Timothy Reardon: Good afternoon. Today's date is May 28, 2015. This interview is being conducted as part of the Appellate Court Legacy Project. The purpose of which is to create an oral history of the appellate courts in California to a series of interviews of our retired Justices who have served on our court. Again, I'm Tim Reardon and'm Associate Justice of the First District Court of Appeal, Division Four. We're honored, and I mean that truly. We are honored to have with us today associate justice, retired, Patricia Sepulveda who served on the First District Court of Appeal, Division Four from December 21, 1998 to March 2012. We are honored to have you here, Pats, and welcome. You were born and raised in California, is that correct?

Patricia Sepulveda: I was, yeah, in Fresno.

Timothy Reardon: Fresno, California. Could you tell us a little bit about the family life or how things were as a kid growing up in Fresno?

Patricia Sepulveda: Well, I lived in a little house on Pacific Avenue in Fresno. I was born, not in that house, but when my parents lived there and lived there my whole life until I went away to college. I spent the entire time there and went to local grammar school what we called junior high school and then high school.

Timothy Reardon: Yeah, I understand that you as a member of the California Court of Appeal, Justice Levy who was a classmate of yours.

Patricia Sepulveda: He was. We first met and it would have been seventh grade, junior high. Then we went all the way through junior high and high school together. Especially in high school, we were both in college prep courses and they tend to see those alphabetically in our classrooms. So he's last name was Levy, my maiden name is Lang, so we always sat either he in front in me or vice versa in almost all of our .high school classes.

Timothy Reardon: He's a lot older than you though, isn't he?

Patricia Sepulveda: I think we're about the same age.

Timothy Reardon: Of the same age, okay.

Patricia Sepulveda: He hasn't retired yet, though. I don't think as far as I know.

Timothy Reardon: I don't believe so either. So you grew up with Bert. What was your first thought of going to law school?

Patricia Sepulveda: It's all Bert's fault, actually.

Timothy Reardon: All right. That's why Bert --

Patricia Sepulveda: I went away to college. My first year was at USF, which we've talked about in the past. And then, I transferred over to Cal Berkeley, got my degree in Psychology and was looking into

doing a graduate degree of getting masters in Special Education, and I've checked that out a little bit. So one summer, I was down visiting in Fresno, I went to see Bert and he was studying for his LSAT. I talked to him about that. I had no idea what that was. I had no inkling about going to law school but I had checked out getting a Masters in Special Ed at San Francisco State, it took four years and Bert said, "Wait to get a JD in three years. So I'm, "Three years, get a JD," four years. So, I went ahead and took the LSATs and went to law school.

Timothy Reardon: All right. You went right down street at Hastings.

Patricia Sepulveda: To your alma matter, Hastings.

Timothy Reardon: Yes, that's right.

Patricia Sepulveda: I think a few years after, maybe you did.

Timothy Reardon: I was going to say, "I don't recall you from being there the same time."

Patricia Sepulveda: I don't think we're on the same class.

Timothy Reardon: Was there anything in your life in Fresno that made you decide on going to law school?

Patricia Sepulveda: Absolutely nothing.

Timothy Reardon: Okay.

Patricia Sepulveda: I think we had one family friend who was an attorney but it was really finding Bert Levy studying for the LSAT, inspired me. You can thank Bert Levy.

Timothy Reardon: Thank Bert Levy for this.

Patricia Sepulveda: And Bert and I lost track of each other a little bit after that. I mean, we didn't really remain in contact until after I've been appointed to the bench and I guess, I think he ran for a court down in Fresno. I went in to take a class from CJER. Shortly, after taking the bench, there was some sort of criminal class and I thought I recognized the person sitting in front of me, it looked like that same back of the head I've looked at for three years in high school, and it was Bert. He was sitting there taking the same class.

Timothy Reardon: Amazing, amazing! Did you enjoy Hastings generally at the --

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Patricia Sepulveda: No. I hated law school, actually. I didn't like the way they taught. I didn't like the Socratic Method and it took a while to catch on with that. I remember finally getting to the point

of studying for the Bar Exam, getting the outlines and having that definite thought of, "Why didn't they just teach law school this way, it would have been so much easier."

