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## Rouda Feder Tietjen & McGuinn Winter Newsletter

It's hard to believe that the 2025 holiday season is upon us. As we move into winter, it's critical to stay prepared for unexpected changes in the weather, power outages, and other unpredictable events. Our firm is committed to supporting those who have been affected by natural disasters and can assist those who have been affected by property damage, personal injuries, and emotional distress from those events.

In our winter newsletter, we're sharing our recent community involvement, updates on ongoing legal issues, and news from the Rouda Feder Tietjen & McGuinn team.

Wishing you and your families a safe and healthy holiday season!

## Steps for Disaster Preparedness

California experiences everything from winter rains that replenish our landscapes to dry, windy conditions later in the season. Being prepared for these natural cycles can empower you and your family to handle whatever comes your way with confidence.

That's why partners June Bashant and Cynthia McGuinn recently participated in San Mateo County's [21st Annual Preparedness Day!](#) They provided community members with emergency go-bag materials, local resources, and a presentation on legal and financial preparedness during disasters.



Here's some essential steps to preparedness:

- **Build an emergency go-bag.** Prepare a portable kit with essentials including water, non-perishable food, first aid supplies, flashlights, batteries, important documents, medications, and cash. Keep it accessible and ready to grab at a moment's notice.
- **Create a family plan.** Establish how household members will contact each other if separated during an emergency. Identify multiple routes to leave your neighborhood and meet if separated.
- **Sign up for emergency alerts.** Register for your county's emergency notification system (such as AlertSF) to receive real-time warnings about fires, floods, and other hazards.
- **Prepare your property.** Clear defensible space around your home, secure outdoor items, and ensure your insurance coverage is adequate for both fire and flood damage.
- **Safeguard important documents.** Store copies of insurance policies, property deeds, birth certificates, passports, wills, and medical records in a water and fireproof container or safe. Having these documents readily available can expedite insurance claims, prove ownership, and help you rebuild faster after a disaster.

## Firm Happenings



### Round Feder Tietjen & McGuinn Recognized as a Top Boutique Firm in California

Rouda Feder Tietjen & McGuinn was recently featured in the Daily Journal's Top Boutique Law Firms in California for 2025! This selection honors only 20 firms across California, highlighting firms that demonstrate exceptional expertise in their practice areas. We are honored to be recognized for our dedication to our clients.

Learn more about this [award](#).

### June Bashant Recognized as Top Plaintiff Lawyer

Partner June Bashant was also recognized by the Daily Journal as a Top Plaintiff Lawyer in California! Congratulations, June, for your relentless fight for justice.

Read more about June's [recognition](#).

### Loren Schwartz Discusses Reforming Attorney Advertising

Loren Schwartz published an op-ed in the Daily Journal, "Cracking Down on Jackpot Justice: Reforming Personal Injury Advertising." The piece tackles the rise of misleading advertising by personal injury attorneys and its impact on clients and the civil justice system. In the piece, Loren explains how flashy ads and "settlement calculators" create unrealistic expectations, distort public perception, and undermine the credibility of legitimate legal work.

Read the whole piece [here](#).

### John Feder Speaks at Consumer Attorneys of California Annual Conference

In November, John Feder spoke at the Consumer Attorneys of California (CAOC) conference in San Francisco. In his talk, John delved into government accountability for dangerous roadways, highlighting the importance of conditions of public property in personal injury cases.

John served as CAOC President in 2014, and our firm is proud to continue partnering with this organization each year!

### Loren Schwartz Speaks at Consumer Attorneys of California Hawaii Seminar

Last month, Loren Schwartz spoke at the CAOC's Hawaii Seminar. In his presentation, "The Fix is in: Getting Subsequent Remedial Measures into Evidence and Leveraging Them to Your Advantage," Loren offered practical guidance for trial attorneys looking to strengthen their approach to challenging admissibility issues.

## Staff Spotlight: John Feder



**Meet one of our name partners!** John's nearly 50-year career as an attorney has been defined by his pursuit of justice for those who have been harmed by no fault of their own. His work allows him to step into someone's shoes and learn about their life, delivering meaningful results for clients whose lives have been irrevocably changed.

These results include a \$20 million settlement for the wrongful death of a young professional who was exposed to a dangerous condition while staying at a hotel on vacation, along with firm partner June Bashant. John and Partner Ronald Rouda also successfully obtained a verdict of \$18 million in a highly challenging, dangerous roadway case. John also secured what is believed to be the highest result ever for a motorcycle wrongful death case.

John recently shared that "it's rewarding to get to know someone's story, help them restore dignity to their life, and build a plan to help them move forward."

John served as the state president of the Consumer Attorneys of California (CAOC) in 2014. He received the CAOC Presidential Award of Merit in 2013, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2006, 2005, and 2002, and served on the Executive Committee and Board of Directors for many years. He also served as President of the San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association in 2007. He was a finalist for CAOC's Consumer Attorney of the Year in both 2007 and 2010, and a finalist for the 2007 Trial Lawyer of the Year from the San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association. He is a member of the Bar Association of San Francisco, the Consumer Attorneys of California, the San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association, and the American Association for Justice. As part of the top five percent of attorneys in the state, John has been included in the California Super Lawyers list every year since 2006, as well as the Best Lawyers in America since 2013.

Outside of work, John enjoys traveling, waterskiing, bicycling, and other outdoor activities with his wife and children.

[Learn More](#)

## Art Our Team Has Enjoyed

June Bashant: I recently finished reading *The Measure* by Nikki Erlick. This book invites readers to reflect on how we measure what makes our lives meaningful, whether that is time, experiences, or relationships. Buy it [here](#).

Cynthia McGuinn: I've recently enjoyed listening to "Behind the Lens," hosted by award-winning photographer Richard Bernabe. He explores the arts, travel, conservation, entrepreneurship, and creative culture through interviews with some of the world's most influential and inspiring people. I've had the privilege to travel with and learn from Richard. My photography portfolio can be viewed [here](#).



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