



Spring 2012 Newsletter

sponsored by **White Zuckerman Warsavsky Luna & Hunt, LLP.**

In This Issue

- [Executive Director's Message](#)
- [Board President's Message](#)
- [Victory for Client](#)
- [Volunteer Christina Reif](#)
- [30th Anniversary Dinner](#)
- [Toyota Leadership Gift](#)
- [Welcome James A. Durant](#)
- [White Zuckerman](#)

Founders



Ziva Sirkis Naumann
Ethel Levitt (1911-1995)
Grace Quinn (1915-2006)

Mission

To provide affordable legal representation in family law matters to low-income families of Los Angeles County to ensure stability for children and their families in the face of legal difficulties

Important Dates

June 6, 2012
Tory Burch

Shopping Benefit
For more information and to rsvp click [here](#).

September 22, 2012
Our Awards Dinner at the Luxe Sunset

For tickets and sponsorship information click [here](#).

Help Us Win \$6,000

Vote for Levitt Quinn @ [FamilyLawyerMagazine.com](#) where we have been nominated as a charity that makes a difference and help us win their Charity Funding Challenge.

Major Donors

To read about donors that share our vision click [here](#)

Board

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Executive Director's Message

Welcome to our first E-Newsletter, created to provide timely information about our work, victories and upcoming events.

Last year was both challenging and successful. Our staff fielded more than 6,500 inquiries, provided legal information and services to more than 1,600 clients, opened more than 800 new cases and made more than 350 court appearances.

This year, we are teaming with the Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice to serve litigants in high conflict cases referred by the LA Superior Court. We initiated a Pro Bono Program and are collaborating with the Asian Pacific American Dispute Resolution Center to reach out to the Asian Pacific Islander community. In the first quarter of 2012, we've received grants from the Annenberg, Morrison Foerster, Wallis and Weingart Foundations funding our Transforming Lives Fund, which underwrites the cost of representation to our poorest clients.

Sharon Hulse, who stepped down as Executive Director after ably leading the organization through five very successful years, has become Director of Operations. Sharon also provides legal expertise to our Adoptions Program.

During these challenging times, our services are increasingly in demand while the cost of court appearances is rising due to funding cuts. In order to fulfill our pledge--that no family stands alone in a courtroom--we are focused on increasing our revenue through grants and individual donations. Now more than ever, Levitt Quinn depends on corporate and individual donors. Please do your part by clicking on the Donate Now button. Thank you for your partnership and support.



Tai Glenn



Board President's Message

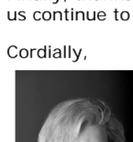
Dear Friends,

I am so pleased to welcome Tai Glenn as our new Executive Director. Tai brings the combination of an extensive legal career, public interest experience, abundant energy and a caring heart to Levitt Quinn. We look forward to many years with Tai at the helm.

On another note, the Board of Directors is planning a one-day retreat in June to assess and plan for the future of Levitt Quinn. The retreat is funded by a grant from the Annenberg Foundation and is a result of our participation in the Annenberg Alchemy Leadership Seminars. We thank the Annenberg Foundation for these seminars, and for their financial support.

Finally, thanks to all of you for your commitment to Levitt Quinn, and for helping us continue to transform the lives of children and families.

Cordially,



Dinah Ruch



Victory for Client

Hope Creates a Family

In 2002, Hope* received a call from her cousin in Mexico, asking her to care for two small children, who were in the U.S., until her cousin could join them. The children were only one and three at the time and Hope, seeing no other options for the children, agreed. However, Hope's cousin never returned. She continued to care for them despite earning little more than \$1,000 per month. In 2003, Hope obtained guardianship of the children so that she could better provide for their medical care and education. As the years passed, she realized that the children's birth mother was never going to be able or willing to care for the children. [Read about Hope's legal struggles.](#)

*Client's name changed to protect privacy.

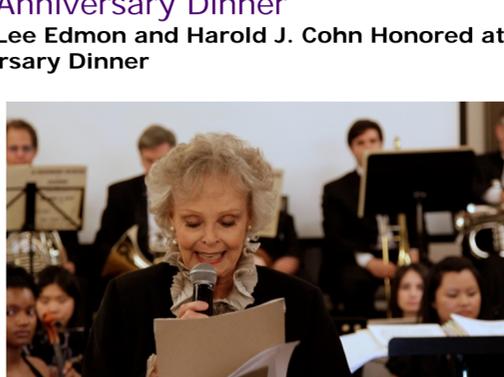
Volunteer Christina Reif



Christina has volunteered more than 150 hours at Levitt Quinn while attending Southwestern Law School. She conducts initial intake and explains our intake process to applicants, who are often confused and frightened when they arrive. Christina never fails to respond with a calm manner. She also has been instrumental in organizing and logging important materials and information in two highly contested adoption matters, and also conducted research and summarized cases. Summarizing her volunteer work, Christina says, "The opportunity to work directly with clients and participate in complex litigation has been an exceptional learning experience."

