January 1 — December 31, 2003

Silicon Valley for Legal Services

Campaign

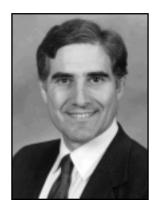
A N N U A L R E P O R T





"It is our mandate to expand legal services for the poor and provide legal access, no matter the economic circumstance. The needs of the clients served by SVCLS agencies continue to grow and we must grow with them. We start our 2004 campaign with a strong foundation of success from previous years. With your continued support, I know we can achieve our goals."

> — Emmett Stanton, Esq. Fenwick & West LLP





# Chairman's Letter 2003

I am pleased to provide you with this report on the Silicon Valley Campaign for Legal Services activities for 2003.

Thanks to the creative and sustained efforts of the members of the Board of Directors and others, funds raised and distributed by the 2003 Campaign significantly exceeded the previous year's efforts. This accomplishment is a testament to the importance the Silicon Valley community places in the work of the legal services agencies supported by the Campaign. We thank you for your meaningful investment!

At the American Bar Association annual meeting in San Francisco last August, the Santa Clara County Bar Association received the 2003 Harrison Tweed Award for its achievement in preserving and increasing access to legal services for the poor, through its role in the founding and providing ongoing financial support of the SVCLS.

Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP, in connection with its celebration of 20 years in Silicon Valley, made several uniquely generous contributions to the 2003 Campaign, including designating the campaign as a beneficiary of a fund-raising wine auction. The firm also raised its contribution level to \$25,000 and made an in-kind gift of new laptop computers that SVCLS distributed to each of its constituent agencies.

A number of law firms headquartered outside of Silicon Valley joined with us for the first time. Among these were Jones Day LLP, Milbank Tweed Hadley & McCloy LLP, Morgan Lewis & Bokius LLP, Simpson Thacher & Barlett LLP, The Furth Firm, and Mayer Brown Rowe & Maw LLP. SVCLS welcomed several new board members by year-end.

Also in 2003, *The Recorder* newspaper partnered with us in an advertising campaign (provided at no cost) to thank and acknowledge donors and to encourage additional contributions. The ad campaign continues this year and, we hope, will continue to increase the visibility of SVCLS in the Bay Area legal community.

I also would like to acknowledge the important work of John Place and Kent Walker in continuing to promote and lead the General Counsel Committee, and Amanda Groves of Gray Cary Ware & Freidenrich for energizing the Amicus Committee of young lawyers. These efforts show great promise for the future growth of SVCLS funding.

I am pleased to report that Emmett Stanton of Fenwick & West LLP is taking over as Chair of the Campaign. I am proud of our accomplishments this past year and am confident that, in Emmett's good hands, 2004 will mark an even more successful milestone in our efforts.

Plans for the upcoming year call for expanding our fund raising to achieve the goal of \$500,000. I invite you to join with us in this important endeavor.

Luther Kent Orton | 2003 Chair



uther Orton

"The sustained financial support of our 2003 donors is immensely gratifying. Thanks to the ever-broadening and expanding base of donors, this year we were able to increase our support of the critically important work of the legal services agencies funded by the Campaign. We are indebted to everyone who supported our work in 2003, and urge you to sustain and increase your support in the year ahead. If you have not yet contributed, please join us now"

> — Luther Kent Orton, Esq. Snyder Miller & Orton LLP



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# American Bar Association Honors SCCBA

For its role in founding SVCLS – Harrison Tweed Award

The 2003 Harrison Tweed award of the American Bar Association was awarded to The Santa Clara County Bar Association for its role in founding the Silicon Valley Campaign for Legal Services.

This annual award, created in 1956, honors outstanding leaders in the promotion of free legal services to the poor and recognizes bar associations that have made extraordinary efforts to improve legal services availability to poor persons in their communities. SVCLS was cited as a national model.

Since its founding in 1999, SVCLS has: doubled the number of volunteer lawyers providing *pro bono* services in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties; raised more than \$400,000 annually for legal services to the poor; and leveraged an additional \$750,000 for the improved funding of legal services in the Silicon Valley area. (In

1999, a total of only \$30,000 was raised through private bar efforts for the area legal services programs, with approximately 550 lawyers providing *pro bono* service, primarily through Pro Bono Project Silicon Valley.)

"The Santa Clara County Bar Association, through its collaborative Silicon Valley Campaign for Legal Services, has established an extraordinarily successful fundraising effort for legal services to the poor," said L. Jonathan Ross, chair of the ABA Standing Committee on Legal Aid and Indigent Defendants. "We are pleased to recognize their efforts and achievements with the 2003 Harrison Tweed Award."

This award is a result of the staunch support of all SVCLS donors and volunteers. We thank you for your investments and commitment to realizing the mission of the Campaign.