Timothy Reardon: Was it Wick's outlines by any chance?

Patricia Sepulveda: This was BARBRI.

Timothy Reardon: They may be out of business by that time.

Patricia Sepulveda: This was BARBRI.

Timothy Reardon: BARBRI, okay. I think they're still around.

Patricia Sepulveda: They're still around.

Timothy Reardon: So, you've graduated obviously from Hastings. Took the bar exam, passed that exam.

Patricia Sepulveda: Passed it the first time, actually.

Timothy Reardon: Good. That's good. How about now? I know your first job as an attorney was with the Contra Costa, the DA's office?

Patricia Sepulveda: It was. I've worked there doing work study as a law clerk during law school. And then, Mike Phelan, one of our former justices was the chief assistant in that DA's office actually and he hired me on after I passed the bar exam.

Timothy Reardon: So that was your first real job as an attorney.

Patricia Sepulveda: First real job and my only job as an attorney.

Timothy Reardon: Okay. I know you enjoyed the DA's office very much. Which sort of assignments did you have, it was a variety of --

Patricia Sepulveda: It started out, I think, like most people do doing misdemeanors and worked up to doing preliminary hearings on felonies. And then, they asked me to set up and ran the first sexual assault unit trial, abuse unit that we had in Contra Costa, and actually ran out a couple of different occasions but also, did felony trial team and homicide trial team, and supervised misdemeanor teams, and a little bit of everything.

Timothy Reardon: Okay. At some point, you decided having done those things with the DA's office. At some point, you decided to consider going, taking a job or going with the judiciary.

Patricia Sepulveda: Yeah, I really enjoyed doing research and writing, being a law clerk and that part of being a DA, and had misconception that might be a large part of what you do as a judge, which it is when you get to the appellate court, but it was not in the trial

court. And so, actually, our chief assistant came in one day and encouraged me to apply. Deukmejian was the governor. He was not reluctant to appoint deputy district attorneys to the bench, and there was an opening on the superior court. And the one woman who had her name in, although she was a DA just for whatever reason was not getting the appointment. So, our chief assistant said, "If you ever want to be a judge, this is probably the time to put your name in." So, I got appointed.

Timothy Reardon: Excellent! h terms of the writing and the research, what's your requirement here at the Court of Appeals? I can attest first hand because we served together here in Division Four that you're very good at that. No question about it. But did you kind of miss the trial work once you ended up here?

Patricia Sepulveda: What I miss was the people contact, I think. There were parts of things like jury selection that are very tedious, but I really enjoyed having the contact with the people and with the attorneys a lot more that would come in and appear doing something like -- I did criminal calendar assignments a couple of times on the trial court.

Timothy Reardon: Okay.

Patricia Sepulveda: And it's very busy, as you know, in those assignments. You have a lot of people coming and going. So, I miss that a bit, didn't miss the stress, as you know a lot less stressful in the Court of Appeal.

Timothy Reardon: You don't look like you've been stressed out too long. Did you have some friends that were members of the Court of Appeals at that time from Contra Costa County, I know Mark Simons.

Patricia Sepulveda: I was trying to think of who was over here. I don't think Mark was here yet.

Timothy Reardon: Okay.

Patricia Sepulveda: Mike Phelan actually retired, opening the position that I took. Gary Strankman was over here. He was another justice that was a former chief deputy over in Contra Costa. So, he was here. Swager was here, Doug Swager. I am trying to think of any –Jim Marchiano was here. Ignacio Ruvolo actually got here before I did. So he was here. I think those were the primary people that were here at that point.

Timothy Reardon: And since then --

Patricia Sepulveda: Mark Simons came.

Timothy Reardon: Mark Simons came, Maria Rivera.

Patricia Sepulveda: Maria did. Who else at Contra Costa? Terry Bruiniers.

00: 10:01

Timothy Reardon: That's correct. Terry was in the DA's office, Alameda County.

Patricia Sepulveda: He was Alameda County.

Timothy Reardon: Yes. So, it's quite a bit of a representation.

