

# **Speaker Biographies**

## **Workshop on Land Use and Global Warming Law**

March 22, 2008, Donovan Hall, Loyola Law School of Los Angeles

### **Randy Candias**

Mr. Candias is the President of Warren, Candias & Associates, Inc., a full-service litigation support and private investigation firm located in Orange County, CA. He was previously employed for thirteen years as a Senior Manager by Murphy & Maconachy, Inc., a nationally recognized full-service environmental investigative firm. He specializes primarily in managing and investigating insurance investigations. He has been a vital participant in the successful completion of numerous multisite environmental insurance coverage investigations and white-collar investigations throughout the United States. In addition to his civil litigation experiences, he has also investigated numerous criminal cases involving alleged environmental spills and releases of toxic or hazardous materials, including but not limited to waste oil, jet fuels, solvents, heavy metals, and solids.

Mr. Candias works on behalf of insurance carriers and insurance defense groups investigating the circumstances of environmental contamination at manufacturing facilities, petroleum refineries and terminals, chemical plants, and landfills throughout the nation. He has managed and conducted the investigation of environmental insurance claims in excess of \$1 billion, including numerous Superfund sites, which involved multisite chemical and petroleum facilities.

Mr. Candias received a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science and history from Point Loma College in San Diego, California. He has attended numerous environmental conferences sponsored by public and private entities. He has also participated in environmental mock trials presented to CHMIA as well as annual environmental symposiums held in Southern California. He frequently presents his findings before state and federal investigators and prosecutors as an advocate for his clients. He has received formal "hands-on" fraud and investigative training from several former employees of the FBI, ATF, IRS, State Department, and District Attorney offices throughout his past and present employment.

#### Contact:

Warren, Candias & Associates, Inc., 202 Fashion Lane, Suite 208, Tustin, CA 92780  
(714) 505-3707, [rinv@warrencandias.com](mailto:rinv@warrencandias.com)

## **Alan Johnston**

Mr. Johnston is an attorney with the Law Offices of Timothy C. Cronin, Esq., in San Francisco, practicing primarily in the area of environmental law. He represents clients facing claims under federal and state environmental laws related to the cleanup and abatement of hazardous waste. In counseling clients both before and after litigation, he has obtained significant experience and knowledge in the area of environmental regulation, responding to government regulators and environmental compliance directives and orders.

Contact:

[ajohnston@crolaw.com](mailto:ajohnston@crolaw.com)

## **Thomas E. Maciejewski**

Mr. Maciejewski is an associate at Trutanich-Michel, LLP, where his practice emphasizes environmental and land use law. He was named a “Rising Star” for 2007 by *Southern California Super Lawyer Magazine*. Mr. Maciejewski graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1999 with majors in economics and linguistics and minors in mathematics and cognitive science. He later attended UCLA School of Law and earned his J.D. in 2002.

Contact:

Trutanich-Michel, LLP, Attorneys at Law, Los Angeles Office, 180 East Ocean Boulevard, Ste. 200, Long Beach, CA 90802

[tmaciejewski@tmlp.com](mailto:tmaciejewski@tmlp.com), (562) 216-4457, [www.tmlp.com](http://www.tmlp.com)

## **Mark Massara**

Mr. Massara is a surfer who never expected to become a public interest environmental attorney dedicated to protection of coastal resources. He now continues the work because it benefits future generations and the California economy. Legally speaking, Mr. Massara graduated from USF Law School in 1987, went to work for Surfrider Foundation, got lucky, won some big cases, went to work for Sierra Club, got lucky, won a bunch more coastal protection campaigns, including over \$5 billion in 2007–08 so far, and intends to keep surfing as long as possible. For more information, go to Google.