Back row, left to right | SVCLS Board Members: John Place, Emmett Stanton, Phil Hammer, Bill Priest and Jim Towery.

Front Row, left to right | Christine Burdick, SCCBA Executive, Debra Zumwalt, Patricia White, SCCBA President, Lisa Herrick and Barbara Beerstein.



# **Campaign Mission**

The Silicon Valley Campaign for Legal Services provides funds to increase the effectiveness and ability of non-profit legal services agencies. These agencies assist men, women and children of all ages, ethnicities and cultural backgrounds who cannot afford to hire an attorney in civil cases and whose legal rights would otherwise go unenforced or unrecognized. Funds are raised from the legal community in Silicon Valley

and from surrounding areas, and are distributed to agencies that provide civil legal services directly to the poor.

The Campaign recognizes that area legal services organizations are underfunded and have sustained cutbacks in income from such traditional sources as the federal government and the State of California Interest on Lawyers Trust Accounts (IOLTA) Trust Fund.

# Characteristics and Needs of People Who Benefit

In 2003, over 521,000 people in Silicon Valley -30% of the population - again qualified for special help due to income, age or disability. The number of people in poverty or qualifying for assistance due to economic circumstances has not declined. The critical legal issues of this population are related to:

- Health care:
- The ability to secure and preserve affordable and fair housing;
- Family law issues such as domestic violence, child custody and divorce;
- Economic stability;
- Special problems of the elderly;
- Consumer fraud, debt collection abuses and other unfair practices;
- Immigration; and
- Employment.

When people are outside the safety net a variety of problems can result. Poor children have increased incidence of illness and seniors have problems accessing health care. Children can arrive at school hungry and without adequate preparation for learning. Families and individuals suffering from economic pressures often experience domestic disputes or the threat of homelessness. Still other individuals, such as those with HIV/AIDS and mental disability, are denied benefits they are entitled to by law.

"The financial support of the SVCLS is a key ingredient to providing excellent legal services to the thousands of clients we annually serve. Many thanks to your board members and donors. During difficult economic times, the SVCLS funding is vital."

— Jim Bower

Executive Director,

Law Foundation of Silicon Valley

"SVCLS funding plays an important role in the success of our Santa Clara work. Because SVCLS funding is not restricted to any particular project or activity, we are able to apply it where needs are most pressing, thus allowing us to be more responsive to the needs of the county's residents. With your help we assisted 2,346 low-income Santa Clara county residents with civil legal issues and an additional 1,560 residents through community education, outreach and workshops that help residents learn about their legal rights."

— Ramón P. Arias

Executive Director,

Bay Area Legal Aid

"SVCLS belps Pro Bono Project Silicon Valley provide better services to clients who are the most difficult to serve, either because of the complexity of cases or because they suffer from mental health or other disabilities. More support is required for volunteer attorneys to effectively represent these individuals. SVCLS funds this additional support with its funding for staff and support attorney help. SVCLS funds also bave allowed us to continue to provide consistent services to low-income people in Santa Clara County, despite the drop in State and foundation funding in recent years due to the economy."

— John Hedges Coordinator, Pro Bono Project Silicon Valley

# Clients Remind Us of The Value of Our Work

Donors and beneficiary agencies joined together in celebration of SVCLS' fourth annual distribution of funds in October A highlight of the event, held at Fenwick & West, was the sharing of personal stories by agency clients – the circumstances that led them to seek legal assistance and the result of the legal assistance they received due to SVCLS' funding. Here are just three of the many moving stories we heard that evening.

Yvette shared her family's encounter with housing discrimination:

Like most families, we started off in an apartment, but as our baby grew we tried to find a house with enough room for our child to play and have her own room. In the local newspaper we found a house that met our needs and price range; when we went to see it, to our surprise the pleasant landlord approved our application on the spot. We excitedly exchanged rent and deposit money for keys to the house. As we said goodbye, she said that she was happy she had found a nice white couple to rent to and not "those dirty Mexicans". We drove home in silence that day. I told my husband I didn't

want to rent from someone like that, but he assured me we wouldn't see her because we would be mailing the rent. So I agreed.

Three days before we were to move in, I stopped by the house to oversee a few repairs and do some cleaning. The phone rang and I answered: it was the landlord, sounding irritated. She asked in a very rude manner if our last name was Mexican; I replied yes, was that a problem? She said there was a problem with the house, and she needed to return our money and get the keys back. I'm not sure if I can find the right words to explain the emotions that I felt, but I was certainly hurt, broken-hearted and fearful, because we had already given notice at our apartment. I didn't know what to do, but I knew that what had happened wasn't right.

