

# San Fernando Valley Bar president aims to promote community

By Kamila Knaudt

Daily Journal Staff Writer

The San Fernando Valley Bar Association will welcome David G. Jones for a yearlong term as its president on Oct. 1 after a virtual installation ceremony.

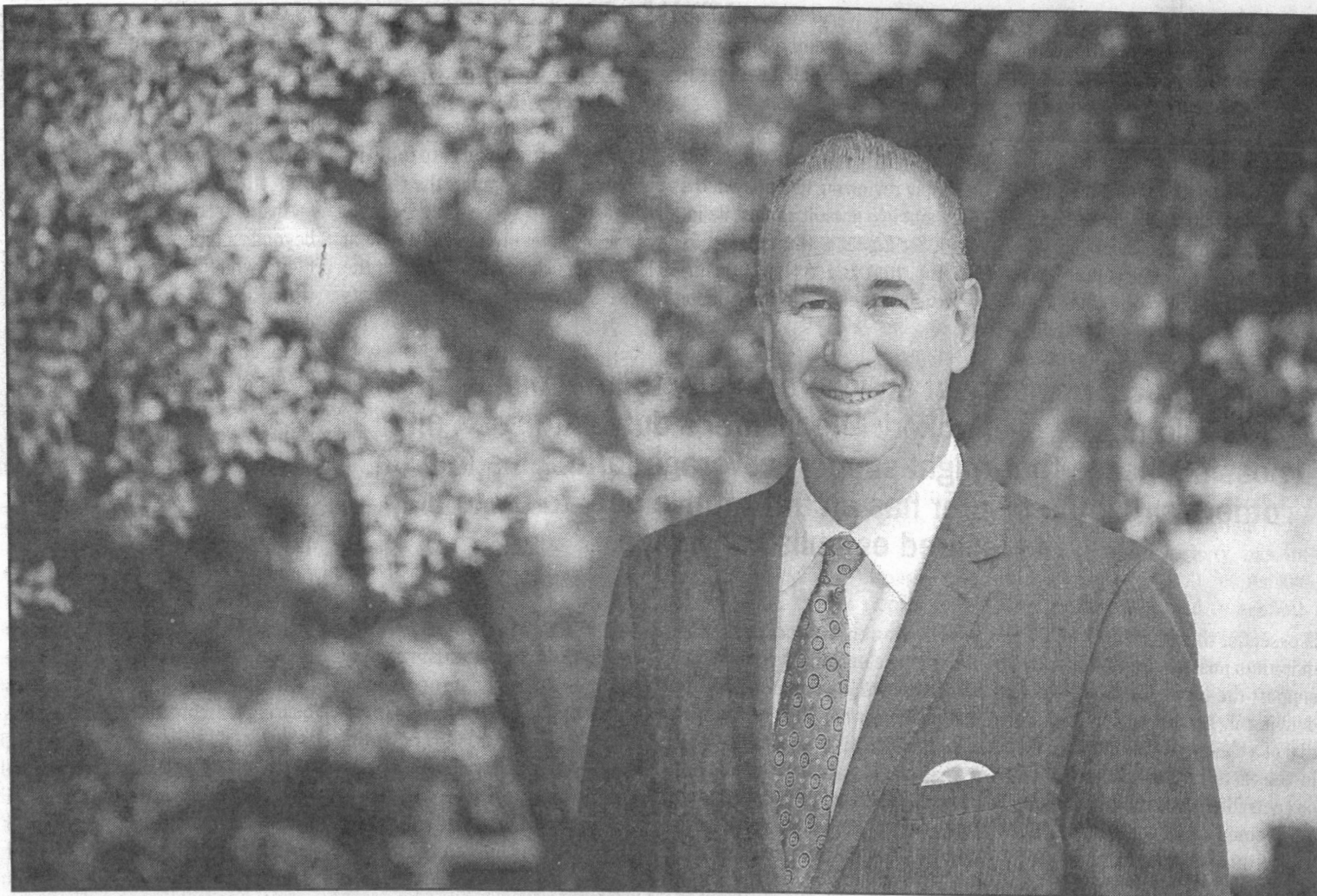
An employment law litigator with Lewitt Hackman in Encino, Jones is a long time member of the bar association who has practiced in the San Fernando Valley for nearly 20 years.

"To be able to serve as president is really meaningful," Jones said. "What's unique about the local bar associations is you really get to see, what you're doing for the members and also for the community right in your backyard. Some of the larger organizations, you definitely see it, but we kind of have that immediate ability to affect and to solve problems for our members and for people in the community and that's really rewarding."

Jones said he hopes to expand the bar association's community outreach and create financial stability during the economic downturn.

"My overall vision for the organization is to really promote community," he said. "The way that I see it is that when tough times like this come, I think, it's really important that lawyers support one another, even if it's over Zoom."

Jones has served in various lead-



David G. Jones, incoming president of the San Fernando Valley Bar Association. David Jones stands for a portrait near his home in Stevenson Ranch, CA on Friday, September 18, 2020.

Justin L. Stewart / Special to the Daily Journal

ership roles within the association, most recently as president-elect.

As a shareholder in Lewitt Hackman's employment group, he advises California employers

in claims related to wage and hour, harassment, discrimination, wrongful termination and retaliation.

His clients cross various sec-

tors including cannabis and niche sectors like thoroughbred horse racing, an industry his family has been heavily involved in. Jones' father, racehorse trainer Gary F.

Jones, was inducted into the Racing Hall of Fame in 2014 and his grandfather was an exercise rider for champion thoroughbred racehorse Seabiscuit.

Notable cases Jones has been involved in include a successful win before the California Supreme Court in *Klein v. United States*, 50 Cal.4th 68 (Cal. 2010). Jones with a team of attorneys argued on behalf of the plaintiff, a bicyclist who was hit by a park ranger in the Angeles National Forest.

Jones also serves on the board of directors of MEND, one of the largest food banks in the San Fernando Valley.

"I've known David for probably a decade and got him involved with the bar association and I've worked closely with him for at least the last four years on the executive committee of the bar," said Barry P. Goldberg, the association's outgoing president. "He's going to do an excellent job. He has great leadership skills and he's well liked."

Officers of the Executive Committee of the association, who will serve alongside Jones, include Christopher P. Warne, who will serve as president-elect; Matthew A. Breddan, as the incoming secretary; Heather Glick-Atalla, who is set to become treasurer; and Goldberg.

Amanda M. Moghaddam, Steven M. Sepassi, Benjamin E. Soffer, Erin Joyce, Michael L. Cohen and Jessica Rosen have been elected to a two-year trustee term.

[kamila\\_knaudt@dailyjournal.com](mailto:kamila_knaudt@dailyjournal.com)