013, 2014, 2016, 2017

Description of what inspires you

I am inspired by the decent and hard-working attorneys who toil every day in the trenches of litigation. I am constantly impressed by those engaged in the representation of our individual citizens and businesses embroiled in disputes that have taken a toll on their well-being. I am also motivated by the opportunity to serve in capacities that contribute to the welfare of others and to see the happiness that results from those outcomes. I am always moved when I give to others by way of service, or donations.

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VIC BIANCHINI *CONTINUED*

Description of what you would bring to the SDCBA Board

If elected, I would hope that my experience and historical perspective can be of value to the Bar. I would bring a strong work ethic and a desire to help the Bar Board achieve its full potential. I am not running out of any dissatisfaction with the current or past boards—they have been excellent—I am running because I want to contribute to the continuing success of the San Diego County Bar Association.

For example, I am currently working with the ABTL Governing Board on a project to join with the SDCBA and the California Lawyers Association (CLA) to provide civil law firm associates trial and motion practice experience in government law firms.

Endorsements

Lawyers Club

Tom Homann LGBT Law Association (THLA)



BRENT DOUGLAS

Martenson Hasbrouck & Simon

Years admitted to practice in California: 8

Years practicing in San Diego: 8

Years as a member of the SDCBA: 8

Areas of practice: Employment Law

What sections or committees do you belong to at the SDCBA?

Labor & Employment Section

What other SDCBA projects have you worked on?

Step Up to the Bar

Have you held any leadership positions at the SDCBA? If so, what positions?

No

What leadership roles have you had in other bar associations or other non-legal associations?

President, San Diego County Bar Foundation, 2016

Board of Directors, San Diego County Bar Foundation, 2012-Present

Coach, Special Olympics of Southern California

Member, San Diego Foster and Adoptive Parent Association

Sponsor, Chairman's Roundtable

Awards

Rising Star, Super Lawyers, 2018

Third-Place, Fantasy Football, 2007

I am my mother's favorite (male) child

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BRENT DOUGLAS *CONTINUED*

Description of what inspires you

I am inspired by my colleagues who take time out of their busy lives to help the San Diego community. Being a lawyer – and especially being a lawyer with a family – requires more time than anyone has. Helping others requires a conscious choice. I am inspired by people who make that choice.

Description of what you would bring to the SDCBA Board

In addition to my leadership and collaboration skills, I will bring the best head of hair the Board has ever seen. Sometimes people stop me on the street and ask, “are you a model?” I go, “no ma’am, but I get a lot.”

I have been on the Board of Directors for the Bar Association’s charitable arm, the San Diego County Bar Foundation, for six years running. I bring a renewed focus on improving access to justice in the San Diego community. Many of us – perhaps all of us – take access to the courts and the judicial system for granted. However, there are thousands of people in San Diego who cannot afford to utilize the justice system built to help them. I have partnered with the judiciary to identify those in our community most in need, particularly the elderly, veterans, immigrants, and victims of domestic violence. Our legal community is only as good as its ability to serve our poorest – not our richest – and I would be honored to bring that focus to the Board.

Other information you would like to share with the SDCBA membership

I frequently play golf, yet I remain terrible.

Endorsements

ORGANIZATIONS

San Diego County Bar Foundation
Rockwood and Noziska LLP

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BRENT DOUGLAS *CONTINUED*

Endorsements

INDIVIDUALS

Leslie Devaney
William Pate
Eddie Rodriguez
James Taylor-Copeland
Anne Marie Dao
Bardia Moayedi
Brian Funk
Neal Rockwood
Michael Licari
Kyle T. Overs

Diana Khoury
Monica Sherman Ghiglia
Alejandro Moreno
Kathryn B. Fox
Derek Paradis
Scott Ingold
Jeffery Morris
Leslie Riis
David Plancarte
Prof. Allen Snyder

Micaela Banach
Alex Outwater
Amir Azimzadeh
Wynter Deagle
Eric Eastham
Nicholas Mouton
Brian Lam
Matt Sinnott



NICHOLAS J. FOX

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP

Years admitted to practice in California: 7 Years

Years practicing in San Diego: 7 years

Years as a member of the SDCBA: 7 years

Areas of practice:

- Civil litigation
- Consumer and privacy class actions
- Corporate disputes
- Appellate practice

What sections or committees do you belong to at the SDCBA?

