



COMMUNITY  
LEGAL SERVICES IN  
EAST PALO ALTO

# Annual Celebration Gala

Celebrating 10 Years of Service

# 10

### Master of Ceremonies

Julius M. Turman, Partner, Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP

### Welcome and Introductory Remarks

Andrew Thomases, Co-Chair of CLSEPA Board of Directors  
Partner, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP

Phil Hwang, CLSEPA Executive Director

### Presentation of Awards

Goodwin Procter LLP, Law Firm of the Year  
Katherine McCormick, Advocate of the Year  
Andrés Connell & Julio Garcia, Community Advocate Award  
DLA Piper LLP and The Gap, Inc., Partnership of the Year

### Building Blocks of Justice: Capital Campaign

Carlos Romero, City of East Palo Alto City Council Member

### Closing Remarks

We thank our Premiere Visionary Sponsors



Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP  
& Affiliates



## Goodwin Procter LLP

Law Firm of the Year

# GOODWIN

# PROCTER

The attorneys of Goodwin Procter stand as living testimony to the tremendous positive impact that a large law firm can have on a struggling community. They have worked on a wide range of cases on behalf of CLSEPA clients, including Section 8 claims, small claims appeals to VAWA self-petitions and U visa petitions for victims of violent crimes and domestic violence. In 2011, the Silicon Valley office of Goodwin Procter provided pro bono representation to 9 CLSEPA clients, dedicating over 800 hours of pro bono legal services to these individuals.

Goodwin Procter, an international Am Law 50 law firm, is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. Pro bono work is one of the cornerstones of Goodwin; the firm dedicated over 45,700 hours to 492 matters in 2011. Regardless of size, each pro bono matter receives the same level of dedication, professionalism, and care from Goodwin attorneys.

CLSEPA clients and staff appreciate the efforts of Goodwin Procter's Silicon Valley offices' dedication to all the pro bono matters worked on in 2011 and 2012.

*firm of the year*

## Katherine McCormick, O'Melveny & Myers LLP

Advocate of the Year Award



Katherine McCormick, is an associate with O'Melveny & Myers LLP. She went to Boalt Law School at U.C. Berkeley and spent her undergrad at U.C. San Diego. In between college and law school, Katherine worked in her hometown of Davis, California as an editor at a translation company where she helped make court forms, legal information handbooks other various documents more accessible to the public.

Katherine and her colleagues at O'Melveny worked tirelessly on two U visa cases that ended with successful results in 2011. In one case, Katherine and her colleagues assisted a woman who was subjected to years of abuse by her stepfather. At the beginning of the case, Katherine drove out to Modesto to meet with the client in person. This case was particularly challenging because the client did not make a contemporaneous police report due to her young age when the abuse occurred. Katherine called the middle school and high school that the client had attended, spoke with an immigration advocate in the area, and ended up petitioning the local court to obtain records from child protective services. She also worked with the client to obtain a letter from her counselor and affidavits from family members in support of her application. Katherine advocated on her behalf to the certifying law enforcement agency and to the government agency responsible for the U-Visa applications. Thankfully, the woman was able to obtain legal status through the U visa petition process. She now has the opportunity to remain in the U.S. with her husband and her two young children.

In her second case, Katherine helped a survivor of domestic violence obtain a U visa. After many years of abuse, Katherine's client came forward and reported a particularly violent incident to law enforcement. She assisted in the investigation and prosecution and her abuser was convicted. Katherine and the O'Melveny team assisted the client, who is a mother of three, throughout the application process. In this case, the government did not send confirmation that the U-Visa had been approved even though the government website indicated that the U-visa had been approved. Katherine called and sent e-mails to the government to determine the actual status of the case. It turned out that the application was approved, but was accidentally sent to records without sending the notice of approval. Shortly thereafter, the government sent the notice, which confirmed a successful result for the client. While they were waiting for confirmation of approval, Katherine assisted the client with fulfilling the applicant's obligation to update the government when the client changed residences.

