



SacLEGAL EX PARTE

The Newsletter of the Sacramento Lawyers for the Equality of Gays and Lesbians

Spring 2013

SacLEGAL and Sacramento Stonewall Democrats Present MCLE Panel and Discussion on Prop 8 and DOMA Supreme Court Arguments

By **Katie Patterson**
SacLEGAL Co-Chair

In advance of oral arguments on the Proposition 8 and Defense of Marriage Act Supreme Court cases, the Sacramento community came together to hear a lively panel discussion featuring Professor Larry Levine and Professor Courtney Joslin as well as two attorneys involved in the case, Jeremy Goldman, partner at the Oakland office of Boies Schiller & Flexner LLP, and Enrique Monagas, associate at the San Francisco office of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher.

SacLEGAL partnered with Sacramento Stonewall Democrats and with the support of both the McGeorge Lambda Law Students, and the UC Davis Lambda Law Students Association. Over 120 people flocked to McGeorge School of Law to hear the discussion of these cases.

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Photo Courtesy McGeorge School of Law

Professor Larry Levine (not pictured), Professor Courtney Joslin, and Jeremy Goldman joined Enrique Monagas (right) at SacLEGAL's February 5, 2013, event.

Recent Hate Crimes Spur Need for More Awareness and Reporting, Safe Spaces

By **Natalie Bustamante**
SacLEGAL Board Member

Several recent assaults in [Sacramento](#), [Davis](#), and the [Bay Area](#) linked to anti-gay slurs and other derogatory homophobic comments have underscored the importance of reporting hate crimes, as well as the value in providing safe spaces for LGBT victims.

In the Sacramento Bee article regarding the St. Patrick's Day assault of a midtown pedestrian cited a report from the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs showing a decrease of more than 15 percent in reported incidents of hate crimes against LGBT individuals between 2010 and 2011. According to the FBI's 2011 Hate Crime Statistics Report released late last year, [20.8 percent](#) of the total reported hate crime incidents involved bias against sexual orientation.

Nevertheless, many of these violent incidents go unreported, prompting national and local efforts to raise awareness and establish liaisons with community organizations. For example, this month, the San Francisco

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Don't Forget...

- Renew your membership at www.saclegal.org/join.php
- Save the Date! Join SacLEGAL in the Sacramento Pride Parade on June 15. Check our website, www.saclegal.org for updates!
- You can follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/saclegal and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/saclegal

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Resources Exist for Hate Crime Victims

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Police Department became the first city to launch [LGBT Safe Zones](#) staffed with liaisons trained to serve the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities. Signs designating each of San Francisco's 10 police stations as Safe Zones are intended as a preventive measure against hate crimes and a way to encourage victims to report incidents.

Local resources also exist for reporting hate crimes in an LGBT-friendly environment, a few of which are listed below:

Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Center

1927 L Street, Sacramento, CA 95811

Phone: (916) 442-0185

Email: SacCenter@SacCenter.org

Website: www.SacCenter.org

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri., 12:00PM – 9:00PM

UC Davis LGBT Resource Center

Student Community Center

397 Hutchison Drive, Suite 1400, Davis, CA 95616

Phone: (530) 752-2452

Email: ekrause@ucdavis.edu,

Elizabeth Krause, Assistant Director

Website: lgbtcenter.ucdavis.edu

Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs., 10:00AM – 6:00PM; Fri. 9:00AM – 5:00PM

B.R.A.V.E. Society

Bullying Awareness and Victim Advocacy

P.O. Box 764, Carmichael, CA 95608

Phone: (916) 903-6627

Website: www.BraveSociety.org

Sacramento Police Department

5770 Freeport Boulevard, Sacramento, CA 95822

Bias/Hate Crime Hotline: (916) 808-BIAS (2427)

Website: [Public Safety Center - Headquarters](#)

