

LARSON

2023

**YEAR IN
REVIEW**



A WORD FROM STEPHEN G. LARSON

Eight years ago we opened our doors with eleven attorneys and a small but dedicated support staff committed to building a litigation boutique dedicated exclusively to winning high-stakes cases. Today we are an accomplished team of 45 attorneys and more than 30 professional staff based in four offices globally. In doing so we have established a reputation here and abroad as effective trial and appellate lawyers who achieve the results our clients seek.

2023 was marked by a record number of trial and appellate wins for the firm, some of which are detailed in the following pages. We also welcomed ten new attorneys and moved into new office space in downtown Los Angeles and Orange County to accommodate our growing team.

As we usher in the year ahead – with a resounding win in a federal jury trial already under our belt for our Luxembourg-based client Alfa Consult SA – I express my gratitude to all of our clients and colleagues for your continued support. Larson's success is neither possible nor meaningful without you.

Here's to 2024 and beyond!


STEPHEN LARSON
Founding Partner

NOTABLE WINS

\$95 Million Settlement Delivered to Orange County Residents

On **September 14**, U.S. District Judge David O. Carter approved the second and final tranche of a settlement agreement totaling \$95 million in the class action lawsuits against Amplify Energy Corporation and various shipping companies responsible for the October 2021 oil spill off the coast of Orange County. Stephen Larson was appointed as co-lead counsel of the 13 consolidated class actions and led the successful resolution of the matters in less than two years.

The combined settlement provides compensation to the fishermen, businesses, and homeowners harmed by the oil spill which occurred when a pipeline operated by Amplify Energy ruptured after being struck by various cargo ships, releasing approximately 25,000 gallons of crude oil into the Pacific Ocean.



“Getting \$95 million back to the public so quickly is beneficial.”

– Judge David O. Carter,
Los Angeles Times

NOTABLE WINS



False Claims Act Suit Dismissed

On **January 4**, a federal judge granted Larson's motion to dismiss a whistleblower complaint alleging unlawful sales practices involving our client, **Cedars-Sinai Medical Center**.

Decade-Long Investigation Closed

On **August 24**, the Serious Fraud Office ("SFO") in London, U.K., publicly dropped its 10-year investigation into a former **Eurasian Natural Resources Corporation senior executive**, represented by attorneys in our Los Angeles and London offices, stating that there was "insufficient admissible evidence" to prosecute. The dismissal followed a successful lawsuit against the SFO alleging misconduct during its investigation.



TRIAL VICTORIES



Real Estate Litigation

On **May 8**, **Larson prevailed at trial**, winning a rare motion for nonsuit in favor of clients **Cornerstone Financial, Industrial Integrity Solutions LLC, Frontier Homes LLC, Frontier Enterprises, and Frontier Communities** in *AgCon v. Cornerstone Financial et al.* The Larson team successfully argued its motion for a directed verdict at the close of the plaintiff's case without having to call a single witness.

Breach of Contract Litigation

On **September 15**, **Larson obtained a resounding jury trial victory** against California Fueling, LLC, which had brought breach of contract claims against Larson clients **Best Energy Solutions & Technology Corp.** and its President, **George Sturges**, in *California Fueling, LLC v. Best Energy Solutions & Technology Corp.*

Legal Malpractice Litigation

On **October 27**, Larson secured a trial victory on behalf of a **highly-regarded litigation boutique** when a judge dismissed all of the plaintiff's claims with prejudice at the end of a months-long bench trial.

