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Letter from the Publisher



The Los Angeles Business Journal was proud to host our inaugural Top 100 Lawyers Awards event on the evening of May 12th at ASU California Center. This exciting event shone the spotlight on the region's outstanding legal community by recognizing Los Angeles' top 100 lawyers for their legal achievements, community involvement and impacts on the profession. In addition, we also presented several specialty awards to those who continue to excel in profession in unique and impactful ways.

Considering the fact that the Los Angeles region has long been known for its status as a hub for legal thought leaders and record-setting attorneys, being a standout in that field is particularly impressive.

After 11 years, we at the Los Angeles Business Journal decided to restructure our Leaders in Law event. We will now honor our esteemed

Best regards,

Josh Schimmels
Publisher & CEO

Los Angeles legal professionals in two different ways moving forward, this Top 100 Lawyers event and a Corporate Counsel Awards event in October.

The 100 lawyers listed throughout this section have demonstrated exceptional legal skill and achievements across the full spectrum of responsibility, exemplary leadership and contributions to the Los Angeles community at large.

In the following pages we share biographical information on these legal thought leaders and shed some additional light on some of the premier examples of business law practitioners among us today.

We hope you enjoy this special section, which contains some unique insights on what exactly it means to be a leading attorney in today's business climate.

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Patricia L. Glaser

LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL

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Baker McKenzie.

Baker McKenzie congratulates our Partner, **Perrie M. Weiner**, for being listed as one of the Los Angeles Business Journal's Top 100 Lawyers.



Partner in Charge of Baker McKenzie's Los Angeles office and Chair of the Firm's North America Securities Litigation Group

We are proud of our Los Angeles office's growth from 4 to 40 lawyers.

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ANGELA AGRUSA

*Managing Partner, Los Angeles;
Co-Chair, Commercial Litigation Group;
Co-Chair, Food and Beverage Subsector
DLA Piper*

DLA Piper partner Angela Agrusa handles high-stake matters that command headlines and shape legal precedent. From Chipotle to T-Mobile, she has successfully defended her clients in more than 50 putative class actions with combined potential exposure of over \$100 billion in just the last five years alone, including Danone in first-of-its-kind impact litigation. Her track record has resulted in long-term partnerships with iconic brands Danone, Hilton, Chipotle and Motel 6.

Within DLA Piper, Agrusa serves as the managing partner of DLA Piper's Los Angeles offices, helping grow the firm's presence in the market. She serves as co-chair of the firm's Business and Commercial Litigation sub-practice and its Food and Beverage subsector. She is hired to defend clients in bet-the-brand litigation and in cases where unique legal theories are advanced or when the court of public opinion threatens to overpower justice in the courtroom.



CLIFTON W. ALBRIGHT

*President and Founding Partner
Albright, Yee & Schmit, APC*

Clifton Albright is the president of Albright, Yee & Schmit. Based in downtown Los Angeles, Albright specializes in labor and employment law. He was the first attorney to win a lawsuit against the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) regarding its Public Health Service Training Program. In December 2010 and March 2014, President Barack Obama appointed Albright to the International Trade Advisory Committee (ITAC 11). Albright was reappointed to (ITAC 9) in February 2018 by President Donald Trump. Albright is currently being considered for reappointment by President Biden.

A sought-after speaker, Albright conducts continuing education programs for attorneys, executives, and employees in such areas as employment and labor law, business management, and complex litigation. The National Institute of Trial Advocacy awarded Albright a diploma and a master's degree in its Master Advocates Program. He is licensed to practice before United States Supreme Court.



SEAN ANDRADE

*Partner
Andrade Gonzalez LLP*

Sean Andrade, founding partner at Andrade Gonzalez, is well known for his ongoing representation of the nation's second largest school district, Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD), playing a critical role in leading the District through the recent chapter of numerous difficult and complex, multi-plaintiff tort matters and the subsequent high-stakes efforts to obtain insurance coverage for those same multi-million litigations. He has led the defense in multi-plaintiff cases and the plaintiff-side of the insurance recovery efforts in cases involving hundreds of millions of dollars.

Over the past nine years, Andrade represented LAUSD in the Miramonte Litigation – the largest sexual abuse litigation ever facing a K-12 public school system – and other major, multi-plaintiff cases. Also, over this past year and despite the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, Andrade and his team were able to resolve 100 potential claims for the City of Santa Monica.



ANDREW APFELBERG

*Partner
Greenberg Glusker LLP*

Andrew Apfelberg, a partner at Greenberg Glusker LLP, is a corporate and finance attorney for middle-market companies throughout the United States. He often acts as outside general counsel to his clients, providing advice on a business' significant transactions, whether it's a merger or acquisition, private equity or other financing, joint venture or licensing deal. He has a considerable depth of experience in the branded consumer products, manufacturing & distribution, new media and technology industries.

Apfelberg's strong business and finance background results from his education from USC's Marshall School of Business and from working in investment banking prior to going to law school. This experience enables him to more effectively structure transactions and negotiate agreements to maximize the value to the client and increase the likelihood of getting the deal closed. He is the former president of the Association of Corporate Growth Los Angeles chapter.



RYAN BAKER

*Managing Partner
Waymaker LLP*

One of California's elite trial and appellate lawyers, Waymaker LLP co-managing and founding partner Ryan Baker regularly wins trial verdicts and appeals in high-stakes cases. A skilled litigator and trial lawyer who often deals with cases involving intellectual property and innovative or disruptive technology, Baker has built Waymaker (formerly Baker Marquart LLP) into one of the nation's premiere trial and litigation boutiques. The firm regularly handles litigation at the intersection of innovative technology and complex legal issues and Baker himself has a stellar record of achievement at both trials and appeals in intellectual property cases.

In particular, Baker is known for presenting arguments in a clear, elegant, persuasive manner in his representation of industry innovators. Baker has tried cases and argued motions in state and federal courts across the country and has appeared in the courtrooms of no fewer than 15 states.



ADAM BASS

*Shareholder, President and Chief Executive Officer
Buchalter*

Adam Bass is the president and chief executive officer of Buchalter. Bass joined the Firm in 1993 and after 20 years became president and CEO in January of 2013. Under his leadership, Buchalter has experienced substantial growth and opened six new office locations in Napa Valley, Sacramento, Seattle, San Diego, Portland, and Salt Lake City.

As chair of the Family Office & Wealth Management Practice Group and co-chair of the Social Media Influencers Industry Group, Bass' practice includes the representation of companies of all sizes and financial institutions in both transactional and litigation matters. He is often called upon to handle general business matters for his corporate clients. Further, his areas of expertise include regulatory matters at the local, state, and federal levels, as well as government procurement. His experience includes corporate, loan workouts, creditors' rights, real property, labor relations, public contracting and regulatory compliance.

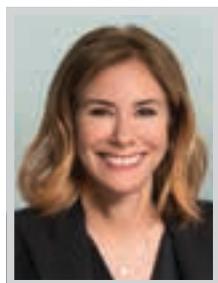
Congratulations



ALISON L. PLESSMAN

Top 100 Lawyers

—*Los Angeles Business Journal*



STEPHANIE BLUM

Partner
Reuben, Raucher & Blum PC

Stephanie Blum, a certified family law specialist who has practiced exclusively in the area of family law for 25 years, supports those who face the turmoil, uncertainty and challenges of divorce. Though her first preference is always to mediate spousal, financial and custody issues, Blum is also a fierce and relentless opponent in a court of law.

Blum regularly speaks before professional organizations on various aspects of family law. She has frequently appeared on radio and television shows and has been featured and quoted in online and print publications. She also co-authored the book “Divorce and Finances: Know your Rights Clearly and Quickly.” Blum is active in her profession and the community, serving on the Executive Committee of the Los Angeles County Bar Association’s Family Law Section and a long-time supporter of the Harriett Buhai Center for Family Law.



PHILIP BONOLI

Co-Managing Partner
BG Law

Philip Bonoli of BG Law is a seasoned litigator with extensive experience in a wide array of employment matters, including wrongful discharge, discrimination and harassment, tort claims, and contractual matters. As the co-managing partner of BG Law, he is involved in the day-to-day administration of the firm. As part of his duties and responsibilities, he is required to ensure that there is open communication between management, attorneys and staff to allow for the efficient operation of the firm and its business.

Bonoli has been a litigator his entire career and has appeared before many state, federal and appellate court judges in all facets of litigation – trial, oral argument and/or evidentiary hearings. He has been lead trial attorney in jury trials, has argued cases before the California Courts of Appeal, and has argued before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Bonoli has always persevered through all of the difficult and stressful situations associated with these cases.



ERICA BOSE

Partner
Cox, Castle & Nicholson

Erica Bose has built a reputation in California for representing developers of all sizes, as well as various equity providers, in connection with their acquisition, disposition, and development of real estate assets. She has carved out a niche over the last 20 years representing capital providers and to a lesser degree, builders, in the land bank financing arena and homebuilders in their acquisition of properties.

Bose started representing clients in land bank finance transactions both inside and outside of California back in 2002. Since then, the land banking industry has gained widespread popularity homebuilders, many of which are gravitating towards a “land light” business model in which the builder does not hold legal title to land during the horizontal development stage of homebuilding. This trend has allowed some of the nation’s largest homebuilders to significantly increase their output, and Bose has been extensively involved in facilitating many of these transactions.



BRAD BRIAN

Chair and Partner
Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP

Leadership through crises is a recurring theme in Brad D. Brian’s career. Undeterred by difficulties, he guides his clients through some of the most challenging legal issues of the day. The lasting impacts of his leadership transcend client work, effecting positive change on the world and the next generation of lawyers.

As the first elected chair of Munger, Tolles & Olson and one of the nation’s most accomplished trial lawyers, Brian is frequently retained to represent high-profile companies in their most difficult lawsuits and investigations. Known as a “lawyer’s lawyer,” he regularly represents leading law firms facing complex claims that threaten severe financial and reputational consequences. Client service is at the forefront of everything Brian does. He has sustained a career as a top trial lawyer because he goes beyond the typical outside counsel, becoming fully immersed in his clients’ teams and meeting their needs as a true business partner.



JOSHUA BRIONES

Managing Member
Mintz

Joshua Briones is a son of immigrant farm workers who came to the US from Mexico to work in the fields of Northern California. His hard work ethic at an early age was the fuel that helped him succeed later in life. Today Briones is managing member of Mintz’s Los Angeles office and serves on the firm’s Policy Committee. Briones has received awards and national recognition for his innovative approach to the defense of bet-the-company litigation.

Briones has represented clients in such industries as financial services, building products, retail, pharmaceuticals, automotive, professional sports, food and beverage, petroleum, chemical manufacturing, health care, high technology, and higher education. He frequently publishes and lectures before national and local bar and industry organizations. Briones has served as lead defense counsel on over 550 alleged nationwide class actions in state and federal courts across the country, including many filed in the most plaintiff-friendly jurisdictions.



ALEXANDER CALFO

Partner
King & Spalding

Alexander Calfo is a national trial lawyer who has received numerous accolades and awards for his verdicts on behalf of Fortune 100 companies in the pharmaceutical, medical device, automotive, toxic tort and heavy industry sectors in national multi-district litigation and statewide coordinated proceedings. Calfo has been awarded five of the Top 10 winning first-chair trial verdicts in California by The Daily Journal. His verdicts have also been named Top 5 nationally by LexisNexis, and Courtroom View Network recently named another high-profile national verdict as the “Number One Impressive Defense Victory in the United States.”

Calfo was one of the first partners to join King & Spalding’s Los Angeles office, and has been instrumental in building the firm’s reputation as a West Coast trial powerhouse. The bulk of his current work is comprised of serving as a lead counsel for Johnson & Johnson in connection with claims pertaining to talcum-based products.

MUNGER
TOLLES &
OLSON LLP

Brad D. Brian
Partner and Firm Chair of
Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP

Congratulations to Brad D. Brian

Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP congratulates our Firm Chair, Brad D. Brian, for being recognized in the *Los Angeles Business Journal's* inaugural Top 100 Lawyers list.

With a litigation career spanning four decades, Brad has partnered with numerous Los Angeles-based companies in multi-billion dollar trials that have shaped entire industries. Brad's unwavering focus on excellence has established him as one of the leading trial lawyers in the country.

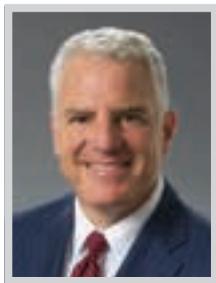
Beyond his courtroom victories, Brad is a trusted leader, supportive mentor, and a major impact player in our community.

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DAN CLIVNER

Managing Partner
Sidley Austin LLP

Dan Clivner is a global leader at Sidley Austin. He is managing partner of the firm's 140-lawyer Los Angeles offices, among the top 10 in Los Angeles, and he also guides the direction of the firm internationally as a member of its Executive Committee and co-leader of the firm's 390-lawyer global M&A and Private Equity group. He achieves this while maintaining a prolific and influential practice.

As a leader, Clivner holds the distinction of opening offices in Century City (both for Sidley and previously for Simpson Thacher). In the past five years, he has elevated the firm's global M&A/Private Equity practice from 40th place to 8th place nationally in Bloomberg's rankings by deal value. His leadership was crucial during recent events. He helped guide the firm through the pandemic and gave voice to the concerns of lawyers dealing with the stresses of COVID-19 and its impact on the legal profession.



NANCY SHER COHEN

Partner in Charge
Lathrop GPM LLP

Nancy Sher Cohen is the partner in charge of the Lathrop GPM Los Angeles office, a firm Executive Committee member and an Insurance Recovery & Counseling Practice Group leader. Lathrop GPM (formerly Lathrop Gage) recruited Cohen in late 2017 seeking the right individual to rejuvenate and bring local visibility to its Los Angeles office and national visibility to its insurance recovery work. Cohen helped build the Los Angeles office from two lawyers to 15 and catapulted the firm's policyholder capabilities and profile to a new level, now one of the largest practice groups in the United States representing policyholders.

A lawyer of 40-plus years, Cohen entered the legal world when the glass ceiling was still very much intact, especially in litigation departments. She often stood alone as a sole female on large teams, but that has never stopped her. She continues to litigate cases for significant companies on precedent-setting matters.



KANIKA CORLEY

Partner
Akerman LLP

Kanika Corley has a broad-based commercial litigation, entertainment, and emerging technology practice. Through her many years practicing law, she has worked with and provided legal assistance for a wide array of clients including print, digital and television media companies; landowners and real estate developers; advertising agencies; boutique hotels; footwear and apparel designers and manufacturers; professional athletes; restaurant chains; software developers; musicians, writers and other creatives; and wine manufacturers, among others.

