Winter 2009

Introduction

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Recommended Citation
Available at: https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/nmlr/vol39/iss1/1

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INTRODUCTION

It is my privilege to introduce Volume 39 of the New Mexico Law Review, dedicated to the late Justice Pamela Burgy Minzner. In this first issue, we feature a special section comprised of five articles written especially for the New Mexico Law Review in memory of Justice Minzner. We are grateful for the contributions of our distinguished authors—Chief Justice Edward L. Chávez, Professor Robert Laurence, Maureen Sanders, and Professors Max Minzner and Carl Minzner—who enthusiastically provided us with a group of articles that not only capture Justice Minzner’s legal acumen, but also convey a wealth of respect and appreciation for her as a person. We are also grateful to Professor and former Dean of the University of New Mexico School of Law, Fred Hart, who wrote a foreword to this special section in which he introduces each article and shares some of his memories and reflections about working with Justice Minzner when she was a professor at the UNM School of Law.

Hopefully, for those of you who knew Justice Minzner, you will find something in this issue that reminds you of the special person she was. If you never had the opportunity to meet her, I invite you to get to know her, at least in part, in the pages that follow. As Justice Minzner would say, ¡Adelante!

We are also excited to feature three excellent articles of general interest to the legal community. First, Professor Michael B. Kent, Jr., argues that property rights have recently been relegated to a second-class constitutional status in his article, From “Preferred Position” to “Poor Relation”: History, Wilkie v. Robbins, and the Status of Property Rights under the Takings Clause. Next, in Class Dismissed, Now What? Exploring the Exercise of CAFA Jurisdiction After the Denial of Class Certification, G. Shaun Richardson poses a solution to the dilemma created when a federal court, having jurisdiction under the Class Action Fairness Act, denies class certification. We conclude the issue with Professor Njeri Mathis Rutledge’s article, Turning a Blind Eye: Perjury in Domestic Violence Cases. Professor Rutledge takes on the controversial issue of whether to prosecute victims of domestic violence for perjury when they recant an accusation of abuse on the witness stand at trial.

The Editorial Board and Staff of the New Mexico Law Review are proud to publish this first issue of Volume 39. We appreciate the efforts of all of our authors, and we are certain that you will find their articles interesting and useful. Happy reading!

—Neil Bell, Editor-in-Chief