

CONVICTIONS IN TOUGH CASES EARN LOU PARISE DDA OF THE MONTH, MAY 2007

By **Victoria Adams**

Head Deputy, Family Violence Division

Lou received his B.A. from Santa Clara in 1992, where he was Summa Cum Laude. He received a Masters in History from Notre Dame in 1993, then a law degree from Santa Clara in 1997, where he was again Summa Cum Laude and 5th in his class. Lou joined our office in 1998 and was assigned to the Family Violence Unit in 2005.

Lou is receiving the award for the convictions in two difficult cases in November and December of 2006. The first was People v. Webb. Webb was a third-striker who had been charged with or suspected of several prior murders but had not been convicted because of witness issues.

Webb and his girlfriend were skid row drug dealers. One night the defendant shot and killed her in the midst of an argument. The witnesses consisted of drug dealers and users who were high at the time of the murder.

The key witness to the murder initially refused to talk to anyone. Outside the courtroom, she got into a shouting match that almost came to blows with the victim's mother. Lou found himself playing boxing referee as he physically separated the two. Drawing on his Philly charm and remarkable patience, Lou convinced her to cooperate and testify at trial. Her testimony included her admission that she was dealing crack at the time of the shooting and her hope that our office would pay her rent "forever".

Lou found another witness in state prison, a friend of the defendant, who testified that during one of his crack binges, the defendant confessed to the shooting.

Despite the witness problems, the defendant was convicted of Murder and sentenced to 70 years to life. Emblematic of Lou's practice, the losing defense attorney wrote Steve Cooley a letter praising Lou for "outstanding trial skills...and his commitment to the highest level of ethics...."

The second case was People v. Kunta

Kinte Howard. The defendant was a classic stalker. The defendant had a wife and three girlfriends. He attracted each one with an initial charm offensive, then slowly but surely deteriorated into stalking. The defendant broke into their homes, beat them up, and threatened to kill them.

The defendant had a long history of feigning mental illness and acted out several times in front of the jury. The defendant testified calmly during direct examination. However, during a brilliant cross, Lou caught the defendant in a lie. The defendant went crazy; he demanded to return to

lock-up and fell down on the courtroom floor. Lou never missed a beat and continued to question the defendant as he lay on the floor! Lou's presentation allowed the jury to see through the defendant's bogus mental defense. He was convicted of multiple felonies and sentenced to 150 years to life. LAPD Lieutenant Nathan from 77th Division called Lou's Head Deputy to sing Lou's praises.

Lou's extraordinary effort in finding witnesses, persuading them to testify, and overcoming their baggage makes him a most deserving winner of the Deputy District Attorney of the Month award.

The Mexican American Bar Association

In collaboration with the
Hispanic National Bar Association

Invites you to attend the

3rd Annual Attorney & Law Student Mixer



Thursday, September 27, 2007

6:00 p.m.

MABA Office

714 W. Olympic Boulevard, Suite 450

Los Angeles, CA 90015

(213) 749-2889

To RSVP, please call the MABA office.

Join:

Attorneys from:

Los Angeles District Attorneys Office
Los Angeles Public Defenders Office
Federal Public Defenders Office
Immigration Attorneys
Corporate Attorneys
Criminal Attorneys
Family Law Attorneys
PLUS MORE!!

Law Students from:

Loyola Law School
Southwestern Law
UCLA Law
USC Law
Chapman Law

This Event is free to all students. MABA and HNBA Members!

Appetizers & Refreshments will be served!

JULY 2007 ADDA BOARD MEETING FEATURED BRIEF AGENDA

By ADDA Newsletter Editor Steven Lopez, substituting for ADDA Secretary Bobby Grace Tuesday, July 17th, 2007. The Meeting was called to order shortly after 5:15pm

Present were ADDA President Ipsen and Sr. Vice President Tavelman. Also present were Board of Directors Members Boyadjian, Naiman, Shirley, Yochelson, Debbaudt, Harrold, Jordan, Olivera and

Lopez. The Meeting featured an abbreviated with agenda with only four items. A fifth was added during the meeting.

The Minutes for the June Meeting of the ADDA Board of Directors was approved.

The Citizens Protection Alliance Gangs and Immigration Conference: During the June Meeting, Steve Ipsen discussed a number of problems

that had fallen on the planned Citizens Protection Alliance Gangs and Immigration Conference. The Conference, a series of training seminars scheduled for Sept. 5-7, 2007, in downtown LA, would have given law enforcement officers an opportunity to learn about the latest technological developments and sophisticated maneuvers being used to fight gangs. The seminar also slated special training in case preparation to assist gang prosecutors. Unfortunately, as reported by ADDA President Ipsen, the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department has withdrawn its support and the Seminar now appears doomed. Ipsen discussed a number of reasons as to why LASD withdrew its support. However, at the time Ipsen gave his report at the July meeting, he could not confirm the information or the status of the conference. (Note: Conference was subsequently cancelled)

ADDA Awards Dinner. Sr.VP Tavelman discussed various options and the need for volunteers. Tavelman also asked for Board Members to encourage nominations from rank and file DDAs.

Newsletter Issues: Ipsen, Tavelman and Lopez discussed the need to have more Board members present more articles about issues affecting ADDA members. Tavelman discussed the ease of writing newsletter articles based on the preponderance of questions coming from the rank and file and a number of recent news stories about issues affecting the rank and file. Ipsen made a motion to have each Board member write articles pursuant to their duties as Board members. The motion was tabled after further discussion.

ERCOM: Board Member Lopez raised the issue of Post ERCOM hearing strategy. Various options were discussed depending on the outcome of the hearing. (Exact details omitted in the interest of confidentiality).

The Meeting was adjourned after brief discussion of these issues.

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SERENA MURILLO
former JNE Commissioner

Thursday, September 20, 2007
5:30, Dinner ▶ 6:30-8pm, Program

Cathedral of our Lady of the Angels
555 West Temple Street ▶ Los Angeles, CA 90012

To register, please contact the MABA administrative office at 213-749-2889
or via email at mabalaco@sbcglobal.net

\$50, MABA members
\$40, Non-members
Price includes dinner.

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