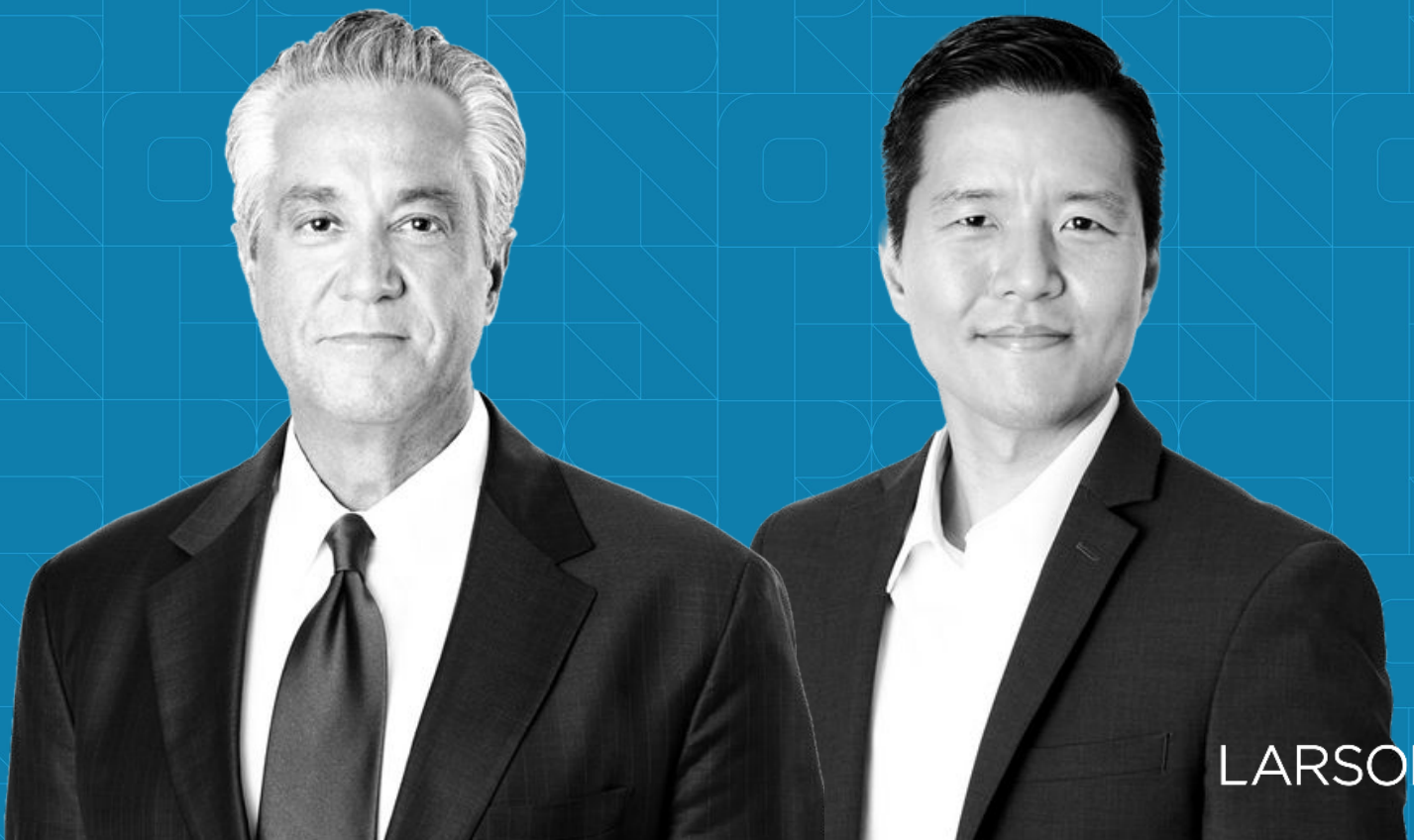
LANDMARK LITIGATION

Jogani v. Jogani

Larson is representing **Haresh Jogani** in one of Los Angeles County's longest-running and potentially largest civil lawsuits. Valued at more than \$5 billion USD, the 21-year-old fraternal dispute involves the five Jogani brothers, four of whom have sought to encroach on their brother Haresh's multi-billion-dollar real estate portfolio and profits. The jury will ultimately be asked to decide whether or not an alleged oral partnership exists between the brothers.

See trial coverage in the [*Daily Journal*](#) and the [*Los Angeles Business Journal*](#).

*Partners Rick Richmond and John Lee,
Defense Counsel for Haresh Jogani*



LANDMARK LITIGATION

Group IX BP Properties LP owner and Larson client Mike Nijjar sues the City of Los Angeles

Larson made headlines by filing suit the City of Los Angeles on behalf of its client over the City's neglect of a notorious public alley that has become a safety concern. The complaint, filed on October 2, asserts that the City's failures to address gang and criminal activity and uphold its responsibilities have significantly devalued the property and caused significant harm to the building's residents who live in constant fear and distress.

The City of Los Angeles filed a nuisance abatement action against Group IX BP Properties LP in 2022 claiming that Mr. Nijjar had allowed criminal activity to take place in the alley. Mr. Nijjar's lawsuit was filed as a last resort after exhausting all other reasonable measures to get the City to address the hazard.

[See the *Daily Journal's* coverage of the lawsuit here.](#)



IMPACT IN CA: RIVERSIDE COUNTY



Riverside County Adopts Larson's Recommendations to Improve Foster Care Systems

After being rescued from captivity and abuse in their Perris California home, the **13 Turpin children** endured further abuse from their foster families while under the care of **Riverside County (the “County”)**. The neglect and poor treatment provided by the County's social service agencies caused the County to launch an investigation into Riverside County social services. Larson was retained to lead an eight-month investigation into the County's services provided to the Turpin children which garnered significant media attention.

