27th Annual

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Awards Luncheon

We Who Believe in Justice Cannot Rest

Celebrating 50 Years of the Civil Rights Act

Friday, January 24, 2014
WE WHO BELIEVE IN JUSTICE CANNOT REST

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT
AGENDA

Black National Anthem
One Voice Ensemble, Oakland School For The Arts
Director: Lenny San Jose  Assistant Director: Winona Hendrick

Invocation
Rev. Mary Moreno-Richardson

Welcome
Pam Moore, Emcee

Acknowledgements and Remarks
Rohit Singla, Board Chair
Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP

Special Presentation
Supervisor David Chiu

Executive Director Remarks
Kimberly Thomas Rapp

Keynote Introduction
Daniel Hutchinson, Board Chair-Elect
Lieff Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein, LLP

Keynote Address
Tom Steyer, President, NextGen Climate Action

Thurgood Marshall Fellowship
Charlie Crompton, Board Member
Latham & Watkins, LLP

Pro Bono Awards Presentation
Awards Video
James T. Caleshu Award
Keta Taylor Colby Award
Anthony F. Logan Award
Jack W. Londen Award
Father Cuchulain Moriarty Award
Robert G. Sproul, Jr. Award

Closing
Pam Moore
Lift every voice and sing, till earth and Heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise, high as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet,
Come to the place for which our fathers died?

We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered;
Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
Thou Who hast brought us thus far on the way;
Thou Who hast by Thy might, led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.

Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee.
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee.
Shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand,
True to our God, true to our native land.
Dear Friends,

This year, we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. This benchmark legislation continues to serve as a critical foundation for many other pieces of anti-discrimination legislation. Through our work together, we embody its promise as we collectively answer the call to champion justice and equality for all.

Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights exists to remove barriers that our client communities face today because they are low-income, people of color, immigrants or refugees. Over the last year for example, you helped us defend programs to ensure that minority-owned businesses have an equal opportunity to secure federally funded contracts; protect the rights of students of color to have equal access to college-track courses in high school; secure asylum-seekers access to the asylum officer interview notes crucial to a successful claim of asylum; empower communities by eliminating obstructions to the free exercise of voting rights; intervene to stop the civil reverberations of systemic discrimination in the criminal justice system; and, support the economic sustainability of underserved communities by increasing financial literacy and growing businesses owned by members of the community served.

On behalf of our clients, we thank you for your dedication to justice and your perseverance for equal treatment under the law. With your support, 2014 promises to carry forward our successful momentum advancing and protecting civil rights.

In solidarity and with deep appreciation,

Kimberly Thomas Rapp, Esq.
Executive Director
proudly supports the

Lawyers’ Committee
for
Civil Rights
of the
San Francisco Bay Area

The Foundation was created by the members of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati as a commitment to the community we serve.

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Tom Steyer
President, NextGen Climate Action

Tom Steyer is an investor, philanthropist and advanced energy advocate. He is also the President of NextGen Climate Action, an organization that acts politically to avert climate disaster and preserve American prosperity.

Before retiring from the private sector, Tom founded and was the Senior Managing Member of Farallon Capital Management. He also was a Managing Director and member of the Investment Committee at Hellman & Friedman.

Tom is actively engaged in climate politics and works to promote economic development and environmental protection in the state. In 2012, Tom served as co-chair with former Secretary of State George Shultz for Yes on Proposition 39, which closed a tax loophole for out-of-state corporations and created jobs in California. In 2010, Tom teamed again with Secretary of State George Shultz to defeat California’s Proposition 23, an effort by out-of-state oil companies to dismantle California’s groundbreaking clean energy law, AB 32. In 2013, Tom also supported the successful campaigns of Ed Markey for Senate in Massachusetts and Terry McAuliffe for Governor in Virginia.

Tom and his wife, Kat Taylor, joined Warren Buffett, Bill and Melinda Gates and other high-wealth Americans in the “Giving Pledge,” a promise to donate the majority of their wealth to charitable and nonprofit activities during their lifetimes. Tom and Kat created and funded the Oakland-based One PacificCoast Bank and Foundation, which provides loans and banking services to underserved small businesses, communities, and individuals in California and along the west coast. Tom serves on Stanford University’s Board of Trustees as Vice-Chair, where he and his wife founded two renewable energy research institutions: the TomKat Center for Sustainable Energy and the Steyer-Taylor Center for Energy Policy and Finance. Tom also founded Advanced Energy Economy, which works with businesses to make energy secure, clean and affordable, and The Center for the Next Generation, which addresses energy and children’s policy issues.