Patricia Sepulveda: I think we finally overtook San Francisco Superior Court and the number of people from our county that were here at one time or at least close, I think.

Timothy Reardon: While you're here, we were colleagues, of course, in Division Four, but yours is obviously on a variety of cases, both civil, criminal, family law and probate. Was there any particular assignment that you've enjoyed more than the others, to put it that way?

Patricia Sepulveda: Oh, you know, I think like you as well, criminal is always been my first love.

Timothy Reardon: Yeah, I share that course --

Patricia Sepulveda: And I had to do family law in the trial court professions, I had to, but I did family law and ran that division for three years. I like it, so I would enjoy doing some of those cases as well.

Timothy Reardon: And we know from your written opinions,I'm not going to ask you to recite all of them, but according to my research which isn't as good as yours, I got you down for about 125 published opinions. That's quite a few. You were here -- how many years were you here?

Patricia Sepulveda: Well, you said 1998 to 2012. I guess that means I retired three years ago. It seems a lot shorter than that, so yeah. It was a while.

Timothy Reardon: Yeah. There's one collateral matter. Let me just want to put on the record at this time. You and I as I recall had an agreement that you would not retire until I did. And of course, I'm still working here.

Patricia Sepulveda: The problem is that you will never retire. No, we have that agreement because the Division as it existed when I came on board as you recall. Mike Hanlon was our presiding judge, Marc Poche, yourself and, were the Fantastic Four of Division Four. And I think we had a really great time and coming up on the end of probably my first year on the bench over here, Hanlon and Poche announced within months of each other that they were both retiring, leaving two vacancies. I think that was when you and I reached an agreement that we'd leave at the same time, would not abandon each other.

Timothy Reardon: That's true.

Patricia Sepulveda: But it then became apparent you were not retiring.

Timothy Reardon: Well, I think I got here in, let's see, 1990, would that be all right?

Patricia Sepulveda: Sounds about right.

Timothy Reardon: Yeah. And so, here I am. I've counted how many years it is, but still enjoying it.

Patricia Sepulveda: That was a little easier to do. That would be 25.

Timothy Reardon: Twenty-five? Okay, good.

Patricia Sepulveda: Nice round number for you.

Timothy Reardon: But we had a good run.

Patricia Sepulveda: We had a good run for that year.

Timothy Reardon: We did. You mentioned Marc Poche, this friend of ours as well as a colleague who I haven't heard from in quite a while.

Patricia Sepulveda: I haven't heard from him. I think he's still living in Texas. That's the last I heard.

Timothy Reardon: Yeah.

Patricia Sepulveda: The most conservative, liberal that I've ever met.

Timothy Reardon: That's right because he as I recall was the president of the young Republicans at one point --

Patricia Sepulveda: I think that's true.

Timothy Reardon: And then, he had a transformation. And then Mike Hanlon, of course, was good a PJ. He had that seminarian background, good sense of humor and generally a good guy. We enjoyed the group we had.

Patricia Sepulveda: We had a couple of interesting cases. I think you were on the rape case, where Hanlon was the author? Do you remember that case?

Timothy Reardon: Believe it or not, I definitely remember it. I'm glad that you brought it up because I was going to ask you if that was one of the ones that kind of stood out, it stands out in my mind.

Patricia Sepulveda: I don't remember the name of the case, but the issue was when the woman initially consents to sexual intercourse, but at

some point during that event withdraws, can she withdraw her consent and then a force is used by the suspect to complete the act of intercourse, is it rape? And the draft opinion that circulated by Mike, so that no, that's not rape.

00:15:05

I think one of the few times I asked for a conference on a draft opinion, and basically, expressed the opinion that that couldn't be the right result, and got him to rewrite it actually. And then the Cal Supreme Court agreed with us.

Timothy Reardon: Yeah. You were vindicated on that one for sure.

Patricia Sepulveda: Luckily, I didn't have to dissent. Because usually when I dissent, it doesn't turn out very well. I think I dissented like three times in the entire time that I was here.

Timothy Reardon: Not bad. Most divisions have a higher --

Patricia Sepulveda: I learned quickly, it did no good. Nothing ever came of it.