Clients turn to Corley for strategic counsel and risk assessment when contemplating major business decisions, including protecting their assets and brand – including name, image, and likeness – anticipated litigation, and intellectual property issues involving trademarks and copyrights for names, logos, and slogans or catchphrases. She has extensive experience advocating for the rights of her clients through arbitration and trial, assisting with appeals, advising on best methods for dispute resolution, advising on deal terms and business structures, and managing rights acquisitions.



EVA DAVIS

Chair, Transactions Department
Winston & Strawn LLP

Eva Davis focuses her practice on United States and cross-border complex business transactions with a particular focus on mergers and acquisitions and private equity. Her expertise lies in market trends and deal terms in the middle market – while taking a commercial approach to transactions and navigating clients through changing landscapes. As an advisor to both strategics and private equity funds and their portfolio companies, Davis anticipates the arguments (and counterarguments) that each party to a transaction will likely pursue, and thus can position clients to get the best deal terms. Typical transaction sizes in her purview range from \$50 million to over \$1.0 billion.

Davis' industry expertise and impressive list of current clients include consumer products, with a particular focus on "better-for-you" brands, food & beverage, personal care, pet, and health brands; technology, from software to semiconductor; industrials/manufacturing, with a particular focus on aerospace & defense; and business services.



PAUL de BERNIER

Partner; Office Practice Leader in Los Angeles for Corporate & Securities Practice; Co-Chair of India Practice
Mayer Brown LLP

Paul de Bernier is the office practice leader in Los Angeles for Mayer Brown's Corporate & Securities practice, co-chair of the firm's India practice, US contact for its media/entertainment practice and an active member of its East Asia and Healthcare/Life Sciences practices.

Upon law school graduation in 1999, de Bernier joined Mayer Brown's LA office as one of the early members of the firm's LA corporate practice. He relocated to the London office in 2004, where he worked on US M&A matters and in turn led the firm's US Desk in London (doing US/cross-border M&A and capital markets). In 2011, he returned to the LA office to expand the California corporate practice, cross-border capabilities, client roster and bottom line. His broad M&A and securities practice includes working on dozens of innovative and complex deals, involving multiple jurisdictions and in evolving and emerging areas, including tech, media/entertainment and ESG.



MIKE De VRIES

Partner
Kirkland & Ellis LLP

At the forefront of the evolution of IP litigation legal work, Mike De Vries leads the legal industry in high-stake competitor cases – as evidenced by his string of successful outcomes over the last two years. During this time, De Vries has secured over \$2 billion in verdicts and settlements representing clients like Motorola, TriZetto, LivePerson, EagleView and APCON in major trials held throughout the US while also navigating courtroom protocols designed to keep courtroom participants safe during the pandemic. The results achieved by De Vries and his team will influence IP protection strategies in future litigations for years to come, and will guide the adaptation of trial advocacy in technology disputes during the ongoing pandemic.

Additionally, as IP litigation continues to become more high-stakes due to the growing importance of technology and the need to protect businesses' innovations, De Vries and team are likely to be busier than ever.

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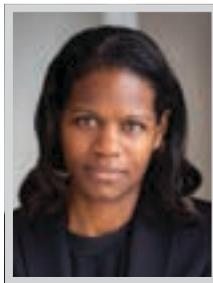


WILLIAM DELGADO

Managing Partner
DTO Law

William Delgado, managing partner of minority-owned law firm DTO Law, which he co-founded in 2019, is a relentless litigator focused on superior results. He approaches litigation with a clear focus: win, as fast as possible. To do that, he dives into his clients' business so that he has a clear understanding of what matters, what doesn't, what creates leverage, and what triggers a successful outcome.

Delgado did not inherit a book of business from a retiring partner; rather, he built his book of business from scratch, relying on the same tenacity that fueled him throughout his early years. His book has grown year after year in the class action, commercial litigation, and intellectual property arenas. Not only does he continue to represent major clients, he is representing them in significant matters such as his work for American Honda in both a patent case and in four major class actions.



RENÉE DELPHIN-RODRIGUEZ

Partner
Crowell & Moring LLP

Renée Delphin-Rodriguez is a partner in Crowell & Moring's Los Angeles office and a member of its Corporate and Health Care groups. Her practice focuses on mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, equity and debt financing, corporate governance, and complex commercial agreements. Her clients span a wide range of industries (with a particular emphasis on companies within the health care industry).

Delphin-Rodriguez has experience representing special purpose acquisition company (SPAC) sponsors, investors and underwriters in initial public offerings (IPOs) and business combinations (deSPACs). She also advises large corporations on a variety of significant M&A and other strategic corporate transactions. She regularly assists public and private corporations on corporate governance, compliance, and general corporate matters. Delphin-Rodriguez has a unique blend of law firm and in-house experience. She served as assistant general counsel to a Fortune 500 health care company and general counsel to a health care management services organization.



DAVID deRUBERTIS

Founder and Principal Attorney
The deRubertis Law Firm APC

David deRubertis heads one of Los Angeles' leading boutique contingency-fee trial law firms, handling employment disputes on behalf of employees, catastrophic personal injury and wrongful death matters, contingency business litigation, consumer class actions and insurance bad faith matters.

During the last few years, deRubertis has been lead counsel in single-plaintiff employment settlements totaling well over \$55 million, with an average settlement of over \$2 million for individual employment cases. He is also a leader in class action recoveries. deRubertis has continued to secure sizeable confidential pre-litigation resolution in matters such as #metoo cases or high-level-executive whistleblowing cases. He has also continued his aggressive pursuit of changing the workplace for the better for AT&T and Walmart workers. In one of his most high-profile cases, he represented Oscar-winning actress and famed comedian Mo'Nique in her quest for equal pay against Netflix.



ERIC EARLY

Founding and Managing Partner
Early Sullivan Wright Gizer & McRae LLP

Eric Early, founding and managing partner of Early Sullivan Wright Gizer & McRae LLP, has earned a national reputation for his representation of Fortune 500 companies, small business entrepreneurs and individuals around America, and has built one of the best and most respected boutique law firms in the nation. He is one of the go-to attorneys for all of the major national title insurance companies including Fidelity National Financial, First American Title Insurance Company, and Stewart Title.

Early is leading what many consider one of the most important defamation lawsuits in the nation currently pending in Federal Court in West Virginia, and led the first lawsuit in the nation filed four years ago against what is now commonly known as critical race theory. He is currently lead counsel representing former coal baron and West Virginia Senatorial Candidate, Don Blankenship, in a high-profile defamation case.



DAVID EISMAN

Partner; Head of Los Angeles Corporate
and Global Entertainment Group
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP

David Eisman is the newly appointed head of Skadden's Los Angeles Corporate Group, reflecting his many contributions to its rise in prominence on the West Coast over the last more than 25 years. Eisman also continues to be the head of Skadden's global Entertainment Group, which has been at the forefront of some of the most impactful deals in the industry in recent years. He is known for his representation of entertainment companies in all segments of the market, particularly in high stakes matters where a delicate balance of business and legal issues is required.

In 2021, Eisman led and successfully led numerous high profile corporate transactions and he has been on the leading edge of non-fungible tokens (NFTs) and innovative transaction structures. Eisman has also been a prolific dealmaker and has been involved in some of the most significant transactions over the past several years.



THEANE EVANGELIS

Partner and Co-Chair of the Litigation Practice Group
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP

Theane Evangelis has spent close to 20 years honing a practice that has positioned her as one of the country's leading appellate, employment, class action, and general commercial litigation lawyers. She serves as co-chair of Gibson Dunn's global Litigation Practice Group and previously served as co-chair of the firm's Class Actions Practice Group.

Evangelis has played a lead role in a wide range of high-profile, groundbreaking litigation matters and has been a leading lawyer who has helped shaped how companies serving the "gig economy" operate. As the achievements highlighted in this submission showcase, Evangelis has emerged as a go-to class action lawyer for businesses whose business models are under attack. In these instances, the stakes couldn't be higher for these clients. Evangelis' recently secured a landmark arbitration ruling for Uber and also secured the reversal of a record-setting \$102 million judgment in an employment class action and PAGA case.



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ANITA FAMILI

*Leader of Real Estate Transactions and Finance Practice;
Leader of Cannabis and CBD Practice
Manatt, Phelps & Phillips*

The leader of Manatt's Real Estate Transactions and Finance practice, Anita Famili is one of the nation's go-to advisors for owners, operators, lenders, developers and investors looking to complete financing, development, leasing and investment-related transactions. Anita is a trusted partner for clients across the gamut of industries – including energy, retail and cannabis – as they assemble, lead and manage major real estate transactions. She is especially well-known for helping her clients navigate complex transactions that require them to coordinate and collaborate with other legal experts, third-party operators, vendors, outside managers, developers and consultants.

Famili regularly guides REITs, national retail grocers, public utilities, and other commercial developers and owners/users in acquiring, entitling, developing, leasing, building, financing, deleveraging and joint venturing property across the United States. She has extensive experience in secured and unsecured financings, leveraged acquisitions, complex subordination and intercreditor arrangements, letters of credit, and perfecting security interests in collateral.



VINCE FARHAT

*Partner; Chair of the White Collar Defense & Investigations Group
Jeffer Mangels Butler & Mitchell LLP*

Vince Farhat represents companies and individuals in criminal and civil investigations, corporate internal investigations, and complex federal court litigation. His clients include licensed healthcare professionals, healthcare companies, publicly-traded and privately-held financial services companies, non-profits, construction companies, consulting firms, government contractors, and import and export companies. Farhat assists clients with corporate internal investigations, government investigations, parallel investigations, healthcare fraud investigations, FDA enforcement defense, False Claim Act defense, Civil RICO defense, affirmative enforcement matters, AML/BSA compliance and supply chain compliance.

Farhat served as an assistant U.S. attorney in the Major Frauds section of the U.S. Attorney's Office. In that position, he investigated and prosecuted white-collar crimes, including healthcare fraud, bank fraud, wire fraud, bankruptcy fraud, and money laundering. While in Major Frauds, Vince served as the criminal healthcare coordinator for the Central District of California. He served in both the Criminal and Civil Divisions of the U.S. Attorney's Office.



MILES FELDMAN

*Founder & Partner
Raines Feldman*

Miles Feldman is a founding partner of Raines Feldman LLP and is the chair of the Trials, Litigation and Dispute Resolution department of the firm. A seasoned trial lawyer, Feldman has over two decades of experience handling hard fought and often high-profile cases through trial and appeal, as well as in numerous arbitration forums. Prior to launching Raines Feldman, he was a partner with two of Los Angeles' most prominent business litigation firms.

Feldman regularly gets results in cutting-edge litigation disputes for business leaders in technology, media and finance, such as Belkin International, MedMen, United Talent Agency, Julien's Auctions, Haymaker Content, Twentieth Century Fox Television, FilmTools and Westwood Financial Corporation. Feldman was the architect of several landmark cases that changed practices in the entertainment industry and corporate law. The cases involved California's seven-year employment rule, copyright fair use, the Talent Agency Act, and the descendability of rights and publicity.



TERRENCE FRANKLIN

*Partner
Sacks, Glazier, Franklin & Lodise LLP*

With over three decades of experience handling some of the most significant and complex trusts and estates disputes, Terrence Franklin is regarded as one of the top litigators in the U.S. by clients and colleagues. He is responsible for several published appeals and the landmark *Moeller v. Superior Court* case, which was brought before the California Supreme Court and established a fiduciary exception to the attorney-client privilege for successor trustees.

While Franklin is well-known in the legal community for his trusts and estates expertise, he is equally renowned for his commitment to furthering the advancement of minority lawyers. As a gay, African American lawyer, Franklin works tirelessly to bring awareness and educate others about the importance of diversity and inclusion. He holds countless leadership positions in organizations which impact the law and support his mission to "Help Bend the Arc of History Towards Justice."



ALBERT GIANG

*Partner
King & Spalding*

Albert Giang's practice blends class action defense, regulatory investigations and enforcement, and crisis management for public companies and tech disruptors, particularly those facing litigation or government scrutiny over their worker classification models in the wake of the California Supreme Court's *Dynamex* decision, AB5, and Proposition 22.

Giang's leadership on cutting-edge employment issues is evidenced by an enviable roster of gig economy clients like Lyft, Postmates (for whom he defeated its first COVID class action), and Instawork (for whom he serves as strategy counsel on PAGA and employment litigation); other innovative startups (whom he advises on confidential business modeling or governmental inquiries); and major corporations (for whom he serves as national strategy counsel on employment issues). He is a core member of King & Spalding's innovative Global Human Capital and Compliance practice, leading the practice's notable growth with gig economy companies and disruptive startups.



PATRICIA GLASER

*Partner and Chair of the Litigation Department
Glaser Weil LLP*

Glaser Weil's Patricia Glaser is a partner and chair of the firm's Litigation Department. She has long served as one of the entertainment industry's preeminent trial lawyers – a leading attorney for studios, production companies, creative executives and A-list celebrities who need to solve their issues through negotiation or litigation. Glaser's clients include Fortune 500 companies, major studios, real estate investors and developers, financial institutions and high-profile entertainers and public figures.

Glaser is consistently ranked as one of California's top business trial attorneys. Chambers and Partners describes her as a "trial icon" and gives her top California rankings in General Commercial Litigation and Media & Entertainment Litigation. Benchmark Litigation identifies Glaser among the "Top 20 Trial Lawyers California," "Top 100 Trial Lawyers," and "Top 250 Women Litigators." Glaser serves on the board of directors of several arts organizations, including the Los Angeles Music Center Theatre Group and The Geffen Playhouse.

CONGRATULATES



SANFORD MICHELMAN

our co-founder and **Top 100 Lawyer**
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where bona fide industry expertise meets unsurpassed advisory and
practice area know-how.*



CHRISTINA N. GOODRICH

Partner
K&L Gates LLP

Christina Goodrich is an intellectual property litigator in the Los Angeles office of K&L Gates LLP – a fully-integrated full service global law firm. She has experience litigating complex civil cases in federal trial and appellate courts across the nation. Goodrich has trial experience in the International Trade Commission on a large patent infringement case and first chair arbitration experience in a complex and lengthy action in which she and her team secured a complete defense verdict.

Goodrich has consistently held numerous important leadership roles at the firm over the past ten years, including Intellectual Property Litigation Practice Group coordinator, co-chair of the Los Angeles Women in the Profession committee, member of the firmwide Women in the Profession committee, inaugural member and co-chair of the Global Associate Liaison Committee, member of the firmwide Idea Group (which focuses on innovation at the firm), and co-chair of the Los Angeles Associates Group.