- Civil Litigation Section
- Appellate Practice Section
- Ethnic Relations & Diversity Committee

What other SDCBA projects have you worked on?

The SDCBA and Tom Homann LGBT Law Association have worked together on numerous events, including Dialogue on Diversity, Holidays Around The World, and the 2016 City Attorney Primaries Debate.

Have you held any leadership positions at the SDCBA? If so, what positions

Not at SDCBA, but I have held leadership positions at many other organizations, as discussed below.

What leadership roles have you had in other bar associations or other non-legal associations?

- Tom Homann LGBT Law Association
 - Co-President: 2013 – 2015; 2016 – 2018
 - Board Member: 2012 – 2018
 - Committees: Endorsements, Annual Dinner, Public Relations, Elections, Membership
- Tom Homann LGBT Law Foundation
 - President: 2016 – 2018
 - Board Member: 2016 – 2018

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NICHOLAS J. FOX *CONTINUED*

University of San Diego School of Law Alumni Association

- i. Board Member: 2015 – 2018
- ii. Co-Chair, Philanthropy Committee: 2016 – 2018
- iii. Committees: Diversity, Mentorship, Nominations, Executive
- University of San Diego School of Law LGBTQ Scholarship Committee
 - i. Chair: 2015 – 2018
- Association of Business Trial Lawyers
 - i. Member: Leadership Development Committee
- General Member of SDCBA, Tom Homann LGBT Law Association, Lawyers Club of San Diego, La Raza Lawyers of San Diego, Pan Asian Lawyers of San Diego, Filipino American Lawyers of San Diego, South Asian Bar Association of San Diego, Hon. William B. Enright Inn of Court, National LGBT Bar Association, American Bar Association, Federal Bar Association, and Association of Business Trial Lawyers.

Awards and honors

- San Diego Super Lawyers® – Rising Star (2018)
- Witkin Award – Changemaker: Advancing Access To Justice, San Diego Law Library Foundation (2017)
- Co-Presidents’ Award, Tom Homann LGBT Law Association (2015)
- Outstanding Service Award, Legal Aid Society of San Diego (2013)
- Wiley W. Manuel Certificate for Pro Bono Legal Services, State Bar of California (multiple years)
- Order of the Coif, USD School of Law
- San Diego Law Review, Senior Executive Editor

Description of what inspires you

Selflessness. As attorneys, we are extremely busy with our practices, let alone time for family, friends, or community involvement. But many of us try to give back to our communities. We serve on volunteer boards, assume leadership positions, and take on pro bono clients who are in most need of legal help. And we do it not for recognition, but because it’s the right thing to do. Volunteering our time to help individuals and organizations do better reflects the stewardship of our profession. We sacrifice our time so that our communities can hopefully be bettered by our commitment.

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NICHOLAS J. FOX *CONTINUED*

Description of what you would bring to the SDCBA Board

Experience and initiative. Having held leadership positions in different organizations, I know that those organizations can make a great impact. SDCBA is no different, and with good people who are dedicated to seeing SDCBA improve, we can create growth and provide more targeted member services. I want to:

- Continue SDCBA's tradition of diverse representation. In order to have a representative, effective, and impactful SDCBA, we need to underscore the importance of having diverse representation at the table and in the decision-making process.
- Increase collaboration among SDCBA and constituent groups. SDCBA may be the hub of legal activities and events, but our rich, diverse bar associations and sections add vibrancy. SDCBA can strengthen these relationships by acting as a facilitator and collaborator of cross-association events.
- Improve outreach and services to the communities we serve. Many of our diverse communities are currently threatened or under attack. SDCBA should encourage its members to undertake pro bono and volunteer work, and facilitate opportunities with organizations serving underrepresented communities.
- Develop programming to encourage newer member involvement. SDCBA should reach out to junior attorneys to gain insight as to they want in SDCBA. SDCBA can grow by targeting the needs of the next generation of lawyers.