Contact:

[mark.massara@sierraclub.org](mailto:mark.massara@sierraclub.org)

## **Thomas D. Mauriello**

Mr. Mauriello is the principal of the Law Offices of Thomas D. Mauriello, APC, a professional law corporation. The firm is based in San Clemente in Orange County and also has an office in San Francisco. Mr. Mauriello was admitted to practice in California in 1989 and is also admitted in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. He holds an undergraduate degree in American studies from Brown University and a law degree from the University of San Diego School of Law.

Mr. Mauriello's civil litigation practice includes public interest land use and environmental litigation, administrative law, and appeals, as well as consumer, securities, and other commercial litigation, including class actions.

Mr. Mauriello has litigated environmental and land use cases in state and federal courts throughout California under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the California Endangered Species Act, and the Planning and Zoning Law, and under various federal statutes such as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, the Federal Highways Act, and the Administrative Procedure Act. He was actively involved in the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Litigation; a Clean Water Act suit against Southern California Edison involving the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, which settled for \$17 million in mitigation; and other significant cases. Mr. Mauriello has represented the Sierra Club, Center for Biological Diversity, Preserve South Bay, Sierra Land Use Group, Spirit of the Sage Council, San Francisco Bay Institute, and North Hills Phoenix Association, among others.

Mr. Mauriello has published several articles on environmental law issues. From 2001 through 2003, he lectured in environmental and land use litigation at California State University, East Bay (formerly Cal State University, Hayward).

Contact: LAW OFFICES OF THOMAS D. MAURIELLO, 209 Avenida Fabricante, Suite 125, San Clemente, CA 92672

Tel: (949) 542-3555, Fax: (949) 606-9690, Email: [tomm@maurlaw.com](mailto:tomm@maurlaw.com)

## **Amy C. Minter**

Ms. Minter is an associate with Chatten-Brown & Carstens, where she primarily represents environmental, historical preservation, and community groups. Much of the firm's practice involves counseling and litigation under the California Environmental Quality Act. She received her law degree from the University of Michigan and her undergraduate degree in natural resources and environmental science from the University of Illinois. She has published articles on environmental law and fee recovery in CEQA actions. She also worked as a law clerk for the Lake Michigan Federation, where she helped educate the public on beach health and fought to strengthen discharge permit standards. Ms. Minter also participated in the

environmental law clinic at the University of Michigan by interning with the National Wildlife Federation. There she worked extensively on matters concerning the environmental effects of concentrated animal feeding operations.

Contact:

Chatten-Brown & Carstens, 2601 Ocean Park Blvd., Ste. 205, Santa Monica, CA 90405  
(310)314-8040, acm@cbcearthlaw.com

## **Victor J. Otten**

Prior to associating with Trutanich-Michel, LLP, Mr. Otten clerked with the Los Angeles Municipal Court, hearing law and motion matters, and conducted legal research for the nonprofit environmental Surfrider Foundation. He also worked for the Los Angeles civil litigation firm McGarry, Laufenberg & Raders, where he developed his skills working on a variety of matters including asbestos defense cases. He acquired trial experience prosecuting cases for the City of Torrance. Now, Mr. Otten's practice is primarily focused on the area of environmental law. He has been involved in hazardous waste litigation, appearing before all state and federal courts, including claims brought under CERCLA, RCRA, OPA, and other environmental laws. Mr. Otten also has represented clients in toxic mold, mildew, chemical exposure, and indoor air contamination litigation in state court civil suits. He is active in environmental compliance counseling and planning concerning local, state, and federal regulations and negotiation with and representation before government agencies (USEPA, DTSC, RWQCB, AQMD, et al.) regarding environmental compliance inquiries, notices of violation, directives, cleanup and abatement orders, and various other compliance orders. Additionally, Mr. Otten handles counseling and analysis of Proposition 65 health risk exposure, notice duties, notice liability risks, product warnings, and representation in related litigation. His practice also includes California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) counseling and representation in state superior court proceedings.

Mr. Otten is a Registered Environmental Assessor through the California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substances and Control. He is also Chair of the Conservation Legal Committee of the Los Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club.

