

SDCBA “Bar Report” 100% Club Firm Profile

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WALSH MCKEAN FURCOLO LLP

Walsh McKean Furcolo LLP is a mid-sized law firm in downtown San Diego specializing in insurance defense and insurance coverage litigation. The firm just celebrated its 15th year anniversary (founding partners John Walsh and Foster Furcolo, Jr. formed the firm in 1996).

The firm’s insurance defense team defends a wide variety of civil matters, including professional liability, product liability, personal injury, premises liability, construction defect, business disputes, environmental, employment, and admiralty and maritime matters. The insurance coverage team has extensive experience defending bad faith and coverage actions on behalf of clients in the insurance industry. The firm’s coverage attorneys regularly evaluate the insurer’s duty to defend and duty to indemnify insureds under commercial general liability, professional liability, products liability, and employment practices liability policies.

The eleven attorneys comprising Walsh McKean Furcolo make an effort to stay connected with the community around them. Associates Katherine Paculba and Stephen Kerins are members of the Honorable J. Clifford Wallace American Inn of Court, which has the mission of encouraging excellence, professionalism and ethics in advocacy. In November they gave an MCLE presentation to fellow Inn members as part of their pupillage group. Ms. Paculba and Mr. Kerins enjoy the fellowship, encouragement and lively discourse the Inn promotes amongst its members, and feel that they are improving their practice through monthly educational programs and informal dialogue with the Inn’s experienced litigators and judges.

The majority of the firm’s attorneys are members of San Diego Defense Lawyers. Tom Kelleher, who became a partner earlier this year, attends SDDL functions and utilizes SDDL’s membership e-mail database frequently for eliciting from, and providing information to, fellow members concerning various legal issues and topics of practical interest that arise. Last month, partner Dinah McKean volunteered again as a judge in SDDL’s Mock Trial Competition, which she highly recommends not only for observing fresh arguments by law students but for gaining insights from a judicial perspective for improving our lawyering skills.

The firm’s female attorneys are all active members of Lawyer’s Club. Walsh McKean Furcolo recently sent two associates, Katherine Paculba and Lynn Trang, to California Minority Counsel Program’s 2011 business conference in Los Angeles to foster connections with the program’s in-house counsel members and California’s diverse legal community. Earlier this year, the firm sent attorneys Chris Lea, Jim Derfler, Dinah McKean, Regan Furcolo, and Tom Kelleher to the annual West Coast Casualty

Construction Defect Seminar in Anaheim, which not only provides seminars on new developments in the law, but camaraderie with peers in a non-adversarial setting.

Partner Regan Furcolo stays connected with the San Diego community by way of his membership on the board of directors of The Kelly McGinnis Memorial Foundation. The KMMF is a non-profit organization which supports and promotes vocational programs in San Diego schools by holding fundraising events such as an annual golf tournament and a casino night. Specifically, The KMMF is dedicated to helping high school students learn vocational skills towards becoming successful, responsible, and self-sufficient young adults. Last year alone, The KMMF awarded more than \$10,000 in scholarships.

Periodic Friday afterhours firm-wide gatherings outside the office bring levity and offer attorneys, paralegals, and staff the opportunity to connect with each other on a personal level. This summer, the firm hosted a summer picnic at Glorietta Bay on Coronado Island and an afternoon trip to the Del Mar races.

With connections like these, it is easy to see why at Walsh McKean Furcolo, our philosophy is simple: the only thing better than being able to provide high quality legal services to our clients is being able to do so in such a beautiful city.

To learn more about Walsh McKean Furcolo LLP, please visit www.wmflp.com.