On **July 18, 2022**, the Larson team published a 634-page report on their findings from the investigation. On **July 12**, Stephen Larson and Hilary Potashner **presented their findings to the County Board of Supervisors**, after which **the Board voted unanimously to follow the recommendations provided in Larson's report.**

While the investigation highlighted areas for improvement within the County's departments, it also instigated statewide policy changes to address these areas. On **Sept. 23, 2022**, **Gov. Gavin Newsom signed a bill** that allows adult and child protective services to share information about clients and their families.

[Read the full case study on our website here.](#)

TESTIMONIALS

"They are the cream of the crop. Whatever hour of the day, they will be available to pick up the phone." – ***Chambers and Partners***

"Larson is made up of a very impressive team of individuals. When it comes to their representation, they are thorough and complete, capturing many problems that would otherwise be missed."
– ***Chambers and Partners***

"The years of experience between the team speaks volumes to their clients." – ***Chambers and Partners***

"Stephen is a superstar. He is exceptional at trial and knows how to win brilliant results." – ***Chambers and Partners***

"The team sets expectations. The depth of their research and analysis is world class. Above all else, they achieve results. They care. They understand. They take action." – ***Benchmark Litigation***

"Larson LLP is unique in its ability to put together a small, efficient team to take a case from concept to strategy and then to negotiation or the courtroom. Their attorneys' expertise is deep and thorough, their commitment is strong and obvious, and they work their tail off to get good results for their clients." – ***Client***

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

- Top 100 Lawyers
- Top Women Lawyers
- Top White Collar Lawyers
- **Daily Journal**
- Firm and Two Partners Ranked for White Collar Defense and Government Investigations in CA
- **Chambers and Partners USA**
- Women of Influence: Attorneys
- Leaders of Influence: Most Admired Law Firms to Work For
- LA500: Most Influential People
- **Los Angeles Business Journal**
- Litigation Stars and Future Stars
- Top 250 Women in Litigation
- 40 & Under List
- Ranked for Dispute Resolution in CA
- **Benchmark Litigation**
- Defense Attorney of the Year
- **Los Angeles County Bar Association**
- Top 40 Under 40
- **The National Black Lawyers**
- The Best Lawyers in America
- Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch
- **Best Lawyers®**
- Nationally Ranked Firm
- Regionally Ranked Firm in Los Angeles, Orange County, and Washington, D.C.
- **Best Law Firms®**



2023 ELEVATIONS



Andrew J. Bedigian

Elevated to Partner

Andrew was the first attorney hired at Larson in 2016 fresh out of UCLA School of Law, and he has developed into a star litigator. His practice focuses broadly on both complex civil disputes and white collar criminal defense. Andrew was a judicial extern to the Hon. Stephen V. Wilson in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California.



Catherine S. Owens

Elevated to Partner

Catherine joined Larson in 2021, and her practice focuses on complex civil disputes, patent litigation, and white collar defense. Catherine was a law clerk to Chief Judge Rodney Gilstrap in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas, and received her J.D. from NYU School of Law.



Juliette Tran

Elevated to Counsel

Juliette joined the firm in 2023 and focuses her practice on complex civil disputes, labor and employment, and real estate litigation. Juliette was a judicial extern to the Hon. Dean D. Pregerson in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California as well as to the Hon. Kirk H. Nakamura in the Orange County Superior Court, and received her J.D. from the UCLA School of Law.

2023 HIRES

In 2023, we were pleased to welcome 10 attorneys to our team:



Juliette Tran

Los Angeles
UCLA School of Law



Mary-Kate Poulin

Los Angeles
Notre Dame School of Law



James McNamra

Los Angeles
USC School of Law



Andrew Calderón

Orange County
UCLA School of Law



Andrew Bledose

Orange County
UCLA School of Law



Jasmine Johnson

Los Angeles
St. John's University
School of Law



Latrice Burks

Los Angeles
USC School of Law



Alec Monson

Los Angeles
BYU Law School



Karen Huber

Washington, D.C.
Duke School of Law



Brian Pandya

Washington, D.C.
University of Michigan
Law School

OFFICE EXPANSIONS

Larson Expanded into New Offices in Los Angeles and Orange County

As of **October 9, 2023**, Larson's downtown Los Angeles office now occupies **the entire 30th Floor at 555 S. Flower Street**. The firm's move in Los Angeles follows the firm's office expansion in Orange County to **Suite 1075 at 600 Anton Boulevard** in Costa Mesa, CA. The new office suites have nearly 35,000 square feet combined and increase the firm's footprint in Southern California by more than 60 percent.

[Read more about our new offices on our website.](#)



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In 2023, we continued to support organizations and nonprofits doing meaningful work in our communities.



HOPE through HOUSING*
FOUNDATION

LARSON

Los Angeles | Orange County
Washington, D.C. | London

larsonllp.com