



Hon. Judge Meredith A. Jury, Bankruptcy Judge for the Central District of California

by Renee Sawyer Blume and Nancy B. Clark



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Looking back on her extraordinary career, Judge Meredith Jury states, “My mother was a wonderful role model. The most important influence in my life was my mother. [Although] she was disabled, there was no ‘poor me.’ There were no bad days in my mother’s life. She was born with the glass three-quarters full. You could never whine when you had a mother like mine. You couldn’t say, ‘Poor me.’ She was such a positive person that regret was not a part of her vocabulary.”

Meredith Jury’s life is a testament to her mother’s spirit and values. First, show who you are by what you do. Second, show respect, and you will gain respect. Her mother taught her to look for the silver lining. “No matter what happens, there is a good side to it. There is something to learn from it, something to grow from it. When you live your life, you don’t have a pre-planned place it is going,” she says. “My mom was fabulous. She treated every human being with dignity. She lived the Golden Rule. I’m not religious, but I was raised with the Golden Rule: Do unto others as you would have others do unto you. If everyone lived that way, we would have no problems.”

Jury’s family provided a solid foundation that she used to guide her through her decisions in life. She spent her formative years in Valparaiso, Indiana, a community of 15,000. “The city is unique in the sense that it is surrounded by farms, but it is dominated by Valparaiso University, a Lutheran institution with 3,000 students,” she explains. It was attractive to professionals who worked for the oil industry in East Chicago, Illinois, and Whiting, Indiana, and the steel mills in Gary, Indiana. Although it was a small town, education was valued, and college graduates were plentiful. Jury’s father was a chemical engineer who commuted 50 miles each way to Whiting for his job at an oil company. Her mother, who had gone to night school for eight years at the University of Chicago but never graduated, worked as a journalist after the end of World War II writing articles such as “How To Travel With a Baby” for Parents magazine. However, soon after starting a family, her mother gave up her career in journalism, as was customary in that era.



While growing up in “Valpo,” a young Jury was happy to spend time tagging along with her older brother. He was two years older but always treated her as an equal, as did all the members of her family, including her father. Her younger brother, six years her junior, eventually became her best friend. Her family’s unquestioning acceptance of her as a person and the gift of being treated equally and not less valuable than her brothers because she was a woman allowed her to have high expectations of herself and to not allow others’ prejudices to interfere in pursuing her career.

“I never considered myself any different [from men]. I really didn’t,” she explains. “Maybe the only way it did influence me is that I might have become a physics major instead of an English major if I had been a man. Women were discouraged from sciences.” It is only upon reflection that she recognizes that sexism had a subtle influence on her career path. “My mother was a writer, so I considered journalism. Studying science wasn’t something I was even thinking about. Being a woman did have something to do with what I studied in college.”

Being one of the only girls in her neighborhood, Jury was asked to babysit a lot. She quickly found that caring for babies was hard work. She recognized that her

personality was such that motherhood without a career would not suit her. She preferred to spend time writing, being with her brothers, and playing sports. On family vacations in Montana and Colorado, she and her brothers enjoyed biking and hiking in the mountains. One of her early passions was creative writing, and she has all of her writing saved in boxes. Her love of the outdoors and writing would influence her decision when choosing a college.

Growing up in an upper-middle-class family, Jury was expected to go to college and to graduate. Her decision to have a career came naturally to her, but deciding what her career would be was a mystery. She attended the University of Colorado for undergraduate school because of her love for the mountains. Even though she could have gone to a more prestigious university, she was happy with her choice, not only because of the mountains but also because the campus was diverse and allowed her to flourish as a student. She contrasts her experience with that of her older brother, who had gone to a more prestigious university that was heavily attended by high school valedictorians. At her brother's school, competition was fierce, and her brother found it difficult to distinguish himself in a sea of extraordinary students. At the University of Colorado, Jury could enjoy her mountains and stand out as a student. She became a member of the prestigious honor society, Phi Beta Kappa. The honor society's motto, "Love of learning is the guide to life," epitomizes her career. She explains, "You should go to undergrad where you want. You will make of it what you will." She took classes in English, creative writing and journalism because she toyed with becoming a journalist like her mother. After scrutinizing writers in her literature classes, she became disillusioned with writing, especially fiction, and felt as though she had nothing to say. This base in writing, however, was crucial in her ability to communicate effectively throughout her life.