Katherine would like to thank the staff at CLSEPA for their support and advice throughout the application process, which was crucial in obtaining the successful results. In particular, she would like to thank current and former staff members Neil Babra, Katrina Logan, Mari Zellner and Jon Frohnmayer. She would also like to thank Jack Siebert, an instructor at a local community college, who volunteered his time to translate and interpret on behalf of one of her clients.

*advocate of the year*

Many Thanks to Our Event Sponsors (at time of printing):

**Premiere Benefactor**

The Morrison & Foerster Foundation

**Premiere Supporters**

The Dorsey & Whitney Foundation

Goodwin Procter LLP

Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP

**Premiere Friends**

Cooley LLP

Fish & Richardson PC

Mayer Brown LLP

Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP

Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati Foundation

San Mateo Credit Union

**Premiere Allies**

Alec Chang

Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy LLP

Peter and Michelle Detkin

Greenberg Traurig LLP

Cara Jobson

O'Melveny & Myers LLP

Terry and Carol Winograd, an advised fund of the

Silicon Valley Community Foundation

Van Der Hout, Brigagliano & Nightingale LLP

**Community Partners**

ACLU of Northern California, Inc.

City of Palo Alto

International Institute of the Bay Area

Judge LaDoris H. Cordell

The Law Foundation of Silicon Valley

Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County

Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center

Immigrant Legal Resource Center

Single Stop USA

**In-kind Contributors**

Blackstone Discovery

Ceàgo Vinegarden

**Andrés Connell, Executive Director &  
Julio Garcia, Community Organizer**

*Community Advocate Award*

Over the past 2 years, CLSEPA has partnered with Nuestra Casa on various programs aimed at encouraging stable economic growth in East Palo Alto and surrounding communities. Nuestro Futuro es Seguro (Our Future is Secure) was the first collaboration where multiple organizations hosted an all-day event designed to engage and assist the immigrant Latino population with issues dealing with immigration law, economic self-reliability, and education rights. Approximately 165 families attended the event, making it a success.

The Anti-Payday Lending Education Campaign resulted in the passing of a city ordinance curbing the incursion of payday lenders into our community. Nuestra Casa was instrumental in conducting outreach and education presentations to the different groups in the community.

Currently, the Secure Future\$ Asset Building program aims to provide financial literacy education to our local residents. The collaborative members, which includes the San Mateo Credit Union, Nuestra Casa and the Renaissance Center, all realized how important it is to provide these money management services to community members. Nuestra Casa's promotoras have been instrumental in getting the word out about this very important initiative.

The CLSEPA-Nuestra Casa relationship continues to strengthen as the two organizations work together to curb payday lending and other predatory practices in Redwood City and Menlo Park. Nuestra Casa is playing an instrumental role reaching out to organizations in Redwood City that will host community education presentations and become strong allies in our anti-payday lending efforts.

*community advocate*

**DLA Piper LLP and The Gap, Inc.**

*Partnership of the year*

The Gap, Inc.'s vision for building stronger communities is simple: to create opportunities for people to own their future and fulfill their personal promise. As a global business law firm, DLA Piper's vision is to be 'truly local, truly global,' and the East Palo Alto office has had an incredibly positive impact on East Palo Alto and surrounding communities with its pro bono services. With a focus on underserved youth, Gap, Inc. reached out to DLA Piper to build a new pro bono partnership with CLSEPA helping immigrant survivors of crimes normalize their immigration status through the U Visa Program and Violence Against Women Act.

These programs each provide a vehicle through which undocumented immigrant victims of crime who help law enforcement in the investigation or prosecution of the crimes against them secure immigration relief. The U Visa encourages those immigrants who have been harmed to come forward and work with law enforcement to seek justice, rather than otherwise quietly submit to victimization merely because they are undocumented.