Tom and Kat live in San Francisco and have four children.
William M. Audet, Esq.
Along With His Firm
Audet & Partners, LLP

Join the Leadership Circle in Celebrating

The Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights
27th Annual MLK, Jr. Luncheon
in Tribute to

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

and Congratulate the 2014 Award Winners

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ROHIT K. SINGLA is a litigation partner at Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP focusing on antitrust and intellectual property issues in high-technology sectors. He has represented clients in a wide range of industries, including software, entertainment, videogames, pharmaceuticals and medical devices. In terms of antitrust, he has broad experience with claims of monopolization, horizontal and vertical conspiracies, resale price maintenance and Robinson-Patman Act violations. In his intellectual property practice, Mr. Singla has significant experience with not only patent litigation, but also copyright, Digital Millennium Copyright Act and trade secret claims.

As a committed member of the legal community, Mr. Singla has an active pro bono practice that has included a labor arbitration on behalf of an alternative high school in Oakland, a series of immigration appeals on behalf of an innocent target of post-9/11 antiterrorism investigations, a 9th Circuit appeal in a prisoner civil rights case, asylum cases involving transgender issues and various civil rights matters. Mr. Singla’s clients have either prevailed or obtained very favorable settlements in each of these pro bono matters. He is a member of the boards of governors of Public Advocates and the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area.

Mr. Singla received a B.S. with honors in computer science and an M.A. in international policy studies from Stanford University. He received his law degree, magna cum laude, from Harvard Law School.
Pillsbury congratulates the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area on 46 years of making a difference.
Daniel M. Hutchinson, Chair-Elect

Daniel M. Hutchinson is a partner in the San Francisco office of Lieff Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein, LLP. Daniel’s practice has been focused on complex class and collective actions that have advanced the public interest. He is an advocate for under-represented and disadvantaged communities, and has litigated cases involving unfair employment practices against immigrants.

Daniel has pursued a series of consumer protection cases against major banks and financial services providers. Daniel’s efforts helped result in the largest monetary settlements in the history of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act and ended harassing automated calls to millions of consumers.

Daniel was a key player in the firm’s case against Tata, which represented a certified class of over 13,000 Indian nationals claiming that Tata unjustly enriched itself by requiring them to endorse and sign over their federal and state tax refund checks.

In one case, Daniel worked closely with a small team of plaintiffs’ counsel on behalf of Mexican workers and laborers, known as Braceros (“strong arms”), who were denied part of their wages after coming to the U.S. during World War II to fill jobs hurt by labor shortages in the agricultural, railroad and other industries. In approving the settlement in February 2009, U.S. District Court Judge Charles Breyer stated:

“I’ve never seen such litigation in eleven years on the bench that was more difficult than this one… Notwithstanding all of these issues that kept surfacing … over the years, the plaintiffs persisted…And, in fact, they achieved a settlement of the case, which I find remarkable under all of these circumstances.”

Daniel has spoken and presented papers on civil rights claims at national employment law conferences, including events sponsored by the American Bar Association’s Section of Labor and Employment Law, the Impact Fund, the UCLA School of Law, the National Employment Lawyers Association, and the Consumer Attorneys of California. Daniel currently serves as the Chair-Elect for the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights.
Legal Services for Entrepreneurs (LSE) is proud to welcome four businesses that launched as a result of their engagement with LSE and our partners from the pro bono community. Their products are available for sale in the Italian Room on the Mezzanine level. We encourage you to support them!

**Alfajores Narciso**  
Owner: Patricia Narciso  
www.facebook.com/alfajoresnarciso  
Alfajores Narciso makes the most delicious alfajores (butter cookie sandwich filled with dulce de leche) this side of the equator. Their original recipe is from Peru and their alfajores are handmade in San Francisco.

**Chiefo's Kitchen**  
Owner: Chef Chiefo  
http://www.chiefoskitchen.com  
Chiefo’s Kitchen’s primary mission is to elevate the presence and appreciation of culinary treasures from West Africa in the Bay Area through her catering and packaged food company focused on “Bringing the best of West Africa to the Bay Area!” Chiefo’s Kitchen supports local Bay Area farmers and producers, and they practice fair trade and support cooperatives in the villages where their products are grown, with an emphasis on woman-based small businesses.

**M-square Press**  
Owner: Mai Kong  
www.m-squarepress.com  
M-square Press is an online fine stationery boutique that creates one-of-a-kind treasures, keepsakes, and stationary to help people preserve memories on paper. Their mission is to design products with extreme attention to detail and craftsmanship, and for their customers to have a personal experience and relationship with each detail created for them.