During her junior year, while studying abroad at the University of East Anglia in Norwich, England, Jury was happy when her parents came for a visit. However, she was taken aback when she was told by her father that she was not expected to have a career after graduating from college. To this day, she has a visual memory of the hotel room where this conversation took place. "I was about to finish my junior year of college, and I was debating what I was going to do when I grew up. My Dad said, 'Well, you're going to get married and have a family.' I thought, 'You sent me to college with the idea that that was what I was going to do?'" Her disagreement with her father about whether to have a career or be an educated housewife took almost 20 years to resolve. "He really did think I was going to be like my mother, that I was going to be a housewife. And I wasn't about to do that, so we had a disagreement. It always surprised me, but that was that era. He told me when I left for school that even if I got married before I graduated, he would continue to contribute to my income while I was going to school to make sure that I finished. It was that important to him

that I finish my degree—but then didn't work." Before her father died 10 years ago, they were able to reconcile their differences. Although her father didn't really like lawyers, he thought she was "all right."

Jury finished her degree in 1969, graduating cum laude in English with a double minor in history and journalism. Her graduation coincided with the emerging women's movement. This growing acceptance of women as being more than wives and mothers was in line with Jury's developing view of her place in the world. She always had the confidence that she could do anything, and the women's movement helped pave the way for acceptance of this new interpretation of women's place in society.

After graduating from the University of Colorado, a friendship led her to Washington, D.C., where she programmed computers for the 1970 census. Based on an economics course she had taken her senior year of college, Jury decided to apply to graduate school in economics. She was attracted to the idea that it was a form of science. "So, I took calculus by correspondence and took night school classes at the University of Maryland. Then, I applied to graduate school in economics and was accepted at the University of Wisconsin. So, I went off to Wisconsin—and one year in academic economics taught me that it was a pseudo-science." She was disappointed. "It was a bunch of theoretical mathematicians trying to make a science out of a social science," she says. Despite her disillusion, she received a master's degree in economics in 1971.

Having found economics to be overly dependent on theory, Jury turned to education and obtained a master's from the University of Wisconsin in English education in 1972. "When I was getting my second master's degree in education and English, the goal being to teach composition in high school, I took a class on composition for teachers in summer school at Wisconsin. It was a hands-on writing class where we wrote a composition a week, and the instructor critiqued our writing using a different technique for doing so every week—red-line, oral discussion, recorded audio comments. I have forgotten all the techniques. It was intense and enlightening and reinforced how hard it is to write well. It was the best college class I ever took in my life," she says.

However, she soon found that she was not suited for teaching. "They stuck me in an eighth-grade class, student teaching a bunch of 13-year-olds." Suffice it to say, it was not her forte. "I got a B in student teaching," she recalls. Despite graduating with a master's degree in education, Jury learned that her prospects of finding a job

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in teaching were low, because schools would have to pay the rookie teacher with the B in student teaching more because of her master's degree. She was forced to make a new career plan.

During that time, Jury met her husband-to-be, who was a physicist. "We met playing tennis," she said. "He was every bit as liberal about women as my older brother had been. He treated women like equals. He was a really smart guy. The smartest person I ever met," she says. "There was never anything but 100 percent respect from him for me."

In 1973, Jury made the decision to enroll in law school at the University of Wisconsin. "I went to law school so that I could use my left-side and my right-side brain. And then I was going to do some public service," she says. After her husband obtained a job at the University of California's Riverside campus as a

offer the gifted student a job after she graduated. She deferred her decision until early in her third year.

One of Jury's favorite professors at UCLA, Paul Boland, became one of her mentors and a great influence on her legal career. Boland helped design one of the first clinical law programs that used students in the theater department to teach law students through role-playing and video technology. He later became an associate justice of the California State Court of Appeal. She had taken an intensive second year class on office practices, such as how to intake a client, how to conduct interview, etc., taught by Professor Boland. Impressed by his intelligence and practical approach, she took a second clinical class with him in trial advocacy during her third year. She respected his opinion and went to him for advice regarding the job offer by BB&K. She knew that he had worked in pub-

lic-interest law before becoming an adjunct professor at UCLA. She also knew that he was well acquainted with the members of BB&K. She had always imagined she, like Professor Boland, would end up practicing public-interest law. Therefore, after BB&K had offered her the job, she went to him for advice. "He said, 'Meredith, you can't do better. They are the best lawyers by far in that area. You'll get wonderful training, better than working in legal services where you will get no training at all,'" she explains. "That advice turned out to be perfect." She accepted the position, and in 1976 she became the first female associate at BB&K.

