I ran across this list posted by an attorney on lexisnexis.com in the Lexis Hub blog on career guidance and I thought it might be beneficial to our membership. I think all of us have found ourselves wishing we had packed one or more of these.

- Carolyn Brock, President

10 Things to Keep in your Briefcase

1. **Contact information.** Keep a list of the names, numbers (including cell phone numbers) and e-mail addresses of persons you may need to contact, including your paralegal, legal assistant, opposing counsel, court reporter and related personnel. You never know when your blackberry or laptop may become less than reliable.

2. **Power cords.** Keep an extra power cord for your phone, and possibly your laptop and an extra phone line cable.

3. **Spare change.** A roll of quarters may come in handy for meter parking or vending machines.

4. **Protein bars.** You will be caught in traffic, or be stuck late in a deposition and you will be hungry.

5. **A good book.** A novel or a book on leadership is good to keep handy for any dead time. If you have a Kindle, keep it in your briefcase.

6. **Office supplies.** Keep extra legal pads, pens, post-its, paper clips, etc. You always want to be prepared.

7. **Business Cards.** To hand out to witnesses, opposing counsel and court reporters.

8. **GPS.** Don't rely on the one car rental companies offer. Keep yours in your suitcase and pull it out whenever you travel.

9. **Extra Work.** Keep some research that needs to be read and analyzed or a motion that needs to be edited in case you miss that flight.

10. **Reference Tools.** Consider keeping a copy of your state’s civil procedure rules and evidence code. Or perhaps your state or county has local rules when it comes to professionalism and how to conduct oneself when it comes to discovery. These may come in handy to pull out and cite during a deposition or hearing.

By following these suggestions, you can turn your briefcase into your biggest ally.

**Item 11 – buy a brief case with wheels!**
Drew L. Lyman, a local bankruptcy attorney, presented the April 2012 MCLE brown bag for the Family Law Section. He provided many helpful practice pointers for family law attorneys to use in their daily practice. One of the subjects discussed by Mr. Lyman in the presentation, "Cross-Over Issues between Bankruptcy and Family Law" was the automatic stay. The automatic stay protects debtors from the continuation or enforcement of certain collection proceedings against the debtor or the debtor's property that could have been commenced before the bankruptcy petition was filed. Mr. Lyman reminded that the stay arises automatically under federal law, without further order, upon the filing of the petition. Of course, under family law, those proceedings not affected by the automatic stay are: paternity cases, child and spousal support matters, custody and visitation cases, domestic violence restraining orders, and "status-only" dissolutions. However, Mr. Lyman also reminded that one can seek relief from such a stay, but would have to file for such relief in Bankruptcy Court, since relief is granted in some circumstances. Under In Re Schwartz, 954 F.2d 569, 571 (Ninth Circuit, 1992), any actions taken in violation of the stay are per se, void. Such violations may also give rise to sanctions or contempt. Another matter discussed was the apparent injustice of spouses in the middle of negotiating a marital settlement agreement, who just happen to file for bankruptcy after such negotiations commence. When this occurs, the filing spouse’s community property and separate property interests will be included in the bankruptcy estate.

Of course, a bankruptcy does not discharge any domestic support obligations, such as child or spousal support (as stated in 11 USC 523 (a)(5)). For bankruptcy purposes, a Chapter 7 Estate includes all legal and equitable community or separate property interests of the debtor, regardless of where the asset is, or who is holding it at the time the petition is filed.

The event proved to be highly informative, especially as so many more family law cases these days are carrying bankruptcy issues which the family law practitioner cannot ignore.

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  (Checks must accompany ad request)
SPECIAL MCLE PROGRAM ON JUNE 12, 2012

By Keith A. Jones, Esq.

Mark Your Calendar for June 12, 2012! The Foothills Bar Association is pleased to announce a special MCLE program that will interest all members. Forensic Document Examiner Sandra L. Homewood will offer her valuable insights on a wide variety of issues related to document examination, such as handwriting identification, handwriting by the elderly, elder abuse cases, and alteration of medical and business records.

