



USC LAW eNEWS

~an electronic newsletter for USC Law alumni and friends

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1} Remembering Charlie Whitebread

>> On Thursday, the USC Law community will pay tribute to Prof. Charlie Whitebread, who died Sept. 16. The memorial, called "Remembering Charlie: A Champagne Reception and Tribute to honor the late Charles Whitebread," will be held from noon to 2:30 p.m. in Town & Gown on the USC University Park Campus. To RSVP for the memorial, please visit [USC Law's tribute site](#).

2} Election '08: What Happened and Why

>> A panel of legal and political experts convened at USC Law on Nov. 6 to discuss the presidential election and many of the ballot measures put before voters nationwide. The panel included USC Law Professor Kareem Crayton; Dan Schnur, director of the Unruh Institute and former Sen. John McCain political strategist during the 2000 campaign; Andre Pineda, principal of Pineda Consulting; and John Matsusaka, president of the Initiative and Referendum Institute at USC.

[Read about the discussion, or view a video of the event.](#)

USC Law also hosted a pre-election panel discussion, "Red States, Blue States, and the State of the Race," on Thursday, Oct. 30. It featured Crayton, Schnur, Pineda and Bruce Nash, president of Nash Information Services, a consulting business that provides data analysis and projections for the movie business.

[Watch video of the pre-election event.](#)

3} Law Students Elect to Protect

>> On Nov. 4, USC Law students joined the ranks of countless volunteers who helped to ensure that Southern California voters overcame obstacles to the ballot box. They teamed up with IMPACT, the law student branch of Election Protection, the nation's largest nonpartisan voter protection coalition. As legal volunteers, students helped to ensure that voters understood their rights and monitored polling locations.

"Youth participation in politics is an issue that is always at the forefront and, unfortunately, mostly in a negative light," said Naomi Ages '10, who led the USC Law student effort. "This is a really positive step students can take to get involved in a really important aspect of the political process, educate themselves about an issue they may only have a basic understanding of, and prove to themselves and the public that young people are not apathetic — especially in such a critical election."

[Read about the students' preparation](#), and [view a slideshow of their efforts](#).

4} Legal Careers in Sports: No Pain, No Gain

>> Many law students dream of one day working in sports, but they have no idea how to get there. To offer some guidance, two speakers who work in the industry recently gave USC Law students their best advice for launching a career in sports law. Ross Viselman, associate counsel for the Los Angeles Dodgers, and Adam Karon '05, an agent at Sosnick Cobbe Sports, spoke about how they got their jobs, what they do and what they recommend to current law students looking for similar careers. The Oct. 16 event was sponsored by the Jewish Law Students Association. Their primary counsel: be prepared for lean times early as you network to get your foot in the door.

[Read about their advice to students.](#)

5} Juvenile Justice the Topic of Roth Lecture

>> The juvenile justice system is failing American youth, according to the Honorable Terry J. Hatter Jr. Hatter, United States senior district judge for the Central District of California, presented the 2008 Justice Lester W. Roth Lecture at USC Law Oct. 27, during which he discussed his decades of experience working with youth offenders and the state of juvenile justice today. The goal of prosecutors and politicians to be tough on crime is “the core of what is wrong with the juvenile justice system,” Hatter said.

[Read more about Hatter's lecture.](#)

6} For 9/11 Victims, It's Cash or the Courthouse

>> After interviewing dozens of family members and victims of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, USC Law Prof. Gillian Hadfield has shed new light on the question of whether sustained efforts through tort reform and alternative dispute resolution to reduce litigation threaten to undermine important democratic values. In the article “Framing the Choice Between Cash and the Courthouse: Experiences With the 9/11 Victim Compensation Fund,” published in *Law & Society Review*, Hadfield offers a startling perspective on the impact of the Victims Compensation Fund, established by Congress to provide financial assistance and an alternative to civil litigation for survivors of the attacks.

“Responses make it clear that potential plaintiffs saw much more at stake than monetary compensation and that the choice to forego litigation required the sacrifice of important nonmonetary, civic values: obtaining and publicizing information about what happened, prompting public findings of accountability for those responsible, and participating in the process of ensuring that there would be responsive change to what was learned about how the attacks and deaths happened,” Hadfield said.

[Read more about Prof. Hadfield's paper.](#)

7} Talking About *What Blood Won't Tell*

>> USC Law Professor Ariela J. Gross spent years unearthing the legal history of racial identity. In her new book, *What Blood Won't Tell: A History of Race on Trial in America* (Harvard University Press, 2008), Gross recounts stories of racial identity trials in American courts, from the

early republic well into the 20th century. The racial identity trials — court cases that determined a person's "race" as well as their rights and privileges — help explain the history of race and racism in America.

"Over the past two centuries, people have fought to establish their whiteness in order to lay claim to full citizenship in local courtrooms, administrative and legislative hearings, and the U.S. Supreme Court," Gross said. "These trials have often turned less on legal definitions of race as percentages of blood or ancestry than on the way people presented themselves to society and demonstrated their moral and civic character."

[Read a Q&A with Prof. Gross.](#)

8} USC Law Alumni on LinkedIn and Facebook

>> Now you can connect with other USC Law graduates via the official USC Law Alumni Group on the professional networking site LinkedIn. [Join the group!](#)

Interested in staying connected to classmates through Facebook? Become a fan of [USC Law's official profile](#) and find a list of alumni groups for classes 1998-2008. If your class does not yet have a group and you are interested in creating one, please e-mail [Emily Page](#), assistant director of development and graduate relations.

And remember to join USC Law's exclusive online alumni network, [myLaw](#).

