



MY LACBA STORY

DAVID J. PASTERNAK

David has been a LACBA member for more than 40 years, serving as President, Trustee, and Barristers President. He was also the 91st President of the State Bar of California and first member of the State Bar Board of Trustees appointed by the Supreme Court of California. David is a member of Pasternak, Pasternak & Alsbrook, and has had a long and distinguished career as a civil litigator, State and Federal Court Receiver, a provisional director, partition referee, special master, and Bankruptcy Court Custodian.

This is David's story.

Why did you choose to become a lawyer? I chose it as a career when I was in junior high school because I liked to read and believed that it would enable me to help others.

Where did you graduate law school? Loyola Law School.

How many years have you been practicing law? 42 years.

What area(s) of law do you practice and where are you currently employed? Receiverships and other court-appointments. Pasternak, Pasternak & Alsbrook, A Law Corporation in Century City.

What role has LACBA and Barristers/Young Attorneys played in your career? Barristers and LACBA were instrumental in my success as a lawyer. I started in Barristers by volunteering to serve as a settlement officer (similar to a mediator) in the landlord-tenant court at what is now the Mosk Courthouse, and shortly afterwards was asked to chair that program. In addition to making lifelong friends, Barristers offered me my first leadership opportunities, and many of my first mentors and role models. LACBA later continued offering me all of those same rewards for no more than the commitment of some of my time.

What words of wisdom would you give new attorneys about getting involved with LACBA and Barristers/Young Attorneys? At a time when new attorneys frequently change jobs, it is more important than ever that they expand their network of friends and professional acquaintances to enable them to have more future professional opportunities. LACBA and especially Barristers offer those opportunities, while also enabling new attorneys to fulfill their professional responsibilities at a time when it more important than ever that all attorneys do so. We all need to help provide access to justice to those who are less fortunate than us, as well as educate the public about their rights, the importance of the rule of law and independent and impartial courts, and the vital role that our justice system plays in our democracy.

We invite you to explore all the benefits of LACBA and Barristers/Young Attorneys membership which is free to all First- and Second-Year attorneys. If you have questions about your membership or how to get involved, please contact Member Services at 213.896.6560.