



CENTER FOR JUDICIAL EXCELLENCE

CJE & ACPC Present

Traffic Court Forum

What You Need to Know From Traffic Stop to Final Outcome

Thursday, October 9, 2008
St. Raphael Church Gymnasium
7PM – 9PM

The goals of the CJE/ACPC Traffic Court Forum are to educate the Marin community about their rights and responsibilities both on the road and in the courtroom, to provide a better idea of what to expect when entering the traffic court system, and to educate the community of their rights of due process, beginning with the traffic stop and throughout their experience in courts. This forum is the 5th in CJE's judicial forum series.

AGENDA

WELCOME

Jean Taylor
CJE Board President

FORUM OVERVIEW & PANELIST INTRODUCTION

Cheryl Jennings – Moderator
ABC 7 News

THE TRAFFIC STOP

Officer James Bellamy
San Rafael Police Department

Officer Mary Ziegenbein
California Highway Patrol

IN THE COURTROOM

Comm. Geoffrey Carter
Alameda County Courts

David Wayne Brown
Attorney & Author

PANELIST Q & A

Facilitated by Cheryl Jennings

CLOSING

Jean Taylor
CJE Board President

PANELISTS & PRESENTERS

Cheryl Jennings – *ABC7 News Anchor*

Emmy Award winning Cheryl Jennings is weekday co-anchor of ABC7 News at 11:00 a.m. and anchor of ABC7 News at 5:00 p.m. Cheryl also files special assignment news reports and is the host of the community affairs program Beyond the Headlines. Cheryl joined ABC7 in 1979 as a general assignment reporter and became the weekend news anchor in 1986. In 1988, she was promoted to weekday anchor. Cheryl is a pioneer in reporting on children's issues, women's rights and domestic violence and has been recognized locally and nationally for her active involvement. Cheryl resides in Marin County and is active in many community organizations.

Commissioner Geoffrey Carter, esq. – *California Superior Court, Alameda County*

A graduate of St. Louis University College of Arts & Sciences and St. Louis University Law School, Commissioner Carter was admitted to the Missouri Bar in 1970 and to the California Bar in 1975. Comm. Carter practiced criminal defense and family law for 13 years. During this time, he also served as a juvenile referee pro-tem, a probable cause hearing officer in the county mental health system, and as a permanent part-time Hearing Officer for the California New Motor Vehicle Board. Comm. Carter was appointed a Court Commissioner in January 1988, with the Oakland-Piedmont-Emeryville Municipal Court. There he handled misdemeanor arraignments, both general misdemeanors and major traffic misdemeanors; traffic trials, traffic arraignments, small claims trials, unlawful detainers, and miscellaneous matters. He became a superior court commissioner upon consolidation of the municipal and superior courts in 1998. Comm. Carter's present assignment is traffic arraignments, traffic trials, and small claims trials.

David Brown, esq. – *Attorney & Author*

A graduate of Stanford University and the University of Santa Clara Law School, David Brown practices law in the Monterey, California area, where he has defended numerous traffic cases in the California state and federal courts. David also teaches law at the Monterey College of Law and is the author of Fight Your Ticket (CA version), Beat Your Ticket (the national version), and The Landlord's Law Book, Vol. 1: Rights and Responsibilities; The Landlord's Law Book.

Officer Mary Ziegenbein – *Marin County CHP*

A graduate of Novato High School and Santa Rosa Junior College, Officer Ziegenbein has served with the California Highway Patrol for the past 5 years. Assigned to the Marin County Division where she spent three years on the roads, Officer Ziegenbein is currently the Public Affairs Officer for the Marin area CHP.

Officer James Bellamy – *San Rafael Police Department*

Officer James Bellamy has been a Police Officer with the City of San Rafael for 5 years (2003–2008). During that time he has have served as a patrol officer, a downtown footbeat officer and a traffic (motorcycle) officer. Officer Bellamy's current lateral assignments include: DUI checkpoint coordinator, background investigator, self-defense and tactics instructor, and a SWAT team member. Prior to joining the San Rafael Police Department James served in the United States Air Force as a Security Forces member (Military Police), and spent 2½ years with the Sonoma County Sheriff's Department as a Deputy and Correctional Officer.

FORUM CO-SPONSORS

We would like to say a special thank you to the many co-sponsors who supported this event:

- Ambassadors of Hope and Opportunity
- Canal Alliance
- Canal Welcome Center
- Fair Housing of Marin
- Grassroots Leadership Network of Marin
- ISOJI Community Council
- Marin County Youth Commission
- Marin Immigrant Rights Coalition
- Marin Peace & Justice Coalition
- Marin Gray Panthers
- Task Force on the Americas
- Society of St. Vincent de Paul
- Vernon Crawley, Manager Marin City CSD
- Women Helping All People