

# THE CHARLES HOUSTON BAR ASSOCIATION

## NEWSLETTER

2004 CHBA, ISSUE ONE



San Francisco District Attorney  
**KAMALA HARRIS**

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[www.charleshoustonbar.org](http://www.charleshoustonbar.org)

## Our own 50th Anniversary Approaches

The year was 1955, one year after *Brown v. Board of Education (Brown I)*. It was a year history associates with Rosa Parks, Emmett Till, and *Brown II*'s relaxed permission to desegregate with all deliberate speed. Locally, that same year, a small group of black lawyers united to form the Charles Houston Law Club, which later evolved into our present day Charles Houston Bar Association.

Yes, CHBA turns 50 in 2005! It promises to be a year of reflection about our organization's proud past filled with discussion about our direction for the future. The board of directors anticipates hosting special 50th Anniversary events. We look forward to your help and invaluable resources to commemorate this historic milestone. Please lend your support.

In this newsletter issue, you will meet history-maker and CHBA member Kamala Harris, the first African American woman to be elected District Attorney in the state. You can review some thoughts about the landmark case *Brown v. Board of Education*, discover various CHBA-member-supported community programs that could really use your help, learn about recently appointed judges, and see what CHBA has been up to this past year. I welcome any thoughts, concerns or comments for this and future issues.

Charles A. Smiley  
2004 CHBA Communications Committee Chair  
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**Cover:** San Francisco District Attorney Kamala Harris surrounded by family, friends, and journalists on election night. Photograph by Jennifer Madden.

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## Looking back . . .

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In 1963, Deputy Attorney General for the State of California Wiley W. Manuel was chosen to serve as 1963 President of the Charles Houston Law Club. His executive board consisted of members John D. George (Vice President), Estella Dooley (Corresponding Secretary), John J. Miller (Recording Secretary), and Frederick Smith (Treasurer). Source: Oakland Tribune, February 21, 1963.

## Vernon C. Goins, 2004 CHBA President

This will not be your prototypical president's message.

**DEMAND** is hereby made that the members, supporters and friends of the Charles Houston Bar Association become more interested, engaged and involved in the local, statewide and national political landscape.

As members of the oldest and largest group of African American attorneys and judges in northern California, we have an implied duty to protect the rights and interests of the community. To fulfill this duty, we must halt the political disenfranchisement of African Americans. Oakland is the text-book example of the erosion of our political might where we have lost control over the media and city hall.

The message is simple: you must do more than vote. We must begin to identify viable candidates, help plan their candidacy and raise money for them immediately. Also imperative is the need to build coalitions with other groups who share similar concerns.

As we celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> year of *Brown v. Board of Education*, we must also recognize that this decision was the offspring of a people that once pushed the system to its fullest and stood to preserve equality, fairness and justice. You come from the same stock, it is inherent in your thought pattern, blood and history to strive for perfection, for the benefit of all.

I urge you to run for office and continue the legacies of Lionel Wilson, Wiley E. Manuel, Barbara Lee and Elihu Harris.

**DEMAND** is hereby made that the members, supporters and friends of the Charles Houston Bar Association become more interested, engaged and involved in the local, statewide and national political landscape.



**Vernon C. Goins, II**

# Brown v. Board



Gillian G.M. Small and Cheryl Brown Henderson

## 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas*

It is practically impossible to understate the profound impact of *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas* (1954) 347 U.S. 483.

On May 17, 1954, the United States Supreme Court declared that “[I]n the field of public education, the doctrine of ‘separate but equal’ has no place; separate educational facilities are inherently unequal.” The ruling reached far beyond classroom walls. It marked the beginning transformation of the whole of American race relations. As Judge A. Leon Higginbotham Jr. once put it, “*Brown* changed the moral tone of America; by eliminating the legitimization of state-imposed racism it implicitly questioned racism wherever it was used.”

Chief Justice Earl Warren, who authored the opinion, wrote that “education is perhaps the most important function of state and local governments . . . [Education] is required in the performance of our most basic public responsibilities . . . It is the very foundation of good citizenship . . . It is a principal instrument in awakening the child to cultural values, in preparing him for later professional training, and in helping him to adjust normally to his environment. In these days, it is doubtful that any child may reasonably be expected to

succeed in life if he is denied the opportunity of an education.”

Reactions to *Brown* varied; the country braced itself. To some white Americans, the decision violated the natural order of things, the way in which they had thought and lived since the early 17th century. People resisted. Students marched out of class to protest the presence of black pupils at *their* school. Crowds

jeered, threw stones, and burned buses. African American schools closed down. “White flight” gave rise to more private schools. Politicians from the South, Strom Thurmond among them, signed a document that came to be known as The Southern Manifesto, a proclamation averring that they would use everything within their legal means to overturn *Brown*. America was unhurried to embrace the new idea of equality. Indeed, nineteen months after *Brown* was published, a 43 year old seamstress named Rosa Parks was arrested simply for not surrendering her seat to white bus riders, a violation of the 1955 Montgomery Alabama Municipal Code.

The intense widespread opposition to *Brown*’s call for equal treatment prompted law professor Derick Bell to suggest that “the major value of the . . . decision may have come as a result of well-publicized forms of white resistance that appalled many who otherwise would have remained on the sidelines.” The civil rights movement gained momentum.

This year, the Charles Houston Bar Association held several events to commemorate the 50th anniversary of this landmark case. Among them, CHBA co-sponsored CABL’s Black History Month Celebration on February 28, 2004, a free event held at the African American Museum and Library at Oakland that featured keynote speaker

Cheryl Brown Henderson, daughter of plaintiff Oliver L. Brown.

In her message, Henderson urged African Americans not to let anyone suggest that you are being too sensitive when you identify and complain of perceived discrimination. “Nothing in our country with respect to discrimination,” she said, “has occurred by accident. Dred Scott, Jim Crow, restrictive covenants; they were all purposeful.”

*Brown* was not the first case to challenge classroom segregation, though it was to become the most important. In the state of Kansas alone, appellate courts had considered eleven earlier cases challenging school segregation. Yet the road to *Brown* started much earlier than Kansas’ own history. By Judge Higginbotham’s measure, it may have begun “when Prudence Crandall was arrested in Connecticut in 1833 for attempting to provide schooling for colored girls. It was continued in 1849 when Charles Sumner, a white lawyer and abolitionist, and Benjamin Roberts, a black lawyer, challenged segregated schools in Boston. It was continued as the NAACP, starting with Charles Hamilton Houston’s suit, *Murray v. Pearson*, in 1936, challenging Maryland’s policy of excluding Blacks from the University of Maryland Law School.” Many more NAACP cases followed, each advancing the erosion of *Plessy v. Ferguson*.

Charles Hamilton Houston is uniformly credited as the principle architect of the litigation campaign that led to *Brown*. As Special Counsel for the NAACP, he fought and won many cases before the Supreme Court which chipped away at the prevailing “separate but equal” doctrine. It was Houston who invited Thurgood Marshall, a former Howard Law School student of his, to bring his legal talent to the NAACP. Marshall succeeded Houston as Special Counsel and later created the institution we now know as the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. which Marshall directed until 1961. Together, the work of these two civil rights titans provided, as Eva Patterson puts it, “one of the clearest and most enduring models of success for the use of law for social change.”

