

# THE LEGAL LIGHT

THE J. REUBEN CLARK LAW SOCIETY  
ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER



**James R. Moss, Jr. becomes 2010-2011 Chair of J. Reuben Clark Law Society, Orange County Chapter**

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## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

By James R. Moss, Jr.

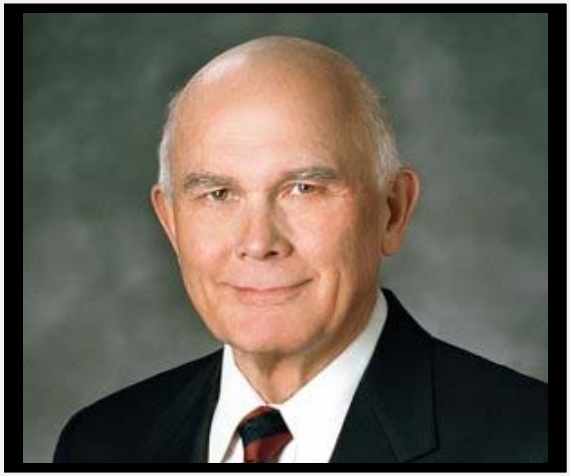
I'm very excited to serve as Chair of the Orange County JRCLS Chapter this year. Attending the JRCLS Conference in Provo last fall reminded me that we're part of a unique worldwide organization, and that our Chapter is fortunate to have a history and depth that most chapters can only dream of. With over 150 members, our Chapter includes men and women from nearly every practice area, and every size and shape of legal organization, giving us a rich pool of friends and networking opportunities. Our members provide service through an array of committees that make our Chapter interesting and fulfilling: Membership, Events, Sponsorship, Newsletter, Networking, Student Chapters (we have four, at Chapman, Western State, Whittier and LaVerne), Directory, Website, Employment, Women's Outreach, Law & Religion Symposium, Liaison, Pro Bono Service, and the new First Amendment Initiative.

This year our members have already brought us two exciting and very different events. First, we heard from Orioles pitcher Jeremy Guthrie, a friend of Judge Clay Smith and an outstanding athlete and example. In February, thanks to Chapman University School of Law and Jeff Shields, we welcomed Elder Dallin H. Oaks as the speaker at our seventh annual Orange County Religion & the Law Symposium. Elder Oaks challenged concerned citizens to defend the religious liberty guaranteed by the Constitution. Our Chapter will be taking up the challenge as we implement a new First Amendment Initiative. At the same time, we're setting up a formal Pro Bono network. I hope we can continue to provide our members with opportunities for friendship, service and professional development in the coming year, and I welcome your suggestions and feedback.

## INSIDE: ELDER DALLIN H. OAKS SPEAKS AT 2011 RELIGION & THE LAW SYMPOSIUM

### MISSION STATEMENT

**We Affirm The Strength Brought To The Law By A Lawyer's Personal Religious Conviction. We Strive Through Public Service And Professional Excellence To Promote Fairness And Virtue Founded Upon The Rule Of Law.**



### ELDER DALLIN H. OAKS SPEAKS AT 2011 RELIGION & THE LAW SYMPOSIUM AT CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY

In what has been described as a landmark address, Elder Dallin H. Oaks spoke at this year's Orange County Religion & The Law Symposium, on "Preserving Religious Freedom". The event was held on February 4, 2011, in the 900+seat Memorial Hall at Chapman University, and was sponsored by the J. Reuben Clark Law Society, Orange County Chapter, as well as a wide range of diverse societies and law schools valuing religion and the law. Following his speech, Elder Oaks was a special guest on the Hugh Hewitt radio show where he was warmly and graciously received.

Elder Oaks commenced his speech by affirming the importance of religion and the free exercise thereof, citing its contributions to charitable works, moral advances such as the abolition of slavery, and the strengthening of our nation in matters of

honesty and integrity. He stated, "Our society is not held together just by law and its enforcement, but most importantly by voluntary obedience to the unenforceable and by widespread adherence to unwritten norms of right or righteous behavior".

