

EL RODEO

THE VETERANS DAY ISSUE



ROTARY YEAR 2019-2020 • ISSUE 19 • VOLUME CXI
SEE - DREAM - SOLVE
ROTARY CONNECTS THE WORLD

NOVEMBER 5, 2019

2019 - 2020

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ANGEL CITY CELEBRATION

PURPOSE

Angel City is celebrating its 10th anniversary, it evolved from a simple toys and food giveaway in a church parking lot to an event featuring many components intended to improve quality of life for underserved families and young children in The annual Angel City Celebration, partnering with both LA City and County Parks Departments, has rotated its site among several parks in South LA. Recognizing how much the event can impact the quality of the life for families in South LA, Rotary Clubs have joined forces with community volunteer groups, local businesses, churches, schools and LA County government agencies to meet the needs of this underserved community.

DESCRIPTION

Designed to serve 4,000+ residents of South Los Angeles, including children from age 4 to 13 and their families. With help from 400+ volunteers, we serve breakfast, distribute books, toys and men's clothing (including jacks, slacks and more-this year only); stage the resource & health fair focus on preventive health issues and mobile health clinics with doctors and health care professionals provide services.

NEEDS

- Financial sponsorships
- In kind support
- Extra volunteers

DATE & TIME

Saturday, December 7, 2019
7:30am – 4:30pm

LOCATION

Jesse Owens Community Regional Park,
9651 South Western Ave, LA 90047

CONTACT PERSON

Marjorie Heller
Rotary Club of Los Angeles
AngelCityCelebration@gmail.com
(323) 463-0304

Light breakfasts and lunches will be provided to volunteers!

Please click the Angel City Volunteer RSVP to register

[ANGEL CITY VOLUNTEER RSVP](#)

THE ROTARY CLUB OF LOS ANGELES



CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF SERVICE TO LOS ANGELES

TUESDAY
DECEMBER

10
6PM-8PM

CALIFORNIA
CLUB

ANGEL
CITY
HOLIDAY
PARTY

DINNER
DRINKS
ENTERTAINMENT
HOLIDAY FUN
CELEBRATE
WITH
FAMILY AND
FRIENDS

BAND OF BROTHERS AND SISTERS

A message from the President

Today, for this week's El Rodeo, I share a very personal story about Veterans Day. I look forward to hearing your stories this Friday.

Robert Delton Thomas, PFC served in World War II. He was abroad for nearly two years after his second daughter, my mother, was born. He returned to his home after the war and built a small grocery business and raised a family. He and I shared a very special bond. While my sister and grandmother would play games and watch favorite TV shows, my grandfather and I would sit in the kitchen and tell stories. If I am a storyteller today, it is because of him. He would tell me all kinds of tales. Some were fantastic and funny. Some were sad and sentimental. He never told me one story from the war. Ever.

I visited him on the day I registered for selective service on my 18th birthday. It was the only day I ever saw him cry. He shook his head, held my hand, and said, "Haven't I done enough?"

I think of that story every Veterans Day. I realize that I cannot fully comprehend the sacrifice made by our veterans, both those that never returned home and those that did. This Friday, I will be thinking about my grandfather and each of the men and women from our club who form a band of brothers and sisters who served and suffered much so that you and I could live freely.

Please join us for a special Veterans Day program this Friday. Let's share some great stories together. Yours in Rotary Service,



Rick Gibson

President,
Rotary Club of Los Angeles
2019 - 2020





THIS WEEK:
VETERANS' DAY PROGRAM
LUNCH WITH
RETIRED GENERAL
ELLEN M. PAWLIKOWSKI

at the Cal Club
[click here for tickets](#)



Rotary Club of Los Angeles

Founded June 25, 1909

555 W. 5th Street, 35th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90013
213-624-8601

www.RotaryLA5.org

OFFICERS

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SERGEANTS-AT-ARMS

Vinod Budchauhan
Joseph Grant
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Shahla Rahimi Reynolds

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

John Green

My fellow Rotarians,

I am so excited that General Ellen Pawlikowski has graciously accepted my invitation for her to address our esteemed LA5 for our Veterans Day program on 8 November. In addition to being an outstanding leader, role model, and mentor, Gen Pawlikowski shares the distinction of being one of only six females in the history of all the U.S. armed forces to be promoted to 4-star general! She retired in 2018 as the commander Air Force Material Command at Wright-Patterson AFB, OH responsible for employing 80,000 people and managing \$60 billion annually.

