

2021 Section Information

ADR Section

Chair: Christopher Cooke, (650) 638-2370 ccooke@mckllp.com

Alternative Dispute Resolution, or “ADR” (sometimes also referred to as “Appropriate Dispute Resolution”) is a growing movement designed to offer creative alternatives to ‘filing a lawsuit’ and ‘going to trial,’ through the use of ADR processes such as mediation, arbitration, neutral evaluation, facilitation, private judging, collaborative law, and more.

The ADR Section of the San Mateo County Bar Association is a voluntary group of ADR providers and professionals, including both lawyers and non-lawyers, who are committed to the following goals:

- To promote awareness among the public of the opportunities ADR provides for the effective resolution of all manner of disputes, public and private, personal and corporate, large and small.
- To promote and maintain the professional competence of neutrals who provide ADR services, and to inspire excellence in the practice of ADR.
- To provide and promote guidelines for the ethical practice of ADR, and to help guide the evolution of ADR as a fair, effective and economical way to resolve disputes.

Barristers Section

President: Angelica Ayar, (650) 634-8525 angelica@ayarlawoffices.com

The Barristers is an organization of new lawyers (36 years of age or younger or in practice for 10 years or less) committed to professional growth, community service, and social networking. Barristers perform philanthropic services for the community. The Barristers’ Section meets on the **1st Wednesday of the month**.

Business/Business Litigation Section

Chair: Thomas Gray, (650) 696-2552 tgray@carr-mcclellan.com

The Business/Business Litigation Section is devoted to the education and fellowship of its members and guests. The Section generally meets for lunch at least **quarterly (2nd Wednesday of the month)**. Presentations are made on a wide variety of business law related topics, with MCLE credits provided.

Corporate In-House Counsel Section

Chair: Carolyn R. Adler, (650) 857-6257 adlercra@yahoo.com

The Corporate In-House Counsel Section was a newly formed section in 2016. The section is designed to bring together Corporate-In-House Counsel from various corporations located in nearby Silicon Valley. Monthly meetings are yet to be scheduled.

Criminal Law Section

Chair: Ariel Rief, (650) 477-1238 ari@rieflegal.com

Co-Chair: David Nazzaro, (650) 477-6182 david.t.nazzaro@gmail.com

The Criminal Law Section meets on the **2nd Thursday of the month**. The Criminal Law Section is a new section and primarily consists of attorneys who practice in the criminal law area. The section focuses on a variety of topics, geared toward educating its members in the area of criminal law. The goal of the Criminal Law Section is to meet regularly for presentations, as well as to give its members the opportunity to network with each other and other members of the Bench and Bar. All attorneys in this area of practice are welcome in the section, whether members of the Private Defender Program, members in private practice, or attorneys from the District Attorney’s office.

2021 Section Information

Estate Planning Probate Section

Co-Chair: Heather Boshears, (408) 947-2462 heather.boshears@hogefernton.com

Co-Chair: Jamay Lee, (650) 378-1263 jamay@jamaylee.com

The purpose of the Estate Planning, Trust and Probate Section is to provide a forum for education programs in the fields of estate planning, probate, trust, conservatorship and elder law, to assist members and associate members to practice in these fields, to foster collegiality among members, and to facilitate communications with the court. We provide monthly speaker luncheons on the **3rd Thursday of the month** at the San Mateo Elks Lodge. We sponsor talks geared toward members new to the practice area. Those new attorney events are held quarterly on the **2nd Thursday of the month** in the Probate Department of the Superior Court. MCLE and Legal Specialization credit is available at our events.

Family Law Section

Chair: Rachel Leff-Kich, (650) 524-2144 rachel@hansonflg.com

Co-Chair: Michael Wess, (650) 212-7861 mwess@bswmlaw.com

The Family Law Section generally meets at noon on the **2nd Friday of every month**.

The lunch meetings feature presentations on a variety of topics relating to family law for which MCLE credit is offered. Our speakers have included our San Mateo County judicial officers; court staff; mental health professionals; and experts on complex family law issues.

Government/Municipal Law Section

Chair: Jean Savaree, (650) 593-3117 jbs@adcl.com

The Municipal Law Section has been an active Section of the Bar since 1985. Its members primarily include City Attorneys, County Counsel, and other Bar members who represent local government entities or clients with business before such entities. The Section generally meets on the **1st Friday of every other month** for a luncheon. The members participate in a round-table discussion of matters of concern to the local government entities in our County.

Intellectual Property Section

Chair: Mark Punzalan, (650) 362-4150 mark@chanpunzalan.com

The Intellectual Property Section meets on the **4th Tuesday of the month**. The Intellectual Property Section has been newly formed and is intended to further the interests of those attorneys who practice in the area of intellectual property, including those who practice business law and who serve as in-house counsel. The section hopes to sponsor exciting presentations on a broad range of topics important to attorneys in this field, as well as offering the unique opportunity for attorneys to network with their fellow colleagues.

Labor and Employment Section

Chair: April S. Glatt, (650) 573-9500 April@chauvellaw.com

The Labor and Employment Section is devoted to the education and fellowship of its members and guests. The Section generally meets for lunch on the **4th Thursday of the month** at Mistral's Restaurant in Redwood Shores. Presentations are made on a wide variety of employment related topics, with MCLE credits provided.

Real Estate Section

Chair: Grant Baker, (650) 347-5000 grant@mballenlaw.com

Co-Chair: Mark C. Watson, (650) 692-4001 markw@markwatson.com

The Real Estate Section is devoted to the education and fellowship of its members and guests. The Section generally meets for lunch at least quarterly on the **3rd Wednesday of the month (subject to change)**. Presentations are made on a wide variety of real estate law related topics, with MCLE credits provided.

2021 Section Information

Women Lawyers' Section

Chair: Katherine Debski, (650) 378-1472 kdebski@bmdlegal.com

Vice-Chair: Sumble Manzoor, (650) 871-5666 sm@coreylaw.com

The Women Lawyers' Section was established in 1986, first named the "Women in Law Committee." Its stated mission is "to support women in the legal profession and to promote the legal interests of women in society." The Section's goals and priorities include: increased membership, active involvement of all members, education to the legal community and the public, philanthropy (time/money), advocating judicial appointment of individuals who are supportive of women, advancing legislation furthering women's interests, and, last but not least, networking and social functions.

The Women Lawyers' Section has established the **San Mateo County Women Lawyers' Section Educational Foundation**, a non-profit fundraising organization, which awards scholarships to needy law students with ties to San Mateo County. The Foundation holds an annual fundraiser to support these scholarships. For more information regarding the Foundation, please contact **Yvonne Seeley**, President, at (650) 347-9111 or yseeley@seeleyfamilylaw.com or view the Foundation's website at www.smcwlef.org

The Section generally meets the **1st Monday of every other month**. Especially popular are the Spring Judges' Luncheon and the December Holiday Luncheon, which features a raffle and door prizes. Check the *Here-Say* for upcoming meetings.