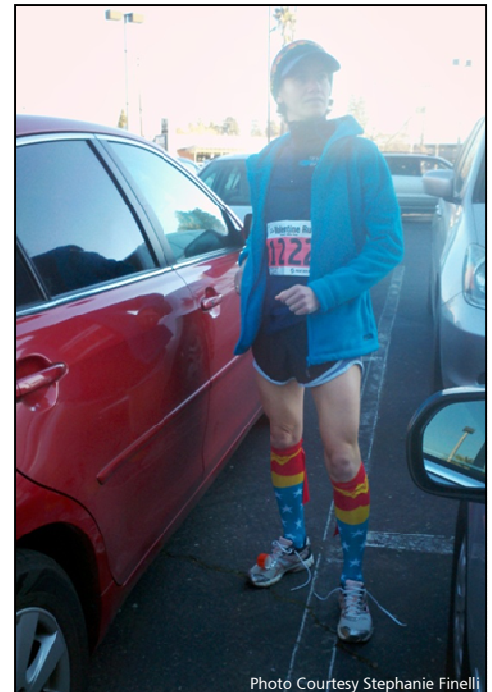
SacLEGAL Member Wins LSNC's "Fastest Attorney" Award at Valentine Run

By Pam Jones

SacLEGAL Treasurer

SacLEGAL member Stephanie Finelli of the Law Office of Stephanie J. Finelli blazed through the 10th Annual Valentine Run on Saturday, February 9, 2013 to win the *Fastest Attorney* award in the 36-44 age division. That means that she was faster than any attorney, man or woman, in the 36-44 age division. Stephanie was clocked at an average pace of 6 minutes and 21 seconds per mile. That is crazy fast. When Stephanie is not working or running she is coaching her sons Graham and Connor in cross country and cheering them on in basketball. Congratulations Stephanie!

SacLEGAL board members Chris Lee and Pam Jones also represented SacLEGAL at the Valentine Run. We hope in 2014 to bring a full SacLEGAL team to the run. Join us! The Valentine Run is a fundraiser for Legal Services of Northern California ("LSNC"). LSNC's mission is to provide quality legal services to empower the poor to identify and defeat the causes and effects of poverty within their community efficiently utilizing all available resources.



Stephanie Finelli warms up before her victory at the LSNC Valentine Run.

Prop 8 MCLE Event a Success

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The panel discussed the potential outcomes of the two cases and fielded numerous questions from the standing room only crowd. "The presentation's goal was to share substantive insight and analysis of the legal issues involved, and we were pleased that such a large audience turned out for the event," Levine said afterwards.

The Supreme Court heard oral arguments on March 26th and 27th and a decision on each case is expected by June 2013. In the interim, please read Professor Levine's forthcoming law review article, "Justice Kennedy's 'Gay Agenda': Romer, Lawrence, and the Struggle for Marriage Equality," *McGeorge L. Rev.* (forthcoming 2013), available at:

<https://docs.google.com/file/d/0BxNfPvRXu3x5bU1kM2hDSHJOVIE/edit?usp=sharing>

Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP sponsored a well-attended reception after the forum that featured Mark Leno (11th Senate District), a San Francisco Democrat and long-time gay rights supporter and leader.

Pending California LGBTQQIA-Related Legislation

Courtesy of Jo Michaels
SacLEGAL Board Member

SB 323 (Lara) Youth Equality Act

Clarifies that nonprofit youth organizations will only be rewarded with special tax exemptions if they comply with California's existing nondiscrimination laws.

AB 362 (Ting) LGBT Health Insurance Parity

Provides an exemption from state taxes for additional income an employer provides to an employee to make up for federal taxes the employee would otherwise pay to add a registered domestic partner or same-sex spouse (and/or their dependents) to insurance plans.

AB 1121 (Atkins) Transgender Name Changes, Birth and Death Certificates

Simplifies the process required for a name change to reflect a person's gender identity, as well as ensuring that a person's identity documents reflect his or her gender identity accurately, particularly death certificates.

AB 496 (Gordon) LGBT Cultural Competency for Health Care Providers

Clarifies that existing cultural competency training for health care providers should include discussion of LGBT issues. Also appoints an representative of the LGBT community to an existing task force on cultural competency for health care providers.

