

STRUMWASSER & WOOCHEE LLP

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SENIOR COUNSEL

MICHAEL J. STRUMWASSER  
BRYCE A. GEE  
BEVERLY GROSSMAN PALMER  
DALE K. LARSON  
CAROLINE C. CHIAPPETTI  
JULIA G. MICHEL †  
SALVADOR E. PÉREZ

† Also admitted to practice in Washington

April 14, 2021

California Citizens Redistricting Commission  
721 Capitol Mall, Suite 260  
Sacramento, CA 95814

*Via electronic mail*

Re: Addition of Two Associates to the Strumwasser & Woocher LLP VRA Counsel  
and Litigation Counsel Teams

To the Members of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission:

Strumwasser & Woocher is honored to have been chosen as VRA and Litigation Counsel for the California Citizens Redistricting Commission. We very much look forward to working with you. In an effort to have maximum resources available and the flexibility to utilize those resources as efficiently as possible, we propose to include two additional associates on the VRA and Litigation Counsel teams, Caroline Chiappetti and Julia Michel. We are confident each has the experience, knowledge, and skills to effectively serve the Commission. This letter provides background information and required disclosures for both, but please let us know if we can supplement this letter in any way.

### **Additional Associates Proposed for Engagement**

#### **Caroline Chiappetti**

In her public interest litigation practice, Ms. Chiappetti represents local governments, public agencies, public officials, and school districts in a variety of government, education, administrative, and election law matters. Ms. Chiappetti has significant motion practice with discovery and trial experience. Before joining Strumwasser & Woocher, Ms. Chiappetti was an associate at O'Melveny & Myers, where she balanced gaining significant complex commercial litigation experience in state and federal court—including drafting trial court and appellate briefs, managing discovery, participating in settlement negotiations and at trial—with maintaining an active pro bono practice. Ms. Chiappetti graduated *cum laude* from Harvard Law School, where she was an editor of the *Harvard Journal of Law & Gender* and co-president of *Law Students for Reproductive Justice*. While in law school, Ms. Chiappetti published a note in the *Harvard Civil Rights – Civil Liberties Law Review* concerning the historical origins of sex discrimination under the 14th Amendment.

**Julia Michel**

Ms. Michel has experience in litigation, appellate practice, consumer and civil rights class actions, and legislative advocacy. Ms. Michel joined Strumwasser & Woocher after clerking for the Honorable N. R. Smith of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. She is a graduate of the University of Washington School of Law, where she was elected to the Order of the Coif national honor society. Prior to law school, Ms. Michel was an advocate in the state of Vermont for laws relating to campaign finance, elections, voting rights, and government transparency. Julia volunteered during law school on the campaign to pass the Washington Voting Rights Act, including drafting provisions to safeguard the voting power of minority groups, identify racially polarized voting, and provide remedies beyond those authorized under the federal Voting Rights Act.

Resumes for Ms. Chiappetti and Ms. Michel are attached to this letter.

**Conflicts of Interest**

**a. Compliance with Government Code section 8252**

Ms. Chiappetti has no disclosures under Government Code section 8252. Ms. Chiappetti wishes to disclose that in the last 10 years, she has made a small number of contributions of \$25 or less to candidates in races outside of California or to U.S. presidential candidates.

Ms. Michel was a registered lobbyist with the State of Vermont on behalf of the Vermont Public Interest Research Group (VPIRG) in 2014 and 2015. Ms. Michel has no state or federal contributions to disclose. Ms. Michel notes that contributions on the FEC database under the name Julia Michel were made by others with the same or similar names.

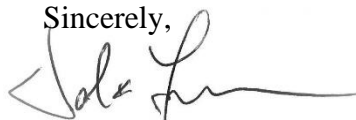
**b. Other Conflicts**

Ms. Chiappetti performed limited volunteer canvassing for the campaigns for former United States Representative Katie Hill in 2018, President Barack Obama in 2012, and United States Senator Chris Murphy of Connecticut in 2012.

Ms. Michel performed limited volunteer canvassing for the campaign for President Barack Obama in 2012.

We thank you for your consideration of this proposed addition to our team. Please let us know if there is any other information we can provide.

Sincerely,



Dale K. Larson

Attachments

# **Attachments**

# Caroline C. Chiappetti

Associate

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

STRUMWASSER & WOOCHER LLP, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Associate, June 2019 – present

Public interest litigation practice focusing on government, education, administrative, and election law. Currently represents local governments, public agencies, and public officials in a variety of matters, including the California Department of Insurance in the appeal of an enforcement action against a health insurer for violations of state insurance laws. Has extensive experience in both trial and appellate courts, including significant motion practice, discovery, and trial experience.