I found free legal services at a SVCLS – supported legal services agency. They conducted an investigation that corroborated my allegations and filed a complaint in the federal district court. The judge found that the landlord had violated the Fair Housing Act. I don't think I will ever forget that time in my life because of my heritage, something





I had no control over, I had been discriminated against.

Thank you for supporting the organization that gave our family the help we needed.

Arienne's mother shared her daughter's story with us:

Arienne is a six-year-old girl with developmental delay who was recently diagnosed with autism. Largely non-verbal, Arienne communicates with the world around her by shrieking, grunting and pulling on people to express her desires. Despite the emotional impact of the formal autism diagnosis upon her parents, they were cheered by the neuropsychiatrist's recommendations for specific educational services to help break through the walls created for Arienne by autism. However, after presenting their local school district with the doctor's report and recommendations, they were devastated to have the district deny their request for services based on the district's opinion that Arienne was basically too mentally retarded to

benefit from any autism services.

After multiple unproductive meetings with school district staff, Arienne's parents turned to a legal services agency for help. By advocating for Arienne, the agency was able to convince the school district to add a comprehensive package of autism-focused services to the child's educational program, including the services recommended by the neuropsychiatric team. Arienne's mother reported that, after just a few weeks, her daughter is showing considerable

"SVCLS funds have enabled
us to increase support staff hours
devoted to coordinating
the advice clinics and
other client services.
This has resulted in freeing up
attorney time to directly serve
our clients. The funds also support
our hire of additional multi-lingual
interpreters when necessary.
A substantial number
of our clients —
approximately 57% —
are monolingual in a language

— Cynthia Mertens Director, East San José Community Law Center

other than English."



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progress in attention span and communication skills. For the very first time in Arienne's life, she was able to communicate to her mother that her favorite color is purple.

Melody Rodriguez related her heath services experiences:

Affected with Bi-Polar Affective Disorder, Melody sought assistance because she had been banned from services at her mental health clinic. During a manic episode, Mel got mad at the clinic's receptionist and called her "stupid"; as punishment, the clinic refused to provide her further services.

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, service providers need to make reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities, such as giving a person who acted out as a result of her disability a second chance. A legal services advocate took on Mel's case, requesting that the clinic continue to provide her with services as a reasonable accommodation and explaining that the outburst was directly related to her disability. The clinic granted the accommodation and Mel was allowed to continue receiving mental health services.

Mel sought assistance again a few years later when she received notice that her Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability checks would be stopped due to an alleged overpayment. She has no other source of income and could not survive without this money. A legal services attorney secured a waiver of overpayment from the Social Security Administration; Mel continues to receive benefits to this day. Mel now serves as a Peer Advocate with the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI), sharing her personal experiences and sensitivities with others. She also runs her own flower business.

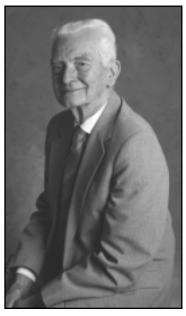


Photo Peter Fox

# **General Counsel Committee News**

In 2003, Kent Walker joined John Place as co-chair of the General Counsel Committee. This committee of 14 corporate general counsels continues to provide valuable support and advocacy for SVCLS' efforts. Last January, we had the opportunity to give a presentation at the Silicon Valley Association of General Counsel's annual All Hands meeting.



# **Amicus Committee**

The Amicus Committee hosted a Cross-firm Pro Bono and Legal Services Mixer in November. This cocktail hour event, which included a pool tournament, provided a valuable opportunity to meet associates of other firms while discussing *pro bono* legal services issues. This dynamic group of young lawyers is planning a Bowl-a-thon in 2004.

Amicus Committee members Catia Hagopian (Gray Cary Ware and Freidenrich) and Peter Waite (San Jose City Attorney's office) provided volunteer support at the Gibson Dunn & Crutcher Wine Auction benefiting SVCLS.

Top row from left | Jose Luis Martin, Amanda Groves and Marc Peters. Bottom row from left | Maura Rees and Aaron Myers.

# General Counsel Committee

Co-Chair John Place, Esq.

Co-Chair Kent Walker, Esq. eBay, Inc.

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John D. Danforth, Esq. *Rambus* 

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Joseph J. Sweeney, Esq. *Applied Materials* 

Derek Witte, Esq. Silicon Valley Bank

Debra L. Zumwalt, Esq. Stanford University

# The Amicus Committee

C h a i r Amanda Groves, Esq. Gray Cary Ware & Freidenrich LLP

Donald Larkin, Esq. City Attorney's Office, Santa Clara

Jose Luis Martin, Esq. Dechert LLP

Aaron Myers, Esq. Fenwick & West LLP

Rita Patterson, Esq. Hammer & Jacobs

Marc Peters, Esq.

Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP

Maura Rees, Esq. Hammer & Jacobs

2003 Campaign Chair Luther Orton, Snyder Miller & Orton, and Emmett Stanton, Fenwick & West.



Judge John Flaherty, *JAMS*, and Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge Richard J. Loftus, Jr.



Mark Parnes, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, and Dan Bergeson, Bergeson.



Michael Stern, *Cooley Godward*, Ian Feinberg, *Mayer Brown & Maw* and John Place – man about town.



October Wine Auction Event at Gibson Dunn.

# The Agencies Put Svcls Funding to Work on Behalf of Indigent Clients

SVCLS awarded over \$327,000 in cash grants to seven beneficiary agencies this year. Each beneficiary agency's board of directors determines the best and most effective use of these monies, thus ensuring support for the most urgent

client needs and program priorities.

Organizations receive a proportional share of the funds raised. The October event hosted by Fenwick & West also was an opportunity to recognize campaign donors.

# Donation of Laptop Computers Add to Beneficiary Agencies' Arsenal of Resource Tools

SVCLS distributed a IBM laptop computer, along with Windows XP software from Microsoft Corporation, to each beneficiary agency due to the generosity of Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP. The following comment exemplifies sentiments shared by SVCLS' grantees upon learning about this additional gift: "The laptop computer has already been put to use. Our attorneys and advocates often meet clients away from the office, and the use of a laptop is most appreciated." —Robert Goodin, President, Bay Area Legal Aid.

# New Visibility for SVCLS In The Community

SVCLS enjoyed increased visibility in July, August and September 2003, thanks to a generous weekly advertising donation from The Recorder. These full and quarter-page ads thanked donors and encouraged new and renewal gifts for 2003. The ad campaign theme of "Ready, Set, Challenge!" recognized donors and challenged others in the community to meet and exceed their participation. Not only did the visibility gave our fund raising efforts a boost, it also resulted in an expansion of our donor family. We are very excited about this new collaboration.

The Recorder is Northern California's leading legal newspaper, with a daily paid circulation of 6,200 subscribers and an estimated readership of over 20,000 per edition. Serving the entire Bay Area, The Recorder's daily circulation includes major law firms, corporate legal

departments, solo practitioners and independents, as well as other individuals who need insightful and thorough coverage of the Bay Area legal scene.

SVCIS also continued its collaboration with *Silicon Valley Business Ink* through *pro bono* advertisements that recognized donors and offered wide visibility for the campaign and its donors. *Silicon Valley Business Ink* is acknowledged for its broad readership—including CEOs and partners in the Valley's legion of technology startups and gazelle companies, as well as executives and middle managers of the area's largest and most influential public and private companies.

We are grateful to these two media donors for their efforts to bring attention to increasing legal services for the poor through SVCLS.

# icon Valley Campaign for Legal Services 🛽 🗡 n n u a l 🕆 R e p o r t 🔝 2 0 0

# Silicon Valley Campaign for Legal Services 2003 Financial Statement (Unaudited)

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Contributions		
Individuals		
<b>Board Members</b>	\$ 35,099	
Individuals (attorneys and others)	26,063	
Sub-Total Individual Gifts		\$ 61,162
Law Firms	260,770	
Companies	42,160	
Organizations	46,000	
Special Events	9,775	

Total 2002 Contributed Income \$419,897

**EXPENSES** 

Agency Distributions		
Bay Area Legal Aid (SCC Office)	\$ 72,356	
East San José Community Law Center	43,039	
Law Foundation of Silicon Valley	102,725	
Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County	10,000	
Pro Bono Project Silicon Valley	32,717	
Santa Clara County Asian Law Alliance	29,874	
Senior Adults Legal Assistance	36,454	
Sub-Total Distributions to Agencies		\$327,165
C		

Administrative Expenses \$ 72,564

Total 2003 Expenses \$399,729

In-Kind Contributions (Goods and Services) Valued at well over \$12,000

**Surplus** (Shortfall) Funds held for 2004 Operations



"With recent reductions
in funding
from government sources,
the funding provided
to our organization
enables our attorneys
to provide legal services
to low income clients
in Santa Clara County
in the areas of
domestic violence,
immigration law,
public benefits, housing law
and civil rights."

— Richard Konda Executive Director, Asian Law Alliance

20,150

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# Silicon Valley Campaign for Legal Services Annual

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# Thank You! 2003 Donors

The Silicon Valley Campaign for Legal Services salutes our 2003 contributors for supporting our very important mission — to give low-income individuals access to civil legal counsel.

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John Marshall Society (1801 - 1835)
Gifts of \$40,000 and above
Fenwick & West LLP\*
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Santa Clara County Bar Association

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Jim Bower, Director

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# Silicon Valley Campaign for Legal Services

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