

## Media Articles on Law Firm

### Harassment Suit Targets CalFarm Co.

*The Sacramento Union*  
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By T. G. Swauger

A Sacramento woman has filed a \$50,000 lawsuit for sexual harassment against CalFarm Insurance Co. and its general counsel.

The suit filed in Sacramento Superior Court by Margaret G. Caballero names the Sacramento-based insurance company and Edward M. Broderick III as defendants. Several unnamed male employees are also named in the suit.

Documents filed by Caballero's attorney, Michael A. Damore, show that Caballero is seeking at least \$50,000 in general and special damages. She is also asking for an unspecified amount in punitive damages.

***Clement Kong, the attorney retained by CalFarm Insurance Co., said corporation policy prohibits Broderick and CalFarm from commenting on the case. Broderick will respond to the court by March 1 concerning the allegations and CalFarm will respond by March 11, Kong said.***

Broderick was named as the 46-year-old Caballero's direct supervisor at the CalFarm corporate offices on Exposition Boulevard. She had served as his legal secretary since January 1989 but left the company several months ago on an unrelated medical leave.

In the suit, Caballero says Broderick insisted she open pornographic literature primarily videotape catalogs sent to him in the mail. That duty remained even after she complained, she says.

Caballero also alleges Broderick used CalFarm's interoffice mail to exchange pornographic photographs with other male employees. Those photographs were accompanied with derogatory comments about other women in the office, she said.

Additionally, Caballero alleges Broderick would hide pornographic pictures of obese women in her desk and filing cabinet and then wait for her to find them.

"This hostile work environment also included sexual jokes, sexual innuendoes, profanity directed towards women and other sexually offensive conduct," the suit alleges.

In naming CalFarm as a codefendant, Caballero alleges the company ignored her complaints.