DAVID GRAELER

Chair, Litigation Department; Co-Chair, Real Estate Group
Nossaman

David Graeler serves as chair of Nossaman's Litigation Department and co-chair of its Real Estate Group. With more than 20 years of litigation and trial experience representing both plaintiffs and defendants, Graeler excels at partnering with his clients to identify goals and to develop and execute winning strategies to effectively resolve complex business disputes inside and outside the courtroom. Through the development of his civil trial practice, Graeler has honed his ability to communicate and connect with judges and juries, as well as with clients, witnesses and other attorneys.

Graeler strives to learn and understand his client's business objectives, key issues and goals in order to develop a tailored strategy and obtain the best possible result. His track record of success in high stakes litigation in federal and state courts has earned him numerous awards and accolades, including a California Lawyer Attorney of the Year Award for litigation.



DEMETRIA L. GRAVES

Founding & Managing Partner and Certified Family Law Specialist
The Graves Law Firm

Certified family law specialist Demetria Graves opened her own family law practice, The Graves Law Firm, at the age of 25, just six months out of law school. She has offices in both Pasadena and Beverly Hills and is today considered a leading family law attorney and has received many accolades for her dedication to the field of family law as well as to the community.

Graves hosts a podcast, "Legally Uncensored with Attorney Demetria L. Graves," available on Apple Podcast, addressing family law-related topics. In addition, Graves wrote and released a book in 2021 titled, "When Women Run the Firm: How to Successfully Launch and Manage Your Law Practice with Confidence," which was a #1 New Release on Amazon. Graves currently serves as the secretary of the Family Law Executive Committee with the California Lawyers Association (vice-chair as of September 2021).



JORDAN HAMBURGER

Co-Head of Healthcare M&A
Sheppard Mullin

Jordan Hamburger, Sheppard Mullin's co-head of Healthcare M&A, is a lead attorney and project manager focusing on healthcare and financial services industry transactions, private equity representation and sell-side M&A engagements. He has additional expertise advising public companies with capital markets offerings, SEC periodic reporting, NYSE and NASDAQ compliance and corporate governance matters.

Hamburger's practice focuses on corporate and securities matters, including mergers and acquisitions, public and private securities offerings and other general corporate representation. He represents private equity firms, corporations, entrepreneurs, and other market participants in the healthcare and financial services industries, among others. Additionally, Hamburger advises public and private companies on corporate governance matters, and represents public companies in connection with securities law compliance and reporting, including compliance with NASDAQ and NYSE listing standards. Hamburger also volunteers at the Veterans Free Legal Clinic, offering free legal and practical advice to Veterans in the Haven and New Directions programs.



MIRA HASHMALL

Partner
Miller Barondess, LLP

Mira Hashmall is an accomplished litigator and trial attorney who specializes in labor and employment. She is sought out to defend private and public employers in high stakes litigation involving claims of harassment, discrimination, retaliation, wage and hour, wrongful termination, disability discrimination and accommodation, and family and medical leave rights. She was named Employment Lawyer of the Year 2021 by the Century City Bar Association.

In a ruling recognized as a Daily Journal Top Defense Verdict in 2020, Hashmall won summary judgment on behalf of the County of Los Angeles in a FLSA class action lawsuit relating to the State of California's IHSS program, in which plaintiffs sought nearly \$50 million. In December 2021, Hashmall won a summary judgment on behalf of the County of Los Angeles in an action filed by an employee against the County and other employees and supervisors employed by the County.



GARY HECKER

Managing Partner
Munck Wilson Mandala, LLP

Gary Hecker has more than 40 years of legal experience in technology and entertainment law in the Los Angeles market. He began his career as a power systems engineer before attending law school at the University of San Diego School of Law. His engineering background combined with his love for entertainment positioned Hecker for a dynamic legal career during which he has had the privilege of representing many of the nation's leading technology companies in patent, trademark, and copyright law, as well as celebrities and entertainment clients.

Throughout his legal career, Hecker has been known as the tech-savvy, go-to lawyer for the businesses of well-known technology and entertainment leaders in the California region, including luminaries such as Steve Jobs, Steven Spielberg, Mark Burnett, and Maria Shriver. He also testified twice on behalf of Apple before the U.S. House of Representatives.



Lewis Brisbois congratulates Craig Holden on being named a Top 100 Lawyer by the *Los Angeles Business Journal*.

Lewis Brisbois congratulates our Partner Craig Holden and the other exceptional attorneys selected for inclusion on *Los Angeles Business Journal's* Top 100 Lawyers list. A trusted leader and mentor who consistently displays unwavering dedication to clients, colleagues, and the firm, we are proud to honor Craig as he receives this well-deserved recognition.





JANE HINTON

Partner
Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP

As a partner in the Los Angeles office of Hunton Andrews Kurth on the Capital Finance & Real Estate Team, Jane Hinton brings a broad range of experience to commercial real estate and finance transactions, representing investors, financial institutions, investment funds, and other clients in single-asset and portfolio transactions. She focuses on highly structured debt and equity real estate transactions, with responsive transaction management and timely execution. She maintains a nationwide 360-degree practice in real estate law that includes leasing, acquisitions, dispositions, joint ventures and lending throughout the capital stack, such as mortgage, mezzanine and preferred equity financing.

A significant portion of the firm clients Hinton represents are composed of alternative or non-bank lenders, which have found opportunity and transaction volume due to the ongoing market conditions and the evolving regulatory environment. Hinton also works to expand the firm's real estate client base and support the firm's existing clients.



CRAIG HOLDEN

Partner
Lewis Brisbois

Craig Holden is a dedicated, accomplished leader both within Lewis Brisbois and in the legal industry as a whole. He serves as a national co-chair of Lewis Brisbois' Complex Business & Commercial Litigation and White Collar Defense Practices. In addition, he serves as vice-chair of the firm's Government Relations Practice. In these roles, Holden consistently delivers the highest level of service to firm clients and successfully achieves their business objectives, while serving as a trusted mentor and advisor to his colleagues and more junior attorneys.

A skilled first-chair trial attorney, Holden manages a wide range of domestic and international commercial matters, with an emphasis on litigation, trials, and arbitrations involving complex and contested business transactions, intellectual property, unfair competition, entertainment, investment, and high-stakes disputes. His clients range broadly from multinational companies and entrepreneurs to entertainment companies and businesses of sovereign Indian nations.

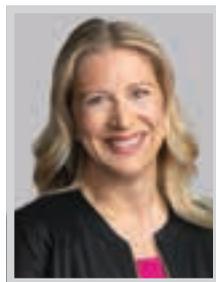


MARK HOLSCHER

Partner
Kirkland & Ellis LLP

Mark Holscher has a diverse national litigation practice with an emphasis on complex commercial matters. Described by his clients as "go-to litigator for tough matters," Holscher represents clients across the U.S. and abroad in their most significant litigation ranging from securities litigation and white-collar and regulatory investigations, to trade secret and high-profile employment disputes.

Holscher's clients range from entertainment and media companies to hospitality companies, real estate developers, defense manufacturers, private equity firms, hedge funds, and other major financial institutions. A nationally recognized trial attorney, Holscher is branded a board-level strategist skilled in taking on the FBI, Department of Justice, Securities and Exchange Commission, along with other state and national regulatory agencies, and obtaining outcomes that others thought impossible. With particular experience with bet-the-company cases, Holscher has been an elite litigator for more than 30 years, leading Kirkland & Ellis' California commercial litigation group.



MELANIE HOWARD

Chair, Intellectual Property Protection; Chair, Luxury Brands; Deputy Chair, Advanced Media and Technology
Loeb & Loeb

When iconic brands like Saks Fifth Avenue, Canada Goose, and The Gap, and celebrity personalities like Tyler 'Ninja' Blevins, need to protect and monetize their intellectual property assets, they turn to Melanie Howard, chair of Loeb & Loeb's Intellectual Property Protection; and chair of the firm's Luxury Brands practices. Howard's business-savvy guidance is trusted by her clients in connection with complex intellectual property transactions, advertising and marketing matters, and privacy and data security issues.

Howard is sought after for her practical approach. As demonstrated by her clientele, Howard has expertise in luxury fashion, but her range of experience spans numerous industries, including beauty and wellness, entertainment and media, and Web3. She has served as lead counsel in on a number of matters, including representing Kobe Bryant's estate in the filing of federal trademark applications for virtual and digital goods to protect Bryant's name and brand in the metaverse.



NICKY JATANA

Office Managing Principal
Jackson Lewis

Nicky Jatana is a principal in the Los Angeles office of Jackson Lewis P.C. Her practice focuses on employment litigation, as well as on advising employers regarding daily workplace issues. Jatana has experience with litigation involving wrongful termination, discrimination, harassment, breach of contract, wage and hour, preventive advice and training, and other labor and employment-related matters. She has litigated numerous wage and hour class and multi-plaintiff actions, has trial experience and is a member of the firm's national Trial Team. She has represented employers in the retail, restaurant, manufacturing, pharmaceutical, tech, entertainment, transportation, and banking industries, among others.

Jatana conducts training seminars and frequently speaks publicly on a multitude of employment law topics. Her experience includes handling employment matters from both in-house counsel and outside counsel perspectives. She practices in both state and federal court and also before such tribunals as the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.



ROY JIMENEZ

Partner
TLD Law

Roy Jimenez, a partner at TLD Law since 2006, has over 25 years of experience in business and real estate litigation. Jimenez has extensive experience in resolving or litigating large, small, and complex business disputes involving collections, breach of contract, unfair competition, fraud, intellectual property disputes, ownership & partnership disputes, shareholder disputes, purchase and sale disputes, unfair business practices, misappropriation of trade secrets, and other business torts.

Jimenez is successful in economically and favorably settling real estate disputes affecting title, transfer, and use of real property, and in lending issues. In this capacity he works with agents, buyers, sellers, lenders and escrow officers. Jimenez consults and provides general counsel services to financial institutions, medical practices, entertainment, retail, distribution, manufacturing and national packaging and packaging-related businesses. He enjoys the competitive and fast-paced nature of civil litigation. He strives to reach successful results in the most cost-efficient manner for each client.



CARY JONES

Managing Partner, Los Angeles
Snell & Wilmer

Cary D. Jones is the managing partner at Snell & Wilmer. He draws upon his over 30 years of extensive experience practicing real estate law to serve as a trusted advisor, often serving as the go-to outside counsel or lead counsel for his clients. His practice focuses sophisticated national real estate transactions, including mixed use, transit, hotel, historic properties, ski resort, shopping center and office developments and joint ventures; zoning and land use; real estate financing, and construction. He has experience in affordable housing law through his work on Heroes Project, which builds housing for teachers, police officers and hospital staff.

Jones is actively involved in internal Snell & Wilmer committees and groups. As the managing partner of the Los Angeles office, Jones leads his fellow attorneys and staff in efforts to exceed client expectations while fostering an enjoyable working environment, based on open communication and mutual respect.



ASHLEY JORDAN

Partner
Reed Smith LLP

Los Angeles-based Reed Smith LLP partner Ashley Jordan has a proven record of maximizing insurance recoveries through strategic negotiation, litigation, and alternative dispute resolution, handling billions in claims for major energy, construction, and manufacturing clients; natural disaster claims for property owners; and major financial services firms.

Jordan recently led a legal team as co-lead counsel in two parallel, high-stakes lawsuits on behalf of high-profile Kuwait client, PVT Limited. The actions arose out of a total loss to PVT Limited's G550 business jet, exceeding \$20 million in damages. National Union Fire Insurance Company filed a declaratory judgment action against PVT Limited concerning property insurance coverage. PVT Limited came to Jordan's team with denied claims and no expectation of recovery. Following two years of hard-fought litigation, Jordan recently secured favorable, global settlements in both cases that contributed to the client recovering approximately 90% of its losses.



ROLAND JUAREZ

Partner
Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP

Roland Juarez is known for handling high-stakes labor and employment cases for some of California's largest and most high-profile employers in the temporary staffing, service, manufacturing, and retail industries, successfully defending clients against the most challenging wage and hour, discrimination, non-compete and anti-raiding claims facing employers in California and across the nation. He is currently leading class, collective and other complex employment litigation and has developed a highly-successful unfair competition and employee raiding practice in California.

Juarez has been at the helm helping companies navigate the uncharted challenges brought on by the pandemic and by regulation keeping up with technology. He is representing several companies in cases that implicate COVID issues, including a novel question about whether masks and COVID-19 testing via temperature checks can be considered compensable time and reimbursement issues related to work at home.

MAKING AN IMPACT

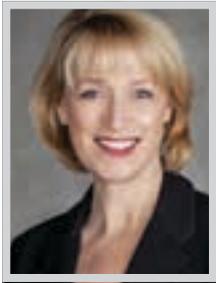
Nixon Peabody congratulates our healthcare partner **Harsh Parikh**, for being recognized among the **Top 100 Lawyers** by the *Los Angeles Business Journal*.

Harsh makes a positive impact every day with his talent, insight, and dedicated service to healthcare providers and managed care organizations in California.



300 South Grand Ave.
Los Angeles, CA
nixonpeabody.com/healthcare
@NixonPeabodyLLP





CHRISTIANNE KERNS

Managing Partner
Hahn & Hahn LLP

Christianne Kerns is the first female managing partner of the prestigious 121-year-old Pasadena-based law firm, which has transitioned from a historic “old-line firm” into a majority woman and minority-owned firm. As managing partner, Kerns is responsible for managing day-to-day business operations, developing, implementing and driving organizational goals, procedures, and policies, managing firm lawyers and the director of administration, collaborating with other partners and maintaining positive client relationships.

Kerns and her team handle sophisticated financing transactions and restructure; manage complex commercial business relationships and contracts, and lead multifaceted real estate deals and projects. Kerns is a trusted board member and advisor to boards of directors, equity holders, and C-suite executives with a track record of identifying and effectively addressing risks and legal issues and strategic and operational challenges with the overarching goal of optimizing results value and ROI.



KATHY KU

Partner
Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati

Kathy Ku’s career legal work stretches from the highest levels of the judicial system as a clerk to the late Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, to the highest levels of the corporate world, as an advisor on transformative deals like Careem’s \$3.1 billion acquisition by Uber. The transactions she has handled for public and private companies includes the IPO of Internet Brands (owner of Fodor’s Travel, CarsDirect, and other top consumer websites) and Berkshire Hathaway’s complex acquisition of Duracell.

In the last two years, Ku has played a lead role on a host of particularly impactful deals, including her work acting as lead M&A partner on the \$550 million sale of Lyft’s self-driving vehicle division, Level 5, to the Toyota subsidiary Woven Planet Holdings, Inc. Lyft executed the deal in part to accelerate its path to profitability, which the company has now achieved for multiple consecutive quarters.



LAUREN LANGER

Partner
Best Best & Krieger

Best Best & Krieger partner Lauren Langer manages the legal matters for numerous prominent California entities. She serves as city attorney for the City of West Hollywood and as land use counsel for the cities of Lomita and Hermosa Beach. She also serves as legal counsel for the Westside Cities Council of Governments, which includes the Westside cities of West Hollywood, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica, Culver City and portions of the City of Los Angeles and the County of Los Angeles.