AB 663 (Gomez) LGBT Cultural Competency Training for Administrators in Senior Care Facilities

Ensures that administrators of residential care facilities have an additional five hours of training in cultural competency and sensitivity in aging lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) issues.

SB 280 (Lieu & Lara) Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Data Collection

Ensures that the LGBT community is counted in California, which is an important step toward reducing the disparities the LGBT community faces in access to and quality of health services.

AB 1266 (Ammiano) School Success and Opportunity Act

Makes clear the obligation of California schools to allow transgender students to participate in all school activities, programs, and facilities.

AB 420 (Dickinson) Pupil Discipline: suspensions: willful defiance

Prevents students from being suspended for willful defiance and puts a process in place with alternative discipline options.

AB 868 (Ammiano) Courts: training programs: Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation

Will require that existing judicial training programs for judges, attorneys, and Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) include the effects of gender identity and sexual orientation on juvenile and family law proceedings, as well as cultural competency and sensitivity relating to, and best practices for, providing adequate care to LGBT youth in the child welfare system.

AB 926 (Bonilla) Reproductive Health and Research

Seeks to create equity in the field of medical research compensation by removing the prohibition on compensation for women participating in oocyte (egg) donation for medical research.

AB 1291 (Lowenthal) Right to Know Act of 2013

Updates the categories of personal information to include sexual orientation, gender identity, gender status, and gender expression, and makes it possible for community members to learn whether their sensitive information is being collected and disclosed to third parties.

SB 61 (Yee) Juvenile Solitary Confinement

Limits the harmful practice of solitary confinement of minors and wards in the juvenile justice system.

SB 292 (Corbett) Sexual Harassment

Clarifies that sexual harassment under the Fair Employment and Housing Act does not require proof of sexual desire towards the plaintiff and specifies that sexual harassment includes threats of sexual violence.

AJR 3 (Alejo) Immigration

Calls upon the federal government to take a comprehensive and workable approach to improving the nation's immigration system.

SB 138 (Hernandez) Confidentiality of Medical Information

Specifies how health care providers would be required to maintain confidentiality of adults under 26 years of age who are insured as dependents on another person's policy.

Prop 8 MCLE Event Photos



All Photos Courtesy McGeorge School of Law



Above: Sen. Mark Leno speaks at the post-MCLE reception. Far Right: Among the attendees at the reception were McGeorge Dean of Students, Jay Mootz, and Associate Dean Glenn Fait. Upper and Lower Right: Standing room only at the MCLE Event.



Upcoming SacLEGAL Events

May

- Happy Hour, May 30, 2013 @ The River Cats Game!

June

- Happy Hour, June 13, 2013 @ The Depot 6-8pm
- SacLEGAL Marches in Sacramento Pride, June 15, 2013, Location TBD

July

- Happy Hour, July 11, 2013 @ The Depot 6-8pm

August

- Happy Hour, August 8, 2013 @ The Depot 6-8pm
- SacLEGAL Pool Party, August 17, 2013 @ Pam Jones' House 11am-4pm
- SacLEGAL's King Hall Lambda Welcome Dinner, August 26, 2013 @ Sudwerk (Davis, CA) 7pm

September

- Happy Hour, September 12, 2013 @ The Depot 6-8pm

October

- Happy Hour, October 12, 2013 @ The Depot 6-8pm
- Unity Bar, October 17, 2013 (Date Tentative), Location TBD

November

- Happy Hour, November 14, 2013 @ The Depot 6-8pm

December

- Holiday Party/Annual Meeting (No Happy Hour), December 12, 2013, Blue Prynt Time TBD



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SacLEGAL is a professional association of attorneys, legal professionals, and legislative advocates, affiliated with the Sacramento County Bar Association. Our mission is to promote equality for members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender, queer, questioning, intersex, and ally (LGBTQQIA) community. We will accomplish our mission through strong leadership, legislative advocacy, education, and participation in civic and social activities within the legal community and community at large.