Houston passed away before the decision in *Brown* was published. At the CABL event in Oakland, Cheryl Henderson commented of him: “Many of us don’t even know who he is. But it is [Houston] who really gave the final death knell to Jim Crow.”

#### From Then To Now

In 1948, a man named McKinley Burnett became President of the Topeka Chapter of the NAACP. His self-appointed mission was to integrate the Topeka school system. It was a steep, uphill battle. For two years, Burnett held and attended meetings and wrote the school board demanding change. By 1950, seeing no action, his frustration led him to court. He recruited thirteen black families to challenge Topeka’s educational segregation. These plaintiffs were instructed to locate the nearest white school, enroll their child, and report what happened. Among these families were the Browns.

Oliver L. Brown’s family was the tenth family that agreed to be involved in the suit. Oliver, at 32 years old was a preacher; his wife, Leola (age 29) was a homemaker. They were not activists, but joined Mr. Barnett’s mission. Referring to her parents’ youth, Ms. Henderson acknowledged that “Young people changed this country . . . Often times, young people don’t realize the power they have.”

The Brown’s daughter, Linda, had been bused to the segregated Monroe Elementary School. When Oliver and Leola attempted to enroll their seven-year-old daughter at the local white school, Linda was refused.

The NAACP filed suit on February 28, 1951. In addition to Mr. Brown, the twelve other original plaintiffs consisted of twelve married woman whose children had similarly been denied access to white schools.

What made the *Brown* case unique is the fact that, unlike previous lawsuits, this one was filed in federal court and became a class action suit. Eventually, the plaintiff class included some 300 similarly situated individuals.

During the time that *Brown* was pending before the courts, the United States was

heavily committed to the Cold War against Communism. Yet while the U.S. propaganda machine justified the country’s position by condemning human rights abuses abroad, international criticism of the United States focused on its own human rights abuses. In Cheryl Henderson’s view, the United States needed the *Brown* decision in order to, among other things, “clean up” its international image. Indeed, the State Department, in an unprecedented move, intervened to support school desegregation in the amicus brief it filed in *Brown*. Professors Derick Bell and Charles J. Ogletree Jr. likewise see the government’s support of desegregation as a product of “interest convergence,” a theory holding that social change occurs only when the interest of the majority can be served by making concessions to the minority. In this case, the concession came with “all deliberate speed” . . . meaning — as we have seen — very, very slowly. Ogletree, a California native originally from Merced, openly acknowledges that in many ways, America, and California in particular, have gone backwards on issues of civil rights.

As civil rights lawyer Eva Patterson recently observed, the federal government’s international public relations tactics have changed little in fifty years. Noting an interesting parallel between 1954 and today, she remarked that “the world’s view of our government’s commitment to democracy and equality is again at stake. In the wake of the exposure of the brutality toward prisoners in Iraq, for the first time the U.S. State Department decided to postpone its annual report on human rights abuses in other countries.” Around the same time, the U.S. Justice Department also announced (in May 2004) that it was reopening the investigation of the 1955 Emmett Till murder.

*Brown v. Board of Education* is unfinished business. As we reflect upon the decision’s importance to our own lives, we should to ask ourselves — as Judge A. Leon Higginbotham Jr. once suggested — “what would have happened to [us] if there had never been a Charles Hamilton Houston, a William Henry Hastie, a Thurgood Marshall and that small cadre of other lawyers associated with them,

who set the groundwork for success in the 20th century racial civil rights cases?” We can silently be grateful for their efforts and reap the benefits of standing on their shoulders. But then what honor would we bring these great lawyers, their legacy, and our present-day responsibility as an African American legal community? None. Fifty years later, our task is to carry the torch further and make it burn brighter.

\*References used in researching this article can be provided upon request to the Editor.

*Cheryl Brown Henderson now serves as President and CEO of the Brown Foundation for Educational Equity, Excellence and Research, which she co-founded in 1988. This Foundation provides scholarships to minority students, sponsors programs which promote diversity in education, and recently worked with the U.S. Congress to establish the Brown v. Board of Education National Park in Topeka, Kansas, which opens this year.*

*To the reader: An excellent web site compiling a wealth of interesting information about the history of African Americans, the law, and the struggle for civil rights can be found at [www.uchastings.edu/wingate/african.htm](http://www.uchastings.edu/wingate/african.htm), a site created by U.C. Hastings Professor Keith Wingate.*

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# New Judges

Between 1999 and 2003, Gov. Gray Davis made 360 judicial appointments, representing about one-fifth of the state bench. About 9% of them involved African Americans (i.e. 31 appointees). Burt Pines (now Judge Pines) said of his former job reviewing judicial candidates on Davis' behalf: "I have high standards, as evidenced by the people I've recommended to the governor." CHBA concurs. We welcome three superbly qualified new appointees to Alameda County Superior Court: the Honorable Beverly Daniels-Greenberg, the Honorable C. Don Clay, and the Honorable Evelio Grillo.



## **Beverly Daniels-Greenberg**

CHBA member Beverly Daniels-Greenberg was appointed on August 13, 2003. Her prior legal career was one of public service, having sat as a court commissioner in Alameda County handling family law and juvenile cases. Before that, she spent many years as a trial lawyer in the public defender's office working on hundreds of felony, misdemeanor, and juvenile cases. In addition to CHBA, Judge Daniels-Greenberg is also a member of CABL, the California Judges Association, the Alameda County Bar Association, Women Lawyers of Alameda County, and has served on the Board of the East Bay Center for the Performing Arts. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Illinois, a Master of Education degree from Loyola University, and a Juris Doctorate from Lincoln College of Law. She fills the

vacancy caused by the passing of another great CHBA member in 2002, the Honorable Judge Kenneth E. Norman.



## **C. Don Clay**

C. Don Clay took the oath of office on September 30, 2003. In February, a formal ceremony in his honor featured remarks from his friends and colleagues including Judge Thompson Stanley, G. William (Billy) Hunter (Exec.Dir. of the National Basketball Players Association), and U.S. Attorney Kevin Ryan, among others.

"Anyone who has tried felony cases in the past 10 or 15 years knows who Don Clay is," once said Alameda County D.A. Darryl Stallworth. A well-respected private criminal defense attorney in Alameda County since 1981, Clay also maintained a presence in San Francisco politics, serving at various times on its Juvenile Justice Comm'n, Juvenile Probation Comm'n, and the Fire Comm'n. In the East Bay, Judge Clay has been a director of the Wiley Manuel Law Foundation and has worked with

a host of other community groups.

At the time of his judicial appointment, Clay was First Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Northern Dist. of Cal. A graduate of U.C. Hastings Law School, he filled the vacancy resulting from the passing of Judge Richard Iglehart.



## **Evelio M. Grillo**

Harvard Law School graduate Evelio Grillo practiced civil litigation before being named to the Superior Court bench. At the time of his appointment, he led the Oakland-based firm of Grillo & Stevens practicing business torts, contract disputes, civil rights, and employment cases. His previous employment included positions at the prestigious firms of Pettit & Martin, Levy Samrick & Bernard, and Arnelle Hastie McGee Willis & Greene. Among his many accomplishments as a lawyer, Judge Grillo served as a temporary judge in the Oakland/Piedmont/Emeryville small-claims court and as a judicial arbitrator, discovery referee, and special master. He taught at Oakland College of the Law and was named its Dean of Instruction. The judge also managed to find time to lend his talents to the State Bar's Committee on Rules and

Procedures of Court and as an editorial board member for Matthew Bender's California Forms of Pleading and Practice.