In these roles, Langer advises her clients on land use, zoning, development projects, environmental and housing laws, including SB 9, Density Bonus Law, the Housing Accountability Act, the Housing Crisis Act (SB 330) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). She also drafts legislation and contracts and advises on all other legal issues associated with municipal law practice, such as the Brown Act and California Public Records Act.



STEPHEN LARSON

Partner
Larson LLP

Former U.S. District Judge and Larson LLP founding partner Stephen Larson has been a renowned trial lawyer for high-stakes civil, commercial, and white collar matters since returning to private practice in 2009. Perhaps what distinguishes Larson most is how he handles every case on a personal level. His reputation in the courtroom is as an even-tempered litigator with a keen mind, but clients know him for his unyielding work ethic that drives him to advocate relentlessly for their best.

Larson achieved landmark results during an unprecedented two years. In 2022, with several law firms vying for the role, he was selected to serve as interim co-lead counsel of the oil spill class actions against Amplify Energy Corp. He and partner Hilary Potashner were also hired to conduct an investigation into the allegations regarding the treatment of the 13 Turpin children while under the care of Riverside County.

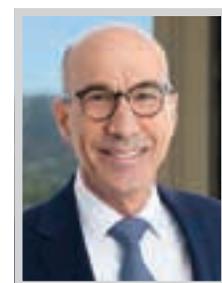


DAVID LASH

Managing Counsel for Pro Bono and Public Interest Services
O’Melveny & Myers LLP

David Lash has long been a leader in the public interest community. As an attorney he has devoted his career to using the law to fight poverty and advance the causes of the underserved, ensuring that our democratic protections work for those who need them most. He believes in the power of judicial branch to preserve the basic necessities of life for those in need, understanding that access to justice is meaningless without representation by competent, compassionate counsel.

Lash helped launch O’Melveny & Myers’ Pro Bono Initiative, a recipient of the ABA’s distinguished Pro Bono Publico Award, the Rose L. Schiff Commitment to Justice Award, the Beacon of Justice Award from the National Legal Aid and Defender Association, and many others. Following the murder of George Floyd, he was one of the founders of the Law Firm Antiracism Alliance.



RANDALL S. LEFF

Co-Managing Partner
Ervin Cohen & Jessup LLP

Randy Leff is a co-managing partner of ECJ and a partner in the Litigation Department. For more than 30 years, he has tried and resolved “bet the company” business disputes in both state and federal court. His clients value his consistently customized, high-quality legal services with his signature enthusiasm, creativity, and passion.

Leff has many long-term clients in various industries, including technology, healthcare, real estate, manufacturing, food and beverages, entertainment, biotechnology, and financial services. Leff has built his reputation by developing innovative strategies that recognize the relationship between the immediate legal and the long-term goals of the business. By working collaboratively with his clients, he is able to solve problems creatively and minimize the impact of litigation. Whether it be litigating a multi-state class action matter involving more than \$100 million, resolving a business dispute before the case is filed, or strategizing business expansion, Leff consistently delivers exceptional results.



ADAM LEVIN

Partner

Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp LLP

Over the course of two decades, Adam Levin has championed a legal defense rooted in First Amendment principles for media companies in certain discrimination and wrongful termination cases, and has firmly established himself as the unquestioned counsel of choice for virtually every major studio and entertainment-industry defendant.

Levin represents employers in all areas of labor and employment law, including serving as lead counsel in numerous employment discrimination, wrongful termination and trade secret/unfair competition cases, labor arbitrations, National Labor Relations Board hearings, and other administrative proceedings. He counsels clients on compliance with FMLA, ADA, Title VII, FEHA, FLSA, ERISA, NLRA and state employment laws. He negotiates and drafts executive employment agreements, and also represents clients in litigation involving right of publicity, invasion of privacy and related claims involving models, celebrities and performing artists.



MICHAEL LINDSEY

Partner

Steinbrecher & Span LLP

Michael K. Lindsey is a corporate and transactional lawyer, with more than 40 years of experience in the areas of intellectual property, cyberlaw and trade regulation. Lindsey's intellectual property practice includes the acquisition, development, protection, and licensing of various forms of intellectual property. In the cyberlaw area, Lindsey represents diverse clients on matters ranging from domain name disputes to e-commerce structuring, new media development, co-branding, alliance, and other marketing arrangements.

Lindsey's practice in the trade regulation area involves antitrust preventive counseling; merger analysis and structuring; franchise disclosure, registration and relationship matters; and advice concerning the sale, distribution and marketing of products and services through manufacturing, joint venture, distribution, dealership and agency relationships. A true leader in law, Lindsey helps companies face increasingly complex legal and regulatory changes and challenges.



GUY MAISNIK

Partner; Vice Chair, Global Hospitality Group

Jeffer Mangels Butler & Mitchell LLP

Guy Maisnik has over four decades of commercial real estate transactions with a strong expertise in hotels and finance. A partner and vice chair of the JMBM Global Hospitality Group, Maisnik is a senior partner in the JMBM Real Estate Department. He advises clients on hospitality transactions, with both a practical business and legal focus, representing buyers, sellers, lenders, opportunity funds, special servicers, REITs and developers in hotel transactions, joint ventures, hotel management agreements and franchise agreements, buying, selling and ground leasing of hotels, complex mixed used development and fractional and timeshare structuring.

Constantly at the leading edge of innovative financing as it has evolved over the last decade with EB-5 financing, Opportunity Zone structures, and now Commercial PACE financing, Maisnik has extensive experience in structuring capital raises, and structuring workable condo hotel and resort trust solutions for domestic and foreign buyers and investors.

Where great work and great people come together.

Polsinelli is proud to congratulate **Randye Soref** for being recognized by the *Los Angeles Business Journal* as one of the **2022 Top 100 Lawyers**.

Leaders stand out.

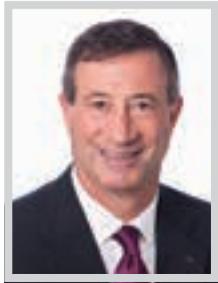


Am Law 100 firm with
950 attorneys nationwide
21 offices from LA to NY
170+ services/industries
polsinelli.com



Randye Soref
Principal
Los Angeles

The choice of a lawyer is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisements. Polsinelli PC, Polsinelli LLP in California.


SAMUEL MAIZEL

Director, Distressed Healthcare
Dentons US LLP

Samuel Maizel leads the healthcare industry restructuring efforts nationwide as a partner in Dentons' Los Angeles Office. His practice includes bankruptcy matters as well as financial restructurings, in and out of court, involving a broad spectrum of industries. He is a nationally recognized expert in the restructuring of healthcare industry entities. In chapter 11 cases, he has served as lead counsel to debtors, trustees and creditors' committees, and has acted as a trustee, examiner, patient care ombudsman and consumer privacy ombudsman.

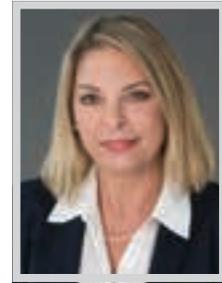
Maizel has also represented many buyers and sellers of assets in chapter 11 cases. In chapter 9 cases, he has represented local hospital districts and other governmental units, serving as debtor's counsel and as counsel to creditors' committees. Maizel was previously a partner in a national bankruptcy firm, and previous to that, as a trial attorney in the US Department of Justice's Commercial Litigation Branch.


NEAL MARDER

Partner
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP

Akin Gump partner Neal Marder is a highly accomplished trial lawyer and class action litigator in California and throughout the country, obtaining highly favorable outcomes for clients across myriad industries. Marder has achieved significant and precedent-setting victories in state and federal courts throughout the western region of the country. Further, Marder helms Akin Gump's litigation efforts in California and is co-chair of the firm's national class actions practice.

Marder is a recognized leader in the areas of complex and class action litigation, known for employing innovative strategies and compelling case presentation gained from over 35 years of practice. Marder has achieved tremendous success trying bet-the-company cases with winning results for both plaintiffs and defendants in court and arbitration. He has tried to verdict and arbitrated over 50 cases on behalf of his clients, including AEG Presents, Eastman Kodak, McDonald's, The Cheesecake Factory, and many more.


NINA MARINO

Partner
Kaplan Marino PC

Nina Marino's complex litigation and white-collar crime practice is national and international. She negotiates with the U.S. Department of Justice, state attorneys general, District Attorneys, and Interpol in her defense of individuals alleged to be involved with Medicare fraud, Foreign Corrupt Practice Act violations and tax, cyber and other crimes.

Quite simply, Marino likes to save people. Right from the start, clients understand that she takes their cases as personally as they do. Her presentations before U.S. Attorneys introduce new perspectives, compelling context and workable paths to resolution. Marino's unconventional combination of caring, integrity and formidable lawyering has earned her a national reputation and recognition. She discovers the shades of gray behind prosecutors' black-and-white arguments to shine new light on her clients' circumstances. Her team-driven, meticulously prepared strategies have repeatedly helped clients reach their objectives – from staying out of prison to defending allegations all the way to trial.


KEVIN MASUDA

Partner and Co-Chair, Media, Entertainment and Technology
Practice Group and Betting and Gaming Practice Group
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP

Over the years, Kevin Masuda has developed a vibrant practice handling major M&A, joint venture, and equity capital transactions. He balances his practice with serving in leadership roles at Gibson Dunn including serving as co-chair of Gibson Dunn's Media, Entertainment and Technology Practice Group and Betting and Gaming Practice Group. Masuda serves as a trusted advisor to motion picture studios and music companies, tech companies, gaming companies, PE funds, sports and talent agencies, and financial advisors. His clients turn to him for a broad range of transactions, such as M&A, joint ventures, investments, restructurings, public and private securities offerings, licensing agreements, sponsorships, and other strategic agreements.

Masuda's representations are often high-profile and headline generating, such as his recent representation of SpringHill Entertainment (LeBron James' media and entertainment company) in the sale of its minority stake to a consortium of investors, bringing its valuation to \$725 million.


BYRON McLAIN

Partner
Foley & Lardner LLP

Byron McLain is a Los Angeles-based litigator and white-collar criminal defense lawyer at Foley & Lardner LLP. He is a member of the firm's Government Enforcement Defense & Investigations, Securities Enforcement & Litigation, and Distribution & Franchise Practice Areas. He also is a member of the ESG Team. McLain also works closely with the Health Care, Cannabis, and Sports & Entertainment Industry Teams. He also is the chair of Foley & Lardner's Racial Justice and Equity Practice Group.

McLain is personable and strongly adept at articulating complex issues in layman's terms across industries and at understanding the business impact of the legal advice that he provides. He is also dedicated to the community in which he lives and works and provides pro bono service and support to a variety of organizations that promote the greater good, including the John M. Langston Bar Association (Los Angeles-based African-American bar organization).


MATTHEW McNICHOLAS

Partner
McNicholas & McNicholas, LLP

Matthew McNicholas with McNicholas & McNicholas has impacted the inner workings of large and powerful agencies like the Los Angeles Police Department; prevented illegal and coercive force that affects the lives of the public, law enforcement officers and firefighters; and protected the livelihoods of good law enforcement officers and firefighters who have dedicated their lives to serving and protecting their communities.

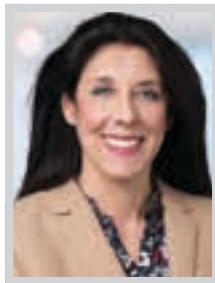
As panel counsel to the Los Angeles Police Protective League and the United Firefighters of Los Angeles City, McNicholas' tenacity and advocacy has lifted the veil on what really happens within police and fire departments. He has held dozens of California departments accountable for misconduct, corruption, and discrimination, empowering employees to come forward to make their departments better places to work and therefore making the public safer. His cases don't simply result in significant verdicts and settlements; they are catalysts for institutional change.



SANFORD MICHELMAN
Chairman
 Michelman & Robinson, LLP

Sanford Michelman continues to move the needle in terms of his work in the courtroom and the growth of his namesake firm, Michelman & Robinson, LLP. He recently expanded the firm's footprint into Texas with offices in Dallas and Houston. He also recently spearheaded a change to associate compensation at the firm that vaulted M&R to the top of the so-called "Cravath Scale" which dictates how much Big Law associates are paid.

All the while, Michelman continues to add to his track record of litigation successes. As chairman of M&R, he has been responsible for precedent-setting legal work, particularly in the insurance and banking & financial services sectors. He is also known for his representation of clients in governmental investigations, including those conducted by Departments of Insurance, Attorney General's Offices, the Department of Justice, Securities and Exchange Commission, Federal Trade Commission and Department of Real Estate, among others.



ELISABETH MORIARTY
Partner
 Greenberg Glusker LLP

Elisabeth Moriarty is a partner in Greenberg Glusker's Litigation Group. She is an experienced litigator who specializes in handling complex, high-profile disputes. She has represented plaintiffs and defendants in some of the entertainment industry's most significant, high-stakes disputes involving copyright, trademark and trade dress infringement, motion picture production and distribution, defamation, unfair competition, the licensing of intellectual property rights, and contractual disputes. She is skilled at working on large, high-profile entertainment matters.

Moriarty has extensive experience litigating major profit participation matters on behalf of talent, artists and rights holders, including the estate of J.R.R. Tolkien, Marvel Entertainment and the rights holders to the Winnie the Pooh property. She has unique experience interpreting complex contractual royalty provisions and convoluted participation statements. She has also handled matters involving online and digital media, television and music rights and idea submission disputes.



ANN MARIE MORTIMER
Managing Partner, Los Angeles;
Co-Head, Commercial Litigation Practice
 Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP

Ann Marie Mortimer, co-head of Hunton Andrew Kurth's commercial litigation practice and founder and managing partner of the firm's Los Angeles office, is at the forefront of complex litigation in the male-dominated field of cybersecurity. She counsels Fortune 50 companies – among them giants in their respective industries – on the novel challenges and regulations endemic to our increasingly virtual world, simultaneously leading the way for other women in the data privacy realm.

Mortimer's combination of legal technical brilliance blended with bottom-line pragmatism is the reason clients return to her repeatedly to navigate their most challenging class action, commercial and data breach cases. Over the last year alone, she has doubled her caseload for Facebook (now Meta Platforms, Inc.), spearheading at least a dozen statutory actions; and has taken on multiple new matters for a telecoms giant involving complex class actions.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



ADAM J. BASS
 RECOGNIZED AS A
TOP 100 LAWYER 2022
 BY THE *LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL*



JASON MURRAY

*Co-Chair, Antitrust & Competition Group;
Head, Los Angeles Office
Crowell & Moring LLP*

Jason Murray, co-chair of Crowell & Moring's global Antitrust & Competition Group and head of the firm's Los Angeles office, has made a name for himself as one of the most sought-after antitrust lawyers in the nation. Splitting his time between defense and plaintiffs antitrust work, Murray defends Fortune 500 companies in high-stakes bet-the-company antitrust litigation.