Her experiences with her brother and her husband enabled her to approach her

life and career as an equal of any man. "I never really had the concept that I couldn't do what a man could do, because my male role models actually encouraged me. I had men in my life who treated me like an equal. That really helped me a lot when I was a young lawyer, because there were no civil lawyers at that time who were women. There were just no women in the profession. Not even in family law were there women. I never thought I couldn't do anything that men could do, and I never, ever heard any sexism. The only thing that I ever perceived as sexism was one comment that appeared on the annual review of the associates. It was that I was too aggressive. I laughed, because I was a litigator. I thought to myself, 'They would never say that about a man if he were a litigator.' They would never criticize a man for being too aggressive. I would have preferred [that they had called me] assertive."

Nevertheless, Jury does not remember any overt discrimination due to her being a woman in the '70s. Her approach was to allow men to be polite and to not make a point of espousing her equality in such situations. "If the men wanted to open the doors for me, I didn't make a big fuss about it," she says. Thus, Jury was able to make friends, while other, more dogmatic



physics professor, she transferred to the School of Law at the University of California, Los Angeles. She had a small room in Brentwood and commuted 72 miles to Riverside to be with her husband on weekends.

Within weeks of arriving at UCLA, someone mentioned that Best, Best & Krieger (BB&K) was looking for summer law clerks and that they were in downtown Riverside, five minutes from where she lived. Naturally, she applied for the summer job with BB&K. "This was about 1974. [At the interview] they said, 'We see that you are following your husband. Will you be following him if he moves?' Then, they started asking me questions about how many kids I was going to have and how much time I would take off. So, then, I started asking them, 'How many kids did you have, and how much time did you take off?' I knew what they were asking was inappropriate. So, I just made fun of the situation. When I went to the interview at the firm, which was a block away [from my chambers], they had my resume, which probably did not have much on it," she laughs quietly. "I noticed that on the top of it they had written 'spunky.' And I thought, 'They're going to hire me!' And they did." After her summer clerkship at BB&K ended, the venerable firm wisely chose to

women who made a point of not allowing men to open a door for them had a harder time. “If they wanted to walk along the outside of a sidewalk or open the door for me, I didn’t care. It’s your brain they care about, the work you’re doing,” she explains. She allowed her work and her intelligence to speak for her and to let her actions speak volumes—a lesson that had been learned by watching her mother and seeing how her mother had led her life.

Although BB&K was not a public-interest law firm, Jury was extremely happy with her decision to join the firm. “Even though BB&K represented businesses, they were small businesses; they were human beings. My clients weren’t institutions. All the work I did in bankruptcy court, secured creditor work, lessor work—they weren’t institutions. Even though some were corporations, they were corporations of one person, like the little Mexican restaurant. So, I felt like I wasn’t working in the big business world. [I]t was like working for private clients, essentially. And they needed help,” she explains. “Plus, I did a lot of public law and litigation for cities. It was interesting. The work that I did for cities and water districts was fabulous. And, in the long run, when I ended up here [as a bankruptcy judge], I realized, Paul [Boland] was so right, because the training I got by going to a good law firm gave me the ability to do what is more of a service-oriented job—although, that is a secondary issue to the fact that I love it. If I am doing some good for the world, that’s a side benefit. I found the right job at the right time of my life. I couldn’t have been luckier.”

Although she never took a bankruptcy class in law school, during her first few years at BB&K, her mentor at the firm advised her to try to distinguish herself by learning the new bankruptcy laws as the Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1978 went into effect. He wanted her to become a Chapter 7 trustee. “The last thing I wanted to be was a trustee, because it was like running a business and nothing like being a trial lawyer. His recommendation was that I needed a niche. I needed something that would make me different than the other litigators at the firm for partnership reasons. So, it was at his recommendation that I learned the new law. I knew more about it the day it became effective than most of the lawyers that had been practicing for a long time. It was a very different law. I appeared in front of Judge David Naugle about 90 percent of the time, and he was happy to have a woman in his courtroom. He recognized that I knew the new law and the other attorneys did not. So, I had a leg up,” she says.