He holds bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of California, Berkeley.



## IS YOUR CLIENT'S LITIGATION RECOVERY TAXABLE?

By Lenora Roland Taylor, Esq.

### Attorneys must understand the tax consequences of their clients' recoveries.

Lawyers cannot afford to shy away from the tax aspects of litigation recoveries. Failure to anticipate and deal with a client's tax liability can result in claims of legal malpractice. Thus, it is critical to either have at least a basic understanding of the tax aspects of your client's award or hire a tax attorney to address such issues with your client.

The Internal Revenue Service will consider several documents if it seeks to assess the tax liability of a taxpayer's recovery. In settlement agreements, lawyers must therefore consider the language of the settlement document. With jury verdicts, it is very important to obtain a breakdown of the award (i.e. back wages or physical injuries). Even when drafting an initial complaint, the lawyer must be mindful of tax consequences when considering what damages to request.

As a tax attorney, I often represent clients who are disputing with the I.R.S. over issues that could have easily been resolved if certain tax issues had been addressed during litigation. This article will attempt to simplify the issues and give the reader a basic un-

derstanding of some of the important underlying concerns.

### WHAT IS TAXABLE?

Most of you probably know that Section 104 of the Internal Revenue Code provides an exclusion for personal injury recoveries. The Code was radically changed in 1996 to reflect that the personal injury must now be "physical." The term "physical" is not specifically defined. However, it is clear that emotional distress recoveries and employment litigation in general were areas targeted by the new definition as taxable. The legislative history states that awards for headaches, insomnia and stomach aches are not physical, and are thus taxable. All other issues have been left to court interpretation.

Another change to section 104 relates to reimbursements from medical expenses and punitive damages. Punitive damages are now taxable. Likewise, if a plaintiff has reimbursed medical expenses, even if for emotional injuries such as psychiatrist bills, these expenses are not taxable even if there was no "physical" injury.

The law now requires that for a monetary award to be excluded from income it must result from a physical injury (i.e. concussion) not a nonphysical injury (i.e. emotional distress). If a plaintiff is paralyzed as a result of an accident and also suffers emotional damages as a result of the injury, the full damages are excluded from income because the initial damages were physical. However, if the "physical" illness arises from emotional distress, the discussion following the changed law states that it is probably not excludable because it is considered a mere symptom of the underlying dis-

tress. Predictably, there has been much nationwide litigation over what is considered a physical, hence untaxable injury award, and what is not. Therefore, it remains a very hot, debatable issue.

### CONCLUSION

In defining the nature of damages sought, lawyers should be as specific as possible in the complaint and/or settlement agreement. If, for example, the damages arise from a physical injury, be sure to specify what that injury is and the damages flowing from it. Substantial senseless litigation occurs due to the lack of specificity in these case documents. If you have questions, consult a tax lawyer to assist you in the drafting of the document.

*Lenora Roland Taylor is a former trial attorney for the I.R.S. and now specializes in tax defense and litigation. Her practice is located at 109 Jackson St., Ste. 240, Hayward, CA 94544, 510-581-1963, [www.lawyers.com/lrtaylorlaw](http://www.lawyers.com/lrtaylorlaw)  
E - m a i l :  
[ltaylorlaw@earthlink.net](mailto:ltaylorlaw@earthlink.net). Ms. Taylor is also the current treasurer of the Charles Houston Bar Association.*

### YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

CHBA is archiving its history at the African American Museum and Library at Oakland. Please search your personal records for old newsletters, Gala Dinner Dance programs, photographs, newspaper articles about our members and their achievements, and any other CHBA memorabilia.

Contact Editor Charles Smiley at 510-272-6651 to donate your pieces of CHBA history to the library!

## Annual Tradition

On December 6, 2003, members and friends gathered at the Hilton Oakland Airport Hotel for the 2003 Charles Houston Bar Association Gala Dinner Dance. The event was entitled "Celebrating Brown v. Board of Education: 50 Years Later, Reaffirming and Redefining the Legacy."

Both Anthony Capozzi, President of the State Bar of California, and National Bar Association President Clyde Bailey presented keynote remarks. As Master of Ceremonies, Judge Horace Wheatley kept the program moving as we honored our own with CHBA's traditional awards.

The Honorable Thelton Henderson spoke about his lasting friendship with Hall of Fame Inductee Harry Bremond, Esq., a longtime partner at Wilson, Sonsoni, Goodrich & Rosati.

John L. Burris (prominent civil rights attorney and Past President 1979) received the Clinton W. White Advocacy Award for his exemplary work representing plaintiffs in *Allen et al. v. The City of Oakland*, a police misconduct suit that settled for over ten million dollars. A previous recipient of the Advocacy Award, Pamela Price, presented the award to him.

Member J. Dominique Pinkney and the late Faith Fancher were presented the Benjamin Travis Community Service Award. Pinkney, an Alameda County public defender, was recognized for co-founding and administering CHBA's College Awareness Advisory Program, a program where professionals visit Oakland high schools to encourage teenagers to pursue higher education.

Fancher, a well known KTVU television broadcast journalist, supported CHBA for many years and had served as Master of Ceremonies at previous Galas before her untimely passing. When diagnosed with breast cancer in 1997, she shared her pain, progress, and medical visits with the people by creating a three-part report called "Faith's Story" that raised breast cancer awareness.

The Corporate Recognition Award went to Wells Fargo and was accepted on the company's behalf by Stanley Stroup, Executive Vice President and General Counsel. Communication Chair, Charles Smiley, received the President's Award for service to the organization.

CHBA awarded academic scholarships to student members Na'il Benjamin, Kweli Coleman, Wykeisha Orr, and Joel Young. This year, we thank Drucilla Ramey, Fred Jordan, Dr. LeVell Holmes, Ph.D, and the Ernest and Harriett Clark Trust for their generous financial contributions to our scholarship fund.

The Honorable Carl Morris (Alameda County) installed the 2004 executive board. Back for his second consecutive year as President, Vernon C. Goins closed the program by setting forth his agenda for the new year.

Special thanks to Gala Committee Chairperson Kimberlei D. Evans and event planner Resources 4 You for creating a top-notch evening for our distinguished members and guests. We also recognize and extend gratitude to our platinum sponsor Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe, LLP.

# Dinner Dance



**Harry Bremond, Esq.**



**Young Lawyers Chair Kwixuan Maloof with student scholarship winners**



**(l-r) Hon. Benjamin Travis; NBA President Clyde Bailey; State Bar of California President Anthony Capozzi; Oakland City Attorney John Russo; Hon. Horace Wheatley; Demetrius Shelton (State Bar Bd. of Govenors); and President Vernon Goins**



**Installation of the 2004 CHBA Executive Board of Directors**

# Kamala Harris



District Attorney, Kamala Harris

## New Solutions

Hailed as a “top flight prosecutor” by the San Francisco Chronicle, Charles Houston Bar Association member **Kamala Devi Harris** was elected District Attorney of San Francisco winning the election with 56% of the vote.

Making history as the first African American woman to ascend to the office of District Attorney in the state of California, she bested incumbent Terence Hallinan in a widely publicized and hotly contested election last year.