Other information you would like to share with the SDCBA membership

I believe in collaboration and initiative. I am not someone who sits idly by, performs the basic functions of the job, and calls it a day. When I become involved in the leadership of an organization, I take on a fiduciary and stewardship role. I want to leave the organization better than when I joined it, and that requires doing more than routine business. It requires reaching out to other individuals and organizations, collaborating with them, taking on new initiatives to expand programming, services, and membership. Growing and improving the County Bar should be the Board's focus, and that requires gaining insight into what its members want (and what would attract new members). It requires reaching out into the communities we serve. I am not here to let SDCBA be stagnant. I'm here to make it grow and make it better.

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NICHOLAS J. FOX *CONTINUED*

Endorsements

ORGANIZATIONS

I am honored to have the endorsement of the following organizations:

Tom Homann LGBT Law Association
Lawyers Club of San Diego
Pan Asian Lawyers of San Diego
San Diego La Raza Lawyers Association
Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association
Ryan Bates
Andrea Kaplan Russell, Former Chair of SDCBA Civil Litigation Section

INDIVIDUALS

I am also honored to have the endorsement of the following individuals:

Past SDCBA Presidents

Todd F. Stevens
Heather L. Rosing
Jerrilyn T. Malana
Monty A. McIntyre
Virginia C. Nelson

Past County Bar Board Members

Lizzette Herrera (Past President, La Raza)
Anita Margolis
Andy Cook
Jim Crosby

Mara Elliott (City Attorney)
Olga Alvarez (Past President, Lawyers Club)
Jamie Quiant(Past President, Lawyers Club)
Jonah Toleno (Past President, FALSD)
Nadia Bermudez (Past President, La Raza; Past President, Lawyers Club)
Eran Bermudez (Past President, La Raza)
Melissa Deleon (Past President, FALSD)
Ariel Javier (Past President, FALSD)
Melissa Johnson (Chair, L&E Section)
Angelica Sciencio (Chair, ERDC)
George E.C. Seymour (President, THLA)
Ellen L. Smith (President, THLA)
Stephen Ferruolo (Dean, USD Law)

Kyle Nageotte (Past Chair, CYLA)
Rich Segal
Alex Calero
Kathryn M.S. Catherwood
Gayle Blatt
Susan Hack
Carolina Bravo-Karimi
Debbie Rider
Robert Gleason
Ronson Shamoun
Nancy Stagg
Ben Coughlan



A. MELISSA JOHNSON

Spencer Johnson McCammon LLP

Years admitted to practice in California: 22

Years practicing in San Diego: 22

Years as a member of the SDCBA: 22

Areas of practice: Employment Law

What sections or committees do you belong to at the SDCBA?

Labor & Employment

Civil Litigation

What other SDCBA projects have you worked on?

Ask a Lawyer

Leadership Retreats

Law Student Welcome Receptions

San Diego County High School Mock Trial Program

Have you held any leadership positions at the SDCBA? If so, what positions

Chair, Labor & Employment Executive Committee (2018)

Member at Large, Labor & Employment Executive Committee (2015-2017)

What leadership roles have you had in other bar associations or other non-legal associations?

