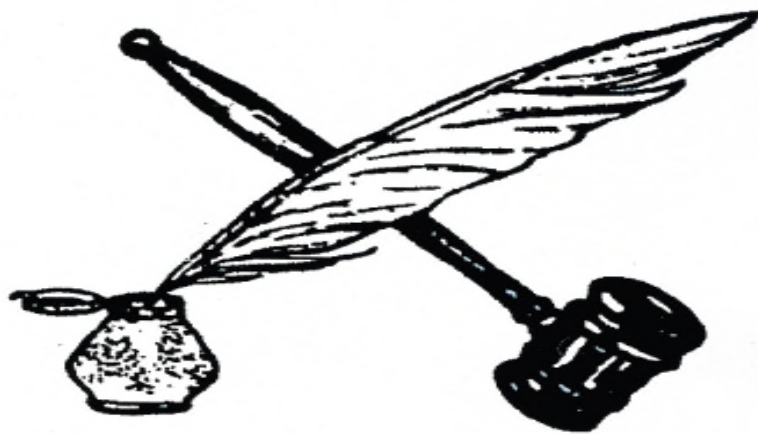


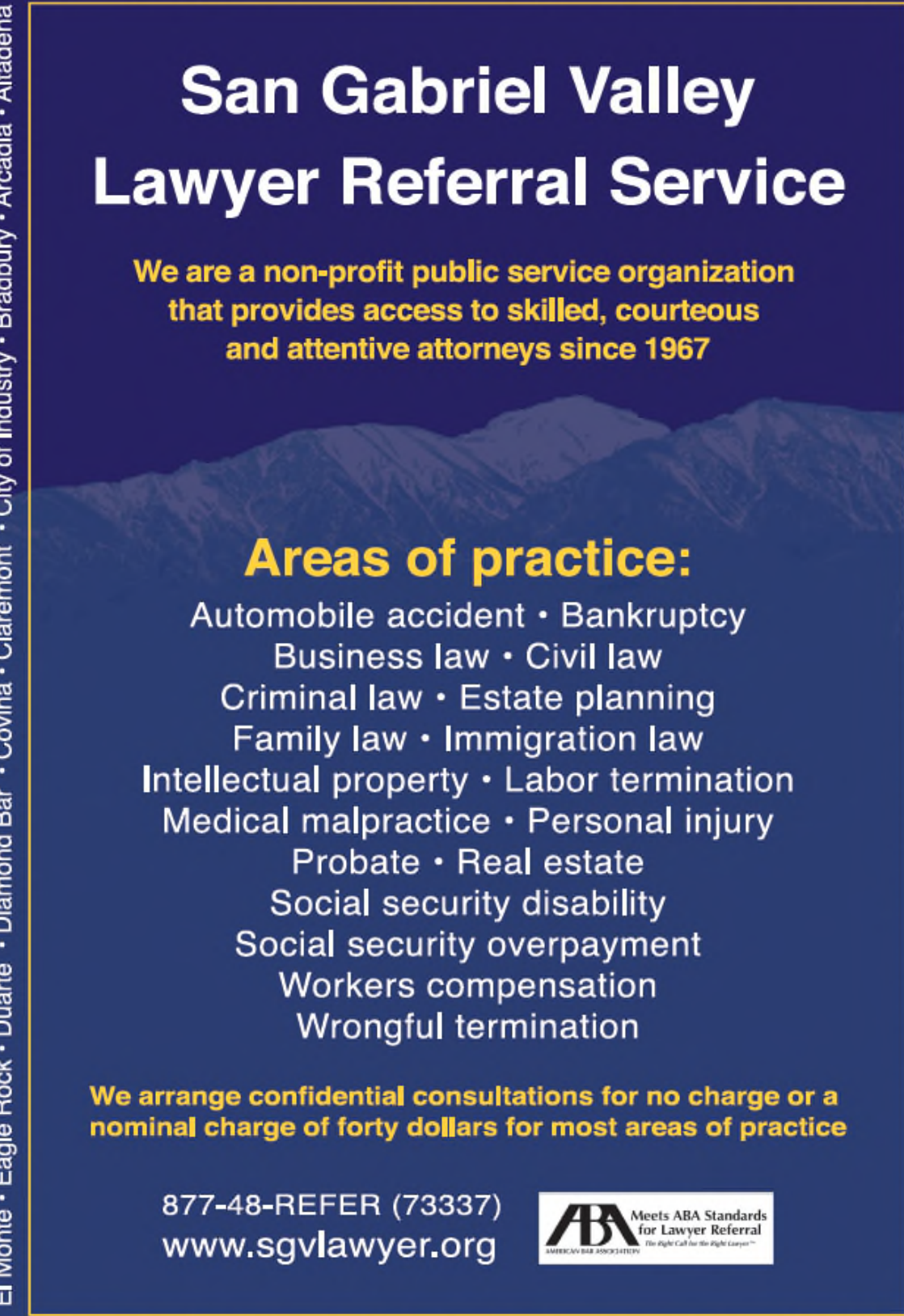
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.MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BAR ASSOCIATION