30th Anniversary Dinner

Judge Lee Edmon and Harold J. Cohn Honored at 30th Anniversary Dinner



In

Guest of honor and actress June Lockhart, introduces the LA Lawyers Philharmonic, who performed at the Annual Dinner.

September 2011, friends and supporters gathered at the Luxe Hotel to commemorate Levitt Quinn's 30 years of family law services to our most vulnerable families. Honorees included the Hon. Lee Smalley Edmon, Presiding Judge of Los Angeles County Superior Court, and the highly respected family law attorney, Harold J. Cohn. In her remarks, Judge Edmon said, "Levitt Quinn's co-founder, Ethel Levitt, was one of my mentor's. Receiving an award named in her honor is a fitting tribute to Mrs. Levitt's legacy." The 30th Anniversary Awards Dinner raised more than \$185,000.

Toyota Leadership Gift

Toyota Financial Services Makes Leadership Gift

Toyota Financial Services made a substantial donation of more than \$129,000 to Levitt Quinn in 2011. Toyota greatly increased its support of adoption legal services by increasing its 2010 gift from \$15,000 to \$30,000 in 2011.

"These are extraordinary gifts," commented Board President Dinah C. Ruch. "These important donations will ensure the law firm's future ability to continue to serve the family law needs of low-income families." [Read more about Toyota's support.](#)

Welcome James A. Durant

Trope and Trope Partner James A. Durant Joins Board

Levitt Quinn Family Law Center welcomes James Durant to the Board of Directors. Mr. Durant has been practicing law in California since 1991, and focuses on handling Family Law and Civil Litigation matters. Mr. Durant is certified as a Specialist in Family Law by The State Bar of California Board of Specialization. His reputation in the Southern California legal community has earned him Martindale-Hubbell's prestigious "AV" rating, which signifies the highest level of professional excellence and ethical standards. In addition to volunteering his time as a Board Member for Levitt Quinn Family Law Center, Mr. Durant has volunteered as a youth baseball coach since 2009.



"James is a powerful addition to our Board of Directors. His family law expertise combined with his passion for our mission make him an important addition to the organization," said Executive Director Tai Glenn.

With Gratitude

Levitt Quinn thanks its Spring Newsletter sponsor White Zuckerman Warsavsky Luna & Hunt, LLP.

This first ever E-Newsletter was made possible through the generosity of the accounting firm of White Zuckerman Warsavsky Luna & Hunt, LLP, which won the newsletter sponsorship at Levitt Quinn's 2011 annual awards event's live auction. White Zuckerman has been a long-time friend and supporter of Levitt Quinn and the firm's underwriting of the cost enables Levitt Quinn to represent more low-income families in court.

"Levitt & Quinn is highly regarded in the legal community for providing affordable and accessible family law legal services to low-income families," said White Zuckerman partner and winning bidder Patrick Greene, "We are proud to be a supporter."

Founded in 1987, White Zuckerman Warsavsky Luna & Hunt, LLP is one of the leading forensic accounting firms in Southern California bringing more than accounting expertise to their clients. They provide individual and business clients with the latest information on changing tax laws and new planning opportunities.

How You Can Support Levitt Quinn Family Law Center

In many ways, Levitt Quinn Family Law Center can be measured by the overall financial commitment and participation of its donors. Approximately, 50% of Levitt Quinn's operating budget is from law firms, corporations, foundations and individuals. By contributing to Levitt Quinn, you ensure that we can fulfill our mission today and in the future. Every gift - whether \$10,000 or \$10 - makes a difference. Here are the many ways to give:

- Cash Gifts
- Gifts of Stock, Bonds & Mutual Funds
- Gifts of Personal Property
- Matching Gifts from employers
- Planned Gifts and Bequests.

You can make your contributions to by check, credit card or by contributing online. To learn more about giving to Levitt Quinn contact Tai Glenn, Executive Director at (213) 482-1800 or tglenn@levittquinn.org.

Levitt Quinn
A Nonprofit Family Law Center

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