Murray has deep first chair trial and arbitration experience in antitrust matters and related complex commercial litigation, and regularly advises clients with matters before the Federal Trade Commission and Department of Justice. He represents companies in the health care, technology, retail, and telecommunications industries. His clients have included Cardinal Health, Los Angeles Harbor Department, Prime Therapeutics, Health Net, Inc., Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Wish, AT&T, Inc., Lenovo, Inc., Bosch, Siemens Home Appliances, ViewSonic Corporation, Target, Inc., Sears Kmart, Inc., and KOA Speer Electronics, Inc.



MARK NEUBAUER

*Los Angeles Office Managing Shareholder
Carlton Fields*

Throughout 45 years of practice, Mark Neubauer has achieved key litigation victories for some of the world's most well-known companies. He has tried numerous jury and bench trials in state and federal courts, focusing on sophisticated litigation, including commercial, securities, antitrust, real estate, employment, and entertainment matters. As Carlton Fields' Los Angeles office managing shareholder, he has led the West Coast practice since the firm expanded into California in 2014.

Neubauer served on the Defense Executive Committee in the Tribune Co. multidistrict litigation, the largest fraudulent conveyance class action ever brought. The case, which arose from the Tribune Co. leveraged buyout, involved more than 5,000 defendants. In addition to his leadership role on the defense committee, Neubauer won a motion to dismiss for one of his former director clients from the case. Neubauer also won several California federal court victories on behalf of large insurance companies.



RICK OLIVAREZ

*Founding and Managing Partner
Olivarez Madruga Law Organization*

Rick R. Olivarez, founding and managing partner of Olivarez Madruga Law Organization (OMLO), is widely considered to be one of Southern California's leading legal practitioners. Olivarez and the firm are now helping public agency clients uphold the highest levels of integrity and efficiency in their operations. He represents public entities facing district attorney and federal investigations, and working together with law enforcement and staff, is helping to bring justice to bad actors. Olivarez is working with clients to put new processes and procedures in place and providing training for staff and board members.

Olivarez's innovative leadership and deep expertise in serving his clients has enabled him to develop OMLO into Southern California's premier minority-owned law firm, all the while ensuring that OMLO remains an inclusive, diverse, and supportive work environment for its attorneys and staff—reflecting the diverse makeup of the clients and communities it serves.



RICHARD PACHULSKI

*Founding Partner
Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP*

Richard Pachulski is widely regarded as one of the preeminent corporate restructuring attorneys in America. Over the past few years, he has been lead counsel in the restructurings of Neiman Marcus, Yueting Jia, Easterday Ranches, CarbonLite, Highland Capital Management, and Ruby Tuesday. Additionally, Pachulski has also been a lead counsel in the \$1.5 billion Woodbridge Ponzi scheme matter.

Over Pachulski's career, a sampling of his roles as lead debtor counsel include the corporate restructurings of American Suzuki Motor Corporation, Solyndra LLC, and Mesa Airlines. Additionally, Pachulski recently was lead bankruptcy counsel to Lehman Brothers in a matter involving over \$2 billion due to Lehman Brothers. For the past four decades, Pachulski has represented debtors and creditors' committees in both out-of-court workouts and in-court proceedings. In addition, he has extensive experience in business reorganizations, as well as debtor/creditor litigation across numerous industries.



BRIAN PANISH

*Founding Partner
Panish | Shea | Boyle | Ravipudi LLP*

Panish | Shea | Boyle | Ravipudi LLP founding partner Brian Panish is recognized among the leading trial lawyers in the country and consistently serves in leadership roles in some of the largest personal injury cases including the Woolsey Fire, Thomas Fire and North Bay Fire Litigations, the Aliso Canyon Gas Well Blowout Litigation, the Asiana Airlines Crash Litigation, the Olympus Superbug/CRE Litigation, the DePuy ASR Hip Implant Litigation, and the Chatsworth Metrolink disaster.

Panish has obtained some of the most significant jury verdicts and settlements in United States history on behalf of plaintiffs including a \$4.9 billion verdict in the landmark products liability case Anderson v. General Motors, six verdicts in excess of \$50 million, and more than 100 verdicts and settlements in excess of \$10 million in personal injury, wrongful death and business litigation cases. Since 2011, Panish has obtained more than \$500 million for his clients.



HARSH PARIKH

*Partner
Nixon Peabody LLP*

Harsh Parikh is a partner in Nixon Peabody's Los Angeles office. He is a distinguished and integral member of the firm's national healthcare practice, where his talent, insight, collaboration, entrepreneurial spirit, and excellent client service help fuel firm culture. Since joining NP in spring of 2019, Parikh has established himself as a leading attorney at the firm, where he represents a broad range of prominent healthcare clients including health systems, hospitals, academic medical centers, physician groups, clinical laboratories, life sciences companies, and managed care organizations.

Parikh is a prominent voice in the evolving landscape of digital health, and on federal and state responses to the COVID-19 pandemic. During the pandemic, the City of Pasadena hired Parikh to help guide the City Council on oversight of the city's nursing homes. He has been supporting hospital systems throughout Southern California deal with complicated legal issues arising from physician burnout and patient surges.



R. REX PARRIS

Founding and Managing Partner
The PARRIS Law Firm

In the last 12 months, R. Rex Parris has helped obtain a multi-billion dollar settlement, a \$120 million verdict, and another roughly \$50 million verdict. Few attorneys can boast such accomplishments over their entire career, let alone in a six-month period as the world is pulling out of a once-in-a-century pandemic.

Parris has achieved outstanding results in the courtroom over the span of his career – he obtained the first million-dollar verdict in Kern County as a young lawyer and, years later, obtained an historic, record-breaking defamation jury verdict in Los Angeles for \$370 million. In between, Parris has obtained dozens of seven-, eight- and nine-figure verdicts and settlements. His success is hardly happenstance – Parris prepares every case, for trial using the latest science in persuasion skills. Everything from metaphoric choices, word selection and visuals are tested and re-tested before each trial.



PUYA PARTOW-NAVID

Partner, Intellectual Property Practice Group
Seyfarth Shaw LLP

Prior to attending law school, and also during law school, Puya Partow-Navid worked as a software quality assurance engineer at Symantec for nearly a decade. There, he developed new ad-blocking technology. His path to a career as an attorney may be considered non-traditional. Still, part of his success as a patent attorney can be attributed to skills and experiences obtained while he was an engineer.

In 2021 alone, Partow-Navid prepared over hundred patent applications and has established himself as a reliable resource for providing patent counseling to new and existing clients. He is the go-to contact at Seyfarth Shaw for clients that need assistance with artificial intelligence-related patents. As such, he performs patent prosecution work for the firm's largest patent prosecution client and has helped increase work year over year. Additionally, his experience was crucial for securing patent prosecution work from one of the world's largest automobile manufacturers.



STACY D. PHILLIPS

Partner, Matrimonial & Family Law
Blank Rome LLP

Stacy D. Phillips is one of the country's most well-known and respected family lawyers, handling primarily high-net-worth and high-profile divorce cases. She has guided clients through critical transitions for more than 37 years, including complex divorce actions, high-conflict custody cases, domestic violence matters, same-sex dissolutions, paternity cases, and pre-nuptial and post-nuptial agreements. Phillips is known for her skilled negotiation, aggressive advocacy, and compassion, whether in litigation, mediation, or collaborative divorce.

In one example of Phillips' success, she was retained by an internationally famous music star in a complex and dynamic child custody and support matter worth tens of millions of dollars. Phillips' role is central to the ongoing negotiations, which could erupt into litigation. She is managing custody and support laws in three countries, and has coordinated a separate confidentiality agreement to keep the mother silent and not compromise the privacy of the child.

At the top of our voice.

DLA Piper congratulates Angela Agrusa for being named among the *Los Angeles Business Journal's* 2022 Top Women Lawyers.

We thank you for your contributions to the California legal community.





ALISON PLESSMAN

Partner
Hueston Hennigan LLP

Alison Plessman has established herself as a top litigator, representing clients in high-stakes matters, including securities fraud, copyright infringement, wildfire litigation, trade secret theft, breach of contract and professional negligence matters, and white collar defense.

In June 2021, Plessman obtained a significant victory for her clients in the California Court of Appeal, when the Court of Appeal affirmed a trial court decision she secured in July 2020 granting a preliminary injunction against SweeGen, Inc. in favor of its minority shareholders in an action asserting derivative and direct claims alleging breaches of fiduciary duties, self-dealing, and securities fraud. A few months prior, in February 2021, she further defeated SweeGen's demurrer on all grounds. Plessman also currently represents Pacific Power and PacifiCorp as lead counsel in seventeen wildfire matters, including a proposed class action involving more than 2,500 putative class members.



BRONWYN POLLOCK

Partner; Co-Leader, Global Litigation & Dispute Resolution Practice;
Co-Leader, Global Insurance Industry Group
Mayer Brown LLP

Bronwyn Pollock, co-leader of Mayer Brown's global Litigation & Dispute Resolution practice and co-leader of the firm's global Insurance Industry Group, is one of California's leading complex civil litigators, trusted by companies such as Bird Rides, First American, Generali, and Caliber Home Loans to handle high-stakes cases that often test new legal theories, including some that cut to the heart of a company's business model. Pollock also has carved out a niche practice in the entertainment industry, where she litigates and arbitrates business disputes between major industry players.

With a practice focused on complex civil litigation – particularly involving the real estate, entertainment, banking, finance, and insurance industries – Pollock has appeared before numerous federal and state courts and arbitrators. Pollock leads teams representing global insurers in significant class action cases by policyholders seeking coverage for COVID-19 business interruption and travel insurance claims.



JENNIFER POST

Managing Partner - Los Angeles
Thompson Coburn LLP

Jennifer Post is a partner in the Corporate and Securities Practice Group of Thompson Coburn, LLP. She is the managing partner of the firm's LA office and the first LGBTQ office managing partner of the firm. She is a member of the firm's Management Committee and is the vice chair of the firm's Emerging Company practice area.

Post serves as primary outside counsel to a variety of individuals, institutions and companies, including entrepreneurs, venture capital firms and emerging companies. Her practice encompasses all areas of general corporate, M&A and securities law. She also represents investment entities including venture capital firms in their investment work, formation, governance and maintenance. Post has a unique niche representing alternative asset and fintech lenders including venture debt lenders and hedge funds in private credit transactions with an emphasis in technology, fintech and consumer brands companies.

DTO

LAW

Congratulations to
Will Delgado for being named
to the *Los Angeles Business Journal's*
2022 "Top 100 Lawyers" list.

dtolaw.com





TIM POYDENIS
Partner
Goodwin

As a founding partner of Goodwin’s Santa Monica office and a leading emerging companies and venture capital attorney in the Southern California technology ecosystem, Tim Poydenis represents nearly 100 Los Angeles-based clients. These clients range on the company side from early-stage companies to late-stage companies, and on the investor side from angel investors to venture capital investors and private equity funds.

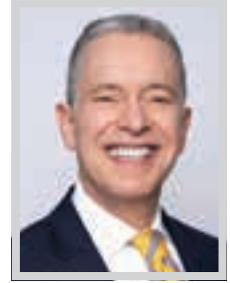
Poydenis has worked on marquee deals throughout his career, and has continued this momentum into 2022 by counseling innovative technology companies throughout their corporate lifecycle, including formation, fundraising, strategy, partnerships, business relationships, M&A, joint ventures and corporate governance matters. As a result of his deep industry knowledge, Poydenis is sought-after counsel for venture and private equity firms investing in technology companies. This has allowed Poydenis to establish a high volume investor-side practice and successfully advise clients on hundreds of investor-side deals over the past several years.



AMY QUARTAROLO
Partner; Co-Chair of the Litigation & Trial Department in Los Angeles
Latham & Watkins LLP

As the co-chair of the Litigation & Trial Department in the Los Angeles offices of Latham & Watkins, Amy Quartarolo helps to lead, coordinate, and support a local team of more than 50 attorneys who in turn are part of Latham’s industry-leading global disputes team. In addition to this key leadership role, Quartarolo currently is a member of Latham’s Equal Opportunity Employment Review Board, and historically has served on the firm’s Recruiting Committee, Pro Bono Committee, Training and Career Enhancement Committee, and Women Enriching Business Committee – reflecting her commitment to developing diverse talent within the firm and in the legal profession.

In her bankruptcy litigation and creditors’ rights practice, Quartarolo represents both debtors and creditors in a wide range of bankruptcy-related and complex commercial litigation. She regularly practices in both state and federal courts, and has argued before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.



ANDREW RAINES
Founder & Partner
Raines Feldman

As a founding partner of Raines Feldman, Andrew Raines brings to the practice of law decades of real-world business experience as a real estate investor. Raines believes in mentorship, instilling in the firm’s attorneys the values of hard work and dedication which launched the firm’s growth and accomplishments. He is a partner to his clients in the truest sense of the word and watches over their business interests to preserve and protect their success.

Raines represents many of the most successful and innovative real estate companies in the US. As a veteran transactional attorney with over 30 years of deal flow experience, Raines advises his clients through every stage of commercial real estate investment, leasing and development transactions from inception through conclusion. He is a national expert in commercial leasing, having represented institutional landlords and major tenants in their headquarters, regional and local lease agreements.

LATHAM & WATKINS ^{LLP}

Congratulations

to all of the Top 100 Lawyers honorees, and thanks to the *LA Business Journal* for selecting our partners Amy Quartarolo, Larry Seymour, and Jason Silvera.




ELSA RAMO

Managing Partner
Ramo Law PC

Elsa Ramo represents over 100 films and 50 television scripted and unscripted series per year, providing comprehensive legal services to producers, financiers, creators and owners of film, television, and digital content and projects across a range of budgets and production levels.

Having founded Ramo Law PC in 2005 on the Universal Studios backlot to enable up-and-coming filmmakers to bring their stories to life, Ramo now manages a bi-coastal firm of 18 attorneys and represents prolific producers including Imagine Entertainment, Kevin Hart's production companies Laugh Out Loud and HartBeat Productions, Balboa Productions (Sylvester Stallone's production company), Scout Productions ("Queer Eye"), Boardwalk Pictures ("Chefs Table"), Skydance, The Jim Henson Company, Yale Productions, and Hello Sunshine. Ramo's leadership within the legal and entertainment communities extends beyond her successful Beverly Hills firm. She dedicates substantial time to mentoring women through various organizations such as PEFA.