**Saafara**  
Owner: Ismael Diagne  
www.saafara.com  
Saafara, which means “solution, cure, or holy water”, seeks to be the leading distributor of premium healthy herbal teas from West Africa. Saafara pledges to support the women harvesters in West Africa by offering their communities tools to access potable water facilities and acceptable delivery rooms with clean beds + linens. A donation of $0.25 from every box purchase will go to these communities.
The Jack W. Londen Award is presented to a partner who has provided exemplar-y impact work that protects and advances the civil rights of marginalized communities.

George H. Brown
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP

Throughout his career, George H. Brown has been a tireless advocate of social justice, contributing precedent-setting litigation in the voting rights arena and long service as a LCCR Board member. With this award, we recognize George for his remarkable legal advocacy to ensure that minority students are allowed to realize their full academic potential. Confronted with data indicating that African-American, Hispanic, and Pacific Islander students in school districts in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties were being unfairly held back in math when they transitioned to high school, George partnered with LCCR to combat the problem.

Under George’s leadership, LCCR and a team of Gibson Dunn attorneys worked to document this problem in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties and to demonstrate how placement policies and practices that unjustifiably fall more heavily on minority students violate federal and state anti-discrimination laws. A resulting report, Held Back: Addressing Misplacement of 9th Grade Students in Bay Area School Math Classes, issued in early 2013, was widely circulated and publicized, and spurred many districts to reform voluntarily. As the momentum that George created grew, attorneys from Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati joined the effort as well, ratcheting up the pressure and scrutiny on recalcitrant districts.

A student’s 9th grade math placement is a crucial crossroad for future educational success. While its significance is not always recognized, misplacement in 9th grade math class creates a number of barriers that students must overcome and results in students becoming less competitive for college admission, with potentially life-long implications. The most common and concerning misplacement problem occurs when a student is forced to repeat Algebra I in 9th grade, despite having successfully completed Algebra I in 8th grade.

George’s work has been instrumental in changing the placement practices of school districts in these counties, resulting in greater opportunities for students of color throughout the Bay Area.
Robert G. Sproul, Jr. Award

The Robert G. Sproul Award is presented to an exemplary partner who has provided outstanding legal representation for under-represented communities and marshaled the resources of her firm to defend the rights of the disenfranchised.

Sarah G. Flanagan
Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP

Sarah Flanagan served on the Board of the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights in the 1990s and again in 2005 for another nine years. Her litigation practice focuses on education, health care, commercial and environmental matters. With this award, we are recognizing Sarah Flanagan for her long-standing support of the Lawyers’ Committee and for her tireless efforts to support pro bono work at the Pillsbury firm.

Sarah’s commitment to pro bono goes back to her first years at Pillsbury in the early 1980s, where, as a junior associate, she and then Pillsbury partner (and later Magistrate Judge) Bernard Zimmerman were the lead lawyers prosecuting a successful class action on behalf of prisoners challenging the unconstitutionality of their confinement in administrative segregation at four California prisoners. See Toussaint v. Yockey, 722 F.2d 1490 (9th Cir. 1984).

At Pillsbury, much of Sarah’s pro bono work has been devoted to support of the Lawyers’ Committee and mentoring associates to join her in providing legal services to vulnerable communities. In the most recent example of her leadership, Sarah determined that the time was ripe for Pillsbury to re-double its efforts in LCCR’s Asylum Program and build on Pillsbury’s long history in that regard. Together with her colleague Tom Loran (a previous Sproul Award winner himself), Sarah strategized a way to bring tailored pro bono training and opportunities directly to the firm’s attorneys, giving them the tools they needed for effective advocacy in a highly targeted manner. Subsequently, a team of Pillsbury attorneys took on the gargantuan task of seeking asylum for thirteen family members from Honduras – including grandparents and young children – and successfully secured asylum for all.

This is just one demonstration of how Sarah’s steady presence has helped forge a deep partnership between LCCR and her firm over the years, translating into hours of pro bono service donated and transforming clients’ lives in the process. Sarah has brought this same leadership to the LCCR Board as well, ensuring that LCCR is strong organizationally and well-positioned to leverage the pro bono resources of Pillsbury and our other pro bono partners.
The Father Cuchulain Moriarty Award is presented recognition of an extraordinary pro bono contribution to the Lawyers’ Committee Asylum Project.

Kevin P. O’Brien
Tingley Piontowski LLP

Kevin O’Brien is being honored for going above and beyond the call of duty as a pro bono partner on behalf of a brother and sister, fourteen and sixteen, who sought asylum after fleeing persecution in their Central American home country. Although the siblings joined their mother and older brother, who were already here in the states, they faced many challenges adjusting to life in their new home.