We're fortunate that Gen Pawlikowski is somewhat local, as she joined the faculty of USC's Viterbi School of Engineering as a Judge Widney Professor. Additionally, her role on the corporate board of directors of Raytheon Company will make for a fascinating conversation.

I regret I won't be able to join you all on Friday, though know I took great pride in suggesting an outstanding speaker for Veterans Day and I know you will attend and welcome her with open arms and gratitude for all who serve!

Yours in Rotary Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stayce Harris".

Stayce Harris

"Honoring the sacrifices many
have made for our country in the
name of freedom and democracy
is the very foundation of
Veterans Day."

-CHARLES B. RANGEL

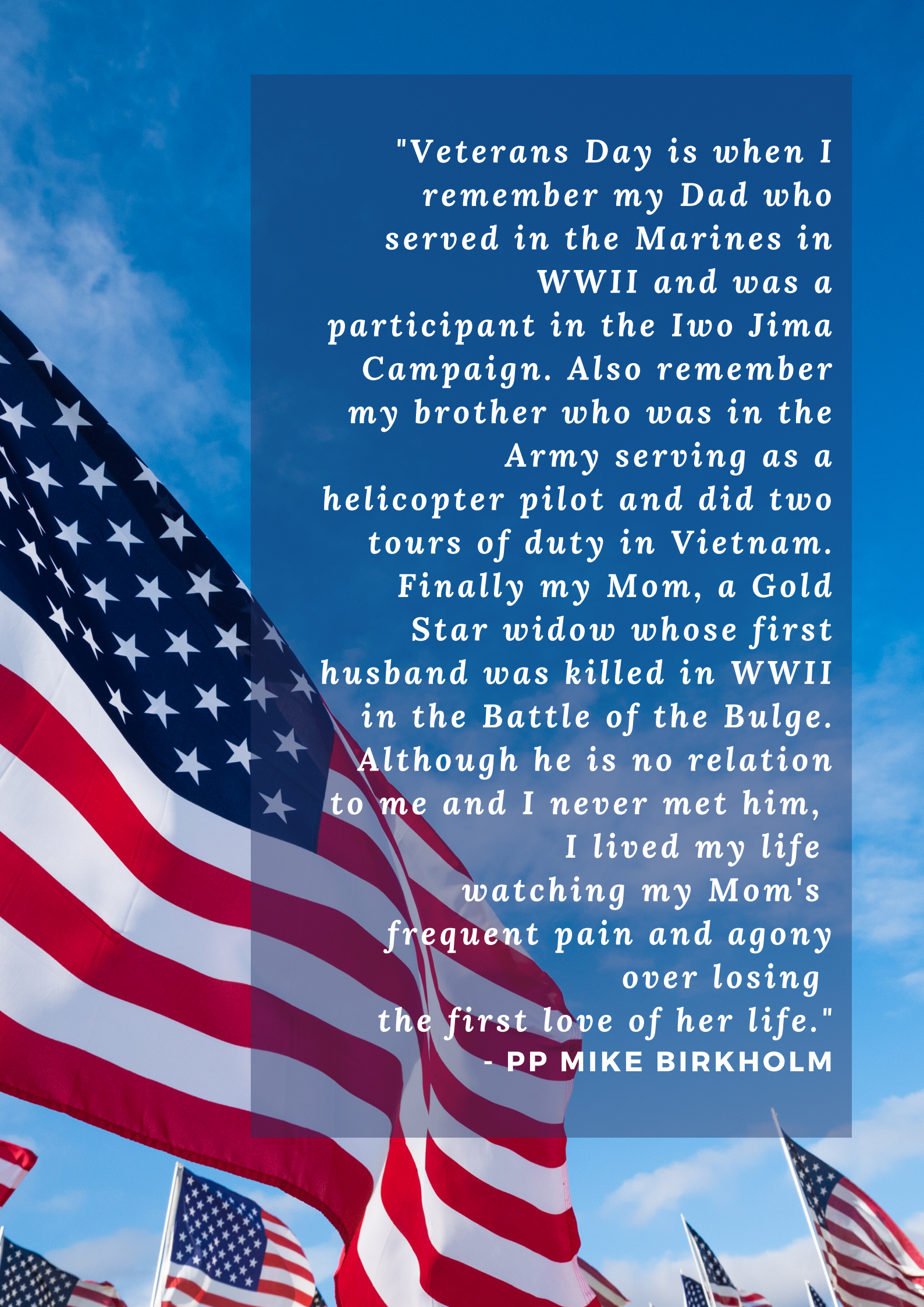


Mark the calendar



- Nov 09** 'SC Rotaract Service Opportunity - Paws LA
- Nov 12** 2-2 Tuesday - Evening at Angeleno Wine Company
- Nov 15** Rose Queen & her Court - Lunch at Cal Club
Baby Shower for PP Charisse Lara (following lunch)
- Nov 22** Brian Goldstein - Lunch at Cal Club
- Nov 23** Service Opportunity - National Adoption Day

