



East Bay Council News

November 2009

President's Message

Today I looked up the word organization in the dictionary. Yes, I do know what it means, essentially, however I found various definitions that challenged my own narrower take on the word. I saw definitions like "organic structure" and "organism." While each of those definitions suggests a definite structure, what struck me about these words is that I associate them with *dynamic processes*. And so it is with organizations like ours. While it is true that we aim for certain staples upon which our members can rely from one season to the next, like quality programming, this year we are looking to inject more into the membership experience. That is why in January, a traditionally dark month for us, I am pleased to report that we will be adding a networking event to our roster, at a yet undisclosed (but soon to be announced) location. This event responds to the goal voiced by many of you that networking play a key role in what the organization delivers. We'll keep you posted.

November Menu:
Chicken Dijonnaise

"LGBT Trust and Estate Issues in the Wake of the Court's Proposition 8 Decision."

Estate planning for LGBT clients became even more challenging after the California Supreme Court's decision on Proposition 8. California's laws have been rapidly changing in the area of LGBT issues over the last several years, creating many traps for the unwary. The latest decision by the California Supreme Court only added to the mix of issues. This month's program will examine the myriad issues presented when working with

LGBT clients.

Our speaker this month is **Virginia Palmer**. Ms. Palmer is a partner at the Oakland law firm of Fitzgerald Abbott & Beardsley LLP. She focuses her practice on estate planning, probate, trust administration, and elder law including conservatorships. Ms. Palmer has particular expertise in estate planning for both traditional and non-traditional families. Ms. Palmer serves as a Pro Tem Judge in the Alameda County Superior Court. Ms. Palmer has served on the Board of the Alameda County Bar Association, as well as on the Executive Committee of the Trusts & Estates Section. She is a frequent speaker and lecturer on estate planning, Elder Law, planning for LGBT clients and related topics.

Monday, November 9, 2009

Scott's Seafood Restaurant

Jack London Square
Oakland

6:00 PM Wine Reception

6:30 PM Dinner Meeting

\$35.00 paid in advance

\$40.00 at the door

Please make your **check** payable to "EBEPC" and mail to:

781 McKean Place,
Concord 94518

Or for **credit cards**:

<https://www.123signup.com/calendar?Org=ebepc>

Or call 925.686.4819
before 1 PM on
Thursday, November 5th

Meeting Sponsored By:

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