California Employment Lawyers Association (CELA)

Board of Directors (2018)

Mentor Committee (2016-present)

Lawyers Club of San Diego

Co-Chair, Mentor Committee (2018)

LGTBQ Committee (2018)

Bench Bar Committee (2017-present)

Mentor of dozens attorneys and law students

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A. MELISSA JOHNSON *CONTINUED*

Awards and honors

American Institute of Legal Counsel, 10 Best Client Satisfaction, Labor & Employment (2016)

Description of what inspires you

I am inspired by the opportunity to help others and make a difference. People who are driven, with have creativity and courage, and who foster growth in others inspire me. Diverse and multicultural environments inspire me. Public service inspires me, and I believe that lawyers have the opportunity to provide meaningful service in the community and to make an impact. My profession is a great source of personal pride, and I feel fortunate to be able to serve others through my pro bono and legal work, and through my involvement with various organizations.

Description of what you would bring to the SDCBA Board

Diversity in SDCBA Leadership. Our San Diego legal community is rich with many talented, committed, and engaged attorneys, but we lack diversity in SDCBA leadership. As chair of the SDCBA labor and employment section, I actively encouraged - and still encourage - executive committee members to position diverse speakers in educational programming. This brought fast and excellent results as the SDCBA speaker pool quickly became more inclusive. Our SDCBA committee structure is a great vehicle to identify leadership within the San Diego legal community. As a Board member, I will pursue an organizational commitment to diversity in SDCBA programs and governance. I will work with diverse bar associations to identify emerging leaders, and support and encourage their path to governance within the SDCBA.

New Lawyer Development. I will continue to advance the SDCBA's commitment to bridging the gap between law school and law practice by providing educational programs and resources to new lawyers.

Enhance Section Webpages. I would like to establish an SDCBA working group to help each section increase the visibility of its webpage, and develop a plan to regularly review and refresh content.

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A. MELISSA JOHNSON *CONTINUED*

Endorsements

ORGANIZATIONS

Consumer Attorneys of San Diego
Filipino American Lawyers of San Diego
Iranian American Bar Association
Korean American Bar Association
La Raza Lawyers of San Diego
Lawyers Club of San Diego
National Employment Lawyers Association San Diego
Native American Lawyers Association
Pan Asian Lawyers San Diego
South Asian Bar Association
Tom Homann LGBT Law Association

INDIVIDUALS

Past SDCBA Presidents:

Richard Huver
Todd Stevens

Attorneys:

Catherine Asunción	Nick Fox	Andrea Jones
J. Ray Ayers	Shannon Finley	Diana Khoury
Harvey Berger	Kristen Fritz	Gary Laturno
Carolina Bravo-Karimi	Danielle Garcia	Andrew Lockard
Robert Caietti	Jeffrey Geraci	Anita Margolis
Brigid Campo	Mikha Ghorban	Thomas J. McCammon
Ed Chapin	Dana Grimes	John McCarthy
Terry Chapko	Rodrigo Guevara	Manfred Muecke
Kelsey Ciarimboli	Daniel Gunning	Aaron M. Olsen
Jodi Cleesattle	Alreen Haegguist	Jenna Rangel
Merriane Dean	Christopher J. Hayes	Ariel Sabban
Elona Duneheew	Chris Heim	Zachary Schumacher
Jeremy Evans	Raphael Hurtado	Morgan J.C. Scudi

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A. MELISSA JOHNSON *CONTINUED*

Endorsements

George Seymour

Patrick Shea

Michael Singer

Marilynn Mika Spencer

Phillip Stephen

Mattheus Stephens

Denise Stich

Lauri Stock

Cynthia Stratton

David Strauss

Susan Swan

Kimberly Swirenga

Julie O. Wolf

Kirk Yake

Arleen Yang

Rebecca Zipp



SOUTH BAY SEAT

KHODADAD DARIUS "KO" SHARIF

SHARIF | FAUST LAWYERS, Ltd.

Years admitted to practice in California: 21

Years practicing in San Diego: 21

Years as a member of the SDCBA: Since 2005

Areas of practice: Civil Litigation, Family Law, and Criminal Defense

Pro Tem Judge with the San Diego Superior Court (Since December 2007)

Fee Arbitrator with SDCBA (Since 2006)

American Inns of Court, Louis M. Welsh Inn- 2014 to present

Southwestern College-Adjunct (February 2016 to present)

Southwestern College-Grievance Chair (August 2016 to present)

Member of the Iranian American Bar Association

Past Marshal, Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity—First Supreme Senate of the Second Century

Past Chair of the School Site Council-CVESD

What sections or committees do you belong to at the SDCBA?