Her strong work ethic earned her the respect of her peers, and in 1982 she became the first female partner at BB&K. Eventually, Jury became managing partner of BB&K’s Ontario, California, office. About 30

percent of her practice was in bankruptcy. Toward the end of her practice, she did some trustee work.

Jury gave respect and expected it from others. Her strength of character did not allow for disrespect from anyone. As the first woman partner at BB&K, she observed how other women did not take charge of a situation or demand respect. “Other women associates would come back from a deposition and would comment about how a man had treated her, and I thought, ‘You let him. You let him.’ Because I never let them treat me that way. I never saw [sexism] at my firm. I never had any problem with sexism—none whatsoever, because I made them treat me like an equal by what I did. Did I open doors [for other women]? No. I just was me. I didn’t work hard [so that I could be] a role for women in that law firm. I just went and did what was required of the job,” she says.

She admits that women like Phyllis Schlafly who advocated that a woman was happiest as a full-time mother and wife did bother her. “My way of commenting on that was to be in the professional world and do the job that a man could do. Action as opposed to reaction,” she says.



Her decision not to have children did not mean she did not recognize the difficulty raising children presented for professional women. Her experiences as a babysitter and student teacher had convinced her that taking care of children was extremely demanding. “[It] was a difficult decision for me because I always wanted to be superwoman,” she says. Jury recognizes that by not having children, she did not have as many obstacles to overcome as other career women who did: “I’m still astonished by the women who do have children, because I do not know how you do it when you have a career and also want to be a good parent.”

Reflecting back on the other areas of practice, she enjoyed the cases in which she represented cities and municipalities. “The most fun was when I litigated water suits for the city of Redlands. I know the entire history of the Inland Empire because of those lawsuits—how we got settled by Mormons and Native Americans

and the influence of the Catholic fathers,” she says. The water and municipal litigation work accounted for the public-law component of her practice at BB&K.

Jury never had plans to be a judge. “I never even wanted to be a judge. It wasn’t on my radar,” she explains. “In the mid-’90s, they were about to appoint a new federal district court judge in the Inland Empire. They had never had a district court judge out here. They knew who the person was going to be—Judge Robert Timlin, who had been a municipal court judge, a superior court judge, and was on the Court of Appeal in San Bernardino. He was the smartest judge I ever appeared before, and he had no ego. He was my role model for how to be a judge. They wanted him to be the candidate to be the district court judge, but they needed people to apply. I actually got asked by fairly high-ranking people if I wanted to apply. So, I did it, because it was a compliment. It was really nice to be asked. When you do a judicial application, it is a lot of work. It takes a week out of your life. I’ll never forget: I dictated my letter while I was driving from a court hearing in Orange County, and I gave it to my secretary. She said, ‘This is a first draft?’ I said, ‘Yeah, this is what I’m supposed to do.’ And she said, ‘Yeah! You’re supposed to be a judge.’ So, I applied.” She was not surprised when they nominated Judge Timlin.

Having gone through the process of applying for a judicial appointment, Jury decided to try again if the opportunity arose. As destiny would have it, she ran into her former professor, Paul Boland, at a conference. By that time, he had been appointed to the California Court of Appeal. When she told Judge Boland of her interest in becoming a judge, he supported her decision. When bankruptcy Judge Robert Alberts transferred from the Riverside division of the Central District of California to the Santa Ana division and a judgeship became available in the Riverside division, at the urging of her colleagues, Jury applied.

Because she had previously applied for the district court vacancy, she was fairly confident she could survive the process. In fact, she is surprised at how relaxed she felt about applying. “I was never even worried. Honestly, I know now that people didn’t know what they were talking about, but all these people would come up to me and tell me, ‘It’s yours.’” She recognizes now that she should have been more concerned, but at the time she found the endorsements comforting. “When I went to the Ninth Circuit interview, which in those days was in San Francisco in that big, beautiful building, someone asked me what I did to prepare for it. I told them, ‘You can’t prepare for it. It’s a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be interviewed by a group of Ninth Circuit judges. There is nothing you can do to prepare.’” Because she could not prepare for the interview, she did not worry. “I was in the right place in the right time because I think they really cared that they were getting a person from the

area for Riverside,” she says. Judge Meredith Jury was first appointed to the Riverside division of the Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit on Nov. 24, 1997.

