



CAL-ABOTA

California and Hawaii Chapters of the
American Board of Trial Advocates

CALIFORNIA AND HAWAII CHAPTERS OF THE AMERICAN BOARD OF TRIAL ADVOCATES 2025 CAL-ABOTA COMMITTEES

STANDING COMMITTEES (Per the Bylaws, Section 4):

Standing committees shall consist of at least three members, including the chair of the Committee. The purpose, per the Bylaws, of each standing committee is listed below.

EDUCATION

“This committee shall be responsible to assist chapters in the presentation of programs throughout the state, to assist chapters in carrying forward the Youth Education Program and any other ABOTA education programs and to engage in any other activities, including school related programs and awards, as shall promote the purposes of ABOTA.”

Karen Goodman – Co-Chair - kgoodman@goodman-law.com

Steve Grebing – Co-Chair - sgrebing@wingertlaw.com

Plus Chapter Vice Presidents/President-Elects shall serve as committee members:

| | | | |
|--|----------|----------------|--|
| CalCoast Vice President | Barry | Reagan | reagan@srllplaw.com |
| Hawaii President (in absence of a VP) | Jeffrey | Portnoy | jportnoy@cades.com |
| Los Angeles President-Elect | Thomas | Johnston | tjj@johnstonhutchinson.com |
| Orange County President-Elect | Deborah | Tropp-Thompson | dtropp@mtbattorneys.com |
| Sacramento Valley Vice President | Shelley | Jenni | sjenni@wilcoxenlaw.com |
| San Bernardino/Riverside President-Elect | Steve | Goldstein | steve@davis-grass.com |
| San Diego Vice President | Bibianne | Fell | bibi@fellfirm.com |
| San Francisco Vice President | Bradley | Corsiglia | bmc@cbalawfirm.com |
| San Joaquin Valley Vice President | Abby | Leaf | abigailleaf@aol.com |

CIVIL JUSTICE

“This committee is responsible for monitoring proposed legislation, jury instruction proposals, the administration of civil justice, and any other issue that may affect the goals and purposes of CAL-ABOTA and to engage in such activities to preserve the purposes of ABOTA as set forth in the Constitution.”

Niall McCarthy – Chair - nmccarthy@cpmlegal.com

Joe McMonigle – Co-Chair - jmcmonigle@longlevit.com

Frank Pitre – Co-Chair - fpitre@cpmlegal.com

Greg Rizio – Co-Chair - grizio@riziolawfirm.com

Hon. Ben Coats – Committee Member (non-board member) - ben.coats@ventura.courts.ca.gov

Plus Chapter Presidents shall serve as committee members:

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------|---------|--|
| CalCoast President | Eric | Berg | eric@berglawgroup.com |
| Hawaii President | Jeffrey | Portnoy | jportnoy@caedes.com |
| Los Angeles President | Gary | Dordick | gary@dordicklaw.com |
| Orange County President | Juan | Delgado | jdelgado@fwhb.com |
| Sacramento Valley President | Jill | Telfer | jtelfer@telferlaw.com |
| San Bernardino/Riverside President | Daniel | Kruid | dkruid@alderlaw.com |
| San Diego President | Ben | Bunn | Ben@bunnlawgroup.com |
| San Francisco President | Dale | Allen | dallen@aghlaw.com |
| San Joaquin Valley President | Thomas | Feher | tfeher@lebeauthelen.com |

LONG RANGE PLANNING

“This committee shall be responsible to recommend future activities, organization, awards, Board membership, chapter engagement, and any other Board actions that shall carry out the purposes of ABOTA and CAL-ABOTA.”

Walter Yoka, Chair – wyokey@yokasmith.com

Chris Faenza, Co-Chair - cfaenza@yokasmith.com

Joe McMonigle – Co-Chair - jmcmo@longlevit.com

Bob Morgenstern, Co-Chair – bob@morgensternlawgroup.com

AD HOC COMMITTEES:

Appointed by the Board, as necessary, to carry out its business for such terms as it shall determine.

AMICUS

Karen Goodman Co-Chair - kgoodman@goodman-law.com

FOUNDATION MEMBERSHIP

Yoshi Kubota, Chair - ykubota@kubotacraig.com

Steve Grebing – Co-Chair - sgrebing@wingertlaw.com

Deb Tropp-Thompson, Co-Chair - dtropp@mtbattorneys.com

Plus Chapter Immediate Past Presidents shall serve as committee members:

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|---|---------|-------------|--|
| CalCoast Immediate Past President | Brian | Cardoza | brian.cardoza@sce.com |
| Hawaii President (in absence of a PP) | Jeffrey | Portnoy | jportnoy@caedes.com |
| Los Angeles Immediate Past President | James | Rosen | jrosen@rosensaba.com |
| Orange County Immediate Past President | Pamela | Liosi-Traut | pamela@trautfirm.com |
| Sacramento Valley Immediate Past President | John | Demas | Jnd@demaslawgroup.com |
| San Bernardino/Riverside Immediate Past President | Charles | Mayr | charles@mayrlee.com |
| San Diego Immediate Past President | James | Lance | jlance@noonanlance.com |

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|---|----------|----------|--|
| San Francisco Immediate Past President | J. Kevin | Morrison | kmorrison@altairlaw.com |
| San Joaquin Valley Immediate Past President | Jason | Bell | jsb@paboojianlaw.com |

MEMBERSHIP/DIVERSITY

Bob Morgenstern, Co-Chair – bob@morgensternlawgroup.com

Niall McCarthy, Co-Chair - nmccarthy@cpmlegal.com

Yoshi Kubota, Co-Chair – ykubota@kubotacraig.com

Plus Chapter Presidents shall serve as committee members:

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|------------------------------------|---------|---------|--|
| CalCoast President | Eric | Berg | eric@berglawgroup.com |
| Hawaii President | Jeffrey | Portnoy | jportnoy@caedes.com |
| Los Angeles President | Gary | Dordick | gary@dordicklaw.com |
| Orange County President | Juan | Delgado | jdelgado@fwhb.com |
| Sacramento Valley President | Jill | Telfer | jtelfer@telferlaw.com |
| San Bernardino/Riverside President | Daniel | Kruid | dkruid@alderlaw.com |
| San Diego President | Ben | Bunn | Ben@bunnlawgroup.com |
| San Francisco President | Dale | Allen | dallen@aghwlaw.com |
| San Joaquin Valley President | Thomas | Feher | tfeher@lebeauthelen.com |

NEWSLETTER

This committee shall be charged with producing the E-News, the official periodic publication of CAL-ABOTA. The newsletter shall also be available on the CAL-ABOTA website.

Joe McMonigle – President - jmcmonigle@longlevit.com

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD COMMITTEE

This committee shall reference the Community Service Award description and criteria approved by the Board of Directors on August 24, 2019. This committee shall also:

1. *Maintain a form to have each chapter complete for possible consideration.*
2. *Interview the contact from each chapter about their nominees, if necessary.*
3. *Meet to narrow the list to three nominees only or one if there is overwhelming support for one chapter.*
4. *Recommend to the Executive Committee, the final three possible candidates.*

Committee Members: Executive Committee Plus Walter Yoka

Ex-Officio Member of All Committees:

President, Joe McMonigle

Executive Director:

Teresa Excinia, MBA, CAE – teresa@caladmanagement.com - <http://cal-abota.org/>