O'MELVENY AND MYERS, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Litigation Associate, October 2017 – May 2019

Summer Litigation Associate, May 2016 – July 2016

Complex commercial litigation practice in state court, federal court, and JAMS, working closely with clients and in-house counsel. Wrote, prepared, and filed briefs and motions, including complaints, dispositive motions, and discovery motions. Extensive discovery practice including drafting offensive and defensive discovery, managing document collection and review teams, depositions, and working with expert witnesses. Maintained active pro bono practice, including federal court bench trial with the ACLU Reproductive Freedom Project in the Western District of Kentucky.

HARVARD LAW SCHOOL INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS CLINIC, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Clinical Student, February 2016 – May 2016

Developed strategy with anti-torture advocates to advocate for policy changes in the Ethics Code of the American Psychological Association (APA). Drafted talking points and Q&As for APA meetings.

ACLU OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Legal Intern, LGBT, Gender and Reproductive Justice Project, June 2015 – August 2015

Researched and drafted legal memoranda in matters regarding sex discrimination and federal prison standards. Drafted public records requests. Conducted intake interviews. Compiled employment data.

CENTER FOR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS, NEW YORK, NEW YORK  
Legal Assistant, U.S. Legal Program, July 2013 – July 2014

Supported litigation team with focus on challenging state-level restrictions on abortion and contraception. Prepared documents for court filings, depositions, and court appearances. Managed case files, correspondence, and document productions. Conducted factual research.

COOLEY LLP, NEW YORK, NEW YORK  
Litigation Paralegal, February 2012 – July 2013

## ACADEMIC

J.D., *cum laude*, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, Massachusetts. *Harvard Journal of Law and Gender*, Executive Online Content Editor and Senior Board Member. Harvard Law Students for Reproductive Justice, President. Harvard Law Documentary Society, Director, “Access Denied,” (<https://vimeo.com/127356877>)

Berkeley School of Law, 3L Harvard-Berkeley Exchange Program. Research Assistant to Jill Adams. Member of Center on Reproductive Rights and Justice (Berkeley Law) and If/When/How: Lawyering for Reproductive Justice.

B.A., *magna cum laude*, Williams College.

## PUBLICATIONS

*Winning The Battle But Losing The War: The Birth and Death of Intersecting Notions of Race and Sex Discrimination in White v. Crook*, 52 Harv. C.R.-C.L. L. Rev 2 (Spring 2017).

# JULIA G. MICHEL

Associate

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

STRUMWASSER & WOOCHER LLP, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA  
Associate, September 2019 – Present

Assist attorneys in representing public entities and public-interest clients in a range of regulatory, environmental, election law, and constitutional litigation by drafting pleadings, motions, and ballot measures.

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT, POCATELLO, IDAHO  
Law Clerk to the Honorable N. Randy Smith, August 2018 – September 2019

Researched law and reviewed facts to prepare bench memoranda for three-judge panels of the Ninth Circuit. Drafted dispositions on scores of cases.

TERRELL MARSHALL LAW GROUP PLLC, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON  
Law Clerk, June 2017 – November 2017

Drafted briefs on class certification, unsealing court records, and preliminary injunctions for consumer protection and employment class actions. Participated in conferences with potential clients and co-counsel.

U.S. DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON  
Judicial Intern to the Honorable Ricardo S. Martinez, March 2017 – June 2017

Wrote memoranda and drafted orders on motions to dismiss, to amend a complaint, and for summary judgment. Observed trials and joined post-verdict discussions between the Court and jury.

COLUMBIA LEGAL SERVICES, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON  
Legal Intern, January 2017 – March 2017

Wrote memoranda on the proposed Washington Voting Rights Act and drafted language providing a private cause of action for vote dilution claims. Wrote memorandum proposing a legal theory for challenging inequitable distribution of municipal resources under federal civil rights laws.

LAW OFFICES OF HARRY WILLIAMS, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON  
Research Assistant, August 2016 – September 2016

Drafted opening brief for the direct appeal of a criminal defendant in federal court. Edited civil rights complaints.

VERMONT PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP, MONTPELIER, VERMONT  
Energy & Democracy Advocate, December 2011 – September 2015

Served as organization's youngest State House advocate. Drafted bill language, lobbied lawmakers, testified in committees, and negotiated the passage of three government reform and energy laws.

#### **ACADEMICS**

J.D., *Order of the Coif*, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington. Associate Editor-in-Chief, *Washington Journal of Environmental Law & Policy*, Jeffrey G. Miller National Environmental Law Moot Court Team.

B.A., honors, University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont. Recipient of Austin Prize for International Peace and Security. Honors Thesis: "*Forging a New Shield: Evaluating Proposals for National Security Reform.*"

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

*Through the Looking Glass: How Review of Natural Gas Exports Hides Environmental Effects in Plain Sight* (2018) 8 Wash. J. Envtl. L. & Pol'y 298.