DATE: April 3, 2026
TIME: 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
PROGRAM: "Social Security Disability Do you know it if you see it."
SPEAKER: Joshua Potter, Esq.
LOCATION: Shioda Langley and Chang LLP, 1063 E. Las Tunas Dr., San Gabriel, CA 91776
MCLE: 1 Hour

* Details on how to sign up for the webinar will be posted to the website: <https://sgvba.org/>

EASTERN BAR ASSOCIATION

DATE: April 16, 2026
TIME: 6:00 P.M.- 7:00 P.M.
PLACE: ZOOM/Participatory. Have to sign in electronically.
PROGRAM: "California Attorney Client Trust Accounting Duties-Attorney as Fiduciary"
SPEAKERS: Ashod Mooradian, Esq.
MCLE: 1 Hour
DESCRIPTIONS: "Former Senior State Bar prosecutor and legal ethics expert Ashod. Mooradian will provide an overview of the California Attorney' Client Trust Accounting Duties and the serious disciplinary and other consequences that can result if these duties are not performed with due care."

PASADENA BAR ASSOCIATION

FOR CURRENT EVENTS VISIT

THE PASADENA BAR ASSOCIATION (PBA)

WEBSITE: www.pasadenabar.org **Phone:** 626-793-1422 **Fax:** 626-793-2370

California's Largest Legal Aid Funder Reports \$628 Million in Investments, Over One Million Residents Assisted

The State Bar of California's Legal Services Trust Fund Commission (LSTFC) today released its 2020–2024 impact report—*Strengthening Legal Aid: Five Years of Strategic Investment*—which details how the State Bar, as California's largest legal aid funder, invested approximately \$628 million through grant funds to strengthen California's civil legal aid network and deliver over \$1 billion in economic impact. Despite significant progress, the *2024 California Justice Gap Study* shows that 85 percent of civil legal problems in California go unresolved because people cannot find or afford legal help.

"This impact report shows how strategic funding and the work of our grantees have transformed lives across California," said LSTFC Co-Chairs Erica Connolly and Amin H. Al-Sarraf. "These grants do more than resolve individual cases—they sustain organizations, build capacity, and empower advocates who fight for housing stability, health access, family security, and economic fairness. As we look ahead, we remain committed to strengthening this infrastructure and expanding partnerships so that justice becomes a lived reality for every person in California."

The report highlights that State Bar–funded legal aid organizations assisted more than one million California residents over the past five years, helping people stay housed, secure income and public benefits, protect their families, access health care, and resolve immigration challenges. The State Bar supports more than 100 organizations across every county through transformative programs that help low-income and underserved California residents. The State Bar executes this work with the support of its partners, including the California Legislature, which established much of California's legal aid grant distribution, including Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts (IOLTAs), the Equal Access Fund, homelessness prevention, and consumer debt legal assistance grants.

The need for civil legal aid continues to grow. According to the Justice Gap Study, 7 in 10 households experienced at least one civil legal problem, and the state's lowest-income residents reported an average of seven legal problems. Seniors, rural residents, veterans, people with disabilities, and Spanish-speaking households face some of the greatest barriers to finding legal help. The State Bar is projecting a \$60 million drop in IOLTA funding in 2026, with even more dramatic decreases expected in successive years due to dropping interest rates. Many of the grants referenced in the report have ended, and renewal funding is no longer available. The need for additional legal aid funds is more important than ever with continuing dramatic cuts in federal and local funding for legal aid.

From 2020 to 2024, State Bar-funded organizations delivered services across major areas of law, including housing, immigration, consumer protection, family law, and health and long-term care. Highlights include nearly 94,000 people who avoided eviction or foreclosure, more than 10,000 who gained work authorization, thousands who stopped or reduced debt collection problems, and more than 16,000 who secured improved access to medical care. Providers also conducted tens of thousands of educational workshops, outreach events, and self-help clinics that expanded community access to legal information.

State Bar funding also supported 2,819 impact litigation cases and more than 10,000 legislative and administrative advocacy actions between 2020 and 2024. These efforts advanced statewide reforms in areas such as education, consumer protection, housing, and health care. Examples include a settlement directing more than \$2 billion toward addressing educational disparities worsened by the COVID-19 pandemic and national fair housing advocacy through the Alliance for Housing Justice.