Timothy Reardon: Well, I was just going to ask you, was there are any cases? That one, of course, sticks on my mind because there were Conferences.

Patricia Sepulveda: Well, as you recall, Marc Poche was usually very reasonable. As I said, he was the most conservative so called "Liberal" that I'd ever met. But he had certain kind of hot buttoned sorts of issues, especially prisoner's rights. And I was authoring an opinion in a case called "Lloyd". I think you were on that case. I'm not sure, about Alameda County Sheriff's practice of taping telephone conversations.

Timothy Reardon: I wasn't on the case but I remember it well. Yes.

Patricia Sepulveda: You probably remember the case.

Timothy Reardon: I remember it well, yes.

Patricia Sepulveda: Taping inmates' conversations not the ones with their attorneys but with other people and whether or not they could do that. And I had written the draft opinions saying that, yes, they could do that. There were signs posted all over the telephone room telling them that their conversations were being tape recorded, and that pushed that button for Marc, and he demanded a conference. t was Mike Hanlon. He was the third on that. Because Mike, I remember, he was sitting there with his mouth kind of hanging open listening to Marc go on about how this couldn't be the right result and how horrible it was.

So, I redrafted the opinion and tried to write it in way that Marc could end up signing off on it, and as it ended up, he didn't sign

off on it. But then he decided he wasn't writing a really true dissent. f you recall, he would sometimes, "I dissent from the conclusion," or something, and it went up to the Cal Supreme Court and they ended up reversing it and holding the opinion the way that I'd originally written it. So, it was one of those little frustrations. I know you had a couple.

Timothy Reardon: Yes, I did with Justice Poche, and where he suggested that – I cannot even remember the case off hand but there were more than one where he suggested using a harmless error approach which really didn't write very well. And then, he changed his mind on the suggestion that he gave me, and ended up, I think in that particular case, which I can't recall right now. He did just end up dissenting.

Patricia Sepulveda: So, you rewrote it --

Timothy Reardon: Yes.

Patricia Sepulveda: -- to try to accommodate him?

Timothy Reardon: Correct.

Patricia Sepulveda: We always try to work together as much as we could.

Timothy Reardon: Yes. That's right!

Patricia Sepulveda: And then, I remember that because he told me that story. He did a pirouette I think that's how it is.

Timothy Reardon: Yes. That's right!

Patricia Sepulveda: And then, he dissented from the opinion that was written in the manner that you had or he had suggested originally.

Timothy Reardon: Correct. Yes, that's exactly right. But we had some fun, fond memories.

Patricia Sepulveda: Just good times. It was all fun times.

Timothy Reardon: I'll say once, it's just on a personal note, I have to say that during our time together, it sounds like a song or a novel. Although we didn't have many disagreements but we had disagreements but they are always very civil, orderly, no one took them personally, and it was really a great division, and I miss you not being here, just to put it blatantly.

Patricia Sepulveda: You miss me trying to get between (00:19:16)) and Larry Kay to make them not fight over whether or not leering at somebody was sexual harassment. That was a fun lunch.

Timothy Reardon: That's right. That was the case in which a Judge (00: 19:30) neglected to tell you're okay or myself that there was some

evidence in the record that the defendant rather than being somewhat small, petite person was indeed about --

Patricia Sepulveda: Oh, that's a different case. The one you're talking about is the terrorist threat case that I wasn't on.

Timothy Reardon: Correct. Yes. Oh, okay.

Patricia Sepulveda: Mine was a sexual harassment case.

Timothy Reardon: Oh, and I wasn't on that.

Patricia Sepulveda: And you weren't on it.

Timothy Reardon: No.

Patricia Sepulveda: But they were having a very heated discussion over lunch with me seated in the middle of them as to whether or not leering could constitute sexual harassment.

00:20:08

Timothy Reardon: That's right. I remember that from the corridor area.

Patricia Sepulveda: Somehow I got cast in the peacemaker kind of role in that.

Timothy Reardon: Oh, I know Justice Kay was upset that neither he nor I were told that the defendant in that case, rather than being a somewhat -

Patricia Sepulveda: Was a rather large stature, as I recall.