Throughout 2010 and 2011, in-house attorneys and paralegals from The Gap partnered with commercial lawyers from DLA Piper to handle cases for families who qualified for immigration relief under the U Visa program because of crimes that embodied the unique challenges facing the undocumented. In one example, the partnership represented two families whose children were molested by their church's pastor, who deliberately targeted the undocumented believing that fear of deportation would render them powerless to put an end to his horrific crimes. Thanks to The Gap and DLA Piper, the bravery of the child survivors and their families in coming forward to help prosecute a predator was rewarded with legal status in the United States and a possible path to citizenship for each family.

A special thanks to Marie Ma and Mary Ann Moran attorneys with The Gap, Inc., and to Hilary Gevondyan and Renee Glover Chantler, attorneys with DLA Piper, for being the driving forces behind this valuable partnership.

*partnership of the year*



Pictured (L) Julio Garcia and (R) Andrés Connell

## Wiley W. Manuel Award Recipients

The California State Bar's Justice Wiley W. Manuel Award honors the provision of legal services to California's poor. Honorees must have performed at least 50 hours of *pro bono* legal services in 2011. This year, Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto honors 68 attorneys, paralegals, law students, and volunteers who provided over 9,500 hours of service last year.

Aiyejasohan Abedemeji  
 Zachary James Alinder  
 Rico Altman-Merino  
 Shilpi Banerjee  
 Lori Bates  
 Gregory Scott Bishop  
 Evan E. Boetticher  
 Heather A. Bromfield  
 Penny Browning  
 Ana Sofia Bruzon  
 Kareena Campbell  
 Priyanevasha Chandasekhar  
 Christopher Lee Chang  
 Alice Chang  
 Renee Glover Chantler  
 Derek Chantler  
 Henry L. Chi  
 Brandon Cody Martin  
 Sindy Crisostomo  
 Ryan Dahm  
 Allison S. Davidson  
 Zac Dillon  
 Yina Dong  
 Andrew Milton Farthing  
 Susan Rita Feierman Solomon  
 Yesenia Garcia Perez  
 Maria Gonzalez  
 Yadira Gonzalez  
 Keith David Hiatt  
 Shirley Hochhausen  
 Jessica Jenkins  
 Robert F. Kane  
 Jared T. Kelly  
 Evelyn M. Kim

Summer Kristen Krause  
 Judy Lao  
 Calvin Latour  
 Wallace Johnson Lee  
 Vinod Jos Mapranath  
 Sarabeth Aloviss Marinelli  
 Vickie Martin  
 Liliana Martinez  
 Scott C. Maurer  
 Kate McDonnell  
 Ryan Murphy  
 Hamsa M. Murthy  
 Serena M. Orloff  
 Alan R. Ouellette  
 Christina Lynn Paulson  
 Rebecca Page Pinger  
 Rachel Rebecca Ray  
 Daniel Rojas  
 Raeon Rodrigo Roulston  
 Elizabeth B. Rumsey  
 Brian N. Savage  
 Michael Schiff  
 Melissa Derr Schmidt  
 Elizabeth J. Sharma  
 Leah Simmet  
 Court Skinner  
 Kelly Sorbera  
 Johann Strauss  
 Peter Roman Vogel  
 Ashley Elisabeth Wagner  
 Lillian Wang  
 Carrie L. Williamson  
 Clarisse Jien-Yee Wong  
 Patricia Zermeno

## Buy a Building Block of Justice

Donate to our Capital Campaign!

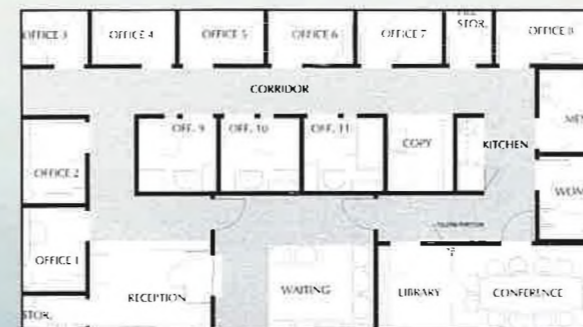
### How We Have Grown...and Outgrown Our Current Office

We have been in our current 972-square-foot space since 2002. Over the last 10 years, we have grown from a staff of 4 to 15 staff with a growing number of in-house volunteers. Now there are not enough work areas for all of us and too few areas for private conversations with clients. We regularly turn away volunteer attorneys due to lack of space.