“It’s time for new solutions,” she told The Recorder while campaigning. “A modern D.A. has to work with community groups to address root problems that lead to crime.”

Long before she decided to run for District Attorney, Harris had already put this philosophy into action. As a community leader, she founded and served on the boards of various San Francisco service organizations such as the Coalition to End the Exploitation of Kids (a group addressing the problem of child prostitution), the S.F. Child Abuse Prevention Center, Partners Ending Domestic Abuse, and the “Matches” Youth Mentoring Program. She finds that her ability to walk in many

different communities helps to understand the problems confronting today’s criminal justice system, crime, and crime’s impact upon our communities.

Part of her plan for a safer San Francisco includes implementing a management overhaul aimed at improving conviction rates for violent and serious felonies. Her vision also calls for a stronger community-based approach to suppress violence. “To give neighbors a voice, I will create Neighborhood Crime Councils that will act as a forum for the District Attorney’s office to listen to the particular crime problems of that community and help determine how the office uses limited resources to improve our neighborhood quality of life.”

**No one said it would be easy** San Francisco Police Officer Isaac Espinoza was fatally shot when he and his partner stopped to question 21-year-old David Hill on April 10th. Police arrested suspect Hill the next day, Easter Sunday. That morning, Harris immediately went to the police department to help steer the investigation.

The murder of a police officer is a crime that may be punishable by life in prison without parole or by death. At an April 13th press conference, Harris shocked the police community when she announced that her office would seek life imprisonment without possibility of parole, not death. The announcement sparked front-page newspaper articles and editorials voicing both praise and criticism.

The voices have been loud. Sacramento politicians have seized upon the opportunity to comment. Senators Diane

Feinstein and Barbara Boxer have injected their disapproval of Harris’ decision. New Police Chief Heather Fong requested Harris to reconsider. In May, police officers and their families marched to City Hall to demand that the prosecutor’s office seek death.

Still, according to a recent poll of San Francisco voters conducted by David Binder Reasearch, 70% supported Harris’ position not to seek death. Binder interpreted this result to mean that “Voters are saying that campaign promises should mean something.”

Like her predecessor Hallinan, Harris campaigned on a pledge not to pursue capital punishment. She has stayed true to that promise.

“We are confident any other prosecutor reviewing the facts of this case will conclude that we came to the right decision,” said Russ Guintini, Harris’ Chief Assistant and a former Alameda County D.A.

Harris herself firmly predicted her decision would stand up before any review. “I made an honest decision,” she told reporters. The California Attorney General’s office conducted such a review and found that Harris’ call was not an abuse of discretion in light of the facts of the case and other circumstances.

“It has not been pleasant at all,” Harris summed up recent experiences to the Oakland Tribune, “but no one said this is supposed to be a pleasant job. Our business is dealing with some of the worst human conduct imaginable.”

# S.F. District Attorney

## Accountability is Key

Regardless of what one may think about capital punishment, legal practitioners understand the concept of accountability. It is the cornerstone of the justice system and germane to any meaningful notion or pursuit of justice. Not only does the judicial system seek to hold *wrongdoers* accountable for their misconduct, *lawyers* must too hold themselves accountable for their role in the process. Only by holding themselves accountable can they hope to make the justice system, and the legal profession, worthy of public faith.

By standing firm on her decision after considering the merits of the case and her campaign pledges, Harris exemplifies the professional and political integrity which one can only aspire to have more public servants emulate. Democracy demands no less.

Harris, 39, has devoted the full resources of the office to the Hill case. Her team has also been reviewing San Francisco's bail schedule to argue for increasing bail in cases involving serious or violent felonies where firearms are used, thus making it more difficult for a person charged with such crimes to be released on bail. These activities, among many others, are parts of her office's comprehensive approach to curb community violence and increase public safety.

## Career District Attorney

Raised in Berkeley, CA, District Attorney Harris graduated from Howard University where she studied economics and political science. Her interest in the law was sparked in part by her exposure growing up in the 1960s and 70s in Berkeley. Recalling those days, Harris told the Tribune she had been "surrounded growing up by doers --- there was a great

level of intolerance for anyone who dared to utter a problem and not suggest a solution."

Harris obtained a Juris Doctorate degree from U.C. Hastings College of the Law and promptly began working as a prosecutor in the Alameda County District Attorney's office after graduation. She spent her first nine years of practice as a trial lawyer there.

In 1998, the San Francisco District Attorney's office recruited her to work as its career criminal unit's managing attorney. Harris remained there before moving to the San Francisco City Attorney's office, a job from which she launched her successful bid to become San Francisco's top prosecutor. While working at the City Attorney's office, she headed the family and child services team, bringing her unique talents to work with very difficult family law issues.

The San Francisco Chronicle endorsed Harris because the city "deserves a district attorney who can bring dignity and integrity to an office long lacking it -- and who can put people behind bars who deserve it." This, she has and continues to do.

The Charles Houston Bar Association congratulates District Attorney Harris on her historic achievements and rests comfortably in the knowledge that San Francisco is in good hands.

## THANK YOU

CHBA relies upon the generous support of our members, friends, partners, and sponsors, including:

Simona Farris, Gordon Greenwood, Brenda Bruessard, and the firm of Kazan McClain Edises Abrams Fernandez & Farris; Past President Robert L. Harris; Fidel and Chonda Nwamu; Past President the Hon. Judge Gail B. Berreola; Lindberg Porter; Joseph Burton; supporter Carl Hackney; Past President Thomas Broome; Accountant Michael Steel of Williams Adley LLP; Raymond Marshall; Past President Demetrius Shelton; Verica L. Lee and the staff of the African American Museum & Library at Oakland, CA; Past President Rozenia Cummings; California.Com, the host of our home on the internet at [www.charleshoustonbar.org](http://www.charleshoustonbar.org); the State Bar of California; the American Bar Association, the California Association of Black Lawyers; the Wiley Manuel Foundation; PG&E; Duane Morris LLP; Thelen Reid & Priest LLP; Williams Adley LLP; Burnham Brown LLP; Allen Matkins Leck Gamble & Mallory LLP; Hanson Bridgett Marcus Vlahos and Rudy LLP; Taylor & Goins LLP; Bingham McCutchen LLP; Golden Gate Law School; the Black Data Processors Association; the National Bar Association and Region IX; the Alameda County Bar Association; SFNABA; ASD Studio for our graphic and web design; and sustaining law firm members Townsend and Townsend and the Law Offices of Charles Tillman Ramsey. We also welcome CHBA's first Life Members, Simona Farris and Gordon Greenwood!