- LRIS Panel Membership
- Fee Arbitration Committee
- Civil Litigation Section
- Family Law Section
- Ethnic Relations and Diversity Committee (ERDC)
- Community Service Committee

Past Committee memberships at the SDCBA

- Children at Risk Committee
- Alternative Dispute Resolution Section
- Appellate Court Committee
- Bankruptcy Law Section
- Bar History Committee
- Construction Law Section

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KHODADAD DARIUS “KO” SHARIF *CONTINUED*

Have you held any leadership positions at the SDCBA? If so, what positions

Attorney Coach for Otay Ranch High School Mock Trial (2010-2011 thru 2014-2015).

Description of what inspires you

Born in Iran and raised in America, I've always asked myself, "why?" and "how?" The impact of witnessing a revolution as a child has left me asking how do governments work? What is law? How do laws protect the people? After following my older brother's footsteps to San Diego, I graduated from University City High School in 1987 and in my quest for the answer, I went on to study Political Science at San Diego State University and ultimately earned my law degree from Thomas Jefferson School of Law. My passion for law is rooted in my passion for politics; while studying Political Science at State, I came to realize the value of our legal system and its stability, the strength of our Constitution, and the true meaning of our democratic system. Our system can operate and remain a forceful democratic institution, fighting for our individual rights, if, and only if, willing and able people participate in it. Our democratic system is about access to justice and the legal system. It is about understanding it and knowing our civic duties and obligations in exchange for those democratic values. It is the opportunity to be heard and knowing that you can make a change. This is the key to increasing civic participation. I am inspired knowing that more people are engaged in our legal system. I have found that when people are disengaged and disenfranchised, they lose faith in the system. An effective democratic system only exists when people are engaged.

This knowledge inspires me to promote the importance of our courts and legal system, and to make them accessible thereby safeguarding our civil and a constitutional society.

Description of what you would bring to the SDCBA Board

Commitment to community involvement. My goal will be to generate more vibrant involvement in our legal system from the South Bay community. My experiences as an attorney coaching the Otay Ranch High School Mock Trial team in Chula Vista and my involvement at my children's then elementary school, teaching a GATE program, and coaching a Mock Trial competition were all extremely rewarding. During my time there, I came to meet some very bright students with aspirations and dreams of becoming lawyers. However, South Bay's involvement in the Mock Trial competitions has since declined. I want to revive the program to ensure future

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KHODADAD DARIUS “KO” SHARIF *CONTINUED*

opportunities are available for the students. Whether through High Schools, through Chula Vista Elementary School District, or in cooperation with Southwestern College, SDCBA can make the commitment to educate the community and reach the hearts of our future lawyers.

Noticeably, Chula Vista is devoid of a Small Claims Court. As a pro tem, having heard many Small Claims matters, I see a need for our South Bay residents to have access to the Small Claims court. Many of the South Bay litigants forego their claims and do not drive up to the Downtown courthouse. I would like to see the Small Claims program reinstated and the mediation programs expanded in South Bay.



WILLIAM F. SMALL

Small & Schena LLP

Years admitted to practice in California: 10

Years practicing in San Diego: 10

Years as a member of the SDCBA: 9 (2007-2012, 2014-2018)

Areas of practice: Civil litigation, primarily business and employment litigation

What sections or committees do you belong to at the SDCBA?

- Civil Litigation
- Labor & Employment Law
- Business & Corporate Law

What other SDCBA projects have you worked on?

- Presenter for SDCBA's Court Practice Series – Decoding Your Local Court
- Organizer and Presenter for SDCBA's Civil Litigation Roundtable Series for New Practitioners
- Legal Community Open House & Law Student Welcome Reception
- Ethnic Relations and Diversity Committee's Holidays Around the World

Have you held any leadership positions at the SDCBA? If so, what positions?