As the asylum case developed, Kevin and his volunteer interpreters, Hazel Georgetti and Wawi Gorriz, dealt with sibling rivalries, family resentments and pangs of homesickness, and had to focus the siblings on the task at hand. On occasion, Kevin and his interpreter team traveled to Stockton to meet with their clients and develop their asylum testimony.

There were also many immigration procedural twists and turns that Kevin, a civil litigation attorney, had to negotiate in his first exposure to asylum law. These included submitting amended asylum applications, representing clients in asylum interviews, appearing in Immigration Court in San Francisco and investigating related removal proceedings at the Texas border. During the course of the representation, Kevin postponed the asylum interviews for several months to allow his clients time to prepare, consolidated the siblings’ immigration proceedings and continued the siblings’ immigration proceedings while their asylum applications were pending.

Thanks to Kevin’s successful advocacy, the Asylum Office recommended asylum for both, although the sister has to await a last court appearance to vacate a removal order issued when her cousin used her birth certificate to enter the country in 2004.

Kevin O’Brien litigates trademark, copyright, trade secret and unfair competition cases at the intellectual property boutique Tingley Law Group, PC. His practice focuses on defending small to medium size businesses and individuals in state and federal courts throughout California. Kevin has successfully resolved cases for clients in a wide range of industries, including software and technology, film and video production, retail sales, automotive sales and janitorial services.
The Keta Taylor Colby Award is presented to an attorney who provides outstanding representation to the poor and under-represented through his involvement in the Second Chance Legal Clinic, which addresses the civil consequences of the disproportionate representation of people of color and low-income affected by the criminal justice system.

Richard Robinson
Farella Braun + Martel LLP

With this award, we recognize Richard Robinson for his remarkable legal advocacy and his commitment and dedication to addressing not just the legal issues at hand, but the overarching goal of overcoming past mistakes and leveraging opportunities towards a brighter future for our Second Chance Legal Clinic clients.

Richard brings a true community lawyering spirit to his pro bono work. He began working with the Second Chance Legal Clinic in 2011, volunteering at a clinic offered in partnership with Goodwill Industries. There he met a client who wanted to study nursing, but faced potential barriers due to her past convictions. Although she was not yet eligible to clean up her record, he saw that by providing counsel and support he could help the client begin to plan for her future. Over a couple of years Richard stood by his client, diligently researching her case and identifying new avenues to help advance her goals. The case culminated this fall, when Richard successfully represented the client in Superior Court in San Mateo County. Both of the client’s expungement petitions were granted. Richard’s pro bono commitment has gone above and beyond expectations as he continues to work to resolve outstanding fines related to the case, and has connected the client to resources during her search for employment.

Richard Robinson is an associate in Farella Braun + Martel’s Insurance Coverage and Business Litigation practices. There he represents policyholders seeking coverage under a variety of insurance policies, including primary and excess general liability policies and professional liability policies. His business litigation practice spans a wide range of disputes in both federal and state court. In addition to his work with LCCR, Richard’s pro bono practice involves helping low income clients recover insurance proceeds from insurers who have wrongfully denied benefits. He also helps run Farella Braun + Martel’s Diversity Pipeline Internship Program, which provides Bay Area high school students from diverse and/or disadvantaged backgrounds a unique opportunity to learn about the legal profession, prepare for higher education and develop practical life skills.
ANTHONY F. LOGAN AWARD

The Anthony F. Logan Award is presented in recognition of the efforts of a community partner who has made an outstanding contribution to public interest law and our client communities.

Zuceli Sedar  
Volunteer Interpreter

With this award we recognize Zuceli Sedar’s skills and talent as a professional interpreter in service to our clients. Zuceli exemplifies the experience of a Lawyers’ Committee Asylum Program volunteer interpreter, making sacrifices of time and income in order to participate with our asylum teams. As an immigrant from Guatemala, she lived with the same disheartening conditions and faced discrimination similar to that of other female refugee clients. As a result, during her fifteen-year career she has interpreted empathetically for persons whose lives are in the balance.