REGINALD ROBERTS, JR.

Co-Founding Partner and Co-Managing Partner
Sanders Roberts LLP

Reginald Roberts, Jr., a co-founding partner and a co-managing partner of Sanders Roberts LLP, has been handling complex employment and business litigation issues for over 15 years, relentlessly defending public and private clients in matters that stand to critically impact their lives and livelihoods: from discrimination and harassment to wrongful termination, breach of contract to insurance coverage disputes, premises liability to wrongful death.

Roberts is a leading employment defense trial lawyer and a persuasive advocate for his clients who range from global corporations and financial institutions to municipalities and individuals. He handles cases from pre-litigation all the way through trial, in both state and federal courts. He assists his clients in navigating complex and sometimes challenging employment scenarios that may garner public attention while simultaneously minimizing risk and addressing concerns beyond just monetary impact. Roberts also has an excellent track record when it comes to defending cases at trial.


MARIA RODRIGUEZ

Partner
McDermott Will & Emery

Maria Rodriguez's innovative practice is focused on employment law compliance and class action litigation. She diligently defends her clients, helping them avoid or resolve disputes and protect resources. While Rodriguez dedicates a significant amount of her practice defending her clients against claims arising under state and federal employment laws, including FLSA, ADA, FMLA, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, CFRA and PAGA, she has made a name for herself counseling clients and fighting against wage-and-hour, discrimination, harassment, wrongful termination, retaliation, and other employment-related cases.

As part of an industry-wide pitch, Rodriguez and team were selected to develop a cutting-edge, anti-harassment training program for the seven major Hollywood studios. The training has been rolled out to all Hollywood production employees, including showrunners, talent, executives, and the crew, and continues to evolve to address discrimination, harassment, retaliation, and abusive conduct prevention in a multitude of circumstances and perspectives.

Congratulations to our Partner
Randall S. Leff for being selected
as part of the **Top 100 Lawyers** by
the *Los Angeles Business Journal*.

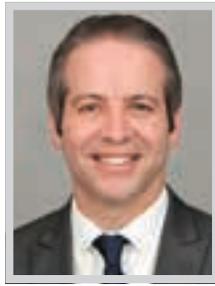
ERVIN COHEN & JESSUP LLP
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MATHEW ROSENGART
Shareholder
Greenberg Traurig, LLP

As a former trial attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice and a principal shareholder in the litigation department of one of the world’s largest law firms, Mathew Rosengart brings a unique perspective to private practice that has made him a “go-to litigator for Hollywood’s elite and corporate America.”

Last year, Rosengart led a historic fight to free Britney Spears from the shackles of a 13-year conservatorship which, among other things, stripped her of fundamental civil rights and liberties. With the added pressures of intense media interest and a massive, vocal fan base, Rosengart achieved three swift victories for his client in 2021: Britney was allowed to choose her own lawyer (Rosengart); her father James Spears was removed as her conservator in a landmark decision that was the subject of breaking news stories throughout the U.S. and the world; and the entire conservatorship was later terminated.



TODD SCHERWIN
Regional Managing Partner
Fisher Phillips

Fisher Phillips’ Todd Scherwin is a powerful and effective advocate for Los Angeles-area business clients facing thorny employment issues and perilous lawsuits. One of California’s premier labor and employment attorneys, Scherwin has blazed a trail in the ever-evolving world of California employment law through highly successful advocacy – including a track record of victories for employers and, recently, sitting at the counsel table before the U.S. Supreme Court. He has also led the firm’s burgeoning Los Angeles office since 2013, opened a Woodland Hills office in 2020, and serves as co-chair of the firm’s Sports Industry Team, which he established last year.

Scherwin has navigated the complex world of the COVID-19 pandemic assisting Los Angeles and national clients in dealing with COVID-19 related shutdowns, layoffs, rehires, vaccine mandates, sick leave ordinances, and local mandates. He has been instrumental in assisting businesses through difficult times.



LAUREN SCHNEIDER
Office Managing Partner California Offices
Lewis Roca

Lauren Schneider is a partner in Lewis Roca’s Intellectual Property practice and also serves as the office managing partner of the firm’s Los Angeles and Silicon Valley offices. She oversees more than 40 intellectual property lawyers that focus on the areas of trademark prosecution, patent prosecution, licensing, opinion work, post-grant proceedings and litigation.

Schneider’s practice focuses on U.S.-based and international patent procurement and portfolio development, as well as licensing and opinion work. She provides patent strategy and portfolio management for numerous major clients across a diverse array of technical disciplines, both in the United States and internationally. She has extensive experience providing intellectual property protection and counseling in the biotechnology and chemistry sectors, and has counseled numerous clients, large and small, and prosecuted patent applications in a wide variety of technical fields, including life sciences, chemistry, materials science, optics, and mechanics.



Jennifer Post

Thompson Coburn proudly congratulates our Los Angeles Managing Partner on her selection to the LA Business Journal’s

2022 TOP 100 LAWYERS LIST





LARRY SEYMOUR

Office Managing Partner, Los Angeles/Century City
Latham & Watkins LLP

As the managing partner of Latham's two Los Angeles metro offices in downtown LA and Century City, Larry Seymour leads 263 lawyers and their supporting staff through strategic planning, client relations, financial performance and budgeting, compensation and progression decisions, mentoring and career development, and lawyer recruiting and integration, while also maintaining a thriving executive compensation and employee benefits practice.

Seymour rose to lead the firm's founding office because of his leadership skills and business savvy, particularly in regard to the key role his executive compensation and employee benefits practice plays in the major corporate transactions the firm shepherds in California and around the world. In his practice, Seymour represents public and private companies, private equity firms and family offices, as well as senior executives and management teams, each in transactional and non-transactional settings. He also advises public and private companies and firms in day-to-day executive compensation matters.



DAN SHALLMAN

Managing Partner of the Los Angeles Office
Covington & Burling LLP

Dan Shallman is the managing partner of Covington & Burling's Los Angeles Office, an office he was a founding partner of when it opened in 2015. He is a nationally recognized white collar defense lawyer and previously co-led Covington's renowned Global Anti-Corruption Practice Group. Shallman is a former federal public corruption prosecutor (Assistant U.S. Attorney in Los Angeles from 1999 to 2007), an accomplished trial lawyer, investigator, and strategist. He specializes in representing companies, independent board committees, senior corporate executives, and high ranking government officials in sensitive government and internal investigations.

Shallman is known for his ability to successfully resolve complex civil and criminal matters, including cross-border investigations involving alleged violations of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and other anti-bribery laws, the False Claims Act, and the Sherman Antitrust Act. Shallman is a past chair of the ABA White Collar Crime Committee for Southern California.



JASON SILVERA

Partner; Global Vice Chair of Corporate Department
Latham & Watkins LLP

As the global vice-chair of Latham's Corporate Department, Jason Silvera drives relationships with key firm clients on their most important and strategic matters. Collaborating closely with his fellow partners, Silvera guides the business direction of the firm's largest department and its many component practice groups. With particular focus on – and insight into – the West Coast market and its specific legal trends and demands, he helps build and execute department-wide strategies to maintain and grow the firm's corporate client base, facilitate internal communications and knowledge sharing, determine compensation and career progression, and bolster lateral partner recruiting.

Silvera also maintains a market-leading practice focused on mergers and acquisitions for private equity firms and public and private companies in a range of industries important to the local and national economy – including retail, sports, entertainment and media, internet and technology, real estate, defense, logistics, and manufacturing.



We proudly congratulate our colleagues, Jason Murray and Renée Delphin-Rodriguez, on being named among *Los Angeles Business Journal's* "Top 100 Lawyers."

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MARGARET SOHAGI

Managing Partner
The Sohagi Law Group

Margaret Sohagi's practice for the last 30 years has focused on assisting cities, counties, and other public agencies navigate the legal complexities of land use, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Sohagi provides constructive, practical legal advice, working directly with lead agency counsel, staff, appointed elected officials. When necessary, she zealously defends lead agencies' land use approvals and environmental determinations in judicial proceedings, and frequently heads mediation teams in settlement discussions.

As a longstanding CEQA instructor for California's Continuing Judicial Studies Program, Sohagi has the unique opportunity to instruct Superior Court judges, appellate justices and court attorneys. Her land use and environmental law expertise, and ability to keep public agencies informed about the latest legal developments and trends, is also demonstrated through her frequent planning and legal conference presentations, extensive UCLA and USC teaching experience.



RANDYE SOREF

Principal
Polsinelli

Randye Soref focuses her practice on distressed companies approaching every matter from a practical and successful endgame view. She has a national practice representing clients in all aspects of bankruptcy proceedings and out of court restructurings, including reorganizations, corporate workouts, creditor's rights, bankruptcy litigation and assignments for the benefit of creditors. She has been lead counsel in representing nationally known distressed retail and apparel companies, including e-commerce companies, intellectual property, real estate, and entertainment companies.

Soref has also been the lead attorney in numerous distressed healthcare matters involving large nationally based hospitals, health plans, health care providers, skilled nursing facilities, behavioral health facilities, as well as patient care ombudsmen appointed by the U.S. Trustee who she counsels regarding privacy related issues. Soref also routinely represents committees of unsecured creditors and liquidating trusts in nationally recognized Chapter 11 cases.



JULIA STRICKLAND

Managing Partner, Los Angeles Office;
Member, National Executive Committee; Chair, National Financial Services Litigation, Regulation and Enforcement Practice Group
Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP

As chair of Stroock's Financial Services Litigation, Regulation and Enforcement Group, a member of Stroock's National Executive Committee and managing partner of its Los Angeles office, Julia Strickland is often the first attorney called when a financial services company needs anything from practical guidance to the fierce defense of contentious and high-stakes litigation and regulatory enforcement matters. She also is routinely sought out for counseling on federal and state regulatory compliance matters and the full range of issues arising from lending and servicing, retail banking, real estate and unfair and deceptive practices.

Strickland represents various BMW entities as well as Mercedes-Benz in a series of separate individual and putative class actions filed in state and federal courts in late 2021 and early 2022, alleging that the automobile manufacturers and finance companies are violating California antitrust and unfair practices laws, among other laws.

Congratulations to our friend and partner **Melanie Howard** for being honored in the 2022 edition of *Los Angeles Business Journal's* Top 100 Lawyers list.

We applaud your outstanding professional accomplishments, unwavering dedication to your clients and the firm, and steadfast commitment to your community and beyond.





JOHN N. TEDFORD, IV

Partner

Danning, Gill, Israel & Krasnoff, LLP

John Tedford has been working at Danning Gill since he graduated from law school. He represents debtors, creditors, trustees and receivers in bankruptcy and other insolvency matters and is often called by other practitioners for his expertise in the law. He represents companies in all California state and federal courts, especially bankruptcy courts.

Tedford's leadership in the bankruptcy community is known throughout the state. He is a lawyer representative for the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference, Financial Lawyers Conference; member of the Board of Governors (secretary, 2021-2022), California Bankruptcy Forum; member and treasurer (2021-2022), American Bankruptcy Institute; member of the Bankruptcy Battleground West Advisory Board (2021-2022); former president of the Los Angeles Bankruptcy Forum (2017-2018); advisor and former co-chair (2017-2018) of the Insolvency Law Committee, Business Law Section of the California Lawyers Association; and is currently the editor of the California Bankruptcy Journal.



GIANCARLO UREY

Partner; Co-Chair, Employment Services Group DEI Committee
Davis Wright Tremaine

Giancarlo Urey is a leading litigator who understands that, while employment cases often share similar themes or patterns, every employment case comes with its own unique challenges and opportunities. A creative and strategic trial attorney, Urey collaborates with his clients to develop the most effective, cost-efficient solution to their litigation problems.

Urey first joined DWT in 2013 and immediately impressed the firm with his hard work ethic, exceeding his requirements in all litigation matters. From small family-owned companies to large multinational corporations, Urey has built his practice to encompass his extensive experience guiding companies as they face potentially high-exposure claims from current and former employees. A creative and strategic trial attorney, Urey's practice specializes in defending against claims of wage and hour violations, discrimination, retaliation, harassment, wrongful termination, defamation, and misappropriation of trade secrets. He has significant experience trying these types of cases to successful conclusions.



BELINDA VEGA

Co-Chair, West Coast Litigation Group
Venable LLP

Belinda Martinez Vega, co-chair of Venable's West Coast Litigation Group, focuses on complex commercial litigation, including matters involving unfair business practices, contract disputes, and fraud. She also defends employers against false accusations, discrimination, breach of contract, and various other claims while in compliance with both California state and federal employment laws. Belinda is a passionate advocate for her clients in the financial services, hotel and hospitality, technology, professional services, consumer products, art, media, and entertainment industries.

With over two decades of experience, clients rely on Vega's sophisticated knowledge and astute insight in achieving favorable outcomes in the most complex cases. When difficult and challenging issues cannot be resolved without litigation, she is prepared to try the case for the client. Among her many recent accomplishments is her success in obtaining summary judgment for her client, Las Vegas Resort Holdings, LLC.

ANDRADE
GONZALEZ
LLP

We congratulate Managing Partner, **Sean Andrade**, on being named among the *Los Angeles Business Journal's* "Top 100 Lawyers."

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EMPLOYMENT CLASS ACTIONS & WRONGFUL TERMINATION | INSURANCE COVERAGE | LITIGATION | CATASTROPHIC INJURIES
PUBLIC ENTITY & ADMINISTRATIVE LAW | WHITE COLLAR LITIGATION & INVESTIGATIONS | WRITS & APPEALS





PERRIE WEINER

Partner in Charge, Los Angeles Office;
Chair of the Firm's North America Securities Litigation Group
Baker McKenzie

Perrie Weiner is the partner in charge of Baker McKenzie's Los Angeles office, and chair of the firm's North America Securities Litigation Group. He has innovated and heads the firm's Lease Litigation & Restructuring Practice, which he formed to address client issues associated with COVID-19. Weiner also formed and is a leader of the firm's SPAC Rapid Response Team, created to address recent SEC enforcement and related securities litigation issues associated with SPACs and de-SPAC M&A transactions, with a particular focus on Asian markets.

With more than 30 years of experience, Weiner's practice focuses on securities litigation and enforcement matters and complex business litigation. He advises private equity funds, including hedge funds, broker-dealers, underwriters, placement agents and issuers in SEC and FINRA enforcement proceedings, and in white collar criminal proceedings.



ALEX WEINGARTEN

Chair, Entertainment Litigation;
Managing Partner, Los Angeles Office
Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP

Alex Weingarten is a preeminent trial lawyer who represents talent and entertainment industry professionals in high-stake business, probate, and entertainment litigation. Clients look to Weingarten to handle "bet the company" cases, protect their integrity during the public litigation process, and suggest novel strategies. He is zealous and precise in optimizing results and finding the most direct route to victory.