- 2017 – Chair, Civil Litigation Section
- 2016 – Chair, Civil Litigation Section
- 2015 – Vice Chair, Civil Litigation Section

What leadership roles have you had in other bar associations or other non-legal associations?

Associate Attorneys Committee, Gordon & Rees LLP
Sponsor, Chairman's Roundtable

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WILLIAM F. SMALL *CONTINUED*

Awards and honors

San Diego County Top Attorney in Corporate Litigation 2015, San Diego Daily Transcript
Best of the Bar 2015 and 2016, San Diego Business Journal
Rising Stars 2017, Super Lawyers

Description of what inspires you

I am inspired by the attorneys in our community who make the time to serve charitable and social causes in the face of professional demands and the struggle to maintain a modicum of work-life balance. Lawyers are in a unique position to do good for others, yet obligations and pressure to succeed at work often stand in the way. I look up to the many members of our legal community whose drive to serve others finds a way.

Description of what you would bring to the SDCBA Board

I was elected by my peers and served for two years as the Chair of the SDCBA Civil Litigation Section, which is the largest practice-based membership section of the SDCBA. As the chair of that section, I was tasked with organizing and overseeing educational, service and social programming, as well as working to address concerns and needs of our section members.

In addition, I have a varied background as a civil practitioner, starting my career at a mid-sized law firm, moving to one of the largest firms in San Diego, and then starting and running my own small firm with a partner. That background gives me an understanding and appreciation of what many members want and need from the SDCBA.

Finally, I want to strengthen the partnerships between the SDCBA and the other bar associations in our community, including our diversity bar associations and practice-area bar associations. The SDCBA is already a champion of diversity, yet I believe there is opportunity for even more collaboration. I would be honored to explore that opportunity on the Board.

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WILLIAM F. SMALL *CONTINUED*

Other information you would like to share with the SDCBA membership

I graduated from the University of North Carolina School of Law and moved to San Diego after taking the bar exam. At that time, I knew zero people, had zero connections and zero jobs.

The SDCBA was how I connected with the San Diego legal community. Through it, I established a large network of both professional colleagues and personal friends. In addition, my practice now depends on referrals from other attorneys – and the connections I have made through the SDCBA contribute to a significant portion of those referrals.

In short, I am not running for the SDCBA Board as a personal ambition. I'm running because I believe in the power of the SDCBA to be a force of good for our community, and I want to serve and pay this organization back for the good it has done me.

Endorsements by individuals or groups

ORGANIZATIONS

Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association

San Diego La Raza Lawyers Association

INDIVIDUALS

Heather Riley (Past SDCBA President)

Heather Rosing (Past SDCBA President)

Richard Huver (Past SDCBA President)

Dick Semerdjian (Past Member, SDCBA Board)

Andy Cook (Past Member, SDCBA Board)

Roger Haerr (Past Member, SDCBA Board)

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WILLIAM F. SMALL *CONTINUED*

Endorsements

Alara Chilton
Amanda Allen
Ana Sambold
Ben Coughlan
Bing I. Bush, Jr.
Brandon Saxon
Cheryl Soto
Chris Hendricks
Conor J. Hulburt
Courtney Baird
David McCuaig
David Norris
Elvira Cortez
Eric Ganci

Everett Barry
Jenny Chang
Jeremy Evans
Joe Dunn
John Schena
John Stephens
John Walsh
Josh Franklin
Katherine Paculba
Kelly Tran
Kirk Yake
Leticia "Tia" Butler
Matt Deen
Matt Mahoney

Ramin Hariri
Randy K. Jones
Regan Furcolo
Robert Marasco
Sam Sherman
Sarah Brite Evans
Sean Ponist
Shailendra "Shay" Kulkarni
Sierra Spitzer
Sue Swan
Tracy L. Schimelfenig
William Fennell
William V. Whelan