Zuceli first volunteered with an asylum team in 2006 for a Salvadoran woman fleeing gang violence. Zuceli and her attorney teammates worked with their client through five years of interviews and hearings that led to a grant of asylum by the immigration judge. The team then filed refugee petitions for their client’s children, reuniting them with their mother. During the Salvadoran woman’s long-pending asylum case Zuceli also volunteered in several other cases. Interpreting for psychologists, health providers and social workers, she experienced the gamut of cases that make up the Asylum Program. She saw adolescents in court-mandated rehabilitation programs, and undocumented women afraid to send their children to school or take them to the hospital for fear of being deported. This work inspired her to earn a BA in psychology and to apply for a Master’s program for working professionals to become a social worker. Zuceli is humble about her contribution to the Lawyers’ Committee Asylum Program believing that her offering of skilled interpretation is the least she can do to assist the efforts of many who work to find solace and protection for those who so desperately need it.
The James T. Caleshu Award is presented to an attorney who has made an extraordinary pro bono contribution to the Lawyers' Committee Legal Services for Entrepreneurs (LSE) program, which provides free business legal services to low-income individuals who want to start or develop for-profit businesses, and certain for-profit businesses committed to community economic development.

Paul Weitzel
Davis, Polk & Wardwell LLP

Paul Weitzel has been an extraordinary proponent for access to economic opportunity through LSE at Davis Polk, taking it upon himself to encourage and inspire his colleagues to take on thirteen LSE clients in less than 9 months. Each LSE client served by pro bono Davis Polk attorneys received comprehensive and caring legal counsel, with up to three Davis Polk attorneys serving them at once.

Paul's LSE advocacy includes his own pro bono work, as well as providing Spanish language interpretation for his colleagues working with LSE clients. Using his superb transaction law skills, Paul has successfully assisted low-income entrepreneurs in starting and developing businesses. His LSE clients have included a single mother and an immigrant husband-wife team, among others.

Paul continuously proves a tireless friend of LSE and clients who would otherwise lack access to representation. Last September, he and the Menlo Park pro bono coordinator, Beth Hooten Ruiz, invited LCCR staff to their Menlo Park offices to give a presentation on best practices for serving pro bono business clients. On multiple occasions Paul has helped LCCR find a last-minute volunteer or rallied interest in a low-income entrepreneur's business matter.

Paul Weitzel is an associate at Davis Polk, where his practice focuses on counseling large cap companies through capital markets transactions, mergers and acquisitions. He also provides guidance on corporate governance issues and strategy under Delaware and California law and helps companies work with regulatory bodies, including the NYSE, the NASDAQ, FINRA, the FDA, and the SEC. His clients include several Fortune 50 companies and international companies, with a particular emphasis on Latin America. Prior to joining Davis Polk, Paul served as a law clerk to the Honorable Chief Judge Emeritus J. Clifford Wallace, of the Ninth Circuit, and Judge Michael W. Mosman, of the Oregon District.
Pam Moore
*KRON 4*

Pam Moore anchors KRON 4 evening newscasts from 5–7PM, 8pm and 11pm. Moore joined KRON 4 in March 1991 as an anchor and general assignment reporter. She has been inducted into the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Silver Circle, honored for her significant contribution to Northern California television, and by the Society of Professional Journalism, NorCal for her career achievements.

Moore has garnered a number of community and reporting awards. Among them, her 2001 series “Don’t Call Me Crazy,” earned the Outstanding Journalism Award from the California Chapter of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill and was nominated for an Emmy. In 2005, Moore also won a Pubby from the San Francisco Bay Area Publicity Club for Best Bay Area Anchor. She was also honored for her commitment to journalism by the Bay Area Black Journalists Association in 2009.

The United Negro College Fund and the Big Sisters Association, an organization that she volunteered with in various cities for nearly ten years, recognized her ongoing support. Moore’s community work in the Bay Area has garnered her many other honors and awards.

Moore’s work on KRON 4’s 1998 five-part news series “About Race” received the prestigious national George Foster Peabody Award, the Pew Center Batten Prize for Civic Journalism, an In-Depth Reporting Award from the Northern California Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, top honors from the Black Filmmakers Hall of Fame, and Best Documentary Award from the California Associated Press Television Radio Association.

She currently volunteers with the summer program at the East Oakland Youth Development Center. She is also on the board of Friends of Faith, an organization which raises grant money for Bay Area organizations which serve low income and underinsured women and men who are diagnosed with breast cancer.

A native of Detroit, Moore graduated from the University of Michigan.
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Thank You to Our Supporters*

Lawyers' Committee is indebted to the following individuals, organizations, foundations and corporations for their generosity and support. We are proud of the work we have accomplished together to advance and defend civil rights.

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*Fiscal year 2013-2014 as of January 16, 2014. Please contact us at 415.543.9444 x203 to notify us of any modifications. We appreciate the opportunity to correct our records.
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The Westin St. Francis Hotel

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