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JOHANNA SCHIAVONI TO LEAD SAN DIEGO COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION IN 2020

New Board Members Elected, Installation Ceremony at Stepping Up to the Bar December 13

SAN DIEGO (November 18, 2019) — Johanna Schiavoni, an appellate attorney and founder of her own boutique appellate firm, Law Office of Johanna S. Schiavoni, will serve as President of the San Diego County Bar Association (SDCBA) for 2020.

In her practice, Schiavoni handles high-stakes civil appeals in federal and state courts covering a broad spectrum of legal areas, ranging from employment law to contractual disputes, business torts, and class actions. She also represents indigent criminal litigants when appointed by a court, routinely litigating complex criminal and constitutional law issues. At the SDCBA, Schiavoni has served in leadership in the Appellate Practice Section and Court Funding Action Committee. She also served as the inaugural Chair of the SDCBA's Public Positions Advisory Group, as Treasurer, and as Vice President. In the community, Schiavoni co-founded the San Diego Leadership Alliance, now in its 11th year of running a leadership institute; she served as the 2013-2014 President of Lawyers Club of San Diego; and, since March 2018, she has served as a Mayoral appointee on the board of the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority. Schiavoni will serve as the SDCBA's 113th president and the 14thth woman in that role.

"At the SDCBA, we are focused on building a strong and inclusive community—within our membership, with the judiciary, and in the broader community we serve. We also strive to help our members advance as leaders, to provide them the tools to innovate and grow their law practices, and to celebrate the profession," Schiavoni said. "I am particularly honored to serve as the SDCBA's president in 2020, when the nation will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment and women's right to vote, and at a time when there is an increasing focus in our public dialogue about the importance of the courts, the role of attorneys, and the rule of law."

Renee Stackhouse has been elected to succeed Schiavoni as the Bar's 2021 president and will serve as President-Elect in 2020. Stackhouse is a trial lawyer focusing on plaintiff's personal injury, military, and criminal defense. She has served on the SDCBA's Board since 2017 as Vice President and as inaugural Chair of the Law and Technology committee. She regularly contributes to San Diego Lawyer magazine and co-hosts the SDCBA's podcast "Meet & Confer." Stackhouse served as President of California Women Lawyers in 2018 and President of San Diego La Raza Lawyers in 2014.

Current SDCBA President Lilys McCoy will serve as Immediate Past President in 2020.

Additionally, Samantha Begovich, Roxanne J. Carter, Warren K. Den, and Kimberly Swierenga have been elected by the SDCBA's membership to serve three-year terms on the Board. Linh Lam, Gary Barthel, David Majchrzak, Teodora Purcell, Marissa Bejarano, Hon. Victor Bianchini (ret.), Nicholas Fox, A. Melissa Johnson, and Khodadad "Ko" Sharif will continue their service on the Board in 2020. The Chair of the Association's New Lawyer Division Stephanie Sandler will also serve a one-year term on the Board. Two vacant Board positions will be filled by appointment in December.

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The 2020 SDCBA Board of Directors will take part in an installation ceremony at Stepping Up to the Bar, the Association's annual holiday reception, on December 13. This year's event will be held at The Guild Hotel, 500 W Broadway, San Diego, CA 92101, at 5:30 p.m. and is open to all SDCBA members.

Founded in 1899, the San Diego County Bar Association, headquartered in downtown San Diego, is the region's oldest and largest law-related organization and the hub of the county's legal community. More information about the San Diego County Bar Association is at <https://www.sdcba.org>.

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