She was offered the position in June 1997 but had to wind down her practice. She was appointed the week of Thanksgiving in 1997. Because Judge Alberts was not transitioning to the Santa Ana division until February 1998, he held on to all of his Riverside cases until he moved, and Judge Jury did not immediately inherit a caseload. “We were the capital of the Chapter 20’s. Huge 13 calendars. Equivalent to what we were doing in 2008. [The Riverside bankruptcy judges] were worn out. I was here two days, and I just took their calendars,” she says. In addition, Judge Lisa Fenning, who sat in the Los Angeles division of the Central District of California, was having foot surgery. Judge Jury drove down to Los Angeles and spent a day with Judge Fenning and watched how she conducted her calendar. “The next week, I went down [to the Los Angeles division] for a day and did all of her Chapter 11 calendars. I put on a robe and went out there and did them. I remember the courtroom deputy saying, ‘You’ve never done this before?’ I said, ‘No. But I’ve been in courtrooms all my life.’”

Despite having represented businesses for years, she had no difficulty transitioning from an advocate to an arbiter of the facts and law. What was important was to make the right decisions based on the law. She explains that debtor attorneys were concerned that she might not be able to put aside years of representing creditors and trustees, but they had nothing to fear. Adjudicating cases came easily for the energetic Judge Jury. “It’s not about creditor or debtor; it’s about getting it right. I had a real idea that the bench is no place for ego. My job is to make the right decision where the law and the facts are—not creditor or debtor, not big firm, little firm—just the right decision. If they miss an issue, often it is my job to see it and rule accordingly,” she says.

Judge Jury understands the difficulty lawyers have in presenting their arguments, even if they lose. “When I first took the bench, I said, ‘As a lawyer, I would not like me because I will not favor the better lawyer.’” She explains that when she was in practice, she and her colleagues endeavored to never miss a deadline and were always prepared for court. Although she knows how to take a loss, she stated that she felt dissatisfied if she lost when she had met every deadline and was better prepared than her opponent. However, as a judge, she recognizes that, despite meeting deadlines and being better prepared, sometimes a lawyer will lose on the merits. “If you don’t know how to lose, you don’t know how to be a lawyer,” she says.

She was surprised at how she felt when ruling against parties who had made good arguments. “I

want to make sure they understand that they are doing their job right. Whether it's a consumer debtor lawyer because they are good with their clients or because they gave me a big, intellectual argument and I thought the law went the other way, I still feel bad for them, because I once was a lawyer. But it doesn't affect how I make my decisions, because I am willing to announce to them to their face, orally as opposed to doing it under submission. Written tentatives usually don't work for me. If I have a really complicated case, to give a tentative orally, I really have to be on top of it, which is the highest level of my thinking. If your law clerk writes it down, it is passive. If I write it, it's active. Many of the written tentatives are written by the law clerks. When I give a tentative, it is an active thinking process, which is a lot harder," she says.

When asked if Chapter 13 is a failed program, Judge Jury responds, "No. I always remember the successes, not the failures. I am getting a whole lot of discharges, which means that people are finishing their plans. A lot of people are completing. I have a whole slew of them every day, because I have to review the Applications for Discharge. So, I know that many come through. I don't know how many percentage-wise, because no one has ever kept those numbers right. They do them by the amount of cases filed, including the pro se that are never even going to get to confirmation. But the true percentage is how many confirmed plans complete." Her approach to Chapter 13 cases is pragmatic. "I test confirmation feasibility with performance. My attitude is that if you are close, I am going to confirm. I have seen people who might have been on the bubble of income, and they make it work," she says.

In 2007, Judge Jury was appointed to her first seven year term with the Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel (BAP). She feels that the BAP, as an intermediate court to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, is not an activist court. "We have no agenda to make change. The opportunity to be 'activist' is probably biggest when an appellant relies on [11 U.S.C.] § 105 to expand the court's power. The BAP has traditionally looked askance at § 105 arguments and resisted that form of activism," she says.

Judge Jury explains that as a jurist, you are mostly looking at precedent and judicial statutory interpretations, which does not give the BAP judges the opportunity to act as activists. "You may bend the interpretation to the preferred decision, but that is not judicial activism. Activism is trying to create a change in the law by how one rules on the bench," she says.