Ms. Homewood has over thirty years experience as a Forensic Document Examiner and has testified as an expert witness in a wide variety of high profile cases in Arizona and California. She has worked for the Arizona State Crime Laboratory and the San Diego County District Attorney’s Office. She later became the CEO of Forensic Science Laboratories before opening her own ‘questioned documents’ practice in 2002 in San Diego where she continues to serve clients throughout California.

Examples of topics that Ms. Homewood may address include multiple forgeries, alterations, obliterations, mechanical impressions, paper and ink analysis, taking of exemplars, handwriting and hand printing comparisons, and typewriter comparisons. She promises an engaging presentation with supplemental materials.

The FBA has reserved the patio at BJ’s Brewery in the Grossmont Shopping Center for June 12, 2012 at 12:00 p.m. for this exciting event. A flyer with further details will follow.

The program is free to FBA members, and only $10.00 for non-members. Attendees will be responsible for the cost of lunch. The officers and board of directors for the FBA encourage all FBA members to attend as Ms. Homewood’s broad discussion will appeal to those attorneys practicing in all areas, including estate planning, litigation, family law, and criminal law.

Ms. Homewood welcomes questions and requests for particular issues to include in her presentation. So send them to my attention at kjones9001@gmail.com with the reference “FBA MCLE Program” in the subject line so that I can forward them to her. She informs me that she will also try to respond to any questions we may ask on June 12. Looking forward to seeing you there!
## Civil Judge Pro Tem Schedule

### San Diego Superior Court
### East County Division

#### May 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Temporary Judge</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tue, May 1, 2012</td>
<td>Judi Sanzo, Esq.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu, May 3, 2012</td>
<td>Niles Sharif, Esq.</td>
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<td>Fri, May 4, 2012</td>
<td>Anne Perry, Esq.</td>
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<td>Tue, May 8, 2012</td>
<td>Michael Adkins, Esq.</td>
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<td>Wed, May 9, 2012</td>
<td>Niles Sharif, Esq.</td>
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<td>Fri, May 11, 2012</td>
<td>Catherine Tancredi, Esq.</td>
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<td>Tue, May 15, 2012</td>
<td>Cynthia Stratton, Esq.</td>
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<td>Fri, May 18, 2012</td>
<td>Susan A. Yeck, Esq.</td>
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<td>Tue, May 22, 2012</td>
<td>Connie D. Zimmerman, Esq.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu, May 24, 2012</td>
<td>Khodadad Sharif, Esq.</td>
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<td>Tue, May 29, 2012</td>
<td>Elizabeth Aronson, Esq.</td>
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<td>Thu, May 31, 2012</td>
<td>Thomas Bucheneau, Esq.</td>
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#### June 2012

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<tr>
<td>Fri, Jun 1, 2012</td>
<td>Edward Castro, Esq.</td>
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<td>Tue, Jun 5, 2012</td>
<td>Andrew Cook, Esq.</td>
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<td>Thu, Jun 7, 2012</td>
<td>Dana Cotman, Esq.</td>
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<td>Fri, Jun 8, 2012</td>
<td>Stewart Cowan, Esq.</td>
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<td>Tue, Jun 12, 2012</td>
<td>David Demergian, Esq.</td>
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<td>Thu, Jun 14, 2012</td>
<td>Paul Fine, Esq.</td>
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<td>Fri, Jun 15, 2012</td>
<td>Miranda C. Franks, Esq.</td>
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<td>Tue, Jun 19, 2012</td>
<td>Cynthia Freeland, Esq.</td>
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<td>Thu, Jun 21, 2012</td>
<td>Peter Gregorovic, Esq.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri, Jun 22, 2012</td>
<td>Margaret Jonak, Esq.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue, Jun 26, 2012</td>
<td>John M. Julius III, Esq.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri, Jun 29, 2012</td>
<td>Marguerite Lieu Jonak, Esq.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
San Diego Superior Court Judge Seat 25
Candidate George Schaefer

George Schaefer is a Deputy City Attorney at the San Diego City Attorney’s Office. George is assigned to the Special Litigation Section of the Civil Division and handles major civil cases. Examples of cases he handled include the successful defense of San Diego in the federal Mt. Soledad cross case and the La Jolla Children’s Pool cases. Last year Schaefer successfully defended the City in a two-week federal jury trial and in a five-week state jury trial. In both cases, San Diego employees claimed unlawful discrimination.

