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Thursday, June 28, 2012

**Judges and Judiciary****Incoming presiding judge faces challenges**

Following her Tuesday victory in a rare contested election for presiding judge, San Francisco County Superior Court Judge Cynthia Ming-mei Lee will now have to face concerns raised during the race.

**Bankruptcy****Municipal lawyers eye Stockton bankruptcy for clues**

The bankruptcy is a trial by fire for AB 506, which requires lengthy negotiations before cities may pursue protection through bankruptcy proceedings. And so far the verdict on how well the legislation works is mixed.

**Intellectual Property****Apple wins injunction against Samsung in smartphone war**

In a victory for Apple Inc., a San Jose federal judge has blocked the sale of a Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd. tablet computer in the United States because it infringes the Cupertino-based consumer technology company's patent.

**Government****Mortgage bills head to floor votes**

Key parts of the so-called Homeowner Bill of Rights passed a special joint conference committee on Wednesday by a 4-1 vote with one abstention.

**U.S. Supreme Court****Williams: a strange end to what Crawford began**

Last week's ruling in *William* leaves a messy picture for lawyers to sort out. By **Craig E. Countryman** of Fish & Richardson PC

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The landmark legislation has reached a milestone, yet is still facing challenges. By **Jenny Goodman** of Sullivan Hill Lewin Rez & Engel

**U.S. Supreme Court****Laughing it up at the Supreme Court**

There are many ways to spotlight the weaknesses in a lawyer's performance without public bullying that interferes with the lawyer's presentation. By **Gideon Kanner** of Loyola Law School

**Bankruptcy**

## Southwestern dean joining UCI faculty

*The outgoing dean of Southwestern University Law School becomes UCI faculty.*

By **Don J. DeBenedictis**

SANTA ANA - Bryant G. Garth, the outgoing dean of Southwestern University Law School and a leading researcher of the legal profession, will join the UCI School of Law faculty July 1.

For 14 years, Garth was the director of the American Bar Foundation, the American Bar Association's research institute on law and the legal profession, where he oversaw an ongoing, multiyear study of young lawyers called "After the JD."

"Bryant is a superb addition to our growing faculty," said UCI Dean Erwin Chemerinsky in a statement. "His teaching and research will help bolster our reputation as a top law school."

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**'I am amazed at what the dean and faculty have been able to accomplish in just a few years.' - Bryant G. Garth**

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In an emailed statement from Buenos Aires, where he is teaching, Garth said he is pleased to be joining UCI's young law school, which graduated its first class last month.

"I am amazed at what the dean and faculty have been able to accomplish in just a few years," Garth wrote.

He said he also is looking forward to teaching UCI's "very innovative first-year legal profession course." During the year-long class, students hear from lawyers and judges about the work and ethical issues that arise in various areas of practice.

He said the course is somewhat similar to a shorter one he has offered Southwestern's entering classes in the past few years.

The UCI course was primarily developed by Ann Southworth, also a respected researcher in the field.

Garth said that he and Southworth may do some work together. "We have already talked about some projects," he wrote.

Garth announced last month that he was stepping down as Southwestern's dean. Vice Dean Austen Parrish will serve as interim dean, according to the school.

During his seven years at Southwestern, Garth added new faculty and clinical offerings, created law and management degree programs, and expanded the school's entertainment law institute, including launching an online LLM degree in entertainment and media law.

Earlier this year, however, Southwestern became one of 15 law schools across the country sued in class actions by graduates claiming they had been misled by their alma maters' employment projections. *Derby v. Southwestern Law School*, BC 478133 (L.A. Super. Ct., filed Feb. 1, 2012). The case is on hold awaiting transfer to Los Angeles Superior Court's complex civil docket.

**RELATED ARTICLES**

**Fourth California law school dean leaving post** April 27, 2012

Southwestern Law School's dean is stepping down, becoming the fourth California law school dean to depart or take another role in the wake of a scandal that erupted over the past year accusing institutions of inflating statements about graduates' job prospects.

**Legal education under fire from critics** January 3, 2012

Legal education has come under fire in the past year, in part because job prospects for debt-laden law school graduates have plummeted in the poor economy.

**Some law school graduates battle the odds and come out on top** December 9, 2011

Law schools are under fire for their students' employment rates nine months after graduation, but some people who struggle in that early time period eventually land jobs they love.

**UCI Teaching the Classics - But With a Twist** August 26, 2009

Students at the UCI School of Law are taking courses such as "Common Law Analysis" and "Statutory Analysis" but some still call them by the old names: contracts and criminal law.

**New Law School at UC Irvine Announces Diversified Faculty** July 11, 2008

The new law school at UC Irvine now has a 14-member faculty plus five senior administrators to take care of its starting class of 60 students next year.

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**Absolute priority in individual Chapter 11 cases**

Courts are divided on whether to apply the Absolute Priority Rule in individual Chapter 11 cases. By **Richard J. Reynolds** of Turner, Reynolds, Greco & O'hara

**Letter to the Editor**

**Fancy arguments won't avoid conflicts with *Concepcion***

No matter how you spin it, SB 491 and *Concepcion* do not fit together. By **Kim Stone** of the Civil Justice Association of America

**U.S. Supreme Court**

**Supreme disapproval of Obama administration**

When he is a party in a Supreme Court case, the solicitor general wins nearly 70 percent of the time. This term, that number looks to flip. By **Adam Winkler** of UCLA School of Law

**Discipline**

**Vexatious litigant should be disbarred, State Bar Court rules**

Santa Rosa lawyer Kevin Michael Healy should be disbarred and pay a former client \$30,000, according to a ruling from the State Bar Court appellate panel.

**Labor/Employment**

**Grocery chain slammed for pro-management flier campaign**

By requiring workers involved in an organizing campaign to distribute pro-management leaflets to customers, a Los Angeles outlet of grocery chain Fresh & Easy Neighborhood Market violated federal law, labor officials ruled.

**Litigation**

**New foie gras lawsuit ducks ethics debate entirely**

With the statewide ban on foie gras just days away, a lawsuit in Los Angeles federal court hopes to extend the prohibition nationwide by pushing what appears to be a novel legal theory.

**Law Practice**

**Court lets law firm use anti-SLAPP law to dismiss suit against firm**

A San Francisco appellate court granted Kabateck Brown Kellner LLP's motion to dismiss a suit against the firm under California's anti-SLAPP statute.

**Real Estate**

**Real Estate Deals**

Manatt, Phelps & Phillips LLP helped Beverly Hills developer Sonny Astani sell a long vacant downtown Los Angeles lot for \$63 million -- a sum Astani described as one of the most expensive land deals ever in the area.

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