



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LACBA to Present its Shattuck-Price Outstanding Lawyer Award to David J. Pasternak and J. Michael Hennigan and the Outstanding Jurist Award to the Late Hon. Beverly Reid O'Connell

Awards will be presented at LACBA's 140-Year Anniversary & Awards Gala, coming later this year

LOS ANGELES – MAY 24, 2018 – The Los Angeles County Bar Association (LACBA), one of the largest voluntary metropolitan bar associations in the country, will present the Shattuck-Price Outstanding Lawyer Award to David J. Pasternak and J. Michael Hennigan and its Outstanding Jurist Award to the late Hon. Beverly Reid O'Connell at LACBA's 140-Year Anniversary & Awards Gala coming later this year.

The Shattuck-Price Outstanding Lawyer Award is presented to a lawyer or lawyers who have shown extraordinary dedication to the high principles of the legal profession and to improving the administration of justice in Los Angeles County.

David J. Pasternak

Mr. Pasternak, a member of Pasternak, Pasternak & Alsbrook, 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.

He has been a LACBA member for more than 40 years, serving as President and Trustee, Barristers President, and on more than 30 committees and sections, including the Blue Ribbon Commission of the Los Angeles Superior Court, Continuing Legal Education, Delegation to the California Conference of Bar Associations, and Juvenile Courts Task Force, among others. Mr. Pasternak was instrumental in helping to raise more than \$100,000 to support LACBA's Domestic Violence Legal Services Project as Co-Chair of its 25th Anniversary Celebration.

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He was the 91st President of the California State Bar, first member of the State Bar of California Board of Trustees appointed by the California Supreme Court, and has chaired many American Bar Association (ABA) committees, served on its House of Delegates Select Committee, and as an ABA Fellow. Mr. Pasternak served as President of Bet Tzedek and on its Board of Directors for more than 20 years.

He regularly writes and speaks about receivership practice and has served on a number of California Judicial Council and Los Angeles Superior Court committees, which revised the Los Angeles Superior Court rules.

J. Michael Hennigan

Mr. Hennigan, a founding partner of McKool Smith Hennigan, has established himself as a leader in the litigation of nationwide consumer class actions and commercial fraud cases for more than 40 years. He specializes in the litigation and trial of complex commercial cases and has been lead counsel in more than 45 major state and federal jury trials, resulting in more than \$8 billion in litigated judgments and settlements for his clients.

A LACBA member since 1977, he has served in a number of leadership roles, including as a LACBA Trustee, Chair and Treasurer of the Litigation Section, and as a member of the Business and Corporations Law, Antitrust and Unfair Business Practices, and Senior Lawyers Sections.

He is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, a member of the University of Arizona Board of Visitors, a member of the American Law Institute; and has served on the Judicial Council Task Force on Complex Civil Litigation, and the American Board of Trial Advocates.

He serves on the Board of Directors of Homeboy Industries and has participated in an internship program at his law firm that provides high school students from Verbum Dei High School in Los Angeles with internships to gain experience in a professional setting. Since 2002, more than 30 interns have completed the work/study program and continued on to college.

The Outstanding Jurist Award

LACBA will posthumously present its Outstanding Jurist Award to U.S. District Court Judge Beverly Reid O'Connell of the Central District of California, who passed away at age 52, in recognition of her distinguished career on the bench, as well as contributions to the community and the practice of law. An 11-year veteran of state and federal courts in Los Angeles, Judge O'Connell was nominated to the Central District of California Court by President Barack Obama.

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Prior to her federal judgeship, and following her graduation from Pepperdine University School of Law, she practiced at the firm of Morrison & Foerster until 1995, when she joined the United States Attorney's Office for the Central District of California as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the criminal division. She served in that capacity until 2005, when Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger appointed her to the California Superior Court for the County of Los Angeles.

She was well known for her service to the legal community, regularly teaching courses at Loyola Law School, Pepperdine University School of Law, and the B.E. Witkin Judicial College, as well as serving on the Board of Directors of the Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles.

Judge O'Connell is receiving the Outstanding Jurist Award in recognition of her contributions from the bench through judicial ability and experience, temperament and demeanor, knowledge of the law, improvement and education of the legal community, and the practice of law.

She was a member of LACBA's Litigation Section and served on the Litigation Section Executive Committee.

About the Los Angeles County Bar Association

The Los Angeles County Bar Association (LACBA) is one of the largest voluntary metropolitan bar associations in the nation and has more than 15,000 members. LACBA is engaged in advancing the administration of justice and meeting the professional needs of lawyers. For more information on LACBA, visit www.lacba.org.

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