The impact report outlines additional State Bar efforts to strengthen California's legal aid infrastructure through collaboration, updated eligibility rules, organizational capacity building, training and technical assistance, and programs that support recruitment and retention of public interest lawyers.

Looking ahead, the State Bar's priorities include responsible adoption of legal technology, stronger regional collaboration, sustainable funding, and enhanced disaster legal services coordination to ensure that legal aid remains responsive to emerging statewide needs.

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SAN GABRIEL VALLEY LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE MANDATORY FEE ARBITRATION PROGRAM

Attorneys, do you have uncollected legal fees?

Clients, do you have a fee dispute with your attorney?

The San Gabriel Valley Lawyer Referral Service
Mandatory Fee Arbitration Program may be able to help.

The San Gabriel Valley Lawyer Referral Service administers
a State Bar approved Fee Arbitration Program.

For more information about the Program, you can visit our website
at www.sgvlawyer.org, call our office at 626-966-5530
or email us at info@sgvlawyer.org.

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EASTERN BAR ASSOCIATION
UPCOMING MCLE PRESENTATION

Wednesday, May 20, 2026, 5:00 p.m.

Program: "Claiming the Client: Creating Psychological Safety in High-Stakes Legal Conversations."

Speaker: Carrie Williams

Via Zoom (No In-Person Meeting)

Register at www.ebalac.org

EASTERN BAR ASSOCIATION
UPCOMING MCLE PRESENTATION

Thursday, June 18, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

Program: "Slip and Falls in Commercial Cases."

Speaker: Maria Skinner, Esq.

Via Zoom (No In-Person Meeting)

Register at www.ebalac.org

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What's Happening

April 2026



WORKSHOPS & ONE-ON-ONE HELP

IN-PERSON: Eviction Defense: Help Using Tenant Power Toolkit to Answer Eviction Complaints

Friday, April 3, 10, 17, 24 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

EN PERSONA: Defensa contra el desalojo: ayuda para utilizar Tenant Power Toolkit para responder quejas de desalojo

viernes, 3, 10, 17, 24 de abril

9:30 am - 12:30 pm

EN PERSONA: Tutelas Testamentarias y Alternativas de California

lunes, 6 de abril 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

LIVE ZOOM: Adult Name Change Workshop

Wednesday, April 8 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

IN PERSON: Lawyers in the Library

Friday, April 17 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Free 20 - 30 minute consultations with volunteer attorneys.

**Must register for a consultation from 8:30 am-11:00 am*

**Consultations take place from 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm.*

**Participants register on the day of the program and will be seen on a first-come, first-served basis, according to topic.*

IN PERSON: California Probate Conservatorships & Alternatives

Monday, April 27 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

IN PERSON: Federal Pro Se Clinic

Monday, April 27 12:15 pm - 1:30 pm



CIVIL LAWSUIT BASICS

LIVE ZOOM: Subpoenas and RFPs: Getting Documents to Prove Your Case

Thursday, April 9 12:00 pm - 1:15 pm



PUBLIC CLASSES

LIVE ZOOM: Discharging Student Loans in Bankruptcy

Monday, April 27 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm

LIVE ZOOM: Wills & Trusts: Where You Begin

Thursday, April 30 12:00 pm - 1:15 pm



ASK A LAWYER/EXPERT

LIVE ZOOM: Employment Law & Workplace Discrimination

Thursday, April 2 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

LIVE ZOOM: Ask an Expert: Public Benefits

Wednesday, April 15 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

LIVE ZOOM: Landlord-Tenant Law and Evictions

Thursday, April 16 4:45 pm - 6:00 pm

LIVE ZOOM: Probate: What to Do with Property After Someone Dies and How to Plan Ahead

Thursday, April 23 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm



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CREDIT, DEBT & MONEY ISSUES

Learn best practices for dealing with debt, your rights when facing repossessions, foreclosures and lawsuits, and when bankruptcy could be an option.

CRIMINAL LAW

Learn about your rights interacting with police, and about release and bail reduction services if you're facing charges.

EMPLOYMENT

Learn about your rights and benefits as an employee or employer, including new rights created by law during COVID-19.

FAMILY LAW

Get the basics of divorce, custody, and child support, plus information on domestic violence restraining orders.

FINDING A LAWYER

Learn about options for getting help from a lawyer, plus information on how to talk to a lawyer, tell your story, and the importance of gathering the facts in your case.