Elder Oaks noted that the "free exercise" of religion is "the dominating civil liberty" and has a "pre-eminent place as the first expression in the First Amendment to the United States Constitution [which] identifies freedom of religion as 'a cornerstone of American democracy'".

Sounding a voice of warning, Elder Oaks continued that, "[n]otwithstanding its special place in our Constitution, a number of trends are eroding both the protections the free exercise clause was intended to provide and the public esteem this fundamental value has had during our history". He noted that "[f]or some time we have been experiencing laws and official actions that impinge on religious freedom", and then gave numerous examples of its demise.



Jeffrey Shields and Elder Dallin H. Oaks

*"There are more instances of the abridgement of the freedom of the people by gradual and silent encroachments of those in power than by violent and sudden usurpations." James Madison*

*"In our increasingly unrighteous world, it is essential that values based on religious belief be part of the public discourse. Moral positions informed by a religious conscience must be accorded equal access to the public square." Elder Quentin L. Cook*



Judge Cormac Carney speaks at the November 18, 2010 Luncheon Meeting

## FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT JUDGE INSTRUCTS THAT “DECEPTION PERVERTS JUSTICE”

On November 18, 2010, Judge Cormac Carney of the USDC instructed Chapter members about the pitfalls of dishonest lawyering and how deception perverts justice. Judge Carney, a former standout receiver for UCLA, laid out three primary ways in which lawyers all too often deceive the Court – i.e., by: (1) misrepresenting facts, (2) arguing by technicality, and (3) grossly exaggerating their positions.

Judge Carney advised that once an attorney loses credibility, he or she can never get it back.

He remarked that while he does not often impose sanctions for lying, he always remembers the dishonesty later.

He then gave five reasons not to deceive the Court. First, “You’ll get caught by the Judge or the opposition”. Second, “The truth sells, lies do not”. Third, “It’s disrespectful to the Court. Fourth, “It demeans the attorney who lies”. And fifth, “It’s unhealthy”.

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## PRESERVING RELIGIOUS FREEDOM (Con’t)

Elder Oaks cited the cause of this weakening or erosion as being “attributable to the ascendancy of moral relativism”.

He urged that “[w]e must never see the day when the public square is not open to religious ideas and religious persons” and that “[t]he religious community must unite to be sure we are not coerced or deterred into silence by the kinds of intimidation or threatening rhetoric that are being experienced”. Such actions are “anti-religious” and “surely anti-democratic and should be condemned by all who are interested in democratic government”.

Finally, Elder Oaks remarked, “as an Apostle of the Lord Jesus Christ I affirm his love for all people of this earth, and I affirm the importance His followers must attach to religious freedom for all people – whatever their beliefs”.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Elder Oaks for his timely and prophetic remarks, as well as to Jeffrey W. Shields, Michael Buhley, Chapman Law School, our Student Chapters, Paul Cook of 7 Pixels Photography, and all who helped put on or attended this great event.

To read Elder Oak’s complete message click here: <http://newsroom.lds.org>  
To view additional photographs from the Symposium click here:  
<http://7pixelsphotography.zenfolio.com/p102344307>

*“Resolve to be honest in all events; and if in your own judgment you cannot be an honest lawyer, resolve to be honest without being a lawyer.” - Abraham Lincoln*



Glen Nuttall recognized and thanked for service by incoming Chair James R. Moss, Jr.

#### 2010-2011 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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#### NOTES

- Dr. John C. Eastman receives 2010 J. Reuben Clark Award
- U.S. Senator Bob Bennett speaks at Annual Dinner



### 2010 ANNUAL DINNER & J. REUBEN CLARK AWARD

The 2010 Annual Dinner was held at the beautiful beach-front Hyatt in Huntington Beach on October 23, 2010. At the dinner, incoming Chair James R. Moss, Jr. thanked and presented Glen Nuttall with a plaque recognizing Glen's service to our Chapter as its Immediate Past Chair 2009-2010. Thanks was also given to departing Board Members, Roland, J. Amundson, Christopher Bauer, Robert H. Briggs, Deborah A. Gubernick and Gabe W. Pate, while incoming Board members were also recognized.