Timothy Reardon: Yeah, about 400 pounds I think and this fall --

Patricia Sepulveda: And I think I've picked on you about that opinion for a long time.

Timothy Reardon: Yes. Some of the books but it was altercation between the teacher and the student. And the question was whether or not it's fulfilled the elements of a terrorist threat, which we concluded I think that it did not.

Patricia Sepulveda: It did not, I think, it's what you concluded. That's whether a large student was towering over the teacher making some sort of threatening statement. I can't remember what it was.

Timothy Reardon: Yes. I can't remember the name of the case but I know it's a published opinion. I think I may have already made reference to your publication of close to 125 opinions in addition to the ones we've just discussed in a kind of a humorous manner. Was there anything else that comes to your mind?

Patricia Sepulveda: As far as cases? There were a couple of dissents I did one early on to one of your family law cases.

Timothy Reardon: That's right.

Patricia Sepulveda: Wrote the dissent myself and spent a lot of time working on that, and then review wasn't granted, and that was the end of that. So, it didn't dissent again, for a while and then dissented in a parole case, since then a very long time writing that dissent. And then not too long after that, in other cases the Cal Supreme Court totally, in my opinion, kind of rewrote where we were going on parole laws. So, that ended up going nowhere either.

Timothy Reardon: That was, in my opinion, which we share on occasion, I know that was an excellent dissent. Im trying to recall the name of the case. I think --

Patricia Sepulveda: Roderick.

Timothy Reardon: Roderick, and that's still an issue that keeps coming up in terms of the Governor's authority in power and the Board's power, and the authority of the trial judge to do what the trial judge may want to do.

Patricia Sepulveda: As I recall, that was one of the areas where you and I were somewhat alike mind before the Cal Supreme Court, at least, decided a series of cases on it, and our two then colleagues were of a slightly different mind.

Timothy Reardon: That's right.

Patricia Sepulveda: And that happened and I think several divisions where depending of on the make-up of the individual panel.

Timothy Reardon: Correct.

Patricia Sepulveda: The same case could come out one way or another.

Timothy Reardon: Yes, and I remember there was another issue aside from the parole issue that involved again, a split in the divisions within the Court on what they had to tell a probationer as far as -- was it a search issue? I can't remember off hand but there was another ironic situation where depending on the division of this Court you would get, would dictate the result pretty much because --

Patricia Sepulveda: I think that it was probably true on a few different criminal issues.

Timothy Reardon: Yes.

Patricia Sepulveda: Especially it would totally depend on what division and then sometimes, like the parole issue, could depend on the panel.

Timothy Reardon: The panel itself, yes. Well, this is, notwithstanding the occasional disagreements we had on cases, I felt that we had an excellent relationship and I mean, all members of the division, and it was certainly a good time. Put it that way. Now, you're retired on me and deprived people to despite me.

Patricia Sepulveda: Despite you, despite our agreement.

Timothy Reardon: And deprived the people of State of California your services but whether what you have been doing in retirement, I know --

Patricia Sepulveda: Well, it kind of surprised me when you said 2012. I didn't realize it had been three years. I thought it had only been two years that I came back that first year and set on an assignment for six months in this division. And then, came back the following year and sat on assignment for six months in a slot in Division 1.

00:25:07

Timothy Reardon: That's right.

Patricia Sepulveda: So I think that's why it doesn't seem like it's been three years.

Timothy Reardon: Yes.

Patricia Sepulveda: So I have only really been truly retired probably the last year.

Timothy Reardon: Yeah.

Patricia Sepulveda: And up until about a semester ago, I continued to teach at Golden Gate Law School. So now, I've retired from that as well. So I've totally retired, enjoying it, traveling, doing photography. It's my big hobby and working in the garden.

Timothy Reardon: But I bet your shortchanging yourself in terms of -- you mentioned you've taught law students at Golden Gate?

Patricia Sepulveda: Golden Gate.

Timothy Reardon: But during your time as a judge, as I recall, you spent considerable time and effort in educating not only law students, but the attorneys, members of the Bar. You held various positions in the --

Patricia Sepulveda: Even other judges. I think within a year of coming on the trial bench, I started teaching procedure and taught for them probably every year until I started teaching at Golden Gate and then it became almost too much.

