

ANNUAL CONFERENCE prop.65clearinghouse

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2024

JULIA MORGAN BALLROOM

9:00 to 9:05 **Welcome to Conference**

Lana Beckett

Publisher, Prop. 65 Clearinghouse

9:05 to 10:00 **Opening Address by Co-Chairs**

Eric Somers

Retired Partner and founder of the Lexington
Law Group

Bios

Lana Beckett

Publisher, Prop. 65 Clearinghouse

Lana Beckett started Prop. 65 Clearinghouse in 2004, as an independent source for information on Proposition 65. The online Clearinghouse publishes news on Prop. 65, maintains the Prop. 65 Litigation Database containing court documents from hundreds of cases and regulatory information including the OEHHA Regulatory Calendar, List of Proposed Prop. 65 Chemicals, and Recently Listed Prop. 65 Chemicals. Along with presenting the Annual Prop. 65 Conference since 2005.

In 2016 Ms. Beckett took over CEI Today publication, which covers California's Environmental regulations, legislation and key litigation.

Ms. Beckett has been working in the Proposition 65 arena for many years, beginning in the late 1980s by editing and indexing the first book written on Proposition 65. Ms. Beckett was Executive Editor at Prop. 65 News for ten years.

Ms. Beckett was an Environmental Information Specialist at Heller Ehrman White & McAuliffe. She has also worked as a consultant for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in San Francisco.

Her government service includes several positions during Governor Jerry Brown's first term in office including Director of the History & Archives Project; Research Specialist; and Deputy Director of the Governor's Transition Team. She also worked for Lt. Governor Leo McCarthy as an Information Specialist.

She edited and indexed Surviving Proposition 65, by Roger Carrick. She developed the San Francisco Bay Area Superfund Resource & Information Directory for U.S. EPA. She edited Capitol Offense, by Marylouise Oates and Senator Barbara Mikulski; edited and indexed

Opening Addresses

Judicial Excess: The Political Economy of the American Legal System, by James Forcier.
She was on the faculty of the University of Southern California and Curator of Manuscripts at the University.

Her political experience includes: Director of Research on Lt. Governor Leo McCarthy's U.S. Senate campaign; Kathleen Brown for State Treasurer campaign; and Cranston for U.S. Senate campaign.

Ms. Beckett received her BA from University of California, Davis and Master of Library Science from the University of Oregon, Eugene.

Eric Somers

Retired Partner and founder of the Lexington Law Group

Eric S. Somers specializes in complex environmental and consumer public interest litigation on behalf of nonprofit organizations, aggrieved individuals and public entities. Mr. Somers has significant experience enforcing California's landmark Right-to-Know law, Proposition 65, against Fortune 500 companies in the food, tobacco, pharmaceutical, leather, chemical, cosmetics, water quality, costume jewelry, fashion accessory and retail industries.

These cases have led to reformulation of millions of products designed for children to eliminate exposures to toxic chemicals such as lead, cadmium and arsenic. Examples of consumer products that have been reformulated to remove these toxic chemicals include children's playsets (arsenic treated wood), water filters (lead and arsenic), children's jewelry (lead and cadmium), fashion accessories such as handbags, belts and footwear (lead), leather footwear (hexavalent chromium) and cookies made with molasses (lead). Many of these private enforcement actions have been co-litigated with the California Attorney General and other public enforcement agencies.

Mr. Somers also has substantial experience in false advertising and unfair competition matters. Mr. Somers recently was lead counsel in a greenwashing case against a company making false environmental claims about disposable plastic bags. In a series of complex class action regarding allegedly Zero VOC household paints, Mr. Somers led negotiations that resulted in significant revisions to these false claims. He has also represented a group of plaintiffs in a case against major inkjet printer manufacturers regarding false and misleading print speed representations. Mr. Somers was Liaison Counsel in a complex coordinated proceeding alleging violations of the Truth In Lending Act by California automobile dealers that resulted in industry wide changes in advertising practices. In a class action case alleging violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act against Chase Bank, Mr. Somers negotiated a significant class settlement.

Mr. Somers founded the Lexington Law Group in 1996 and he retired from the firm in 2023. He currently serves on the Advisory Board of the Prop. 65 Clearinghouse. Mr. Somers was selected as a California SuperLawyer in each year from 2014 through 2023. Mr. Somers now enjoys spending time with his wife and children, skiing down large mountains, cooking and working on his golf game.