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## Southern California Mediation Association honors Forest Whitaker

*Whitaker received the Cloke-Millen Peacemaker Award for his work as a peace-builder*

By Steven Crighton

Forest Whitaker is known for his acting chops, but it was his role as founder of a peace-building initiative that earned him honors with the Southern California Mediation Association on Wednesday.

Whitaker is the recipient of the 2015 Cloke-Millen Peacemaker of the Year Award, which the association gives annually to individuals or groups in the dispute resolution community for achievements in

peacemaking. Association president and Judicate West mediator Floyd Siegal said that Whitaker was selected because of his work with the Whitaker Peace & Development Initiative, which Whitaker founded in 2012 to foster peace in disadvantaged communities in Africa, Latin America, and the United States.

The initiative conducts conflict resolution education programs, supports grassroots projects, and funds state-of-the-art communications tools to help foster safer and more prosperous communities, according to the initiative's mission statement.

Kenneth Cloke, for whom one half of the award is named, said that he'd crossed paths with Whitaker's organization in Africa through his work with Mediators Without Borders. Though they never worked together directly, Cloke said he appreciated the initiative's similar goals.

"Having worked myself in Africa and other places around the world, these tiny little things we can do make an enormous difference," Cloke said. "It's a great honor to be identified with this award, and an even greater honor to have it bestowed upon someone whose work is so profound."

Whitaker said Wednesday he first became affected by the importance of conflict resolution while visiting a school for former child soldiers in Uganda.

"I realized something, that as mediators — I'm sure you already know — to truly transform a conflict, change must come from within," Whitaker said. "You can't simply take a child soldier out of an army and expect all violence and conflict to suddenly

Friday, August 12, 2016

### Weekly Appellate Report Podcast

Jean-Paul Jassy (Jassy Vick Carolan LLP) discusses how a law prohibiting disparaging trademarks might soon fall; Anna-Rose Mathieson (Cal. App. Law Grp.) previews 'Moore v. Texas,' an OT2016 case regarding when a defendant is too mentally handicapped to be executed



[See more](#)

### California Supreme Court

#### State Supreme Court affirms percentage of fund method in assessing lawyers' fees

Judges may calculate plaintiffs' attorney fees as a percentage of a case's total settlement amount, even in multi-million dollar class actions, the state Supreme Court clarified Thursday.

### Criminal

#### No more child abuse videos for OC jurors

A recruitment video for an advocacy program for child abuse victims will no longer be shown to prospective jurors in Orange County Superior Court.

### Alternative Dispute Resolution

#### Southern California Mediation Association honors Forest Whitaker

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### Intellectual Property

#### Kirkland secures win in patent

**infringement jury trial for Energy Labs**  
Kirkland & Ellis LLP lawyers prevailed in a patent infringement trial on behalf of HVAC equipment developer Energy Labs Inc.

### Solo and Small Firms

#### Compensation Contenders

Founded in 2009 by Eric C. Kastner and Thomas

evaporate from his life. Unless you can fill that void with something else — say, school, a positive environment, a loving family — that child is a soldier-in-waiting."

Siegal said the presentation of the award was delayed until the USC Gould School of Law's Summer Soiree event to accommodate Whitaker's filming schedule. The 2016 recipient will be former judge and Senate majority leader George Mitchell.

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T. Kim, attorneys with extensive histories in employment law, their practice thrives on what many of the large firms in the region often cannot contend with: conflicts.

### Alternative Dispute Resolution

#### Los Angeles mediator known for savvy, knowledge

Robert Hanger, a mediator and arbitrator, wins praise for putting people at ease.

### Litigation

#### Judge grants concessions to supporters, opponents of Prop. 60

Following a hearing that delved into the many ways adult film stars make money, Sacramento Superior Court Judge Timothy Frawley issued tentative rulings that made concessions to both sides over the ballot arguments for an initiative that would require pornographic actors to use condoms in adult movies.

### Corporate

#### Square Inc. GC resigns

Square Inc.'s general counsel will step down "prior to the end of the third quarter of 2016" according to a regulatory filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission Thursday.

### Elder Law

#### West Hollywood elderly home ordered to stop evictions

A Los Angeles Superior Court judge has ordered a West Hollywood housing facility to stop harassing and illegally evicting its low-income elderly residents in what plaintiffs' attorneys said is to make way for a sale and higher paying tenants.

### Alternative Dispute Resolution

#### High court: arbitrator decides if class arbitration is available

There is a vibrant debate among federal and state courts as to whether classwide arbitration is authorized when an arbitration agreement is silent or ambiguous on the topic. By **Zuzana S. Ikels and John Sheehan**

### Law Practice

#### The life cycle of a State Bar complaint [MCLE]

Chances are that you never learned about the State Bar discipline process in law school, and you likely did not learn about the frightening, possible consequences of violating ethical rules. By **Heather E. Abelson**

#### The benefits of leaving your firm the right way

**PARTNER DEPARTURE LAW:** If you read the headlines regarding partner departures, you might get the idea that it's easy to move your practice, or your practice group, to a new law firm, or to take it from firm to firm. By **Daniel O'Rielly and Dena Roche**

## Perspective

### **Facebook ignores IRS summonses, but you shouldn't**

On Wednesday, a California federal judge ordered Facebook to appear in court on Nov. 17 to explain why it has not complied with six IRS summonses.

By **Robert W. Wood**

## Law Practice

### **Managing the rising costs of e-discovery**

Myriad options exist for attorneys looking to manage and reduce the costs of e-discovery here's a few suggestions. By **Kathleen McConnell and Emily Dorner**

### **Didn't learn how to defend depositions in law school? Not to worry**

You're a new lawyer. You've done a bunch of research projects, prepared several motions. You're feeling pretty good. In comes your partner explaining that an emergency has come up and you need to defend the client's upcoming deposition.

By **Sotera L. Anderson**

## Alternative Dispute Resolution

### **How to 'win' a mediation**

Winning a mediation sounds like the newest oxymoron. How do you win a process that is entirely voluntary? By **Elia Weinbach**

## Family

### **An antiquated paternity law?**

Some parental rights advocates view California law as being archaic when it comes to a boyfriend who fathers a child with a married woman. By **John Griffith**

## Judges and Judiciary

### **Judges, court administrators plead case for court construction projects**

Cramped quarters. Flooded toilets. Crumbling infrastructure. Dangerous security gaps.

Concerned judges and administrators spoke Thursday of these recurring problems and many more that plague California courthouses every day, unfavorably comparing such disturbing conditions to those found in impoverished countries.