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# YUBA SUTTER BAR ASSOCIATION

## NEWSLETTER

October 2025

[www.yubasutterbar.org](http://www.yubasutterbar.org)

Courtney E. Gengler, President

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### Immigration Law Overview

**Tuesday, October 28, 2025, at noon.**

Location: The Wheatland Room at the Yuba County Government Center,  
915 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Marysville, CA 95901

The presentation aims to offer an overview of USA immigration. We will attempt to cover the roles of key agencies such as USCIS, CBP, ICE, DOS, and EOIR, and review their foundational laws and guidance. We will also touch on the basics of visa categories, explore key statuses (e.g., LPR, TPS, DACA, and asylum) as well as discuss border entry procedures and enforcement actions (e.g., inspection and expedited removal). Finally, we'll discuss California-specific issues, including sanctuary policies. We welcome your questions and interest in specific areas.

Maria Davari is a licensed attorney in California and Greece. She brings strategic and practical solutions to complex legal challenges in nonprofit business and immigration. She has over 30 years of experience, including service as in-house counsel and administrator. Drawing on her own immigration journey, Maria has guided families through consular processes, secured green cards, and facilitated reunification across borders. As a volunteer she has advocated for asylum seekers and immigrants in crisis. Her current focus includes Greek law, U.S. immigration, and nonprofit counseling.

MCLE: This meeting qualifies for 1.0 hours of MCLE. **Please note, the presentation will start promptly at 12:00 p.m. to allow for 1 hour of education.**

Cost: **\$10** per person to help cover the cost of our pizza lunch and the room rental.

Please RSVP to [mpoulos@suttercourts.com](mailto:mpoulos@suttercourts.com), by 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 22, 2025.

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### REMINDER NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 18, 2025. Meredith Evans, LMFT, Director of Clinical Services for Hope Haven Counseling and Support Center – Casa De Esperanza, will speak about managing stress and building resiliency.
- Elections for 2026 YSBA Board will be held at our November meeting. All positions are open. If anyone is interested or has any questions about the positions and duties, contact Courtney, Omar, or Melissa for more information. Please consider joining the YSBA Board!
- Newsletters, events, and Fee Arbitration program information are posted on: [www.yubasutterbar.org](http://www.yubasutterbar.org).

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## SUTTER COUNTY LAW LIBRARY IS OPENING!

Announcing the opening of the Sutter County Law Library, located in the California Room at the Sutter County Library. There will be a ribbon-cutting ceremony on **Monday, November 3, 2025, at noon**, with light refreshments. 750 Forbes Avenue, Yuba City, CA 95991. See attached invitation for more information.

Request for artwork donations: The Sutter County Law Library is currently seeking donations of artwork to enhance and decorate the walls of its new location in the California Room at the Main Branch of the Sutter County Library. Community members and local artists are invited to contribute pieces that reflect the spirit of law, justice, or the local community.



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## 2025 YUBA SUTTER BAR ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

Janet Bender	Courtney Gengler	Landon Little	Nicole Rosser
Brant Bordsen	Robert Gengler	Deborah Micheli	Ami Scarfe
Eleanor Bordsen	John Guth	Tahmina Morrow	Kelly Smith
Ryan Burreesch	Stephanie Hansel	Monica O'Neil	Tamara Sowles
Amy Byrne	Jared Hastey	Sukhraj Pamma	Kim Steffenson
Joe Carrico	Tom Hill	Amanda Pedrett	Michael Trezza
Judge Chandler	Sydney Johnson	Donna Peter	Bill Vanasek
Penelope Changaris	Cameron King	Melissa Poulos	James Vasquez
Omar Figueroa	David Lane	Andrew Ramos	Geoffrey Wander
Anthony Galyean	Lettie Litchfield	Mindi Reid	Corina Yetter

Membership dues for 2025 are \$100. Mail a check payable to YSBA to P.O. Box 204, Marysville, CA 95901, or bring cash or check with you to the next meeting.

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Yuba Sutter Bar Association  
Meeting Minutes  
September 9, 2025  
Carlito's Mexican Restaurant, 885 Richland Road, Yuba City, CA 95991

1. Courtney Gengler called the meeting to order.
2. Courtney Gengler made the following announcements:
  - We are now accepting annual dues for 2025. \$100 per member.
  - Our next meeting will be Tuesday, October 28, 2025. We will have local attorney, Maria Davari, speak on immigration issues.
3. Free Legal Services in Yuba and Sutter Counties.

The panel introduced themselves and gave a quick overview of their programs, including what types of law they assist with, their customer base, what services they provide and how they provide them, and how the programs are funded.

The panelists were:

- a. Melissa Poulos, Sutter County Superior Court Family Law Facilitator & Self-Help Attorney
- b. Alex Barbera, Yuba County Superior Court Family Law Facilitator & Self-Help Attorney
- c. Joe Carrico, Attorney for Yuba Sutter Legal Center for Seniors
- d. Joanna Navarro, Staff Attorney for California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc.

Questions were asked and answered. A quick discussion was had regarding how the local bar can assist these programs, services, fund-raising, etc.

4. Gwen Ford, President and Executive Director of Connecting Cultures Collaborative (CCC), a nonprofit organization, gave a brief introduction of her organization.