Mr. Otten co-authored and argued the winning appellate brief in *Michel v. Moore & Associates, Inc.*, 156 Cal. App. 4th 756 (published).

Mr. Otten graduated from the University of California at Los Angeles in 1989 with a bachelor's degree in economics. He graduated from the University of San Francisco School of Law in 1992. Mr. Otten has earned a Certificate in Environmental Management from the University of California at Irvine in 2006.

Contact:

Trutanich-Michel, LLP, Attorneys at Law, Los Angeles Office, 180 East Ocean Boulevard, Ste. 200, Long Beach, CA 90802  
(562) 216-4448, [votten@tmllp.com](mailto:votten@tmllp.com), [www.tmllp.com](http://www.tmllp.com)

## **James Potter**

Mr. Potter is a Deputy Attorney General in the California Attorney General's Office. His practice focuses on hazardous waste enforcement and cleanup and increasingly on global warming as well. Before joining the Attorney General's Office, Mr. Potter clerked for the late Honorable Lawrence T. Lydick of the Central District of California. Mr. Potter has a B.A. from Yale College in Chemistry, an M.S. from UC Berkeley in Biophysics, and a J.D. from Boalt Hall at UC Berkeley, where he was Editor in Chief of the *Ecology Law Quarterly*.

Contact:

Deputy Attorney General, California Department of Justice, 300 South Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90013  
(213) 897-2637, [james.potter@doj.ca.gov](mailto:james.potter@doj.ca.gov)

## **Carmen Trutanich**

Mr. Trutanich is the Senior Partner of Trutanich-Michel, LLP. He spent his early career at the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, where he was instrumental in the formation and success of the Environmental Crimes Division. Mr. Trutanich was the first to obtain a felony conviction for illegal disposal of hazardous waste. Also, he was the first to draft a set of court-approved jury instructions for environmental crimes. He left the District Attorney's Office in 1988 to work with the firm of Bronson, Bronson & McKinnon before becoming the Managing Partner of the Los Angeles office of Jaffe, Trutanich, Scatena & Blum, a civil and criminal litigation firm that had offices in San Francisco and Los Angeles. In 1998, Mr. Trutanich left Jaffe, Trutanich, Scatena & Blum and partnered with C. D. Michel to form Trutanich-Michel, LLP.

Mr. Trutanich has been lead trial counsel in more than 300 trials, including over 100 jury trials. *California Lawyer* magazine chose him as one of the top 10 in the field of environmental law and land use in his roles as practitioner and instructor.

Mr. Trutanich graduated from the University of Southern California in 1973 with a bachelor's degree in business, then went on to earn an M.B.A. from USC in 1978. While working toward

his M.B.A., Mr. Trutanich simultaneously earned his law degree from South Bay University College of Law.

Contact:

Trutanich-Michel, LLP, Attorneys at Law, Los Angeles Office, 180 East Ocean Boulevard, Ste. 200, Long Beach, CA 90802  
(562) 216-4444, [CTrutanich@tmlp.com](mailto:CTrutanich@tmlp.com), [www.tmlp.com](http://www.tmlp.com)

## **Dean Wallraff**

Mr. Wallraff is Executive Director of EnviroDefenders, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing legal information to environmental activists. As Conservation Chair of the Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club, he was responsible for managing the club's environmental work in Los Angeles and Orange Counties, leading approximately 150 activists and 35 committees. He was one of the club's leading activists on the Canyon Hills and Tejon Ranch campaigns. As Conservation Chair, he also founded the Chapter's Conservation Legal Committee. He is currently studying for his J.D. degree at Loyola Law School, where he is Co-President of the Environmental Law Society.

Contact:

(818) 679-3141, [dean@EnviroDefenders.org](mailto:dean@EnviroDefenders.org), [www.EnviroDefenders.org](http://www.EnviroDefenders.org)