

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**ELEVEN TO BE HONORED BY SDCBA FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE**

*Service Award Recipients to be recognized at Annual Awards Luncheon & Celebration of Community Service May 1*

**SAN DIEGO** (March 24, 2015) – The San Diego County Bar Association (SDCBA) is proud to announce the recipients of its 2015 SDCBA Service Awards. The annual awards recognize distinguished individuals and organizations for their commitment to serving the San Diego community. Winners will be recognized at the SDCBA's Annual Awards Luncheon & Celebration of Community Service on **May 1.**

The 2015 SDCBA Service Award recipients are:

**Richard Shaw, Higgs Fletcher & Mack**  
***Outstanding Attorney of the Year Award***

Awarded to an exemplary attorney who provides outstanding community service above and beyond just service to the legal profession.

**Hon. Robert Trentacosta, San Diego Superior Court**  
***Outstanding Jurist Award***

Presented to an exemplary jurist who provides outstanding community service above and beyond service to the legal profession.

**Andrew Haden, Office of the United States Attorney**  
***Service to Legal Education***

Outstanding work in the field of legal education, as a professional educator, part-time educator or volunteer.

**Betty Evans Boone**  
***Service to the Legal Profession Award***

Presented to an individual demonstrating outstanding service to furthering the goals of the legal profession and promoting the ideal of professionalism.

**Kimberly Ahrens, The Ahrens Law Office**  
***Service to Diversity Award***

Recognizes outstanding service by a member of the legal profession, in promoting and encouraging diversity within the legal profession.

**Audie de Castro, de Castro, P.C.**  
***Community Service Award***

Recognizes outstanding service to the needs of the community (e.g. charitable, cultural, humanitarian or educational), other than directly through the SDCBA.

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**Carmen Kcomt, La Maestra Community Health Centers**

***Distinguished Citizen Award***

Awarded for outstanding service by a person who is not a lawyer or a judge, whose contributions over a period of time have had a significant favorable impact on some facet of the legal system.

**Gregg McClain, San Diego District Attorney's Office**

***Service by a Public Attorney Award***

Presented to an individual who demonstrates a combination of excellence in the practice of law with service to the community, the profession, the Association or legal education.

**Ben Aguilar, Law Offices of Ben Aguilar**

***Outstanding Service by a New Lawyer***

Recognizes outstanding service by a new lawyer in his or her first 6 full years of practice who has demonstrated a significant commitment to serving the legal community via legal education, mentoring or community service efforts.

**Juvenile Court Book Club, Inc.**

***Distinguished Organization***

Outstanding service by a group or association not composed primarily of lawyers or judges, the contributions of which over a period of time have had a significant favorable impact on some facet of the legal system.

**California Innocence Project**

***Public Service by a Law Firm or Agency Award***

Recognizes outstanding service by a law firm or agency (public or private) for public or community service.

The 2015 SDCBA Service Awards will be presented at the SDCBA's Annual Awards Luncheon & Celebration of Community Service on May 1, at the **Westin San Diego (Emerald Plaza) from 12 - 1:30 p.m.** The event takes place during the SDCBA's celebration of Law Week and will also highlight the various public service activities, events and community outreach initiatives the SDCBA participates in throughout the year. Tickets for the luncheon are available online for \$40 per person, or a table of ten can be purchased for \$400 at [www.sdcba.org/awardsluncheon2015](http://www.sdcba.org/awardsluncheon2015).

The SDCBA's Service Award recipients are nominated by the San Diego legal community and reviewed and selected by the SDCBA's Awards Committee, with the approval of the SDCBA's Board of Directors.

*The San Diego County Bar Association is the region's largest law-related organization and the hub of the city's legal community, headquartered in downtown San Diego.*

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