

# Mariposa County Bar Association

Volume 4, Issue 38

www.MariposaBar.org

Newsletter@MariposaBar.org

June 2021

## President's Column

Casey Archer, MCBA President

The Mariposa County Bar Association ("MCBA") customarily meets on the second Thursday of each month at the Miner's Roadhouse 140. Our last meeting was in March 2020, with meetings thereafter suspended due to COVID-19.



Our next meeting will be a webinar on July 15, 2021, when Sharon Wardale-Trejo, Director for the Merced/Mariposa Regional Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) and David Haycraft, Chief Attorney for the Merced/Mariposa Regional DCSS, will present an overview of the Department and the services they can offer. There will also be experts standing by in case there are questions they are more knowledgeable to answer. Please see the article set forth herein for additional information.

We will be resuming our in-person meetings on September 9, 2021. Mark your calendars to attend our luncheon at the Miner's Roadhouse 140, when Miles Menetrey of the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors, provides us with a State of the County address. We look forward to seeing you there.



## Join Us via Webinar July 15, 2021, with Sharon Wardale-Trejo and David Haycraft of the Merced/Mariposa Regional DCSS

The MCBA will be holding its noon meeting remotely on July 15, 2021, with a bluejeans webinar presented by Sharon Wardale-Trejo, Director for the Merced/Mariposa Regional Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) and David Haycraft, Chief Attorney for the Merced/Mariposa Regional DCSS, who will present an overview of the Department and the services they can offer. There will also be experts standing by in case there are questions they are more knowledgeable to answer.

The webinar will be provided via the Bluejeans app, which is similar to zoom. We will be providing the link in the near future. Clicking on the link will briefly install the Bluejeans app prior to commencing the meeting. The DCSS experience with Bluejeans has been a positive one.

Sharon Wardale-Trejo is the Director for the Merced/Mariposa Regional Department of Child Support Services (DCSS). She has 23 years' experience in the child support arena, working in very small, medium, and large-sized counties. Having held a variety of positions, she has participated in the evolution of the program at the local level from quasi-law enforcement focus while a division of the District



**Sharon Wardale-Trejo,**  
Director for the  
Merced/Mariposa  
Regional DCSS

Attorney's Office to a more collaborative, family-centered program focusing on achieving meaningful outcomes for families while not impoverishing the parent paying support. She has provided trainings at

# Sara Rosenthal awarded Merced County 2021 Prosecutor of the Year!

Congratulations to Sara Rosenthal, the recipient of the 2021 Merced County Prosecutor of the Year Award!

Sara was the first misdemeanor attorney to receive the award back in 2016. Sara Rosenthal has tried 39 cases in her career and supervised two law clerk jury trials. Most notably, she has done an incredible job in the most emotionally challenging assignment for any prosecutor – child sexual abuse. Since beginning the assignment in 2019, Sara tried seven PC 288 cases, all of which require an unbelievable amount of work and personal engagement with victims who have experienced the most horrific violations imaginable. Sara has brought great preparation, skill, and commitment to these cases and a deeply personal compassion for what these victims have



**Sara Rosenthal, 2021 Prosecutor of the Year**

endured. Her other felony trials have involved murder, aggravated mayhem, robbery, domestic violence, child abuse, possession of child pornography, vehicle theft, and felon in possession of a firearm – truly a cross section of the Penal Code. Outside the office, Sara is an incredible giver as well. In work related to her assignment, Sara has served on the Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Team, the Child Death Review Team (CDRT), and the Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect (SCAN) Team. She also serves the community as a board member of the Merced County Bar Association, a trustee for the Merced County Law Library Board of Trustees, a board member as the Esteemed Loyal Knight for the Merced Elks Lodge #1240, and a board member for Kiwanis of Greater Merced. She previously served as a mock trial coach at Delhi High School and Key Club advisor at Merced High School.

For those of you who don't know Sara's history, she grew up in Garden Grove, CA, graduated from UC Berkeley with a degree in Sociology, and earned her law degree from UC Davis. She joined the DA's office in April of 2013. She's been assigned to misdemeanors, Los Banos, general felonies, gangs, and child sexual abuse.

annual conferences for the Child Support Director's Association of California (CSDA), Western Interstate Child Support Enforcement Council (WICSEC), and California Welfare Director's Association (CWDA) on a variety of topics including critical thinking, business analysis, leadership, and working with community partners to improve customer outcomes. She is an active member of CSDA and is the chair of both the Program, Policy, and Regulations Committee and the Legislative Advocacy Committee. She holds a master's degree in public administration and a bachelor's in political science, both from California State University, Stanislaus.

David Haycraft is the Chief Attorney for the Merced/Mariposa Regional Department of Child Support Services (DCSS). After serving as a submarine officer on the USS Alaska for five years and then working for Applied Materials in Santa Clara for 7 years, he moved back home to Merced in 2003 to pursue



**David Haycraft, Chief Attorney for the Merced/ Mariposa Regional DCSS**

his legal career. He has been practicing law in Merced, with a focus in Family Law, for over 17 years. He started at Canelo, Wilson, Wallace & Padron as an associate attorney. He left the firm in 2010 in order to represent parents and children in the Dependency Court. In 2015, he was appointed the Family Law Facilitator/Self-Help Attorney for Mariposa County. He joined DCSS in 2018 and currently manages a team of attorneys and support staff for both Merced and Mariposa counties. He is an

active member of the statewide Child Support Director's Association of California (CSDA) Legal Practices Committee whose mission is to promote uniform legal practices across the Local Child Support Agencies throughout California.