She currently presides over one of the few Chapter 9 cases in the country. The city of San Bernardino filed Chapter 9 bankruptcy on Aug. 1, 2012. Judge Jury relished the opportunity to preside over a Chapter 9 and was grateful when Chief Judge Alex Kozinski assigned the case to her. She was familiar with municipal financing from her days representing cities while at



BB&K. In fact, she had even advised cities on Chapter 9 bankruptcy. "The issues in the Chapter 9 are unique. You know there is no law. You are making the law. What I did when I did eligibility on summary judgment was unheard of," she says. To find them eligible on summary judgment, she had to assume all the worst facts and, even then, make the determination that there was no question that the city of San Bernardino was eligible for insolvency. Others have questioned her making the decision on summary judgment but, asked if she would do it again, she responds emphatically and with no doubt that she would. And it moved the case. "It was a whole lot of work for my law clerk and me. I announced an oral tentative that took me two hours—the hardest thing I have ever done in my life," she explains. She feels the responsibility, and she is committed to seeing the San Bernardino Chapter 9 bankruptcy through to its end.

Judge Jury enjoys her status as the senior bankruptcy judge in the Riverside division of the Central District of California. She has an open door policy with her colleagues and enjoys answering questions. When contemplating retirement, Judge Jury explains, "I would never leave the bench before San Bernardino is finished. I have two commitments: my term on the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel and San Bernardino."

Judge Jury understands her family is the core of who she is as a person and as a jurist. She had the advantage of a family who treated her no differently from a man and a mother who taught her that actions let the world know who you are and that everyone deserves respect. "My mother had help. She was from the upper-middle-class. My father made a good income. We lived in an upper-middle-class town, and you had housekeepers who might live in the back 40. My mother gave them a coffee break and sat down with them and chatted with them and treated them like equals—always. People would come back and clean for my mother when they did not even have to do that anymore. They had moved on to become Realtors or other professions. They came back because she

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Sprinkle Enter. Inc., 960 F.3d 366, 372 (3d Cir. 1992).

¹⁷*In re DVI Inc.*, 306 B.R. 496, 502 (Bankr. D. Del. 2004).

¹⁸*Mullins v. Burtch (In re Paul J. Paradise & Assoc. Inc.)*, 249 B.R. 360, 366 (D. Del. 2000).

¹⁹*Schrider v. Schlossberg (In re Greenbelt Rd. Second Ltd. P'ship)*, 39 F.3d 1176 (4th Cir. 1994) (internal citations omitted).

²⁰*Mayer v. United States (In re Reasonover)*, 236 B.R. 219, 227 (Bankr. E.D. Va. 1999).

²¹*USBC Bank USA v. Gold (In re Taneja)*, 427 B.R. 109, 116 (Bankr. E.D. Va. 2010).

²²*In re Haber Oil*, 12 F.3d at 436.

²³*In re Emerald Oil Co.*, 807 F.2d at 1238.

²⁴*In re Nat. Century Fin. Enterprises Inc.*, 423 F.3d 567, 576 (6th Cir. 2005).

²⁵*Craig v. Seymour (In re Crabtree)*, 871 F.2d 36, 38 (6th Cir. 1989).

²⁶*In re Omegas Group Inc.*, 16 F.3d at 1451.

²⁷*Gurley v. Mills (In re Gurley)*, 222 B.R. 124, 136 (Bankr. W.D. Tenn. 1998).

²⁸*In re Mississippi Valley Livestock Inc.*, 745 F.3d 299 (7th Cir. 2014).

²⁹*Belisle v. Plunkett*, 877 F.2d 512 (7th Cir. 1989).

³⁰*Ferris, Baker Watts Inc. v. Stephenson (In re MJK Clearing, Inc.)*, 371 F.3d 397 (8th Cir. 2004); *Chiu v. Wong*, 16 F.3d 306 (8th Cir. 1994).

³¹See, e.g., *In re Living Hope Southeast LLC*, 505 B.R. 237 (Bankr. E.D. Ark. 2014).

³²*In re North Am. Coin & Currency Ltd.*, 767 F.2d 1573 (9th Cir. 1985); see also *In re Advent Mgmt. Corp.*, 178 B.R. 480 (9th Cir. B.A.P. 1995).

³³*U.S. Dept. of Energy v. Seneca Oil Co. (In re Seneca Oil Co.)*, 906 F.2d 1445 (10th Cir. 1990).