9} Upcoming events: PILF 20th Anniversary, Luckystrike, Regional Receptions

NOVEMBER 11: PILF 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Join alumni, students, faculty and staff in honoring Barbara and Scott Bice for their continued support of PILF and to bid farewell to Dean Lisa Mead '89, co-founder of PILF. The event will be held today at Pete's Café, 400 S Main St. in Los Angeles, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Drinks and appetizers will be served. For more information, to make a gift to PILF or to RSVP please visit: <http://pilf.usc.edu>.

NOVEMBER 12: BOWLING AT LUCKYSTRIKE IN HOLLYWOOD

Bowl with friends and classmates and welcome the newest addition to the alumni fold: the Class of 2009! Lanes are reserved from 7:00 p.m. until 9:30 p.m., and bowling is free for all alumni if you have at least one 3L on your team. Please arrive early to take advantage of the free food. Bring \$4 for bowling shoes, an ID and cash for the bar. Once inside, look for the USC Law sign. For more information and to RSVP visit:

<http://www.evite.com/pages/invite/viewInvite.jsp?event=BYOJMANQQHLGKHJOJTQA>.

NOVEMBER 13: BAY AREA REGIONAL RECEPTION IN PALO ALTO

Dean Robert K. Rasmussen cordially invites alumni in the Bay Area to join him for a USC Law Regional Reception at the Four Seasons Hotel (2050 University Avenue; East Palo Alto; California, 94303) beginning at 6:30 p.m. To RSVP today, please e-mail your name and that of your guest to rsvpevents@law.usc.edu.

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NOVEMBER 14: BAY AREA YOUNG ALUMNI BAR REVIEW

The Young Alumni Committee invites graduates from classes 1998 through 2008 to meet Dean Robert K. Rasmussen at [Caruso's](#) Bar at the Westin St. Francis from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. This is the perfect opportunity to network, socialize with friends and reconnect with old classmates in a hip and happening location in the City by the Bay! For more information and to RSVP visit: <http://www.evite.com/pages/invite/viewInvite.jsp?inviteId=OOEKUZQJRUESFZCCBTJO>.

NOVEMBER 17-23: EAT PIZZA, SUPPORT LAAB

Eat pizza and make a difference! Dine at the California Pizza Kitchen located at 7th and Figueroa in downtown Los Angeles between November 17-23, and when you show our flyer, 20 percent of your check will go to support Legal Aid Alternative Breaks (LAAB). To receive a flyer by e-mail, please contact Dani Cepernich at dani.cepernich@gmail.com. You can also [read about LAAB](#).

{SAVE THE DATE}

DECEMBER 1: BAR ADMISSION CEREMONY

Save the date for the USC Law Bar Admission Ceremony for USC Law alumni at Town & Gown from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

{SAVE THE DATE}

DECEMBER 4: LOS ANGELES UGLY SWEATER HOLIDAY PARTY

Celebrate the holidays in style (or a lack thereof) with fellow USC Law alumni at an Ugly Sweater Party! Festivities will last from 7:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. Presented in collaboration with the Young Alumni Committee. For more information and to RSVP, visit: <http://www.evite.com/pages/invite/viewInvite.jsp?inviteId=FJFLUPYWNEKJMCFWPDBM>.

{SAVE THE DATE}

DECEMBER 11: ORANGE COUNTY HOLIDAY FONDUE PARTY

Dip into the holiday spirit and get cheesy with alumni and friends over fondue! Join us from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Presented in collaboration with the Young Alumni Committee. For more information and to RSVP, visit: <http://www.evite.com/pages/invite/viewInvite.jsp?event=WYTUINOSEFIYCJSMRWTB>.

{SAVE THE DATE}

JANUARY 7, 2009: SAN DIEGO REGIONAL RECEPTION

Save the date for an alumni reception to be held at the San Diego Marriot Hotel and Marina.

{SAVE THE DATE}

JUNE 12, 2009: GOLDEN YEARS LUNCHEON

This reunion celebration is held for graduating classes from 1958 and earlier. It will be held in USC's Crocker Plaza beginning at 11:30 a.m.

{SAVE THE DATE}

JUNE 13, 2009: USC LAW REUNION

Next summer's reunion brings together the classes of 1959, 1964, 1969, 1974, 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999, 2004.

SUPPORT USC LAW THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

The holiday season offers a special opportunity to reconnect with members of the USC Law alumni network, whether it's offering time, attending an event or providing financial support. Please join USC Law's philanthropic tradition and consider making a gift to the USC Law Annual Fund before December 31. Your investment in your alma mater will help ensure that current and future students have similar educational opportunities to those you enjoyed as a student. You can make a gift online at law.usc.edu/give, or contact Development and Graduate Relations at (213) 743-1710. Your participation in USC Law makes a difference!

LINKS

- >>myLAW: <http://mylaw.usc.edu>
- >>ALUMNI WEB SITE: <http://law.usc.edu/alumni/>
- >>GIVE BACK TO USC LAW: <http://law.usc.edu/alumni/giving.cfm>
- >>CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION: <http://law.usc.edu/academics/cle.cfm>
- >>ALUMNI CAREER SERVICES: <http://law.usc.edu/alumni/network/careers.cfm>
- >>MORE NEWS AND EVENTS: <http://law.usc.edu/news/index.cfm>
- >>SUBSCRIBE TO eNEWS (OR UNSUBSCRIBE): To add, change or remove your e-mail address from the USC LAW eNEWS list, or for more information on the newsletter, e-mail alumni@law.usc.edu. Requests must include your full name.
- >>SUGGESTIONS? E-mail your suggestions for future newsletters to enews@law.usc.edu.

