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Introduction and Welcome to the Future of Tort Litigation in California Symposium

Gerald F. Uelmen

Santa Clara University School of Law, guelmen@scu.edu

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SYMPOSIUM

THE FUTURE OF TORT LITIGATION IN CALIFORNIA SANTA CLARA, CALIFORNIA, MARCH 11, 1989

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME TO THE FUTURE OF TORT LITIGATION IN CALIFORNIA SYMPOSIUM

Gerald F. Uelmen*

Good morning. Welcome to Santa Clara and welcome to the Symposium on the *Future of Tort Litigation in California*. Let me start with just a few comments about the format that will be followed. We have a full complement of very distinguished speakers and rather than spend a lot of time today introducing them, we have included in the conference packet a brief biography of each of our speakers and we will dispense with formal introductions. The conference proceedings are being recorded, and a transcription of the symposium will be published in the *Santa Clara Law Review*.

Last November amidst all of the millions of dollars spent on lawyer bashing and insurance company bashing, one lawyer retained credibility with the voters of California, and that credibility is earned by a lifetime of commitment to causes in which he believes. So, we are very proud and honored to welcome as the keynote speaker for our conference, Mr. Ralph Nader.

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* Dean and Professor of Law, Santa Clara University School of Law; B.A., 1962, Loyola Marymount University; J.D., 1965, LL.M., 1966, Georgetown University (E. Barrett Prettyman Fellow, 1965-1966); co-author of *Drug Abuse and the Law* (1983) and *Disorderly Conduct* (1987); winner of the 1984 A.B.A. Ross Essay Prize.