# Gallery



**Demetrius Shelton**



**CHBA Past Presidents (l-r) Terry Wiley, Demetrius Shelton, Judy Johnson, Rozenia Cummings, and Vernon Goins**



**Frederic White, Dean of Golden Gate University, School of Law**



**Dr. Ula Jean Bailey, Past President Emma Pendergrass, and Attorney Cathye Leonard**



**2004 law school graduates at the U.C. Hastings BLSA Commencement Ceremony**



**The Hon. Thelton Henderson at the 2003 CHBA Gala**



**2004 Judicial Luncheon: (l-r) Hon. Perker Meeks, Hon. Carl Morris, Hon. Gordon Baranco, and Attorney George Holland**

# Gallery



2003 Judicial Luncheon Honorees, the Hon. Terri Jackson (L) and the Hon. Trina Thompson Stanley (R) with Past President Thomas Broome



Candace Westmore with the Hon. Judge George Hernandez



Clyde Bailey, NBA President



Hon. Gordon Baranco, Peter Cohn of the NAACP, and Past CHBA President Bob Harris



President Goins with Judges Perker Meeks and Carl Morris



Angela Houlemard speaking at U.C. Hastings

# Region IX & CABL

## All About Region IX

By Jennifer Fisher, Region IX Director

As most of you know, and all of you should know, the National Bar Association (“NBA”) is the largest and oldest predominantly African American association of lawyers, judges, legal scholars and law students. Each NBA region represents the affiliate chapters and NBA members within its territory. Mighty Region IX serves California, Oregon, Nevada, Montana, Washington, Idaho, Arizona, Alaska, Hawaii and Guam.

As one of the largest regions in the NBA, we boast accomplished individual members and chapter affiliates. During the 2003-2004 bar year, our affiliates have been at the forefront of activities supporting the NBA’s mission. From defeating Proposition 54 to being a strong voice of dissent against the nomination of Justice Janice Brown – the region and its affiliates were there.

In an effort to foster connections between affiliates throughout the region, the region launched Region IX Online, a website at [www.nbaregionix.org](http://www.nbaregionix.org). In December, the region sent holiday postcards to NBA members. Early this spring, the region hosted a successful, well attended membership event called “Uninhibited Networking” - a casual, flirtatious, yet seriously professional event in Beverly Hills, CA. Region IX also conducted a regional qualifying competition for the NBA’s annual Dr. Martin L. King Jr. Drum Major for Justice Advocacy Competition for high school seniors.

Still, we feel like our work has just begun!

Region IX encourages you to attend the NBA’s annual convention from August 7-14th in Charlotte, NC - [www.nationalbar.org/news/conferences/79th\\_annual.shtml](http://www.nationalbar.org/news/conferences/79th_annual.shtml). To those who have never attended an NBA convention ... OUR convention is a professional and socially enriching week that will inspire, encourage and remind you of the power you possess to promote social change. The camaraderie you will enjoy and the support networks you will gain are unparalleled.

In an effort to lower convention attendance costs, the region has launched a Room Share Program to connect attendees wishing to share a room in Charlotte. If you are interested in participating in this program, please email [regionixdirector@nbaregionix.org](mailto:regionixdirector@nbaregionix.org).

During the convention, Region IX will present the timely legal seminar called “Uncharted Territory: Family and Constitutional Law Implications of Same Sex Marriages for Practicing Attorneys and Judges.” I encourage you to visit our calendar and commit to becoming more involved in the NBA and your local affiliate. Join a division or a section, assist in planning activities, suggest events, participate in panels, mentor a law student or young lawyer. With your efforts, this will continue to be a productive and innovative bar year. See you in Charlotte!

## Join CABL

The California Association of Black Lawyers (CABL) is the only statewide professional organization in California specifically existing for the purpose of representing the interests of African American attorneys, judges, law professors, and law students. Since its formation in 1977, CABL has provided leadership in eradicating racism, ensuring justice within the legal system, securing African American judicial appointments, and building the professional capacity of its lawyers and judges throughout the state.

CHBA members co-founded CABL. Since then, our membership continues to constitute its strongest supporters. Through CABL’s unique position, one’s voice can reach and impact the important current legal and political issues of our state and country.

For example, under CHBA member Gillian G.M. Small’s leadership, CABL took the lead on issues impacting the Black community and those similarly situated. CABL’s contributions last year included joining an Amici brief in the University of Michigan cases *Grutter v. Bollinger* and *Gratz v. Bollinger* to affirm the use of race as a factor in the higher education admissions process, actively and financially supporting the campaign to defeat Proposition 54 (C.R.E.C.N.O), and opposing the nomination of Justice Brown to the D.C. Circuit of Appeals.

At the CABL Convention in April 2004, several of the organization’s founders --- including Robert Harris, George Holland, the Hon. Benjamin Travis, and the Hon. Horace Wheatley -- were appreciated at a special luncheon held in their honor.

CABL’s future depends upon your involvement. You are invited and encouraged to join. Visit CABL online at [www.calblacklawyers.org](http://www.calblacklawyers.org) to learn more and obtain a copy of their membership application.



**DONNA R. ZIEGLER:**

General Counsel, Alameda County Medical Center

After serving as Labor and Employment Counsel to the Alameda County Medical Center (“ACMC”) for three years, Donna Ziegler was recently chosen to serve as General Counsel in October of 2003. The Alameda County Medical Center is a public hospital authority comprised of Highland Hospital, Fairmont Hospital, John George Psychiatric Pavilion and several free standing clinics.

Formerly a County agency, ACMC split from the County six years ago to operate as a separate public agency administered by a Board of Trustees. Ziegler serves as counsel to that board and represents that governing body at all public meetings and in ACMC’s day-to-day matters. In this capacity, her duties include drafting contracts, policy and procedure, and providing legal opinions that cover a wide range of legal areas such as labor, employment, civil rights, healthcare and

ethics. As an advocate, the position requires her to monitor the activity of outside litigation counsel, negotiate and recommend settlements, appear at administrative hearings, and defend ACMC in labor arbitrations.

As a hospital, and even more so as a public hospital mandated to serve low income and indigent communities, ACMC’s operations are highly regulated by local, state and federal agencies. Ziegler’s role helps ensure that county medical facilities adhere to these complex regulations.

Her tenure as General Counsel began during a difficult time for ACMC. It faced a \$71 million budget deficit, the CEO had just been replaced, Trustees had resigned, and a first round of layoffs had completed. With new leadership at the helm, ACMC has been busy maintaining the high standard of medical care that the public has come to expect, while wrestling with the challenging problem of providing that care within the constraints imposed by both the “business of medicine” and the need to maintain a financially viable, self-sufficient institution. Ziegler works to see that ACMC meets its obligations to patients, employees, contractors and the public.

A recent sales-tax measure, Measure A, that passed in March will provide much needed funding for the Center’s services to the community. This additional revenue however was not enough to avoid layoffs this past April that, according to news reports, eliminated redundant areas so patient services will not suffer. ACMC has also been the focus of unions, the media, and regulatory agencies as a result of unfortunate events that have cast a shadow over the institution. The unfortunate death of a beloved doctor, allegedly at the hands of a patient, is one such incident.

The job is thus not without its challenges. But Ziegler enthusiastically says of her new position: “The attention and focus that ACMC has experienced, both the good and bad, has created [an environment] rich with the opportunity for me to enhance my skills. I am providing legal services in a dynamic public and political climate for a client whose business - public healthcare - is a core community concern.”

A past CHBA director in 2002, Ziegler holds both an undergraduate degree in rhetoric and a J.D. from U.C. Berkeley. Before taking her her current position as General Counsel, her legal career involved defending counties and state departments in labor and employment matters. She also worked for a time as Litigation Counsel for the California State University system and for the law firms of Gartner & Young and Crosby Heafey Roach & May.

