

Riverside  
County

# LAWYER

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## Riverside

The Legal Center of the Inland Empire

Court Consolidation

The Courts That Came to Riverside

The Court of Appeal

California Court of Appeal

U.S. Bankruptcy Court

Riverside County Court House

Site of U.S. District Court

Hall of Justice

Family Law Court



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# Riverside Attorneys Recognized For Pro Bono Contributions

by Mike Bazzo and Heidi Fron

## Ralph K. Hekman

The State Bar of California has announced that Ralph K. Hekman, a frequent volunteer for the Public Service Law Corporation, has been named as a recipient of the 1999 President's Pro Bono Service Awards.

Mr. Hekman was recognized for his significant contributions to the delivery of fee legal services to indigent clients through PSLC. In addition to directly representing indigent clients, Mr. Hekman participated monthly in the evening clinic where he provided counseling. During 1998, he volunteered more than 50 hours of time assisting indigent clients.

In recognition of the substantial free legal assistance provided by California lawyers to people least able to afford it, the State Bar announces the names of 13 attorneys – one from each district in the state – and two law firms who receive the annual award. The State Bar created this prestigious award 16 years ago to applaud the volunteer legal efforts of individual lawyers and law firms to deliver legal service to the poor.

Mr. Hekman was honored at the President's Reception at the State Bar's annual Meeting on September 30, 1999, at the Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific.

## Katie Green

Katie Green, Attorney at Law and Registered Nurse Practitioner, has been awarded the 1999 YWCA Woman of Achievement Award. Ms. Green was honored as an outstanding woman leader of Riverside County at a luncheon on September 30, 1999.

Thousands of mailings are sent out each year county wide, soliciting nominees for the award. After the field is narrowed to 40 nominees, local community leaders in the form of a jury review the applications of those elected. The winner is chosen to represent the community at large and to reflect the many different fields of business in which women are engaged in the county. Only those who have provided significant contributions of benefit to the community through volunteer work are considered.

Ms. Green was admitted to the Bar in 1993, and has been a member of the Riverside County Bar Association ever since. To describe her as an active participant would be an understatement. Since 1994, she has volunteered her time and energy to the PSLC Civil Clinic, as well as the Family Law Clinic, where she has put in more than 200 hours *pro bono* working on a large family law matter. In May 1999, she started a clinic in Mead Valley providing her time and talents to those who are less fortunate, while building a genuine rapport with clients.

If the legal volunteer work for the Public Service Law Corporation weren't enough, Ms. Green spends a good part her time in the service of others in additional avenues as well. She is a retired Major in the United States Air Force and a past president of the Registered Nurse Chapter of the Union of Riverside County where she served as a union representative for 15 years. Currently, she is employed full time by the Department of Provider Relations at the Riverside County Regional Medical Center where she has labored for 22 years as a Pediatric and Mental Health Registered Nurse Practitioner.

Since its founding in 1906, the Riverside County YWCA has worked to empower women and strengthen women's roles in society by providing inspiration and leadership to young women in the community.

*Michael L. Bazzo is an associate attorney at Bonne, Bridges, Mueller, O'Keefe & Nichols. Heidi Fron is Executive Director of the RCBA. Both are members of the RCBA Publications Committee.*

## Desert Bar to Honor Judge Elwood Rich

The Desert Bar Association will present a special achievement award to Judge Elwood Rich at the association's annual Installation Dinner. Watch your mail for an invitation and plan to be there when Judge Rich will be recognized with honors.