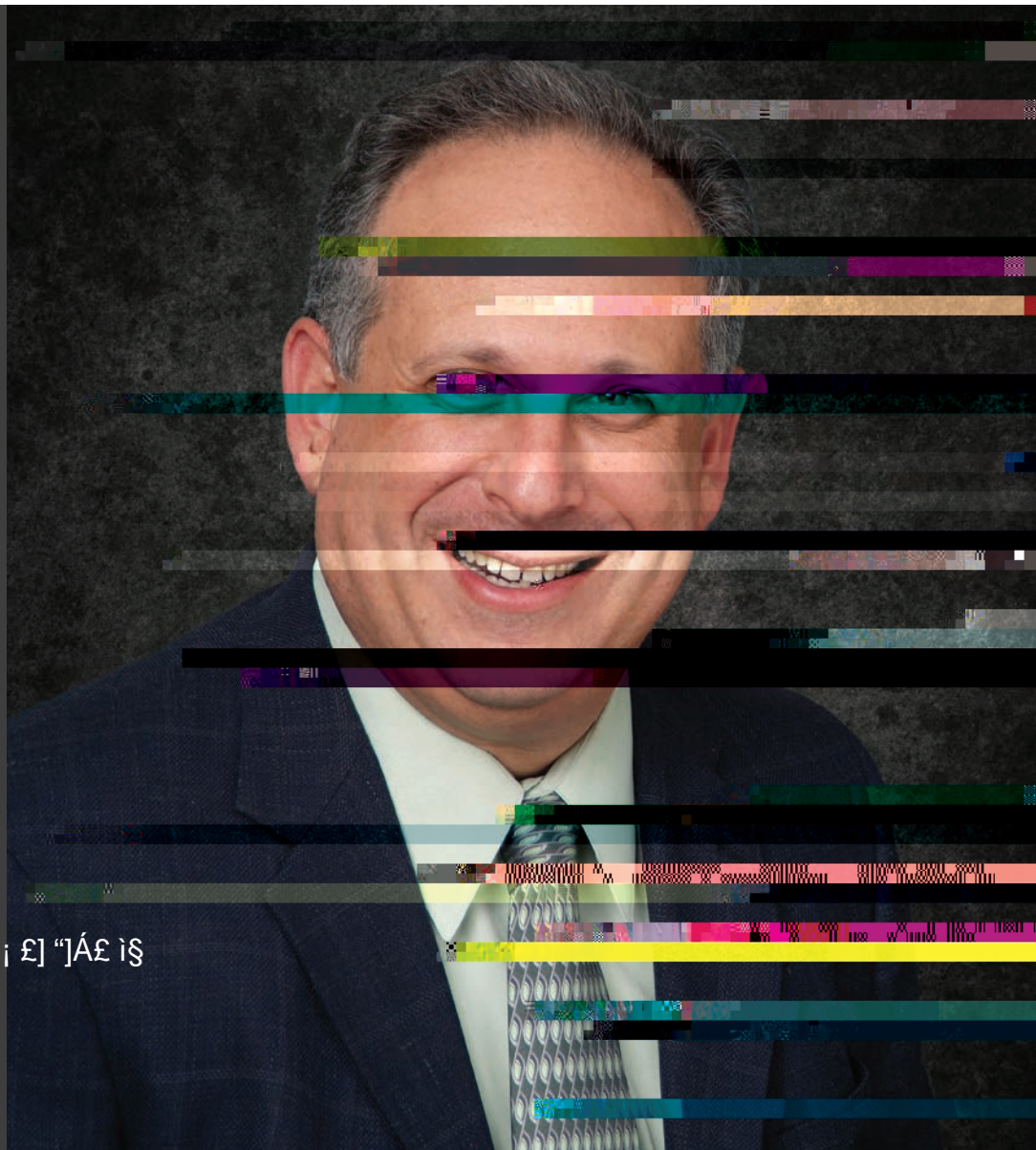As technology
 6) ( ) æ 2) 7   0 % ;
librarians' roles,
Mark Gediman,
2016 AALL Annual
Meeting Program   îÉªì¡ £] "]Á£ ì§

QUICK HITS WITH MARK GEDIMAN

iPhone or Android?
iPhone 6s

Mac or PC? PC

Text or phone call?
I prefer to call people, but
I text quite a bit.

E-books or print? When I
travel, e-books; at home, I
prefer print.

Did you upgrade to
Windows 10? At home,
but not at work.

Phone order or
GrubHub? I order by
phone.

Favorite takeout?
Pizza

Scrabble or Words with
Friends? I like both; I can
play Words with Friends
when I'm not with people,
but sometimes I like to
play across a board from
someone.

Favorite app? 1Password,
for the 50,000 passwords
I have; my second favorite
is Shazam.

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services has increased from 15 percent to more than 70 percent.

"I like when attorneys call me with research questions, and I like creating tools that help make research easier," says Gediman, the rm's director of information services.

Gediman has spent nearly 30 years in the information service industry, starting with volunteer positions at his junior high and high school libraries that were followed by a work-study job at a regional interlibrary agency in college. A er graduating from the University of California-Riverside with an English degree, he held library assistant and rm librarian roles at two California law rms and later worked as a research and information specialist at electricity provider Edison International.

A 16-year AALL member, in addition to his AMPC duties, Gediman is an active member of the Private Law Librarians & Information Professionals Special Interest Section (PLLIP-SIS) where he co-founded and is co-chair of the Competitive Intelligence Group. He has also been an active leader in the Southern California Association of Law Libraries serving as president, vice president, and secretary.

We spoke with the Riverside native about legal tech skills, e-books, and how technology enables law librarians to serve as necessary guides to help separate the wheat from the cha .

How has information technology changed since you entered the industry?

Although the physical library collection is shrinking, it hasn't disappeared. ere are still some books and resources that are easier to use in print because people know them and are used to them, or they're only available in print so you have to have a place to house that material. But the library has always been, in my way

of thinking, a storehouse of information—whether that's on servers, in the cloud, or on a shelf.

How has it stayed the same?

We've rebranded our department at my rm; we're now Information Services. But the work isn't really any di erent than what reference librarians did in the 1980s or even in the 1700s. If you're looking for something, we are here to help. When I was in college, that's what a reference librarian did. You'd have large libraries with books, micro lm, and micro che, and would need to try and gure out the best search method. Now, those same skills apply to the virtual environment.

e basic function of the library hasn't changed. e librarian's task is to help people nd the information they need, whether it involves guiding the requestor to the right resource or conducting the research on their behalf.

Do you feel the legal industry has been quick to adopt technology?

It really depends. I work at a rm that's very forward-thinking when it comes to technology. We have virtual desktops and advanced tools to leverage our document management system and a phone system that allows everybody in the rm to work from home, or from any location, if necessary.

Many of the rm's managers and directors are in di erent locations. at's a good thing—it allows for o ces outside of what used to be the main o ce to participate in the management of the rm.

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Client and business development is di erent from the business sector. Law rm growth happens through personal relationships and problem solving. In a company, you just try to sell more products. In a law rm, it's a service you're selling, and it can be challenging