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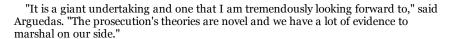
Questions and Comments TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY TODAY TABLE OF CONTENTS Bookmark Reprints **Previous** Next September 9, 2015 September 10, 2014 September 11, 2013 September 12, 2012 Cristina C. Arguedas September 21, 2011 September 22, 2010 September 23, 2009 September 17, 2008

Arguedas, Cassman & Headley LLP Berkeley

An elite criminal defense attorney, it was Arguedas' mock cross examination of O.J. Simpson that led Simpson's dream team of attorneys to keep him from testifying in his defense. Years later, she defended another star athlete, Barry Bonds, against charges of obstruction of justice. In April his conviction was overturned by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Presently Arguedas is defending FedEx Corp. against federal charges of conspiracy to distribute controlled substances. The shipping giant has denied

charges that it colluded with illegal Internet pharmacies to distribute prescription drugs.



In addition to her work for FedEx, Arguedas also noticed a disturbing trend related to sexual assaults on college campuses. After her clients are cleared of any wrongdoing by the criminal justice system, they are then tried by their colleges in proceedings with few, if any, due process protections. She represented five clients in the first six months of this year, far exceeding the average of one or two clients per year.

Many universities don't have an adversarial system or an opportunity to cross examine the accuser. It is a flawed process, said Arguedas. "We've done very well, by the way, because we know how to fight, we know how to defend."

Her role as zealous advocate is well known, but so is her reputation of being well liked by judges and prosecutors. Arguedas said that since the start of her career, she has developed a more nuanced view of prosecutors. "I think part of my success is that I understand the other side and I respect them. So when I can enter into a negotiation I am able to find the thing that they are interested in and try to give it to them if it doesn't do harm to my side."

I THINK PART OF MY SUCCESS IS THAT I UNDERSTAND THE OTHER SIDE AND I RESPECT THEM.

>> HETERT-QEBU WALTERS

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