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**Nossaman LLP discusses the future of the coast**

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Nossaman LLP hosted the seminar “California Coastal Commission 2012: A New Era in Coastal Planning and Permitting” on June 12 in Huntington Beach. The panelists included coastal law partners John Erskine and John Flynnkey, with Nossaman LLP; Bonnie Neely, former chair of the California Coastal Commission and senior policy adviser with Nossaman LLP; key staff of the coastal commission and various industry experts. During the program, the panelists discussed the Local Coastal Program and Coastal Development Permit (CDP) process, best practices when processing CDPs with the commission, and the latest commission developments in wetlands and tidelands regulation.

**UCI School of Law looks to Supreme Court's future**

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At a UCI School of Law event on July 17, constitutional scholar Erwin Chemerinsky predicted that the U.S. Supreme Court will rule in favor of same-sex marriage next year. Speaking on a program reviewing the major decisions of the court's just-concluded term, the UCI School of Law dean said that the court “will find a right to marriage equality for gays and lesbians” next term and that Justice Anthony M. Kennedy will write the majority decision. Pointing out that Kennedy wrote the only two Supreme Court decisions in history to advance the rights of gays and lesbians, Chemerinsky said Kennedy will “see the issue as his most important legacy on the Supreme Court.” “Ultimately, Justice Kennedy has to decide does he want to write the next Plessy v. Ferguson or the next Brown v. Board of Education,” Chemerinsky said. The dean also predicted that the Supreme Court next term will strike down part of the federal Voting Rights Act and “substantially cut back” on affirmative action precedents. “I think this is going to be a very significant blow to diversity,” he said. — Don J. DeBenedictis

**LA legal organizations return the service**

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Attorneys from 19 legal organizations from the nonprofit, private and government sector came together on July 20 in downtown Los Angeles to provide free legal services and an array of gently used women's suits, shoes and handbags during the Second Annual Stand Down for Female Veterans. The day of outreach coordinated by the California Women's Law Center connected homeless female veterans with free medical, legal and other supports designed to help them escape homelessness and re-enter the workforce.

Victor Gold provided opening remarks at the presentation, at which Loyola Marymount University President David W. Burcham also spoke. Girardi was joined by benefactors and fellow alumni Albro Lundy of Baker Burton & Lundy and Walter J. Lack, founding and managing partner of Engstrom, Lipscomb & Lack.

### UC Irvine celebrates inaugural commencement

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UC Irvine School of Law celebrated its first commencement ceremony on Saturday. The three-year-old law school saw the inaugural class of 58 walk the aisle and receive hoods and diplomas. Dean Edwin Chemerinsky delivered the reception's welcoming address and closing remarks. Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Michael R. Gottfredson and Chancellor Michael V. Drake gave preliminary remarks, while Judge Harry T. Edwards of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit delivered the commencement address. Jean Su, a member of the school's first Jessup International Law Moot Court team, was chosen by her peers to give a short speech reflecting on their experiences.

### Allen Matkins celebrates anniversary

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The San Francisco office of Allen Matkins Leck Gamble Mallory & Natsis LLP celebrated its 15th anniversary on May 3 with a reception featuring live music at its offices at Three Embarcadero Center. Besides the firm's attorneys and clients, other members of the legal community showed up to celebrate at the packed event.

### UC Irvine holds moot court

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The UC Irvine School of Law held its 2012 Experian/Jones Day Moot Court Competition finals on March 23. Second- and third-year law students were given the opportunity to write briefs and argue in front of a panel of federal court of appeals judges.