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE CLUB CALENDAR](#)

The background of the image shows several American flags waving against a clear blue sky with light, wispy clouds. The flags are in various positions, some in the foreground and others in the background, creating a sense of movement and patriotism.

*"Veterans Day is when I
remember my Dad who
served in the Marines in
WWII and was a
participant in the Iwo Jima
Campaign. Also remember
my brother who was in the
Army serving as a
helicopter pilot and did two
tours of duty in Vietnam.
Finally my Mom, a Gold
Star widow whose first
husband was killed in WWII
in the Battle of the Bulge.
Although he is no relation
to me and I never met him,
I lived my life
watching my Mom's
frequent pain and agony
over losing
the first love of her life."
- PP MIKE BIRKOLM*

MEET: RUSS WHITTENBURG

CFO, FOREST LAWN

What is your favorite thing about your career?

Getting to know and work with so many generous, smart, and empathetic people!

How did you become a Rotarian?

Fellow church members at Santa Monica First Methodist Church who sponsored me at Santa Monica Rotary.

If you could choose to do anything for a day, what would it be?

Reading a great book next to a pool in an empty desert oasis.

What is the best way to start the day? Swimming laps and winding down in the steam room.

What is the single best day on the calendar, and why? Thanksgiving - family, food, pie and football.

What's your favorite thing about Rotary? The great friends I've made and the wonderful spirit of caring for their fellow man.

Who's your go-to band or artist when you can't decide what to listen to? Vivaldi - The Four Seasons.



What's the best book or series that you've ever read? Shantaram by Gregory David Roberts. An unbelievable yet true swashbuckler filled with musings on the meaning of life and the intersection of eastern and western values.

What's the most daring thing you've ever done? Jumping off a cliff into Lake Travis outside of Austin, TX.

Name your top three books to recommend... The Third Man, Lawrence of Arabia, West Side Story

Member since 2000, Russ serves as the current chair of the LA5 Foundation Board.

**"How important it is for us
to recognize and celebrate
our heroes and she-roes!"**

- MAYA ANGELOU



LAST WEEK IN PHOTOS

BREAKFAST MEETING WITH LA PUBLIC DEFENDER RICARDO GARCIA
THE MARKETING COMMITTEE HAD A NIGHT OUT



Whether guilt tripping your guest speaker passes the four-way-test is debatable. It doesn't stop PP Dave Meshulam from active recruitment of members!



Public Defender Ricardo Garcia, was cool as a cucumber - undoubtedly a requirement of the job.



November is a month of giving thanks! Members who returned their commitment forms are being thanked all month long with giveaways! Heather Shuemaker won with a pair of Lakers tickets!



The marketing committee had a night out for fellowship and these parents of twins got some adult time! Tired, happy faces



"I know how to wake everybody up." - PP Erick Weiss



"It's never too early for serious conversation." - ED John Green

ROTARIAN STORIES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

"Minnesota Rotary Club is the first in the world specifically for Veterans ... "

Source: Star Tribune



Gathered in the basement of an Edina church on a recent evening, members of the newly formed Rotary Club of Minnesota Veterans each gave a brief introduction about themselves. After a few minutes, it was clear this club is already bucking any stereotype of a homogeneous Rotary club that meets over lunch. "People think of Rotarians as all older white men, but that's not what it's about, especially with this club," said Tom Gump, one of the club's founders and the district governor-elect for Rotary clubs in central and southwestern Minnesota. Gump didn't serve in the military, but he came up with the idea of a veterans' club after hosting a dinner for 200 veterans in July. "I've been in Rotary for many years and I've never figured out a way to bring a bunch of new people in until now," said Gump.