Timothy Reardon: Right.

Patricia Sepulveda: So I stopped teaching procedure and continued teaching for Golden Gate. I taught a lot of criminal procedure classes, family law classes, evidence classes, procedure over the years. Mark Simons and I did a stint of teaching at the Continuing Judicial Education Program in Dana Point.

Timothy Reardon: Yes.

Patricia Sepulveda: Almost every summer when our children were little, the children grew up together down there and that was really fun.

Timothy Reardon: Yeah.

Patricia Sepulveda: And I got to meet judges from all over the states, so that was fun.

Timothy Reardon: Yeah, I neglected to specifically ask you about that. But you devoted an awful lot of time and effort, I might add, to the legal education process and you served on various committees and this was above and beyond being a judge. And I think on behalf of California, I could say that your efforts were certainly appreciated.

Patricia Sepulveda: The most ironic thing I ever served on was the Trial Court Budget Commission.

Timothy Reardon: Yes.

Patricia Sepulveda: My ex-husband said I couldn't balance my own checkbook, somehow I was helping to control the budget for all the trial courts in the State of California.

Timothy Reardon: I remember thinking as I read the bio that was prepared, we should get a plug in for Fran and her group to put together the binder and the bio and the cases and everything else for us, that the budget committee was mentioned a reference and I thought that the only one that probably understood budgets maybe Larry Kay, but obviously you did as well?

Patricia Sepulveda: I think Bill McGinnis probably understands and even better than Larry Kay did, yeah.

Timothy Reardon: Or APJ.

Patricia Sepulveda: I inherited that position originally on the Trial Court Budget Commission from Doug Swager when he was elevated to the Court of Appeal.

Timothy Reardon: Okay. Right.

Patricia Sepulveda: And started out and then, ended up chairing one of the subcommittees and right before I was elevated, Ron George had appointed me as vice chair of TCBC.

Timothy Reardon: That's what I was --

Patricia Sepulveda: But once you go off the trial court, you can no longer serve on it.

Timothy Reardon: Okay, but you said you served there quite a while?

Patricia Sepulveda: Yes, several years.

Timothy Reardon: Yeah. Well, you've done a lot of stuff besides adjudicating cases. You've contributed greatly to the education at least in my opinion of judges and attorneys, and the administration of justice and those efforts should be noted and have been noted in this interview. You mentioned, I kind of interrupted you, some hobbies that you lived with, pieces of photography is one, travel is another.

Patricia Sepulveda: And that kind of go hand in hand. My travel tends to be around photography and -- or family.

Timothy Reardon: Yeah.

Patricia Sepulveda: So I have an adult son that lives in San Diego, who's getting married in June.

Timothy Reardon: Congratulations!

Patricia Sepulveda: Thank you. And my daughter is married, who lives in Wales with her son, who will be two in June.

Timothy Reardon: Wow!

Patricia Sepulveda: And she's pregnant again with a little girl. So she's due in September. I'm not going to compete with you for the number of grandchildren. How many do you have now?

Timothy Reardon: We have 10.

Patricia Sepulveda: Ten? Hopefully, we'll stop sometimes before that.

00:30:04

Timothy Reardon: Well, that's good. I mean it's good to hear that the family is --

Patricia Sepulveda: The family is growing.

Timothy Reardon: Growing, that's great. Well, any tips? When you consider the education that you've given to judges and attorneys, and the trial practice that you engaged in. The practice here at the

Court of Appeal, the administration of justice as well, do you have any tips for young attorneys who just passed the bar? They just had a bar exam I think and the results came out. Do you have any just kind of general tips for young attorneys?

Patricia Sepulveda: You know, over the years of teaching at Golden Gate, I think I taught there about 12 years, actually.

Timothy Reardon: It was that long.

Patricia Sepulveda: It was long. I saw a lot of changes as far as the ability of the students to find employment primarily after graduation.

Timothy Reardon: Yeah.

Patricia Sepulveda: And they stress that I'm sure with all the law schools that the biggest suggestion is to become as involved as you can to do externships and internships and network as much as you can while you're in law school. We even had students that were continuing to volunteer after they passed the bar exam.

