



Vol. 2020, No. 4 April 2020

President's Message



Dear Members and Friends of the Hispanic Bar Association of Orange County,

We hope this newsletter finds you and your family well during these unprecedented times. ***As previously announced our HBA events are cancelled until further notice, we will keep you updated as the situation develops.***

As our state remains under Governor's order to stay home with exception of essential workers, we ask that we all do our part to help flatten the COVID-19 curve. The United States has now more than 1 million confirmed cases, which is approximately a third of the world's COVID-19 cases. The President has announced we will move to reopen our country soon; however, we must follow all guidelines in order to successfully achieve a safe reopening of our country.

The COVID-19 effects are felt throughout the world, including of course our legal profession. Orange County Superior Court of California extended the court closure until May 22, 2020, with a few exceptions, please see the [April 24, 2020 news release](#) for full details. On Monday April 27, 2020 the Supreme Court of California ordered the July California Bar Exam to be postponed to September 2020 and further that the State Bar make every effort to administer the test online with electronic proctoring.

As quarantine and social distancing becomes the new normal in our world, remember that we can still connect with others. Technology has played an important role in allowing us to communicate with each other and to continue working while our state remains under [Governor's order](#) to stay home. Our current situation is fluid, thus we must remain flexible to adapt to our new "normal" and remain positive as we face challenging situations.

Mental health is vital to us all, especially during times of high stress and uncertainty. The American Bar Association provides great [mental health resources](#) for legal professionals, please use those resources as needed. As we all face this challenging health pandemic we must strive to not lose our sense of community. We are all in this together and today more than ever we see that every person's actions affect our community as a whole. Hope, solidarity and optimism are contagious, let's keep the spread of these going and let's focus on uplifting each other in the face of adversity.

Remember there are other resources to help us manage stress and anxiety, important numbers to know for ourselves, family, friends, or clients are:

- Disaster Distress Helpline: 1-800-985-5990
- National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-7233

Although this unprecedented health pandemic has brought many challenges into our lives, we must be grateful for some of the positive side effects. We should be grateful for the technology that has allowed us to continue working and connected to our loved ones. We must also be grateful that our ordered lockdown has ignited the comeback of family game nights, family conversations around the dinner table, allowing us to spend time with each other that perhaps was not previously possible due to a fast pace life full of work, school, meetings, sporting events, extracurricular activities, etc. Let us keep looking for those positive side effects and spread optimism and hope to one another.

We are especially grateful to all of our sponsors, for your undying support to the HBA, THANK YOU!



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Thank you to all of our members for being part of our HBA family, we miss you all and we look forward to seeing you soon. Wishing you and your family health.

Warmest regards,