Before becoming a Deputy City Attorney, Schaefer ran private law practice for over 17 years. “I fully understand the pressures place on sole practitioners, including making payroll,” Schaefer noted. Schaefer added that judges need to treat attorneys, clients, witnesses, and courtroom staff with courtesy and respect at all times and accommodate lawyers’ scheduling conflicts to the extent possible.

Prior to private practice, Schaefer was an Assistant Public Defender and District Attorney in other jurisdictions. In addition to handling several death penalty cases, Schaefer’s prosecution and criminal defense work includes murder, rape, and child sexual abuse cases. Schaefer commenced his legal career by serving a year as a Volunteer In Service to America (“VISTA”) attorney, primarily representing indigent clients with family law matters.

During the 30+ years he practiced law, George Schaefer had 112 jury trials and 125 appeals in both federal and state courts. It is the diversity of legal experience that the Schaefer campaign contends makes George well qualified to fairly and impartially dispense justice in both civil and criminal cases.

San Diego Superior Court Judge Seat 25
Candidate Robert Amador

Robert Amador is a veteran Deputy District Attorney with more than 29 years of experience as a prosecutor in the San Diego County District Attorney’s Office. Because of his considerable experience and expertise, he currently works as a Law Enforcement Liaison between the District Attorney’s Office and law enforcement organizations and provides expert advice on search and seizure, interrogation law and general legal procedures as well as reviewing 30 to 60 search warrants per month. It is this type of assistance which has caused the Deputy Sheriff’s Association, the San Diego Police Officers Association and every municipal law enforcement association in San Diego County to endorse Robert Amador for San Diego Superior Court Judge Seat 25.

Robert has worked to remove thousand of criminals from our streets. He has experience in many areas of prosecution, including murder, arson, insurance fraud, gang crimes, and crimes against children. He
Foothills Bar Association seeks a chairperson for the Criminal Law Section.
Responsibilities will involve locating and coordinating speakers for lunch time MCLE lecture programs on topics of interest and providing Section status reports to the Foothills Bar Association Board.

Interested attorneys should contact Carolyn Brock at carolyn@crbrocklaw.com, 619-741-0233.

once tried 24 felony jury trials in a single 13 month period and has tried over 100 jury trials and 250 court trials and has appeared on thousands of criminal cases.

His notable cases include the 2010 prosecution of a cold case homicide where a missing victim was discovered after twenty years. A criminal Amador had convicted of an earlier murder pled guilty to the crime, adding 15 years to his sentence and brought closure to the victim’s family.

In a 2007 capital case Amador prosecuted, Tecumseh Colbert was convicted of two counts of first-degree murder for gunning down investment banker Robert McCamey on Oct. 29, 2004, and killing Richard Hammes on Nov. 10 of that year at Prime Market Liquor in Ocean Beach. Colbert was found guilty and was later sentenced to death.

Robert led the Countywide J.U.D.G.E. (Jurisdictions Unified for Drug/Gang Enforcement) task force for 12 years. Under Robert's leadership prosecutors, law enforcement and probation officers aggressively investigated and prosecuted thousands of gang members, repeat and violent offenders. Robert also started the Drug Endangered Children's Program which has been responsible for saving hundreds of children from drug infested homes.

Robert is committed to the education of attorneys and law enforcement. He regularly teaches for the Peace Officer Standards and Training “Institute of Criminal Investigation” program in the areas of Search Warrants, Search and Seizure, Case Preparation, Courtroom Testimony, Informants, and Burglary. He has also taught for the California Narcotics Officers’ Association, the San Diego Association of Public Safety Dispatchers, and the California District Attorneys Association. His legislation on W&I 777 was enacted as part of Proposition 21.