Timothy Reardon: Yeah.

Patricia Sepulveda: I'm thinking specifically of some of my former students who wanted to become deputy DA's.

Timothy Reardon: Right.

Patricia Sepulveda: And that used to be kind of the fallback kind of job was to go to work for the government, but it hasn't really become that anymore. It's hard to get those jobs.

Timothy Reardon: Yeah, I know.

Patricia Sepulveda: And so they volunteered even after passing the bar with DA's offices so that they can hopefully become employed.

Timothy Reardon: Yeah, I know. You've done it and I've done it. Many justices on the Court of Appeal had done it. We have a good extern program where we encourage law students to join the court and be supervised by a justice and/or the research attorneys. And that's an invaluable experience as well. I mean now, you've had many externs serve you.

Patricia Sepulveda: Some you liked and some you didn't like, as I recall.

Timothy Reardon: Well, it's a learning process.

Patricia Sepulveda: It is a learning process.

Timothy Reardon: So your suggestion would be as far as – when I attended Hastings which was long after.

Patricia Sepulveda: Long before I did.

Timothy Reardon: Long before you did, there were really no clinical programs at all. It was just the Socratic method of teaching. Im not complaining about that, but --

Patricia Sepulveda: And I think we had one clinical program and it was in Criminal Procedure of all things.

Timothy Reardon: Okay. Yeah.

Patricia Sepulveda: Now, it's the big thing.

Timothy Reardon: It is. It is and these law students are very anxious to get on with the Court somewhere, whether it's trial court or the Appellate Court or the Federal Court. And so, it's something that's really a hot ticket item right now to try to get it in as an extern but either in terms of getting future employment with that agency or simply being exposed to the practical practice of the law.

Patricia Sepulveda: AndI'm sure you find this as true. You've been doing it more years than I did, but from all those externs that you've had and still writing letters of recommendation and getting emails asking if I can be listed as a reference for someone that extern for me five years ago, six years ago.

Timothy Reardon: Yeah. Fortunately, we tend to keep pretty good records on the externs, but you're right. It goes back many years, in some cases and you forget the name or how the person looked. We have going out of photographs so that we can put the photo together with the --

Patricia Sepulveda: Just remember when you retire, you no longer will have any of this. So you're going to have to remember all of that yourself.

Timothy Reardon: That's right. Im fearful about it. Well Pat, it's been a pleasure for me to have served with you for so many years on the Court of Appeal. And as I, without repeating myself again, you've brought an awful lot of experience, wits, research, writing skills to our Court here, in particular Division I think I not only speak for myself, but all members of Division past and present, and I just thank you again for your friendship and for your professional abilities.

00:35:10

Patricia Sepulveda: I appreciate that, too.

Timothy Reardon: Okay.

Patricia Sepulveda: I learned from our colleague, Mark Simons this morning, he was chatting with Jim Richman on BART this morning.What

my true element was at the Court of Appeal. Apparently, it was setting up lunch.

Timothy Reardon: We missed that.

Patricia Sepulveda: I was in charge of setting up lunches among the justices and apparently, nobody has stepped in since I left.

Timothy Reardon: No, they haven't and you are missed certainly for that task and function.

Patricia Sepulveda: It's a sad state of affairs when what you're known for was setting up lunch. Yes.

Timothy Reardon: Well no, I think you are known for that, but you're much, much more.

Patricia Sepulveda: That's very important coming from the tsar of congeniality that you are.

Timothy Reardon: Well yes, I'm nearing at the end of my term I think as well in that capacity. But it's been a joy and a pleasure and I appreciate your participating in this program. As I say, you bring a lot to contribute in terms of education experience and on behalf of all who eventually see the video here, we appreciate everything you've done for the Court and for the administration of justice. So we'll conclude at this time unless there's something additional --

Patricia Sepulveda: Thank you, Tim. I was just going to say, if you ever do retire, I'll come back and interview you.

Timothy Reardon: I look forward to that.

Patricia Sepulveda: That may be the only way we could get you to retire.

00:36:46