HOUSING RIGHTS

Get the basics of landlord-tenant law, including evictions. Plus, learn about housing protections for victims of domestic violence, those with mental disabilities, and more.

LANDLORD/TENANT LAW

Learn about the rights and responsibilities of tenants and landlords, including the basics of the eviction process.

LEGAL RESEARCH & ACCESSING COURT RECORDS

Receive information on how to find the answers to legal questions, and how to access records from different types of courts.

PROBATE & PLANNING FOR END OF LIFE, ILLNESS OR DISABILITY

Get basic information on planning for end of life, illness and disability, including wills, trusts, and advanced health care directives. Plus, learn about the process for transferring property after death.

STARTING & GROWING A BUSINESS

Learn how to set up a business for growth and success, protect your rights, and access funding for your business.

REPRESENTING YOURSELF IN CIVIL COURT

Learn about the civil court process from complaints through appeals, and how to represent yourself without an attorney.

UNEMPLOYMENT, DISABILITY & SICK LEAVE

Learn about important benefits, including unemployment and disability insurance, and sick time and sick leave, including new rights created by law during COVID-19.

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Veá algunos de nuestros videos populares de clases en línea para ayudarlo en sus problemas legales.



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The State Bar requires attorneys to complete 25 hours of approved continuing legal education credit every three years. LA Law Library is an approved provider of online, participatory MCLE. For more information on our new and fee based MCLE classes, please visit: www.lalawlibrary.org/MCLE-classes

You can reach us at reference@lalawlibrary.org or 213-78LALAW



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MANDATORY FEE ARBITRATION BULLETIN

If you have uncollected legal fees, the San Gabriel Valley Lawyer Referral Mandatory Fee Arbitration Program can help. We all know that before an attorney may sue a client for fees, the B&P Code requires that the attorney advise the client of the right to fee arbitration. But did you know that under California law, the attorney cannot initiate the arbitration or compel the client to participate in the process?

The only way an attorney can compel a client to arbitrate a fee dispute is if the parties have so provided in the retainer agreement. If your agreement does provide an arbitration clause, update it now! (A suggested fee arbitration clause for your retainer agreements may be found below)

The San Gabriel Valley Lawyer Referral Service Mandatory Fee Arbitration Program offers fee arbitration services for all Los Angeles County attorneys. In 2006 the SGVLRs adopted comprehensive new rules for arbitration of attorney fee disputes. These rules expanded the fee arbitration program and made the resolution of the fee disputes uniform, user friendly and timely. Under the rules (depending on the amount in dispute) the parties may have a one or three person panel of experienced arbitrators. Wherever possible, the SGVLRs tries to provide arbitrators with experience in the area of practice of the attorney(s) whose fees are subject to the dispute. It promises prompt and expeditious handling of each dispute by a knowledgeable and available staff.

FEE ARBITRATION CLAUSE

The dispute resolution provision of Attorney-Client Agreement may take various forms: One possible form is set forth below. Certain governing principles should be considered with regard to a fee arbitration provision for an Attorney-Client Fee agreement. They are:

- Before a dispute over legal fees arises, the parties may agree, in the Fee Agreement or otherwise that all fee disputes will be submitted to arbitration under Business and Professions Code Sections 6200 through 6202, but they cannot agree at the time that the arbitration will be binding.
- Before a dispute over legal fees arises, the parties may not agree that they will mediate a fee dispute.
- After a dispute over legal fees arises, the client and the attorney may agree to non-binding and/or binding fee arbitration.
- For any disputes that do not involve attorneys' fees (e.g., malpractice), the parties may agree at any time, including in the Fee Agreement, and without waiting for a dispute, to begin arbitration proceedings.

SAMPLE FEE ARBITRATION CLAUSE

In the event of a dispute between you and our firm regarding our firm's fees, upon the request of either party, the dispute shall be resolved by arbitration under Business and Professions Code Section 6200 through 6206 with the San Gabriel Valley Lawyer Referral Service or another State Bar of California approved Fee Arbitration Program reasonably acceptable to you and our firm. The arbitrator(s) shall apply the law of the State of California. Unless we agree to binding arbitration after a dispute arises, any arbitration award is not binding on our firm or you, and to the extent permitted by law, our firm and you have the right to pursue any other available remedy within 30 days after the mailing of a non-binding arbitration award.

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The Gavel and Quill is a monthly publication of the San Gabriel Valley Lawyer Referral Service, the Pasadena Bar Association, the San Gabriel Valley Bar Association and the Eastern Bar Association of Los Angeles County. Its Purpose is to inform members of the sponsoring bar associations of matters of interest to them. We welcome and encourage articles and comments from the membership.

Please address your contribution to:

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