### Thanks to Chase, We Have an Opportunity

JP Morgan Chase's REO Community Revitalization Program has recognized the importance of our work for the community and has given us a quarter-acre property on Bay Road in East Palo Alto. By doing so, Chase has given us the opportunity to build a permanent home and secure legal services for our community for years to come.



### What We Plan to Build

Our new office will be a modular building of approximately 2,000 square feet. More than doubling our current space will enable us to expand our programs, help more clients, and use more volunteer attorneys.

### We Need Your Help

To realize our goal of a permanent home for CLSEPA, we need to raise approximately **\$710,000**. Supporters already have committed over **\$370,000**, which is a great start. But we need more. Every gift, **no matter the size**, will help ensure equal access to justice for low-income people in East Palo Alto, eastern Menlo Park, and the surrounding areas. In-kind contributions also would be appreciated. All contributions are tax-deductible.

#### Naming Opportunities

\$25,000 Executive Director's office named after the donor (1 available)  
 \$10,000 Staff member's office named after the donor (10 available)  
 \$5,000 Outdoor bench named after the donor (3 available)  
 \$2,500 Tree dedicated to the donor (6 available)

#### Buy a building block of justice:

\$100 block of justice  
 \$250 block of justice  
 \$500 block of justice

The following giving levels will be recognized on a prominent plaque in the new building lobby:

\$25,000+ Visionaries  
 \$10,000 - \$24,999 Benefactors  
 \$5,000 - \$9,999 Supporters  
 \$2,500 - \$4,999 Friends

Please do not hesitate to contact CLSEPA's Executive Director, Phil Hwang, to answer any questions for you. Phil may be reached at 650-391-0348 or at [phil@clsepa.org](mailto:phil@clsepa.org).

## Board of Directors

Nozipo Wobogo

*Co-Chair*

Andrew Thomases, Esq.

*Co-Chair*

William Byron Webster

*Secretary*

Sunil Kulkarni, Esq.

*Treasurer*

Michael Armstrong, Esq.

Rena Chng, Esq.

Ellie Dehghan

Marisa Diaz

Oscar Dominguez

JoAnne Goldberg

Eugene Gabriel Illovsy, Esq.

John Kelly

Kathryn Latour, Esq.

Kristin Major, Esq.

Patrick E. Premo, Esq.

Court Skinner PhD

Carolyn Tucher

Andrew Valentine, Esq.

Lauren Zorfas, Esq.

## Staff

Rico Altman-Merino

Helen Beasley, Esq.

Maricela Castillo

Rosa Gómez, Esq.

Amalia Greenberg Delgado, Esq.

Phil Hwang, Esq.

Claudia Jauregui

Jessica Jenkins, Esq.

Katrina Logan, Esq.

Jeanne Merino, Esq.

Keith Ogden, Esq.

Rebecca Pinger, Esq.

Victor Ramirez

Ilyce Shugall, Esq.

## Event Committee

Rico Altman-Merino

Maricela Castillo

Cheryl Freedman

Renee Glover Chantler

Phil Hwang

Kathryn Latour

Katrina Logan

Andrew Thomases

Nozipo Wobogo

Lauren Zorfas

## Host Committee

Eugene Illovsy

Kathryn Latour

Andrew Thomases

Printing courtesy of:



Our mission is to meet the dire legal needs of low-income residents of southern San Mateo County and northern Santa Clara County region, who otherwise may have nowhere to turn for legal assistance. We provide life-changing services to people facing devastating problems such as illegal eviction, foreclosure, deportation, family separation, consumer and loan fraud, and identity theft, among others.

## Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto

2117-B University Avenue | East Palo Alto, CA 94303 | 650-326-6440 | [www.clsepa.org](http://www.clsepa.org)

# 246