



NAME OF EVENT: Homelessness and COVID-19: Martin v. Boise and Policy Responses to the COVID-19 Pandemic

DATE | TIME | LOCATION: May 5, 2020 | 10:30 a.m. to 11:45 p.m. ET | Conference Call
(This event has been approved for 1.25 hours of California MCLE credit.)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

Join the ACS Bay Area Lawyer Chapter for a discussion of the Ninth Circuit’s decision in *Martin v. Boise* and current homelessness policy responses to the COVID-19 pandemic. In *Martin*, the Ninth Circuit held that governments cannot criminalize conduct that is the “unavoidable consequence” of being unhoused if the government cannot provide accessible indoor shelter. In California, home to more than 150,000 unhoused people, the COVID-19 pandemic has compelled local and state government officials to move away from a criminalization approach to homelessness and towards a rapid effort to provide shelter. This online panel discussion will cover the *Martin* litigation, how the case was beginning to influence governmental responses to homelessness before the COVID-19 pandemic, and important constitutional questions relating to the rights of unhoused people during this public health crisis.

SPEAKERS’ NAMES AND BIOS:

- **Tristia Bauman**, Senior Staff Attorney, National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty
- **Zoe Savitsky**, Deputy City Attorney III, Oakland City Attorney’s Office
- **Thomas Zito**, Supervising Attorney, Disability Rights Advocates
- Moderated by **Jamie Crook**, Senior Staff Attorney, ACLU Foundation of Northern California

AGENDA OF CONFERENCE CALL:

- 10 minutes introduction
- 60 minutes speakers’ presentations
- 5 minutes Q&A



MATERIALS FOR CALL:

[ROBERT MARTIN V. CITY OF BOISE](#), No. 15-35845 (9th Cir. 2019)

Waskowicz, Cassidy, [Homeless Persons Cannot Be Punished for Sleeping in Absence of Alternatives, 9th Circuit Decision Establishes](#), National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty (Apr. 1, 2019).

Oreskes, Benjamin, [Supreme Court Leaves Cities with One Option on Homelessness: More Housing](#), Los Angeles Times (Dec. 17, 2019).

Jaboa Lake, [Lawmakers Must Include Homeless Individuals and Families in Coronavirus Responses](#), Center for American Progress (Mar. 18, 2020).

Howe, Amy, [Justices Turn Aside Major Case on Homelessness Law](#), SCOTUSBlog (Dec. 16, 2019).

[Martin v. City of Boise](#), 133 Harv. L. Rev. 699 (Dec. 10, 2019).