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Lisa J. Braly

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PREFACE

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Volume 30 of the Golden Gate University Law Review is pleased to present the first Notes and Comments issue of the new century. This issue is unique to Golden Gate in that it has often had no specific theme guiding each article; this year is no exception. This feature, rather than being a downfall, has allowed our student writers to be free to explore a wide range of interesting topics. This, I believe, has led this year's journal to be exceptionally timely with regard to the new developments in tax, securities law, insurance law, computer transactions, environmental law, and the ever-controversial school shootings.

One article, written by Rose Arce, explores the ability of the SEC to collaterally bar securities law violators from working elsewhere in the securities industry. Jennifer Emmaneel's article juxtaposes California's policy of prohibiting the indemnification of punitive damages awards in insurance claims with that of an insurer's duty of good faith and fair dealing. Kristin Henry's article examines the new CEQA Guidelines and found that, rather than codifying existing case law as they intended to do, instead blurred the lines between an initial study and an EIR to the point of creating a loophole in the environmental review process. In Lisa Lockwood's article, she has taken on an incredible feat in examining the history of civil and criminal law with regard to holding parents liable for the acts of their children. She posits that under a strict legal analysis it may, in fact, be legally possible to hold the parents of school shooters criminally responsible for the deaths caused by their children's shooting sprees. Thomas Murphy explores the developing law governing computer software transactions and discovers that the "uniform law" of UCITA creates neither uniformity nor clarity. He urges states to reject this law and instead rely on existing laws as they develop in the ever-changing world of computer transactions. Ken Owen, a graduate of the Environmental Law LLM program, has investigated the ability of a environmental justice advocate to bring claims under the Equal Protection Clause, under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and under the citizen-suit provisions of federal environmental laws. Throughout the article, he gives advice on the best approach in light of each claim's perks and problems. In our last article, Russ Stanaland has taken a Tax Court Memo case and has transformed it into a practical methodology for obtaining the most tax valuation discounts that are legally possible.

For the many hours spent upon these articles, I first wish to thank the writers. You have been such a wonderful group of people to work with and may you have the best of luck in the future. I also wish to thank my associate editors Nairi Chakalian, Vanessa Lawton, Andee Leisy, Dawn Philippus, Rachel Brasso Razon, and Deborah Wright for the edits, suggestions, and support you have given to the writers. It wouldn't have been possible without you. Kristy Topham, the new alumni fellow, thank you for the numerous readings and quick turn around. Your expert guidance has been invaluable to both to the writers and me. Last, but not least, I'd like to thank Mary Ann Wolcott and the rest of the faculty mentors for their time, expertise and enthusiasm spent assisting the writers whose articles are published in this journal.

> Lisa J. Braly Senior Editor, Notes and Comments