THE SAN DIEGO CHAPTER OF THE FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION
AND THE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

STATE OF THE DISTRICT

Thursday, November 12, 2020

James M. Carter & Judith N. Keep U.S. Courthouse
Jury Assembly Room
STATE OF THE DISTRICT

I. Introduction
   FBA President David P. Finn

II. Lawyer Representatives
    Co-Chair Janet Gertz

III. State of District Report
     Chief District Judge Larry A. Burns

IV. Magistrate Judges Update
    Presiding Magistrate Judge William V. Gallo

V. Bankruptcy Court Update
    Chief Bankruptcy Judge Margaret M. Mann

VI. Hon. David H. Bartick Award for Civility & Professionalism
    Chief District Judge Larry A. Burns
    2020 Recipients:
    In Memory of Peter J. Mazza
    In Memory of Bruce C. Smith
    Charles H. Adair

VII. Closing
     FBA President David P. Finn
STATE OF THE DISTRICT

FBA National Awards

Peter J. Mazza, Robyn J. Spalter Outstanding Achievement Award. This award honors members of the federal bar who have attained high standards of professionalism, demonstrated leadership throughout their career, and have given back in a meaningful way to their community through legal, community, public, and charitable service. Mr. Mazza unequivocally embodied all of these qualities, and his contributions to our community will forever be remembered and appreciated.

David P. Finn, 2020 Chapter Activity Award, Presidential Achievement. This award is given to chapters that meet strict eligibility criteria, including diligent membership outreach efforts and dynamic programming.

Dylan M. Aste, Younger Federal Lawyer Award. This award honors federal lawyers who are no older than forty and have attained high standards of professional achievement and outstanding performance. Mr. Aste continually displays dedication, diligence, and professionalism through his work at the U.S. Attorney’s Office and within the community.

FBA-San Diego Chapter Recognition

Outgoing Board Members: The Honorable Linda Lopez; Jason M. Avelar; Debashish Bakshi; Ting H. Liu; Stephen M. Lobbin; and Michelle M. Pettit.

Retiring Federal Attorneys: Robert Ciaffa; James Fife; Phillip L. Halpern; Sherri W. Hobson; and Michael Stein.
Hon. David H. Bartick Award for Civility & Professionalism

Magistrate Judge David H. Bartick epitomized civility and professionalism in the practice of law. This award recognizes Judge Bartick’s legacy and serves as a perpetual reminder to the bar of the importance of professionalism and civility in the practice of law. To be eligible, the recipient must exemplify the model set by Judge Bartick and he or she must have dedicated the majority of their practice to litigating in the Southern District for at least five consecutive years.

2020 Recipients

In Memory of Peter J. Mazza. Mr. Mazza most recently served as First Assistant United States Attorney. Mr. Mazza deeply valued our federal court community and unified us with the common purpose of seeking justice and upholding the law. With an unparalleled sense of work ethic, humility, and kindness, Mr. Mazza is remembered for always pushing himself and others to do and be the best.

In Memory of Bruce C. Smith. Mr. Smith served as an Assistant United States Attorney. Mr. Smith was jointly nominated by his long-time colleagues at the U.S. Attorney’s Office and by counsel he most frequently opposed in court—a tribute to the community’s universal respect and admiration of Mr. Smith. A truly authentic and meticulously organized individual, Mr. Smith’s reputation and legacy is one of fairness, honesty, and civility.

Charles H. Adair. Mr. Adair has practiced in San Diego since 1972, specializing in criminal defense. Representing clients in both state and federal court, Mr. Adair is credited for his devotion to his clients and his tireless effort to preserve his clients’ rights. With over fifty years in active practice, Mr. Adair has been recognized for his courtesy, civility, and implicit goodness.