Robert has received numerous awards for his work as a prosecutor, including the Sheriff’s Meritorious Unit Citation for his work in the Chelsea King investigation and an award from the FBI for his work on the 99 cent arsons. He is a lifetime member of the California Narcotics Officers Association. Robert has been involved in Tecolote Youth Baseball for over 20 years where he has served as president, treasurer, coach and currently as historian. He has also coached Pop-Warner Football and was an assistant cub-scout den leader.

Robert has been endorsed by District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis, Public Defender Henry Coker, Sheriff Gore, Sheriff Kolender, County Board of Supervisors Ron Roberts, Pam Slater-Price and Greg Cox as well as San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders. He has also been endorsed by over 70 current Superior Court Judges, 140 deputy district attorneys and dozens of civil and criminal attorneys. For a complete list of endorsements go to www.amadorforjudge.com

Robert is married to his wife of 34 years, a supervisor in the Sheriff’s Communication Center and they have raised four children, two of which were his foster children. His daughter has followed in her father’s footsteps and is a Deputy District Attorney. Robert has lived in San Diego since 1979 and graduated from USD law school in 1982.
San Diego Superior Court Judge Seat 25
Candidate James Miller

Jim Miller is the only candidate in the race for seat 25 who collectively: is a Judge Pro Tem, is an appointed County Hearing Officer to hear appeals from County departments, has trial experience as an attorney in criminal and civil law, has substantial family law experience, has trial experience in Federal and State Court, has been certified as an arbitrator by the Better Business Bureau and the San Diego County Bar Association, has appeared in every Southern California jurisdiction, has run his own law firm and business, is an NFL agent having represented over 200 professional athletes, and has been designated as an “expert” in California and Texas courts.

Jim grew up in the East County and graduated from Valhalla High School. He attended SDSU as a varsity athlete and business major. He earned his Juris Doctorate from Thomas Jefferson School of Law. After starting his career with a small downtown San Diego law firm he went solo. His current private practice has been based in El Cajon for over 14 years with active cases running in all of San Diego’s court venues. To judge our community it is believed that one should know our community.

His basic judicial philosophy is to rule on the law not legislate from the bench. He will punish violent criminals in criminal court, will hear both sides fairly in civil and family court and will throw out frivolous lawsuits. Currently he has drafted legislation while working with Sen. Joel Anderson, Assembly Members Brian Jones, Nathan Fletcher and Toni Atkins in family law to correct the outcome in the Harris case where the wife, after being raped by her husband, was ordered to pay his attorney’s fees and spousal support in the divorce. AB 1522 has passed the Assembly and is headed to the Senate.

Over 90% of our judges are former government prosecutors. Approximately 35% of our courts are established for criminal cases. Our Family and Civil departments are currently overrun with cases and the system lacks judges with the practical experience in these fields to ensure the community is receiving fair justice in these venues. Jim is the only candidate with the broad legal experience to handle all of the tough assignments he will face as a judge. You can learn more about Jim, his endorsements, including the California Republican Party, Republican Party of San Diego County and the Lincoln Club of San Diego as well as more on the judicial race at: www.jimmillerforjudge.com

The Paralegal Studies ABA approved program at Cuyamaca College is seeking a Worker's Compensation instructor for the Fall, 2012 semester. The class will be held on Wednesdays from 6:30-9:30 for 5 consecutive weeks starting 9/26 to 10/24. For more information contact Mary T. Sessom at mary.sessom@gcccd.edu.
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Judy M. Marolt, Lawyers Club 619-442-1857

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SUBMISSIONS
Your submissions are welcome! Send articles, letters, flyers, and other non-advertising submissions to Cheryl Stengel at cs@debtso.com.

ADDRESS CHANGES
Send change of address or telephone number to Stanley Bacinett at 619-667-4000.