This past year's honored recipient of the J. Reuben Clark Award was Dr. John C. Eastman of Chapman University. Dr. Eastman has been an unflinching defender of the Constitution and one of its foremost experts. He is the Donald P. Kennedy Chair in Law at Chapman and served as the School's Dean from June 2007 to January 2010, when he stepped down to pursue a bid for California Attorney General. He is the Founding Director of the Center for Constitutional Jurisprudence, a public interest law firm affiliated with the Claremont Institute. Dr. Eastman graduated from Chicago Law School with high honors and clerked for Justice Clarence Thomas at the Supreme Court of the United States. He also has a Ph.D. and M.A. in Government from Claremont Graduate School.

*Special Thanks To Our Departing Board Members: Roland J. Amundson, Christopher Bauer, Robert H. Briggs, Deborah A. Gubernick, And Gabe W. Pate*

*"I hold to the maxim no less applicable to public than to private affairs that honesty is always the best policy." – George Washington*

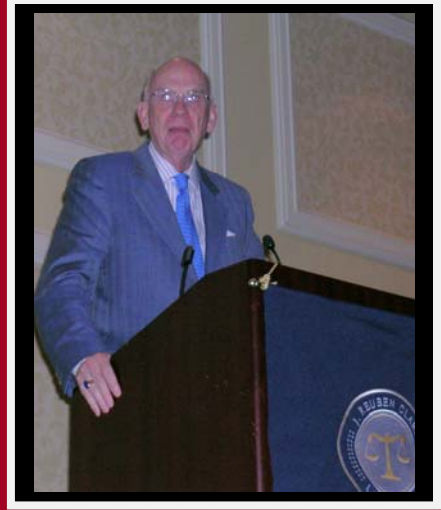
# THE LEGAL LIGHT

## ANNUAL DINNER (Con't)

We appreciate Dr. Eastman's friendship, always inspiring words and dedication to preserving the Constitution of the United States, and congratulate him on this award.

We were also honored to hear from U.S. Senator Bob Bennett of Utah. Senator Bennett addressed the current state of politics in Washington D.C., as well as the causes of the discord within and between the Nation's major political parties and overall discontent of the American people. Approaching the end of his 18 years of service in the U.S. Senate, Senator Bennett offered his optimistic assessment of the future of America and candidly answered questions – often very tough questions – from the audience.

Thank you Senator Bennett for joining us at the Annual Dinner, for your years of public service, and best wishes in your future endeavors. Thanks also to all those who helped with and attended this event.



U.S. Senator Bob Bennett addresses members at 2010 Annual Dinner

## INFORMATION AND UPCOMING EVENTS

All luncheons are held at Knobbe Martens Olson & Bear, LLP, 2040 Main St., 2nd Floor, Irvine. There is free validated parking. The luncheons and the dinner qualify for MCLE credit. The luncheons are from noon to 1:30.

The cost of luncheons are prepaid for the year for Gold and Silver members, \$25 with RSVP for Bronze members, \$30 at the door for Bronze members, and \$35 for all others. Lunches are free to Law Students. The cost of the annual dinner is prepaid with membership for Gold members, \$50 for Silver and Bronze members, \$50 for guests of members, and \$60 for all others. Students are \$25, guests of students \$25.

### Upcoming Events

March 17, 2011	Luncheon Speaker: Judge Sherrill Ellsworth – Riverside County Superior Court Presiding Judge	12:00 pm Knobbe Martens Olson & Bear, LLP, 2040 Main St., 2nd Floor, Irvine.
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*“You have the highest of human trusts committed to your care. Providence has showered on this favored land blessings without number, and has chosen you as the guardians of freedom, to preserve it for the benefit of the human race.” - J. Reuben Clark*