## MCBA 2021 Meetings

We are resuming our in-person meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month in September 2021. The following is the 2021 schedule:

### January 14, 2021

Luncheon meeting postponed due to COVID-19.

### February 11, 2021

Luncheon meeting postponed due to COVID-19.

### March 11, 2021

Luncheon meeting postponed due to COVID-19.

### April 8, 2021

Luncheon meeting: 1 hour MCLE credit Webinar with Speaker, Brian Chase of ArcherHall, with a presentation on “Identification and Preservation of Electronically Stored Information”

### May 13, 2021

Luncheon meeting: 1 hour MCLE webinar with Russell Cook, attorney and mediator, presenting on “Mediating the Hatfield and McCoys”

### June 10, 2021

Luncheon meeting: 1 hour Ethics MCLE credit Webinar with Speaker, Tom Plunkett, Director of Digital Forensics at ArcherHall, with a presentation on “Ethical Duties and Electronically Stored Information”

### July 15, 2021

Luncheon meeting: Webinar with Sharon Wardale-Trejo, Director for the Merced/Mariposa Regional Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) and David Haycraft, Chief Attorney for the Merced/Mariposa Regional DCSS, presenting an overview of the Department and the services they can offer.

### August 12, 2021

No Luncheon Meeting due to Summer Break Schedules

### September 9, 2021

Luncheon meeting: Speaker Miles Menetrey, of the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors, regarding the State of the County.

### October 14, 2021

Luncheon meeting: Speaker To Be Announced

### November 18, 2021

Luncheon meeting: Speaker To Be Announced

### December 9, 2021

Luncheon meeting: Holiday Luncheon and Judges Appreciation Day

---

## Family Law Section News

by Casey Archer, Merced County Bar Association  
Family Law Section President

The featured case this month is *Marriage of Siva* (August 25, 2020) regarding child support and “*Jackson*” credits. Said credits are named for a line of cases that started with *Marriage of Jackson*, and which allow a child support obligor parent to receive credit against their child support obligation and arrears when their time share factor with the child has increased, even though they did not file a motion to modify the support order.

In *Siva*, the Court took *Jackson* credits one step further, in holding that *Jackson* credits are not limited to collection proceedings, and that the obligor parent can seek monetary reimbursement from the parent who received the child support. The Court ordered the parent who received the child support to reimburse the obligor parent \$1,000 per month until \$18,330 was paid in full, due to the change in the time share factor, even though the support order was not modified during that time period.

*Jackson* credits are an equitable remedy, and the *Siva* case is consistent with the long line of cases which hold that *Jackson* credits do not constitute an impermissible retroactive modification of child support.

The Merced Family Law Section is joining with the Mariposa County Bar Association at noon on July 15, 2021, in attending the webinar presented by Merced/Mariposa Regional Department of Child Support Services, via the Bluejeans app. The link will be provided in the near future. Clicking on the link will briefly install the Bluejeans app prior to commencing the meeting. The DCSS experience with Bluejeans has been a positive one.



## Job Opportunities

### United State District Court for the Northern District of California

There is a vacancy announcement available at the link below for the position of Chief Deputy of Administration at the United States District Court for the Northern District of California. This is a re-posting of a vacancy announcement that was circulated in March 2021.

[https://cand.uscourts.gov/wp-content/uploads/clerks-office/hr/career-opportunities/CAND\\_Chief\\_Deputy\\_Admin\\_JobPosting\\_6-10-2021.pdf](https://cand.uscourts.gov/wp-content/uploads/clerks-office/hr/career-opportunities/CAND_Chief_Deputy_Admin_JobPosting_6-10-2021.pdf)

The Chief Deputy of Administration is a senior executive-level position that reports to the Clerk of Court, has regular interaction with federal judges, high-level officials, court staff, the public, and federal agencies, and is responsible for the management of all court administration functions.

This vacancy announcement is open until filled, with a priority cut-off date of July 6, 2021.

## Superior Court News

**MARIPOSA:** The Mariposa County Superior Court is no longer requiring masks for those who have been vaccinated.

**MERCED:** The Merced County Superior Court has instructed people wanting an update regarding Court operations to visit their website.



## MCBA Membership List

The MCBA extends its thanks to the members who have paid their 2021 dues.

Alexandria Albertoni	Thomas Cooke
Ashley Albertoni	Beau C. Correia
Susan Albertoni	Steven W. Dahlem
Casey Archer	Skye Emery
Kevin B. Briggs	Kimberly G. Flores
Marvin Brown	Robert T. Iwama
Anita Starchman Bryant	Edward J. Johnson
Aaron Castleton	Andrew S. Kucera
Jeffrey Castleton	Cindy R. Morse
Russell D. Cook	Elizabeth E. Waldow
	Walter Wall

If your name is not included in the 2021 membership list and you would like to renew your membership and maintain your listing on the MCBA website, you may do so by sending your \$35.00 annual dues to our PO Box. For new members who wish to join and have their information listed on the MCBA website, a Membership Application may be mailed with your dues to MCBA, PO Box 628, Mariposa, CA 95338.

## 2021 MCBA Officers



Casey Archer  
President



Anita Starchman Bryant  
Vice-President



Ed Johnson  
Secretary



Skye Emery  
Treasurer