Agenda

Understanding California Personal Injury Law  
P. Turnage
- The development of personal injury law in California
- Statutes and regulations that affect liability law
- An overview of liability law in different types of personal injury cases
  - Automobile accident
  - Medical malpractice
  - Slip-and-fall
  - Product liability
- The law of damages
- Recent developments and anticipated changes in California law

Investigating and Evaluating a Personal Injury Claim  
D. Ellsworth
- Obtaining information from/about the plaintiff
- Using and not using investigators
- Identifying and locating parties and witnesses
- Investigating/documenting the incident
- Interviewing witnesses
- Obtaining information on damages
- Identifying and obtaining other relevant information
- Helpful resources

Negotiating, Mediating, and Settling Personal Injury Cases  
J. Klopfenstein
- Creating comprehensive and effective settlement demands
- Preparing for and assisting with the negotiation process
- Preparing for and assisting with mediation

Litigating Personal Injury Cases  
M. Sigala
- Drafting, filing and serving initial pleadings
- Participating in the discovery process
  - Drafting admissions, interrogatories, and requests for production of documents
  - Responding to discovery requests
- Deposition practice: preparing for, attending and reviewing
- Working with expert witnesses
- Preparing for and assisting at trial

Handling Ethical Issues in Personal Injury Practice  
J. Suits II
- Maintaining client confidentiality
- Avoiding conflicts of interest
- Avoiding the unauthorized practice of law
- Communicating with clients, the court and opposing counsel

Learning Objectives

**You’ll be able to:**

Understand recent developments and anticipated changes in California personal injury law.

Obtain and evaluate information from/about plaintiffs.

Prepare for and assist with negotiation, mediation, and settlement of personal injury cases.

Participate in the discovery process, including drafting admissions, interrogatories, and requests for production of documents.

Avoid conflicts of interest and the unauthorized practice of law.
Patricia A. Turnage, Esq., CPCU, is the founding attorney of the Law Offices of Patricia Turnage. She attended Golden Gate Law School where she actively participated in Law Review and served as Managing Editor. Upon graduation, she became an active litigator, primarily in the area of general injury defense. Prior to opening her law office in early 1999, she worked for large, prestigious law firms in the San Francisco Bay Area. Ms. Turnage was selected to participate in a five-year program in which she studied all aspects of insurance and insurance claims. Upon completion of that program in 1999, she earned a Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter designation (“CPCU”). This designation has proved to be a valuable asset to her clients in settling personal injury claims, construction defect claims, and insurance bad faith claims. Ms. Turnage has been a licensed attorney in California for more than 20 years, and she is active in local bar organizations. She has served on the Board of Directors for the Alameda County Bar Association. She is also past president of the Eastern Alameda County Bar Association and is president-elect of the Earl Warren American Inn of Court for 2011-2012. Ms. Turnage has served as a Judge Pro Tem for the Alameda Courts since 1999.

Dayna Ellsworth is an attorney at Harris Personal Injury Lawyers, Inc. She is passionate about victim advocacy and believes in providing a voice for those who have experienced an injury or loss. She has years of training and experience in victim advocacy, which includes building client trust while compassionately managing emotional and sensitive information. Ms. Ellsworth earned her Juris Doctor degree from the University of California at Los Angeles. While in law school, she received several awards for her trial skills and was nationally ranked as a student trial advocate. She also received the prestigious M. Eugene Lopez scholarship for exemplifying dedication in the community, practicing with integrity, and demonstrating leadership in the legal profession.

John F. Klopfenstein, the founder of the Law Office of John Klopfenstein, received his law degree from San Diego's Thomas Jefferson School of Law and has been practicing in California since 1993. During his 20 plus years practicing law, and more than 10,000 cases, he has shown incredible compassion in the community, practicing with integrity, and demonstrating leadership in the legal profession.

Mark A. Sigala has been with Consiagal McMahon & Allard, L.L.P., since its inception. Mr. Sigala prides himself with helping individuals who have been seriously injured and families whose loved ones have been tragically killed by the wrongdoing of others. He has been instrumental in securing several multi-million dollar settlements and jury verdicts for the firm. Mr. Sigala has been chosen by his peers as a Rising Star by Super Lawyers of Northern California several times. He is the past president of the Santa Clara County Trial Lawyers Association and past member of their Board of Governors. He is a member of the Law Raza Lawyers of Santa Clara County, Santa Clara County Bar Association, San Francisco County Trial Lawyers and Consumer Attorneys of California. Mr. Sigala gained extensive experience working as a personal injury paralegal and investigator for many years with several nationally recognized personal injury firms. Having been raised in San Jose, Mr. Sigala is active in the local community. James C. Suits II is a personal injury attorney practicing in San Jose, California. He founded the Law Office of Suits Law Group in 2001. Mr. Suits and his 15 years of litigation experience. Mr. Suits represents individuals in a wide variety of personal injury cases, including motor vehicle collisions, elder abuse and neglect, medical malpractice, assault and battery, and premises liability.

Faculty

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Seminar Information

**Courtyard San Jose Airport**
1272 Technology Drive
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**Tuition**
$299 for individual registration
$279 for three or more registrants from the same company at the same time.

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**Continuing Education Credit Information**
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**Registration**

California Personal Injury Practice for Paralegals
San Jose, CA - Thursday, May 14, 2020

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- **Online:**
  - First Name:
  - Last Name:
  - Email:
  - Phone:
  - Address:
  - Occupation:
  - Additional Registrants:
    - First Name:
    - Last Name:
    - Email:
    - Phone:
  - Tuition:
    - Individual Registration:
    - Company Registration:
  - *Complete the online form. Attach duplicates if necessary.*

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**How to Order**

**Mail-in or fax the attached form to 715-835-6066**

**Registration**
- 8:00 - 8:30 am
- 8:30 - 11:45 am
- Lunch (On your own)
- 11:45 am - 12:45 pm
- 12:45 - 4:30 pm

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- Cancellations: Cancel at least 48 hours before the start of the seminar, and receive a full tuition refund, minus a $95 service charge for each registrant. Cancellations within 48 hours will receive a credit toward another seminar or the self-study package. You may also send another person to take your place.

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