2021 was a particularly busy and exciting year for Weingarten. In addition to serving his clients, he joined international law firm Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP as managing partner of the new Los Angeles office and co-led its launch and rapid expansion. Among Weingarten's high profile cases is his work representing Jamie Spears, the father and former 13-year conservator of Britney Spears, in a highly publicized matter regarding the transition of the pop star's conservatorship and potential claims that arise during the transition.



KEITH WESLEY

Managing Partner
Ellis George Cipollone O'Brien Annaguey LLP

Keith Wesley, managing partner at Ellis George Cipollone O'Brien Annaguey LLP, has represented clients in over 100 intellectual property disputes in federal courts throughout the country.

Recently, Wesley prevailed in one of the first post-quarantine civil jury trials in the Central District of California, obtaining a willful counterfeiting verdict on behalf of fashion brand Brandy Melville against print-on-demand leader Redbubble. He also obtained reversal of a summary judgment against his client in a published Ninth Circuit opinion that clarified and expanded upon the doctrine of reverse confusion in trademark matters. He also defeated at jury trial an over \$48 million false advertising claim by pharmaceutical company Allergan against a leading compounding pharmacy (ImprimisRX), with the jury awarding less than \$50,000. Wesley also represented the iconic video game brand Atari in a variety of intellectual property enforcement matters against print-on-demand companies that facilitated the infringement of Atari intellectual property.

Congratulations to **Philip Bonoli**
on his selection to the
Los Angeles Business Journal's
2022 **"Top 100 Lawyers"** list.



VANESSA WIDENER

Partner

Anderson, McPharlin & Connors LLP

Vanessa Widener serves as one of the managing partners of the Anderson, McPharlin & Connors. As a civil litigation attorney based out of the firm's Los Angeles office, her advocacy for clients takes her to jurisdictions throughout California.

Widener's robust practice involves a range of complex commercial and real property matters, including prosecuting and defending actions on behalf of title insurers, escrows, real estate owners, and lienholders. Widener often handles disputes arising out of quiet title claims; neighbor disputes fueled by allegations trespass and nuisance; resolution of easements rights; challenges to real property ownership and validity of liens arising out of fraud and forgery claims; transactions involving liability of real estate brokers, escrows and title; probate and trust litigation matters including Probate Code 850 petitions; litigation against credit unions, financial institutions mortgage loan servicers and lenders arising out of a myriad of issues; and general business disputes.



STEPHANIE YONEKURA

Partner

Hogan Lovells

Stephanie Yonekura is the global head of Hogan Lovells' Investigations, White Collar, and Fraud practice. Previously, she was Acting United States Attorney in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Central District of California, the largest U.S. Attorney's office outside Washington, D.C. She brings a unique perspective to any internal investigation. Having served as a federal prosecutor for over 14 years, Yonekura knows the hot-button issues that are considered in every stage of any government investigation.

Yonekura is a highly accomplished trial attorney, exuding confidence, knowledge, and integrity in the courtroom. In private practice, Yonekura uses her substantial experience in the trenches, in the courtroom, and as the chief law enforcement officer in Los Angeles to help clients understand the key issues, investigate matters strategically and surgically, and negotiate with and defend clients before law enforcement agencies around the world.



EMILY YUKICH

Managing Partner, Los Angeles Office
Fox Rothschild LLP

Managing partner of Fox Rothschild's Los Angeles office, Emily Yukich is a visionary voice for women in the region's startup ecosystem. Vice president of the Los Angeles Venture Association board, and founder of Women in LAVA, Yukich is a go-to attorney for industry disruptors, and a force in the emerging companies/venture capital space.

Yukich is a highly respected attorney and industry leader working on behalf of clients in Los Angeles' emerging company and venture capital (EC/VC) ecosystem. Her clients – small-to-mid-sized companies on the rise – trust Yukich's keen judgement, insight that comes, in part, from the firsthand experience of co-founding and operating an early childhood education business before launching her legal career. Yukich applies that business-centered approach to advising companies in the tech, consumer products, manufacturing, food and beverage, construction and professional services sectors on complex transactions. She helps clients secure financing that achieves their strategic goals.



RAFFI ZEROUNIAN

Partner and Los Angeles Market Leader
Hanson Bridgett

With almost two decades in practice, Raffi Zerounian has established an industry-leading practice profile in trademark prosecution and litigation matters representing preeminent brands and companies globally. With emphasis in handling trademark disputes for well-known brands, Zerounian has resolved hundreds of trademark enforcement disputes and has been lead counsel in many trademark infringement actions in federal court. He has also been involved with proceedings before the United States Patent and Trademark Office's Trademark Trial and Appeal Board and oversees opposition and cancellation proceedings outside the US. As part of this practice, Zerounian grows and manages sizeable international trademark portfolios.

Zerounian's clients range from startups to established technology companies like Juniper Networks and GoPro, to producers of alcoholic beverages such as Jack Daniels and Jackson Family Wines, to media companies like Skydance Productions, and public entities such as the Regents of the University of California.

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PATRICIA GLASER

Partner and Chair of the Litigation Department
Glaser Weil LLP

A true legal legend and trial icon, Glaser Weil’s Patricia Glaser is a partner and chair of the Litigation Department. She has long served as one of the entertainment industry’s preeminent trial lawyers – considered by many to be the foremost attorney for studios, production companies, creative executives and A-list celebrities who need to solve their issues through negotiation or litigation.

Glaser’s clients have run the gamut from Fortune 500 companies, major studios, and real estate investors and developers, to financial institutions and high-profile entertainers and public figures.

She is consistently ranked as one of California’s top business trial attorneys. Chambers and Partners routinely gives her top California rankings in both General Commercial Litigation and Media & Entertainment Litigation.

Throughout her storied career, Glaser has been tremendously impactful both in and out of the courtroom. She serves on the board of directors of several prominent arts organizations, including the Los Angeles Music Center Theatre Group and The Geffen Playhouse. Her interest in the arts extends to producing plays and other theatrical pieces. Her leadership positions include having served on the Board of Trustees for The National Judicial College, serving on the Board of Governors of The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, vice chair of the Western Region of the American Friends of The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and on the UCLA Israel Studies Program Advisory Board. In addition, Glaser is a member of the Advancement Project Leadership Council, a next-generation civil rights advocacy organization, and is active in fundraising for a large number of charities, political issues and candidates.




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Adam Levin
*Labor & Employment
Partner*



ATTORNEY TO WATCH

RENÉE DELPHIN-RODRIGUEZ

Partner

Crowell & Moring LLP

Without question an attorney to watch, Renée Delphin-Rodriguez brings a unique blend of law firm and in-house experience to her partner role at Crowell & Moring. She served as assistant general counsel to a Fortune 500 health care company and general counsel to a health care management services organization. Her broad understanding of managed care and value-based payment arrangements, combined with her corporate experience, allows her to effectively guide clients through complex transactions and provide strategic advice in a heavily regulated industry.

Delphin-Rodriguez is also passionate about associate mentorship and is active with Crowell & Moring's affinity group for Black attorneys. During the pandemic, she initiated monthly check-in calls with the Black partners in the firm. These check-ins have fostered a sense of community and kinship among the Black partners.

She represented GigCapital2, Inc. and GigCapital3, Inc. (SPACs) in their initial public offerings; represented GigCapital, Inc. (SPAC) in its business combination with Kaleyra S.p.A.; and represented 99 Cents Only Stores in its going-private transaction, among other high profile matters.

Delphin-Rodriguez has also represented Berkshire Hathaway in several public company acquisitions, including its acquisition of Wesco Financial and Oriental Trading Company.

She also plays an impactful role in the community. She serves on the board of directors of Homeboy Industries, the largest gang rehabilitation and re-entry program in the world and also serves on the board of directors for Planned Parenthood Los Angeles, and commencing in July, she will serve as the co-chair of the board.



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CHAMPION OF DIVERSITY

DAN CLIVNER

Managing Partner
Sidley Austin LLP

Dan Clivner's already well-established leadership skills were especially crucial during recent events. As a diverse lawyer, Clivner was deeply involved with Sidley Austin lawyers from diverse backgrounds seeking to address injustice and other issues of concern to them in the aftermath of the George Floyd murder.

His extensive work outside the firm includes leadership at several prominent organizations. He is a former chairman of the board and leader of the capital campaign for Public Counsel, the largest pro bono public interest law firm in the nation, and served for six years as director of APLA Healthcare (formerly known as AIDS Project Los Angeles). He is also a member of the Williams Institute Legal Council at UCLA Law School, the nation's leading research center on sexual orientation and gender identity law and public policy, which engages in legal research, public policy analysis, judicial training and leadership development.

Clivner has been an LGBTQ diversity pioneer throughout his career, breaking down barriers and helping others to do so as well. When he became partner at Simpson Thacher in 1998, he was one of only three openly gay partners. Since that time, he has filled many roles as a leader and mentor in the LGBTQ community, both within the legal profession and in local and national organizations outside the industry.

Within Sidley, his advocacy and leadership has helped with increasing the numbers of diverse and LGBTQ lawyers at the firm. For the past five years, a majority of the firm's summer associates and incoming associates have been diverse or LGBTQ lawyers.

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Davis Wright Tremaine congratulates our friend and colleague, Giancarlo Urey, for being honored among the Los Angeles Business Journal's 2022 Top 100 Lawyers List!



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CHAMPION OF MENTORSHIP

TERRENCE FRANKLIN

Partner

Sacks, Glazier, Franklin & Lodise LLP

It's true that Terrence Franklin is regarded as one of the top litigators in the U.S. by clients and colleagues, but one of his greatest impacts has been his role as an influential mentor. He is renowned for his commitment to furthering the advancement of minority lawyers. As a gay, African American lawyer, Franklin works tirelessly to bring awareness and educate others about the importance of diversity and inclusion.

Franklin holds countless leadership positions in organizations which impact the law and support his mission to "Help Bend the Arc of History Towards Justice." For example, Franklin is a longtime Fellow and first African American member of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel (ACTEC), the preeminent organization in the trusts and estates industry. Its members are elected to the College by demonstrating the highest level of integrity, competence and at least 10 years' experience as trust and estate counselors. Fellows must have also demonstrated their commitment to the profession through consistently writing and speaking.

Within Sacks Glazier Franklin & Lodise, Franklin takes an active role in the firm's recruiting and hiring efforts for minority attorneys, and has brought on Afghani, African American, Armenian, Filipino and Latino associates. He serves as a mentor for these attorneys to personally grow their practice and network.

For his mentees, Franklin has provided direct guidance as well as letters of recommendation and introductions for opportunities, such as the California Lawyers Association Trust and Estate Section Executive Committee.

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Eric Early and all of the
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COMMUNITY IMPACT

EVA DAVIS

Chair, Transactions Department
Winston & Strawn LLP

As a woman in the predominantly male private equity field, Eva Davis works hard to connect and support women in the industry. She serves on Winston’s Women’s Leadership Council (2011-present) and champions women’s voices through thought leadership. In 2020, Davis wrote a scorching response to a Forbes article that asserted women don’t want to own their own private equity firms. She even worked with Winston to host a four-part event titled “Correcting the Record: Yes, Women Want to Own Their Own PE Firms.” During the event, women GPs provided insights into launching and running their own PE firms and LPs discussed key considerations for making an investment in a first-time fund.

She is involved with a variety of local, academic, and professional communities. She is especially proud of her contributions to Read To A Child. Since 2004, Davis has served as the organization’s chairwoman of the Regional Board of Directors (Los Angeles). In addition to her duties as chairwoman, she reads biweekly with her reading buddy Hector from nearby Leo Politi Elementary. In 2020 she spearheaded Winston’s continued support of the program as the inaugural sponsor of its Read Aloud program, donating money, and identifying authors who could be recorded reading their books aloud for children in quarantine. In 2021, Read To A Child presented Davis with its Lifetime Achievement award.

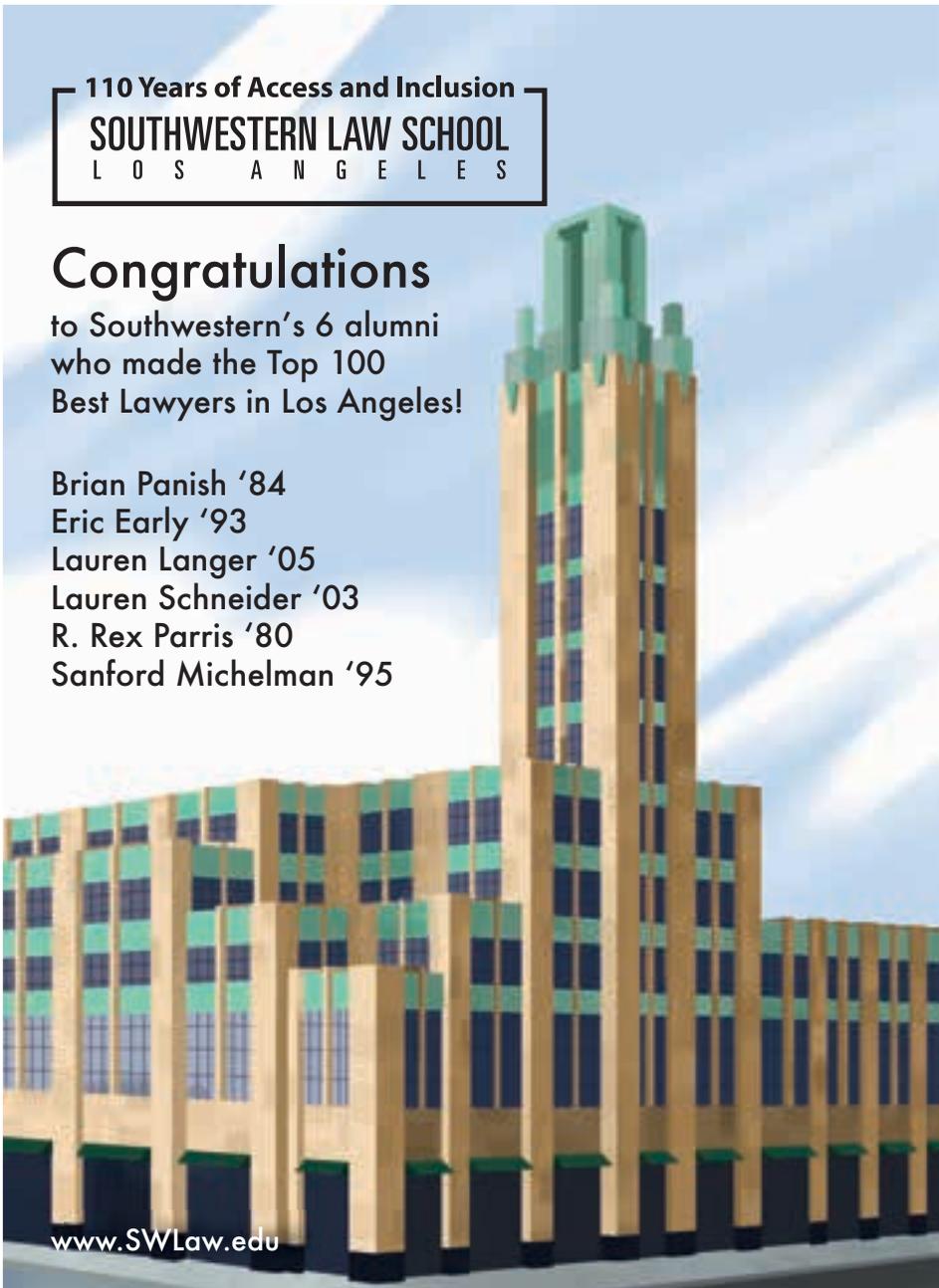
Davis’ community involvement also includes her work on the Institute for Corporate Counsel Advisory Board (2019 - present); Board of Governors (2010 - 2018); and Institute chairwoman (2013 - 2014).

