



**BGA**Update  
JUNE 2016 ISSUE

Bridgford Gleason & Artinian



## Bridgford Donation Helps Launch UCI Law Schools Civil Justice Research Institute

The University of California, Irvine School of Law has launched a new national Civil Justice Research Institute to explore, through interdisciplinary, academically-based, and independent research, how the civil justice system can be made more available to everyone seeking relief. UCI Law has received approximately \$1 million in monetary support for the Institute from across the country, led by a gift of \$250,000 from Richard Bridgford.

*“It is an honor and a privilege to have the opportunity to support Dean Chemerinsky in his efforts to identify ways to make the justice system more accessible to everyone,” says Bridgford. “I am confident the results of the Institute’s research will lead to positive changes in our community and society as a whole.”*

UCI Law is uniquely situated to create a Civil Justice Research Institute that will lead a new discussion on access to courts. UC Irvine is a top research university with strong interdisciplinary programs and well-established scholars in law-related fields across campus, including Social Ecology, Social Sciences, Business, Physical Sciences and Psychology. Topics for research will include issues that influence the growing limits on access to our court system, including (among other topics) inadequate funding of state and federal courts, increased use of compulsory arbitration clauses, restrictions on class action lawsuits and limits on punitive damages.



From left to right: Bridgford, Gleason & Artinian Partners John Gleason, Richard Bridgford and Michael Artinian in their Newport Beach office

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*“There is a critical need for interdisciplinary, academically-based research to lead the analysis and discussion on access to our civil justice system,” said Dean Erwin Chemerinsky.*

*“We are grateful for the support of so many lawyers across the country to lead the UCI Law Civil Justice Research Institute to examine and uncover how we can better open the doors to our civil justice system to everyone.”*

UCI Law is a visionary law school focused on training talented and passionate lawyers and driven by professional excellence, intellectual rigor, and a commitment to enrich our communities through public service. UCI Law is a collegial environment, and the faculty comprises accomplished, nationally ranked leaders from around the country with a broad range of expertise. More about the Law School is available at [law.uci.edu](http://law.uci.edu).

## Bridgford Sponsors UCI Law School Gala



From left: Richard Bridgford, Michael Artinian and John Gleason at the UCI Law School’s Public Interest Awards Gala on Friday, May 6. The firm sponsored a table to support a new law school building on the UCI campus.



## Two New Copper Pipe Lawsuits Filed in Orange County

The firm recently filed two new copper pipe lawsuits in Orange County in the Irvine and Tustin communities. The first is *Vu v. William Lyon Homes, Inc.* in Tustin Legacy (Tustin), which was filed on April 20, 2016. The second is *Chow v. WL Homes LLC dba John Laing Homes, et al.* in Turtle Ridge (Irvine), which was also filed on April 20, 2016. Combined, Bridgford, Gleason & Artinian has 17 active cases on behalf of homeowners against major homebuilders for the use of defective copper pipes. The communities impacted include Ladera Ranch, Kerrigan Ranch (Yorba Linda), Talega (San Clemente), Turtle Ridge (Irvine) and Tustin Legacy (Tustin).

## Trust our Trust & Estate Litigation Experience

Given an aging baby boom generation with accumulated family wealth from rising property and asset values, there has been an increase in the number of lawsuits concerning the administration of such trusts and estates, and the disposition of such assets among surviving family members and beneficiaries. In some cases, the trust attorney who prepared an estate plan is not qualified to litigate disputes between and among successor trustees and beneficiaries following the death of the settlor parent(s) who established the trust. Probate courts and legal procedures are complex and require experienced litigators with financial backgrounds.

Bridgford, Gleason & Artinian attorneys have the business background and litigation experience to handle complex trust litigation, having successfully represented high net worth individuals (both trustees and beneficiaries) in legal disputes involving estates up to \$1 billion.

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