³⁴*In re Foster*, 275 F.3d 924 (10th Cir. 2001); *Sholer v. Carmichael (In re PKR, PC)*, 220 B.R. 114 (10th Cir. B.A.P. 1998).

³⁵*City Nat'l Bank of Miami v. Gen. Coffee Corp. (In re Gen. Coffee Corp.)*, 828 F.2d 699 (11th Cir. 1987).

³⁶See, e.g., *White v. Weatherford (In re Abrass)*, 268 B.R. 665 (Bankr. M.D. Fla. 2001) (finding that Florida law governing conveyances does not permit a permanent interest in real property to be enforced against creditors or subsequent purchasers unless the conveyance is properly recorded and thus, the policy underlying the Trustee's strong-arm

powers stated in *Omegas Group* is consistent with Florida law); *Rosetta Stone Comms. LLC v. Gordon (In re Chambers)*, 500 B.R. 221 (Bankr. N.D. Ga. 2013) (placing the decision to impose a constructive trust in the discretion of the bankruptcy court and noting that most courts require the grounds to "be so clear, convincing, strong and unequivocal as to lead to but one conclusion.") (citations omitted); *Wachovia Bank of Ga. NA v. Vacuum Corp. (In re Vacuum Corp.)*, 215 B.R.277 (Bankr. N.D. Ga. 1997) (same); *In re Poffenbarger*, 281 B.R. 379 (Bankr. S.D. Ala. 2002) (declining to follow *Omegas Group* and finding that Florida law imposed a constructive trust for child support as well as addressed the priority of that constructive trust over the trustee).

³⁷*In re Prof'l Air Traffic Controllers Org.*, 724 F.2d 205, 207 n. 10 (D.C. Cir. 1984).

³⁸See *In re Auto-Train Corp.*, 53 B.R. 990, 995-96 (D. D.C. 1985).

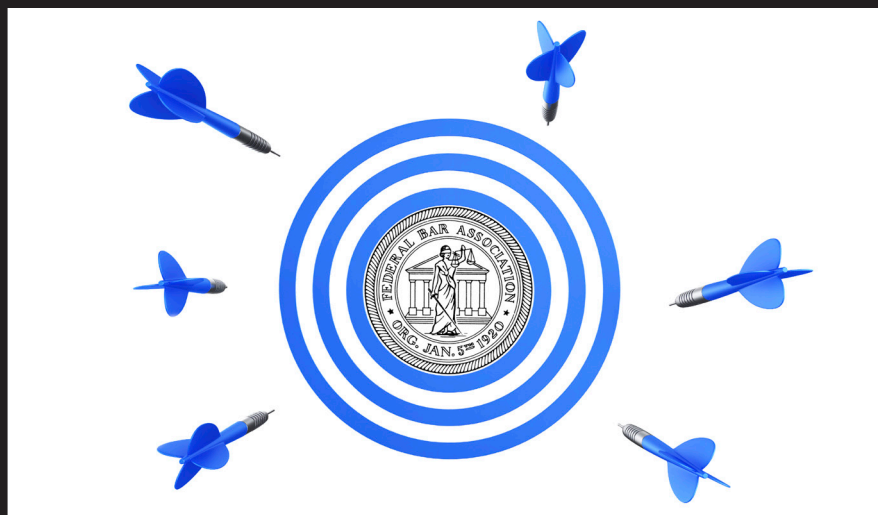
³⁹*In re Millennium Prods. Inc.*, 2002 WL 1290403 (Bankr. D. D.C. 2002).

Jury continued from page 27

made them feel like they were somebody. I wish I had that skill. My mother was amazing that way. So, I learned a lot from my mom," she says. "When we spread my mother's ashes in Colorado, I went to the stream where my mother liked to watch the elk drink. My mother was special. My parents were special. My mom more than my dad, and my dad and I had made peace before he died. When we had a ceremony for my mom, I said, 'Whatever good I am is because of my mom. Any good I have done or any good thing I might do is because of my mom.'"

Judge Jury was reappointed in November 2011 to the Riverside division of the Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California by the U.S. Court of Appeals of the Ninth Circuit. In 2014, she was appointed to an additional three year term on the Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel. The San Bernardino Chapter 9 bankruptcy continues, and Judge Jury's appointment to the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel expires in 2017. ☉

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