# Get Involved



*We beg you to save young America from the blight of race prejudice. Do not bind the children within the narrow circles of your own lives. Teach them to hear the song without hating the singer. Make them understand that it is just a question of reconciling the want and desires of different human beings, each equally entitled to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.*

- Charles Hamilton Houston, at the national YWCA Convention, May 5, 1934

realize his vision of the Black lawyers' social calling. In our day, the need for the legal community to share its time, talents, and treasure with the community is great. You are invited to explore and contribute to the following programs that many CHBA members already support. If you don't have the time to be a mentor or speaker, consider that many of these programs operate on shoe-string budgets. They can and will put to great use any modest, tax-deductible donation you offer. These programs are uniquely adept at making even a little go a long, long way. Please support them; Reach out to our children!

### **CHBA COLLEGE AWARENESS ADVOCACY PROGRAM (CAAP)**

The College Awareness Advising Program (CAAP) provides lawyers and judges the opportunity to conduct interactive presentations with high school students. These presentations inform students how to prepare for, apply to, and finance a college education. Its aim is also to debunk the myths that often discourage students of color from applying to universities. CAAP brings its program annually to Castlemont and McClymonds high schools in the Fall. Please participate and share your college experience with these promising young people. One morning or afternoon of your time can have an enormously positive impact on a student's future. To find out more or to join, contact CAAP's leaders: Attorneys Michael Harris (415.543.9444 or mh@lccr.com), J. Dominique Pinkney (510.272.6600 or jdpink2@aol.com) or Past President Darryl Stallworth (510.272.6222).

### **THE DARAJA PROJECT (Chabot College)**

"Deraja," a Swahili word meaning steps or stairway, is an appropriate name for this rigorous, year-long writing, mentoring, and counseling program at Chabot College. It is well designed to equip African American students at Chabot with the tools to succeed in college and in life. CHBA members will find it wholly worthwhile to contribute to this program by being a volunteer mentor. Each year,

the Daraja Project pairs its students with an adult mentor who works in a field that interests the student. Mentors serve as role models and guides, sharing information that will inform the student of the steps (academic and extracurricular) required to pursue and thrive in a particular career. This program is unique in its approach and its successes. At their annual celebration, students uniformly credit Daraja for providing a challenging yet comfortable learning environment that encourages them to transfer from Chabot into four-year universities. Each year, graduates from the program – many of them now professionals in their own right – return to support their peers. Contact Program Coordinator, Jeanne Wilson, at 510.723.6747 or at email address [thedarajaproject@yahoo.com](mailto:thedarajaproject@yahoo.com) to get involved.

### **THE MATCHES PROGRAM**

One of the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art's acclaimed school programs, SFMOMA Matches was founded in 1996 by the Museum's Education Department and Trustee Kamala Harris. This unique touring program matches teens from five Bay Area schools with adult Museum members. Now in its seventh year, SFMOMA Matches has served more than 600 youth, providing a fun, safe, and interactive space where young people explore art and ideas, and interact with adults who share an enthusiasm for the arts.

Every year between October and May, four "Interactions" are scheduled. During these events, students and their adult hosts become acquainted through discussions about hobbies, careers, school, and art. For more information, e-mail [edu@sfmoma.org](mailto:edu@sfmoma.org), call the School Programs Office at 415.357.4105 or visit them on the web at <http://www.sfmoma.org/education/matches.html>.

### **THE CROSSROADS MENTORING PROGRAM (CMP)**

Designed to mentor young adults ages 18-25, the Crossroads Program

reaches out to young, non-violent felons to steer them towards education, employment, family responsibility and community service. Participants are required to obtain employment, obtain a high school equivalency diploma or GED, and to set goals for their future. CMP is operated by the Hon. Judge Larry Goodman in collaboration with attorneys, probation officers, and community mentors. Contact Charles Smiley at 510.272.6651 to find out more.

### **THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF OAKLAND, CA**

The purpose of Boys & Girls Clubs of Oakland is to develop our community's youth into positive contributors to society." To accomplish this goal, Director Calvester Stanley works tirelessly to provide programs and services tailored to the needs of today's youth and supplementary to the endeavors of families, schools, and other community-based organizations. B&GCO provides safe places to learn and grow, enjoy ongoing relationships with caring adult professionals, participate in life-enhancing programs, and work on individual character development. Each year, just over 2,000 girls and boys ages 6 to 17 benefit from membership. Help fulfill B&GCO's mission! The Club strives to expand its capacity to serve an even greater number of young people in the near future. Please call the Boys & Girls Club at 510.444.8211 to find out how to enroll a child, volunteer your time, or make a charitable investment in Oakland's youth.

### **BENCH BAR SPEAKERS BUREAU**

The Bench Bar Speakers Bureau (BBSB) is a program started by the Community Focused Court Planning Committee, chaired by the Hon. Judge Gordon Baranco. Among other things, BBSB recruits lawyers and judges and matches them with interested schools and community

organizations to give presentations about various legal topics. This year's theme was "To Win Equality by Law: *Brown v. Board of Education* at 50." Recent past topics include Juvenile Law, Law as a Career, and Family Law. Participating speakers are encouraged to suggest their own topics too! This is a great way to educate and inspire young people about the legal system and the profession. Ask our CHBA members who volunteered last year about the program (President Goins, Past President Robert L. Harris, Cynthia A. Browning, Bari S. Robinson, Issac J. Vaughn, Adrienne Ali, Amiel L. Wade, Donna Bunch Coaxum, and Michael Thomas.) For more information, contact Armilla Staley at 510.208.4975 or [astaley@alameda.courts.ca.gov](mailto:astaley@alameda.courts.ca.gov), or Nancy Vue at 510.267.9478 or [nvue@alameda.courts.ca.gov](mailto:nvue@alameda.courts.ca.gov).

### **EDUCATING FOR JUSTICE**

Held annually in the month of May, the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area brings dozens of local attorneys and hundreds of East Bay students together to discuss civil rights law through the Educating for Justice program. The four day curriculum includes discussion on such topics as affirmative action and juvenile justice. The Lawyers' Committee provides curriculum packets, background materials, and training to assist you with the program. Next year will mark the program's 15th straight year serving Bay Area youth. Call them today to join their roster of attorney speakers. The Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights invites you to participate! Attorneys of color are especially encouraged to volunteer. Please contact Liz Marengo, Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights for more information or to volunteer at 415.543.9444, [emarengo@lccr.com](mailto:emarengo@lccr.com)

### **THE ALLEN E. BROUSSARD SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION**

The Allen E. Broussard Scholarship Foundation was established in November 1996 shortly after the death of California Supreme Court Associate Justice Allen E. Broussard. The goal of the Foundation is to provide scholarship assistance to minority law students attending San Francisco Bay Area law schools, based on academic performance, community service and financial need. Since 1997, the Foundation has provided over \$65,000 in scholarships to deserving students. To assist them in honoring Justice Broussard's legacy to assist minorities in securing higher education, better job opportunities, and careers in law, contact them at [info@broussard-scholarship.org](mailto:info@broussard-scholarship.org) and visit them on-line at [www.broussard-scholarship.org](http://www.broussard-scholarship.org).

### **THE CHBA MENTOR PROGRAM**

The Charles Houston Bar Association Mentorship Program seeks to provide opportunities for the personal and professional development of new lawyers and law students in the Bay Area. The program pairs these lawyers and students with local attorneys and judges who have practiced in their area of interest. The goal is to provide support through the informal sharing of experiences, advice, and information. Armed with knowledge, we aspire to help new lawyers make informed decisions about their career path and make new friends along the way. Please contact Young Lawyers' Chair Kwixuan Maloof by email to address: [Kwixuan\\_Maloof@ci.sf.ca.us](mailto:Kwixuan_Maloof@ci.sf.ca.us) or call him at 415.553.9637 to enroll.

