

Law firms participate in YMCA Stair Climb



Left to right are participants from Steptoe & Johnson Patrick Foley, Lisa Petrovsky, John Swenson, Noah Butler and Ruth Kahn.

Photo courtesy of Steptoe & Johnson

On Sept. 23, the Ketchum-Downtown YMCA hosted its 18th Annual Stair Climb for Los Angeles.

The event featured a 75-floor climb up the stairs of the U.S. Bank Tower, the tallest building West of the Mississippi River, and was participated in by everyone from lawyers to athletes to average Angelenos.

"We love Stair Climb because it perfectly exemplifies what we do every day, which is bring together people from totally disparate communities to work toward better health and a stronger, healthier community," said Laurie Goganzler, executive director of Ketchum-Downtown YMCA.

Approximately 3,000 climbers raced for the benefit of thousands of inner-city children and their families in Los Angeles, including representatives from various law firms.

Among the participants were four lawyers from Steptoe & Johnson LLP, who climbed 1,500 steps of the Tower in less than 24 minutes. Their finish times ranged for the four ranged from 20:20 to 23:27. Other participating law firms included Allen Matkins Leck Gamble Mallory & Natsis LLP, Alston & Bird LLP, Arent Fox LLP, Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, Latham & Watkins LLP, O'Melveny & Myers LLP and Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP.

— David McAfee

Margaret Grover to chair Conference of the California Bar Associations

Labor and employment attorney Margaret Grover of Kronick Moskowitz Tiedemann & Girard's Walnut Creek office was sworn in on Sept. 17 as the 2011-12 chair of the Conference of California Bar Associations. According to Grover, she has been involved with CCBA for 21 years, and a board member for six. The association unites attorney volunteers from across the state to "seek, debate and promote creative, non-partisan solutions to law-related issues."

Grover said she hopes that, under her leadership, the association can continue making a positive difference through legislation, and reach out to non-involved bar associations, more diverse groups and younger lawyers. "For the last couple of years, we have had a substantial number of our resolutions enacted into law," she said. "We hope to keep that trend going."

— David McAfee



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