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My Advice to a Young Lawyer: Never Miss a Beat

By PERRIE M. WEINER

“You only get better by playing. If you think you stink, you probably do.”
– Buddy Rich, legendary American jazz drummer

I’m a securities litigation lawyer by day and – if I say so myself – a “hidden gem” of a drummer by night, still waiting for my band’s big break. In between playing sets with my bands through the years, I’ve learned how to embrace the rhythm of the business of law and play to my strengths.

The result is a career that I’m proud of, collaborating with scores of professionals whose work I admire. I thought I would offer a few principles that have guided me through my own career to the next generation of legal talent rising up in Los Angeles. In a time when many seem to struggle to find success and contentment personally and professionally, I’m hoping my words offer some encouragement.

- **First things first, love what you do.** If you love being a lawyer and your area of expertise, then every day – or most days – will be joyful. For me, I love being an entrepreneur, the business of law and trying new things since I bore easily.

- **There are no short cuts.** Success takes hard work. Consider the words of the legendary jazz drummer, Buddy Rich, “You only get better

by playing.” Work hard to be the best that you can be in your field, which includes trying new approaches and continuing to grow a bit more every day.

My flexibility and open-mindedness enable me to build and lead offices and practice groups.

For example, when COVID hit, I pivoted several times, first launching our Lease Litigation & Restructuring Practice, and then forming Baker McKenzie’s SPAC Rapid Respond Team to serve client’s needs.

- **Regardless of your age or stage in your career, you can mentor and motivate others** to be the very best they can be. Success doesn’t happen in a vacuum – it is a result of the synergies that are borne out of strong, collegial teams. If your goal is to be a rainmaker with a large practice, you need to be a part of a strong team because you won’t be able to do it alone.

I’m extremely grateful to work with such a fantastic team of lawyers and professionals. They are all incredibly smart, talented and hard work-



ing. I learn new and fresh approaches from them and from seeing cases through their eyes.

- **Give people the respect they deserve.** It surprises me how many people don’t realize that common courtesy is an oft-overlooked key to success. Be immediately responsive to a client’s needs and above all else, listen to them.

Whenever I meet with a client, I listen before I speak. I find out what their objective is in litigation. Most clients have a very specific business objective, and it’s critical to work with them to define it, because it’s not always immediately apparent. After that, it’s easy to figure out the best strategy to use to meet your client’s

objective and get them across the finish line. That’s what winning is all about. It’s not your win – it’s your client’s win.

- **Don’t forget about your passions outside of the office.** For me, this is a combination of giving back to my community while keeping my dream alive of becoming the next Charlie Watts (Rolling Stones), Stewart Copeland (Police), Keith Moon (The Who) or John Bonham (Led Zeppelin).

My current band, Run BMC, competes annually in Law Rocks, a “battle of the bands” competition supporting local charities. In this year’s competition at the Whisky A Go Go on Sunset, the event raised \$230,000 in total. Run BMC raised \$17,000 specifically for L.A. Family Housing, which provides housing and related care for those who are homeless or on the verge of being homeless.

Above all else, find a work-life rhythm and never lose sight of the importance of being there for your family. Family is the ultimate support group. Law can be a very demanding profession. But there has to be a give and take. Yes, it’s an honor to be recognized by the Los Angeles Business Journal. But if you don’t have a wonderful family to celebrate with, what’s the point?

Perrie M. Weiner is partner in charge of Baker McKenzie’s Los Angeles office and Chair of the firm’s North America Securities Litigation Group.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO BRIAN PANISH

Named among the 2022 Los Angeles Business Journal Top 100 Lawyers, recognized for his legal achievements, community involvement, and impact to the legal profession.



SEC Proposes SPAC Rules to Provide Additional Investor Protections

By DAVID KAUFMAN, Partner – Thompson Coburn LLP & HALEY KAVANAUGH, Associate – Thompson Coburn LLP

The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) recently issued proposed rules governing SPACs (special purpose acquisition companies) that would, among other things, increase SPAC disclosure requirements in an effort to protect investors.

Since their boom in 2020, SPACs have had a tumultuous history riddled with low-performance post-merger and an array of shareholder litigation. The SEC intends for the proposed rules to provide additional investor protections during SPAC IPOs and during the merger with a private target company (de-SPAC transaction) and more fully parallel the de-SPAC transaction regulations with those of a traditional IPO.

The proposed rules would (i) increase disclosure requirements; (ii) subject target companies and underwriters to potential liability; (iii) eliminate the safe harbor for future projections; and (iv) provide clarification on steps SPACs can take so as to not be considered an investment company, as discussed below:

DISCLOSURE

- Require disclosure of material interests of the sponsors and their affiliates, including the nature and amounts of all compensation paid to the sponsor and its affiliates so investors can more carefully understand how the interests of the sponsors may differ from those of the investors.
- Require disclosure regarding conflicts of interest of the sponsors, including the payment structure and any interests the sponsor may have to complete a de-SPAC transaction, even if on unfavorable terms.
- Require disclosure regarding the potential for future dilution, including as part of PIPE financing or as part of the terms of the de-SPAC transaction.
- Require affirmation by the SPAC that the terms of the merger and any related financing to complete the deal are fair to all investors.

LIABILITY

- Treat target companies as co-registrants on the registration statements filed by the SPAC in connection with the de-SPAC transactions, which would make the target company liable on any misleading disclosures.
- Clarify that an underwriter in a SPAC IPO

may be deemed an underwriter in the de-SPAC transaction if it takes steps to facilitate the de-SPAC transaction or any related financing transactions, or otherwise participates in the de-SPAC transaction, which exposes underwriters to potential liability if disclosures are inaccurate or misleading in registration statements.

PROJECTIONS

- Amend the definition of “blank check company,” so that forward looking statements and projections, even those accompanied by cautionary language, would not fall within the safe harbor under the Securities Exchange Act.

INVESTMENT COMPANY

- Clarify what steps a SPAC can take to distinguish itself from an investment company (which are subject to additional regulations), which includes meeting the below conditions:
 1. SPAC IPO proceeds can only be invested in cash, government securities or certain money-market funds;
 2. SPACs must complete the de-SPAC transaction within 24 months of the SPAC IPO; and
 3. SPACs will be primarily engaged in the business of the target company after the

de-SPAC transaction.

While the increase in disclosure requirements was expected based on prior guidance from the SEC, the additional rules regarding liability to target companies and underwriters, as well as, the elimination of the safe harbor for projections, may deter private companies and investment banks from participating in SPACs going forward. Additionally, the clarification on whether a SPAC constitutes an investment company may prove to have an effect on current shareholder litigation in which shareholders allege SPACs acted as an investment company and should be subject to more regulation. While not yet final, the proposed rules provide insight into current SEC thinking on SPACs and how they should be regulated going forward.

Public comments will be accepted for 60 days following publication of the proposing release on the SEC’s website or 30 days upon publication of the proposing release in the Federal Register, whichever is longer.

For more information, contact Thompson Coburn’s Los Angeles managing partner Jennifer Post at jpost@thompsoncoburn.com.

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Providing a Powerhouse Mentality to the Legal Landscape

By PATRICIA L. GLASER

Glaser Weil, based in Los Angeles, is one of the country's premier full-service law firms. Advising a roster of diverse, selective clients — from start-ups and large global corporations to high-profile entertainers and other well-known individuals — Glaser Weil represents clients' interests with an unprecedented level of dedication and commitment.

Whatever the matter, our commitment to exceptional legal representation remains constant and lays the groundwork for all we do for clients locally, nationally and throughout the world. Since Glaser Weil's beginnings, we've never lost sight of our most non-negotiable mission: To provide our clients with the imaginative, astute, responsive — and enormously dedicated — service that is in their best business and personal interest. Simply put, our clients' goals are the firm's goals, and anything less than top-notch, accomplished and successful representation is not an option.

The depth of our lawyers' skills and experience, combined with Glaser Weil's cross-practice, interdisciplinary approach, enables us to best serve our clients expertly in a wide range

of matters and venues. Be it at the negotiating table, before legislative and regulatory bodies or in a boardroom or a courtroom — whenever and wherever our clients need us, we are there. That is not all that distinguishes Glaser Weil and its team of attorneys. The fact that many of our attorneys have worked together for much of their careers fuels a rare, close-knit, collaborative style that differentiates the firm and allows our lawyers to work together as a cohesive team to achieve superior results for our clients. This approach, in addition to the Firm's low partner to associate ratio, ensures that we consistently represent our clients in the most focused, customized and cost-effective fashion possible.

In the end, Glaser Weil is defined by our clients' success and the roles we may have played in assisting them achieve their goals. We work daily to maximize our clients' business and personal opportunities, overcoming their challenges and problems and always keeping them far, far ahead of the curve.

We invite you to learn more about the firm's sophisticated practice areas, attorneys and their work by visiting our website at glaserweil.com.

In the end, Glaser Weil is defined by our clients' success and the roles we may have played in assisting them achieve their goals.

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These are the qualities that make Glaser Weil your powerhouse. We know it's a big claim, but it's one that we live up to every day.

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

At Glaser Weil, inclusion and diversity are

core principles at the forefront of our practice. Our Diversity Committee's commitment to foster an inclusive culture is fundamental to the firm's success. We understand the importance of having the inside of our firm mirror the outside world, and we also understand just how important that is to our clients. Glaser Weil's commitment to diversity and inclusion is reflective of our ability to forge ahead as the "Best In Class" powerhouse law firm that Glaser Weil is.

"YOUR POWERHOUSE." THIS IS GLASER WEIL.

Our mission: strong, enduring client relationships lie at the heart of everything we do at Glaser Weil. With that in mind, we are aware, now, more than ever, that clients deserve the maximum return on their investment with us. To make sure we deliver on that promise of accountability — and much more — the firm adheres to several key tenets of client service that informs every decision and move we make.

Patricia L. Glaser is partner and chair of the Litigation Department at Glaser Weil.



Congratulations to our partner
Mira Hashmall
for being named among
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Mira combines excellent legal advocacy with a tireless dedication to her clients and the community. We are fortunate to have her on our team.

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How to Be a Firm that Businesses Call When Billions are at Stake

If you read the news, you have likely read about the work of Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP (MTO).

Headquartered in Los Angeles, MTO is sought after by some of the world's largest companies when the stakes are high.

The firm was founded in 1962 by seven lawyers, including Charlie Munger, vice-chairman of Berkshire Hathaway. Today, this 200-lawyer firm has three offices and a "who's who" roster of clients such as Google, Disney, Bank of America, PG&E, BNSF, Intel, Amgen, Fortress and Berkshire Hathaway, among many others.

We sat down with firm chair Brad D. Brian, a Chambers Global-ranked trial lawyer and one of 18 "Lawyers of the Decade" in California honored by the Daily Journal.

We unpacked the philosophies that form the core of MTO's original and enduring formula for success.

MTO is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year. What was the original vision when the firm was founded? Has it changed?

BRIAN: More than half a century ago, our seven founders set out to create an entirely different kind of law firm—dedicated to solving companies' most complex problems, hiring and



Brad D. Brian

promoting the brightest lawyers, and giving back to the community—all through a democratic culture that encouraged early responsibility and ownership. Our vision remains unchanged. We think it has helped us maintain our commitment to hiring exceptional lawyers who can guide companies through their most challenging problems. We hire only top talent, recruiting from the top 5% to 10% of law school classes and from clerkships. Around 85% of our lawyers clerked for judges and 10% clerked for the U.S. Supreme Court. No other firm in the country replicates this while handling the complex cases that we do.

Many law firms tout differentiation. What are the most distinctive elements of MTO's offering to an outsider?

BRIAN: It is our "problem-solving culture." I think we excel at getting really smart lawyers together

in a room—or on Zoom—to solve our client's most difficult problems. This can be a crisis like the civil and criminal litigation arising from the Northern California wildfires, a complex appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court, or a multi-billion dollar transaction. Our work has helped us earn a reputation for navigating complex issues that require out-of-the-box thinking.

Second, our firm is loaded with exceptional trial lawyers. We are often called upon to try cases across the country, in state and federal courts, and in arbitrations. Whether it's John Spiegel, Greg Stone, Hailyn Chen, Glenn Pomerantz, Malcolm Heinicke, Martin Estrada, Bryan Heckenlively, Bethany Kristovich, Jonathan Kravis, Robyn Bacon, Laura Smolowe, or Blanca Young—to name just some of our trial lawyers—we match up quite well against any of the largest firms in the country.

MTO seems to disprove the notion that "bigger is better" when it comes to law firm success. What is MTO's secret to punching above its weight class?

BRIAN: Much of our firm's success comes from our low leverage and lack of hierarchy. Our low

leverage model—known as our "one-to-one" partner/associate ratio—is a byproduct of hiring the best people. It serves our clients well because it means we do not need to over-staff cases.

Having recruited the brightest lawyers in the first place, we entrust them with early responsibility. For clients, this means that if you hire us, you get an exceptionally talented team, from our newest lawyers to our most experienced partners.

I also believe our lack of hierarchy has created a breeding ground for the creativity we are known for. We don't require lawyers to select a practice group. Lawyers can build their workloads by matching interests to active matters. We believe that when lawyers have freedom, they will be drawn to client work that satisfies them and the legal issues they are uniquely positioned to tackle. This creates a sweet spot where personal interests, skill, and client needs intersect.

This also creates a more collegial environment, which serves both our clients and lawyers. When you reject hierarchy, you eliminate detrimental behavior like politicking and rivalry. In a flat law firm like ours, there are no bosses to please and no one to elbow aside for a title. Instead, all of your energy goes into what is most important: doing the best work for our clients.

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