# Money

## ONLINE TRADING: THE PERFECT PART-TIME BUSINESS

By F. Douglas Lofton

As a newly licensed Attorney, I would typically spend countless hours developing my legal skills, preparing cases, and building my law practice. However, I soon discovered that while I was focusing on practicing law, I was not preparing myself financially for the day that I could choose to leave full time practice . . . while still maintaining a roof over my head! Consequently, I initially started trading online as an effective means to build wealth for my retirement. Soon after, I discovered that trading is a business that could provide me with a viable source of income—just like my law practice. Now at 40 years old, I spend the majority of my time managing my “trading business” from my home in Hawaii.

If you are planning to retire from the practice of law at some point in the future, or wish to scale down your current level of practice, I urge you to consider developing a trading business. Even if you wish to continue “full throttle” at the practice of law, a trading business can provide additional household income that can be used to fund your retirement or college fund. Trading from home is the “perfect business” to enhance your overall quality of life for the following reasons:

### UNLIMITED INCOME

**POTENTIAL.** It is possible to make several thousand dollars or more a single day. Actually, I have made hundreds and even thousands of dollars in a single day and I am hardly alone.

### MORE INCOME WITHOUT WORKING MORE HOURS.

You do not have to trade full-time to be successful. Because you can set your own hours, you can continue practicing law while simultaneously generating a nice source of additional household income from trading.

I personally developed and coach people on “The 20 Minute Trading System.” The 20 Minute Trading System is an effective trading strategy for people with full time jobs. As the name suggests, you can generate income trading through a method that requires less than 20 minutes per day.

### FREEDOM OF LOCATION.

If you have a computer and internet connection or telephone, you can trade for a living from wherever you choose. I know another trader who trades while he is traveling around the country in his RV!

### NO BARRIERS TO ENTRY.

You do not need any diplomas or degrees to trade.

### YOU ARE YOUR OWN

**BOSS.** You can make your own decisions with no one looking over your shoulder. You can set your own hours. You are only accountable to yourself and your dependents. No office politics. No stress about receiving a “pink slip” during the holiday season, or frustration of training someone less qualified than you so he or she can then be promoted over you! (This is the CHBA newsletter so you all know what I mean!)

### THE PERFECT

**EMPLOYEES.** “Dollar Workers” are the perfect employees! They do not get sick or take vacations. They do not sue, go on strike or even ask to

be paid! Instead, dollar workers just love to work, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year! Put your dollars to work, and they will work for you for life! The idea is that your dollars work so you don’t have to!

### HEALTHIER LIFESTYLE.

You do not have to deal with the stress of commuting, bosses, employees, clients, co-workers, meetings, and deadlines. Instead, you can concentrate on things which nourish your mental, physical, and spiritual health.

I can personally attest that you do not need a lot of time or money to become a successful trader. You also do not need a business or professional license to trade for yourself. However, you do need a desire to get started trading if you have not already done so! Here’s some good news: you can get started making extra money as an online trader in less than 24 hours with the proper trading system and coaching program!

If you are interested in making extra money as soon as possible as an online trader, you can visit my website, [www.barefootdaytrader.com](http://www.barefootdaytrader.com), which offers the “20 Minute Trading System” Book, Stock Picks for the Week, personal coaching, a free newsletter, and a “Trader Starter Kit.” For more information, you can visit my website at [www.barefootdaytrader.com](http://www.barefootdaytrader.com), or contact me by email at [doug@barefootdaytrader.com](mailto:doug@barefootdaytrader.com).

## What CHBA Has Been Up To

Under the leadership of President Vernon C. Goins, CHBA has enjoyed increased public exposure and a growing, connected community of African American lawyers, judges, and law students. We have been working to facilitate the growth of individual legal careers, to bring new practitioners and ideas into the fold, and to establish CHBA as a powerful political voice in the community. Take a look at some of what CHBA has done since our last newsletter:

**2003: May:** CHBA joined the successful efforts of the California Colatition for Civil Rights to defeat Proposition 54, also known as CRECNO; Members attend a production of the African American Shakespeare Company's performance of Othello; CHBA participates at the First Fridays nonprofit organization networking event. **June:** CHBA co-sponsored a fundraiser for the Family Violence Law Center in Alameda County; We also launched our web site [www.charleshoustonbar.org](http://www.charleshoustonbar.org). **July:** President Goins' brought African American Majority Law Firm Partners of the Bay Area together in S.F. for a luncheon; Our reception for Demetrius Shelton celebrated his victory and new seat on the State Bar of California's Bd of Governors; We enjoyed another performance by the African-American Shakespeare Co.; We supported S.F. Superior Court Judge Mary C. Morgan at her induction ceremony; Over 125 members, family, and friends gathered on a sunny afternoon for the Membership Appreciation BBQ. **Aug.:** CHBA represented northern California at the NBA Convention in New Orleans; In San Francisco, CHBA co-hosted a reception for ABA President Dennis Archer and President-Elect Robert J. Grey during the ABA Annual Meeting; CHBA co-sponsored a speakers training seminar to stimulate activism against C.R.E.C.N.O. **Sept.:** General membership meeting. **Oct.:** We co-sponsored an educational seminar entitled "So You Want To Be A Judge?" which advised lawyers about the judicial candidacy processes. **Nov.:** CHBA's College Awareness Advising Program returned to McClymonds and Castlemont High Schools to talk with teens; Another general membership meeting and board elections were held. On **December 6th**, CHBA closed out 2003 with its Annual Gala Dinner Dance at the Oakland Airport Hilton.

**2004: Jan.** The new executive board meets to begin plans for 2004. **Jan 29:** CHBA joins other professional organizations to co-host a networking mixer in S.F.; **Feb 9:** CHBA assembles its past presidents for a special dinner and meeting in Emeryville; **Feb 11:** General membership meeting held at the home of Fidel and Chonda Nwamu. At that meeting, the Hon. Judge John Sugiyama of Contra Costa County requested CHBA's support in his bid to retain his contested seat on the bench; **Feb 18:** Along with BDPA, we hosted a meet-the-candidates forum entitled "The Future of Bay Area Politics" featuring Nate Miley, Keith Carson, Melanie Shelby and others. **Feb 19:** CHBA and Duane Morris LLP held a reception for newly elected San Francisco District Attorney Kamala Harris. The program featured speakers Gary Burton, Esq., City Attorney Dennis Herrera, CABL President Gillian Small, and our own President Goins. Addressing the crowd, Harris thanked her supporters and outlined plans for the hard work ahead. **Feb 21:** Over 100 family and friends gathered at the home of Carl Hackney for the second Annual Soulfood Potluck. **Feb 24:** CHBA Presidents Bob Harris, Demetrius Shelton, and Vernon Goins hosted a reception, open to the community, for District Attorney Harris. **Feb 28:** CHBA co-sponsored CABL's Black History Celebration commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of *Brown v. Board of Education*. Cheryl Brown Henderson, daughter of plaintiff Oliver L. Brown, delivered the keynote address. **March:** In collaboration with other professional organizations, members participated in a seminar entitled "Property Ownership – A Wealth Building Workshop." **March 19:** CHBA held its annual Judicial Luncheon honoring Superior Court Judges the Hon. Perker L. Meeks, Jr. (San Francisco County) and the Hon. Carl Morris (Alameda County). **March 24:** Social happy hour at Verbena Restuarant in Oakland. **April 22:** Reception in Honor of Frederic White, Jr., Dean of Golden Gate Law School. **April 23:** Third CHBA African American Majority Law Firm Partners Luncheon; **April 29 - May 2:** CHBA supports the CABL Annual Conference "Gatekeepers of Justice" at the Oakland Marriott City Center. The conference included a luncheon in honor of Robert L. Harris, George Holland, and Judges Benjamin Travis and Horace Wheatley for their role in founding the California Association of Black Lawyers in 1977. CABL named its Lifetime Achievement Award after Judge Travis.