"This is really filling a niche for both veterans and nonveterans." The club was chartered in October. Already its membership has jumped to about 40 people, including men and women from their 20s to 90s. The last meeting included attorneys, physicians, engineers, financial advisers and retirees. Some had served in the military for a few years, some for decades. For all of them, the new club offers a chance to continue practicing the selfless service instilled in them in the military. The club's three pillars are service, camaraderie and peace. According to Rotary International, the club is the only one in the world for veterans working to serve other veterans. Membership isn't limited to those with military experience, but the group's service projects will focus on assisting vets.

Cont'd ...

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE](#)



"AS WE EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE, WE
MUST NEVER FORGET THAT THE
HIGHEST APPRECIATION IS NOT TO
UTTER WORDS, BUT TO LIVE BY
THEM."

- John F. Kennedy

CHECKING IN WITH LA5 SCHOLARS

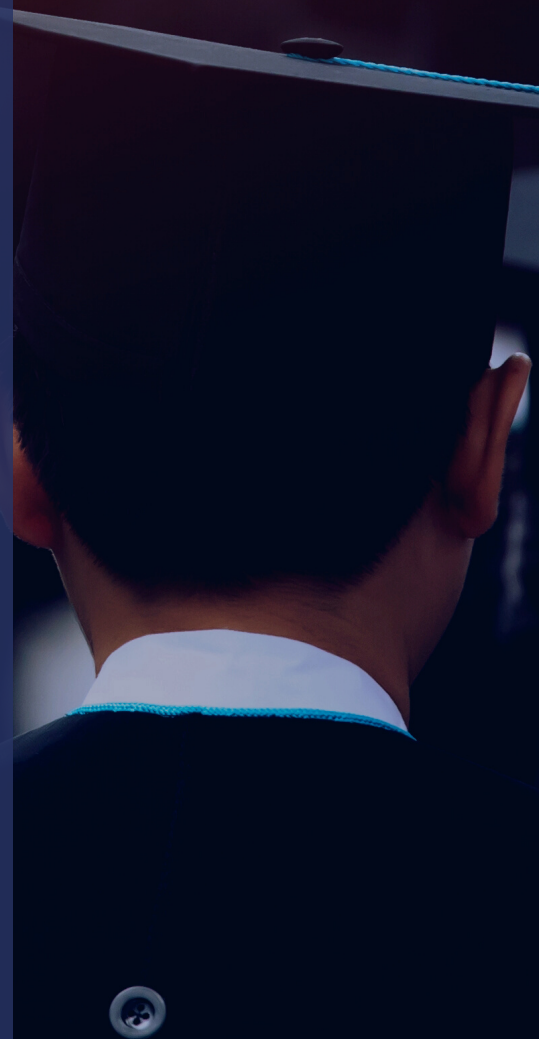
**NATALY, 2016 RECIPIENT
CURRENTLY ATTENDING UCLA**

How did you use the scholarship money?

"This year I used the LA5 scholarship money for my housing rent, books, and to make a deposit for a study abroad program."

Brag to us about what you did this year...

"This year was full of amazing experiences. First off, I was involved in planning and raising money for the reconstruction of a church in my parents' hometown in Mexico. This allowed me to visit the town during the summer and check up on the progress that has been made. I also trained for and completed the LA Marathon for the first time in my life. In addition, I auditioned for the UCLA Spirit Squad and am now a member of the 2019-2020 Spirit Squad. I will be participating at UCLA's athletic events, and charity events. Lastly, I have recently arrived from studying abroad in Spain. I received a scholarship from the UCLA International Education Office to go study abroad while blogging my whole experience. I am beyond grateful for these opportunities and feel bitter sweet knowing that I will be entering my senior year."



PROSPECTIVE NEW MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pursuant to the bylaws of the Rotary Club of Los Angeles, a ten (10) day period shall be allowed during which any member may comment, favorably or unfavorably, on the proposed member(s) and /or the proposed classification of membership. For comments, please contact the Membership Approval Committee Chair - PP Erick Weiss:
erick@honeysweetcreative.com

Jessica Hughes

Active Member (New)

Donor Relations, Ability First

jhughes@abilityfirst.org

1300 E. Green St.

Pasadena, CA 91106

(661) 264-8956

Classification: Non Profit

Sponsors: John Green, Jared Smith, Rick Gibson



Brent Jay Lehman

Active Member (New)

Senior Associate, Olivarez Madruga Lemieux O'Neill, LLP

blehman@omlolaw.com

500 S. Grand Ave

Los Angeles, CA 90071

(213) 334-7291

Classification: Law

Sponsors: Maureen Tepedino, Rick Gibson, Ken Chong

