

Sacramento

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LAWYER

SACRAMENTO
COUNTY BAR
ASSOCIATION
MAGAZINE

Operation Protect and Defend Law Day Dinner Celebration 2015

**SCBA Member
Only Benefits**

**Lawyers
at Leisure**

*"Anatomy of a Juror,"
by Diana Ormanzhi,
the Operation Protect
and Defend 2015 Modern
Masters of America Art
Platinum Award winning piece.
See page 34.*



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SacLEGAL's Jo Michael Receives National Honor

by Steven D. Muni

The National LGBT Bar Association, an affiliate of the American Bar Association, has selected former SacLEGAL co-chair **Jo Michael** as one of the *Best LGBT Lawyers under 40-Class of 2015*. Michael, currently the Legislative Manager for Equality California in Sacramento, is one of 40 legal professionals under 40 nationwide who have, in the words of the National LGBT Bar Association, “distinguished themselves in their field and have demonstrated a profound commitment to LGBT equality.”

Michael's commitment to the LGBT community started early and remained focused throughout his career. He co-founded his high school's first Gay-Straight Alliance. During his undergraduate education at USC, Michael was a field organizer for the “No on Proposition 8, Equality for All” campaign. At Pacific McGeorge, Michael was president of the

LAMBDA Law Student Association and volunteered at the LGBT Legal Referral Clinic. As the co-chair of SacLEGAL, Michael led the organization to achieve a number of long-standing goals, including a fresh new design and website, and he was instrumental in forming and chairing a new Legislative/Amicus Committee. At Equality California, Michael started as a Legislative Analyst and quickly rose to Legislative Manager, where his duties include researching issues raised in pending legislation, drafting fact sheets, talking points, and position letters, testifying before the before the California legislature, and bringing together coalitions of community-based organizations in support of legislative priorities.

Michael will be honored at a special awards luncheon on August 6, 2015, in conjunction with the 2015 Lavender Law Conference and Career Fair, held in Chicago this year. 🗡️



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