**2003:** After a well publicized election, member **Kamala D. Harris** was elected District Attorney of San Francisco! She is the first African-American woman to hold such a position statewide. **Beverly Daniels-Greenberg**, **Evelio Grillo**, and **C. Don Clay** were appointed to the Alameda County Superior Court by Governor Davis. Attorney **Jon Streeter**, a partner of Kecker & Van Nest, became President of the Bar Association of San Francisco. San Francisco 49ers General Counsel, **Edward Goines**, has joined Streeter on the board of directors. Alameda County Deputy D.A. **Terry Wiley (Past President 2002)** will lead the prosecution team in "The Riders" retrial, a criminal case involving the alleged misconduct of three former Oakland police officers. The **Wiley Manual Law Foundation's** 22nd Annual Scholarship Awards Gala honored **Hiawatha Roberts** and **Judith Johnson** with their Legal Pioneer Award. At its 2004 Gala, the awardees were **Kamala Harris** and the **Hon. Judge Benjamin Travis**. **The Hon. Judge David Krashna** (Alameda County) was presented an award by the National Judicial College for his outstanding work in judicial education in the area of racial profiling and pretext traffic stops. **Judge Thelton E. Henderson** of the U.S. District Court, Northern District of California was awarded the American Inns of Court Professionalism Award, given only to a senior practicing judge or lawyer whose work displays the highest standards of the legal profession. Judge Henderson was also recognized by the Lawyers Club of S.F. and at an African American majority firm partners luncheon. **Clinton Killian** was appointed Chairman of the Oakland Planning Commission. Last October, the **Honorable Joan Cartwright** of Alameda County Superior Court received the Coalition of Minority Bar's Unity Award for outstanding service to the legal community.

**2004:** Golden Gate University School of Law named Cleveland-based law professor, **Frederic White Jr.**, as its new Dean. **The Hon. Willie L. Brown, Jr.** received the U.C. Hastings Medal of Achievement at the law school's Founder's Day Luncheon in February. **Christopher Edley Jr.**, a Harvard University law professor and national leader in civil rights law and public policy, has been named Dean of the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law (Boalt Hall). Member **Teveia Barnes** will receive the ABA Margaret Brent Award at the Annual Meeting in Atlanta. Among other accomplishments, Barnes founded Lawyers for One America, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting greater racial and ethnic diversity in the legal profession and providing civil pro bono legal services to local underserved communities. **Tony West** made partner at the San Francisco law firm of Morrison & Foester. He joins ranks with fellow CHBA member **Annette P. Carnegie**. Leadership is the theme of this year's Spring Summit organized by the State Bar of California. Among the speakers at the event was **Robert Grey Jr.**, President-Elect of the ABA. Past CABL President **Gillian G.M. Small** gave the keynote address at the Hastings BLSA graduation on May 22. Last year's CHBA Executive Board Member **Angela Houlemard** was named UC Hastings' BLSA Alumnus of the Year. Past President **Demetrius Shelton** received CABL's Loren Miller "Lawyer of the Year" Award. Shelton has served on the Board of Governors of the National Bar Association since 1998, most recently as the Chair of the organization's Government Lawyers Division. Making history, he was elected in 2003 to the Board of Governors of the State Bar and thus became the first African American to represent the 3rd District which includes Alameda, Santa Clara, San Mateo and Contra Costa Counties. On May 1st at CABL's 27th Annual Installation & Awards Dinner, the Honorable **Judge Trina Thompson Stanley** received the Judge of the Year Award. Member Gillian G.M. Small, as 2003-2004 President of CABL, gets kudos for extending the organization's voice nationwide to impact federal judicial appointments, to help defeat Ward Connerly's C.R.E.C.N.O. initiative, to support the University of Michigan in *Gratz v. Bollinger*, and for educating the local community about the import of the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision. Also in the news: **United States District Court Judge Phyllis Hamilton** (N.D. Cal.) ruled that the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act, heavily backed by the White House, was unconstitutional, could endanger women's health and violate their right of access to abortion. The case has been viewed as the most significant abortion rights case since the U.S. Supreme Court decided *Roe vs. Wade* 30 years ago. Hamilton, a former state public defender, Alameda County Municipal Court Commissioner, and U.S. Magistrate, was appointed to the Federal District Court by President Clinton in 2000. **In memorium:** Albertine Douglas Radford, a former Vice President of CHBA's Judicare Legal Services in Oakland passed away on March 21, 2004. She was 86. Her long service as a dedicated volunteer to many community groups was acknowledged last year when Oakland City Councilmember Larry Reid sponsored a proclamation naming June 3, 2003, Albertine Douglas Day.

## 2004 CHBA EXECUTIVE BOARD

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## HEADNOTES

### CHBA Email List Serve

Did you know that the CHBA Email List Serve broadcasts legal and community news to thousands?

Since 2004 began, the list serve has informed recipients of over 50 legal community events in the Bay Area, announced over 30 legal job opportunities (everything from in-house counsel, to teaching and board positions), and helped publicize over 30 events and fundraisers for our nonprofit and community partners, CLE trainings, and news about our members.

Join the list-serve today to stay informed! Contact President Vernon Goins at vgoins@thebusinesslawyers.com to get our news and stay current!

### SAVE THE DATE!

The Annual Gala Dinner Dance will be held on Saturday, December 4th, 2004 at the Oakland Airport Hilton.

We encourage members, friends, community organizations, law firms, and companies to join us as we celebrate another amazing year.

For more information about the Gala, please contact executive board member Kimberlei Evans at 415-289-7004 or evans@lbbslaw.com.





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**PO Box 1474**  
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## CHBA UPCOMING EVENTS

### July

31 CHBA Membership Appreciation BBQ (TBA)

### August

5 - 10 ABA 2004 Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA

7 - 14 NBA 79th Annual Convention, Charlotte, NC

### September

9 CHBA General Membership Meeting

18 First Year Law Student BBQ

23 Reception for Dean Christopher Edley, Jr.

25 Student Interview and Resume Writing Workshop

### October

1 CHBA Scholarship Applications become available

1 - 4 Annual Jurists on the Sea Cruise

7 - 10 State Bar of California 2004 Annual Meeting  
Monterey, CA

13 Minority Coalition Bar Unity Reception

### November

12 Deadline for CHBA Scholarships

18 General Membership Meeting / Elections

### December

4 2004 Gala Dinner Dance & Toy Drive

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