

APRIL 2025

# BUSINESS

LA Times STUDIOS

## BMO'S RISE

**New Executives  
Round Out a Massive  
California Expansion**

**Trends in Tech Lead  
to Consumer AI Help,  
Electric Fleet Vehicles,  
Automated Food Prep**

**Southern California's  
Top Law Firms and the  
State's Top Law Schools**

**2025 Legal Visionaries**

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**2025 Law Firm Visionaries**

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Dear Readers,

In April's Business by LA Times Studios Magazine, we're taking a look into the legal profession in Southern California, along with additional insightful touches across the spectrum of business.

Celebrating the practice of law, and those whose dedication to both its rule and the clients it serves, is a tradition for Business by LA Times Studios, and we happily present our fifth annual Legal Visionaries list. In addition, we offer the top 125 law firms in Los Angeles County and their rankings by practice, as well as Orange County's top 25 firms. Also, peruse our list of Top Law Schools to see who is on the forefront of legal education.

On that theme, we feature a story about how the next generation of technologically minded lawyers are being trained by forward-thinking law schools. Tech and AI are also front of mind in IP cases, as highlighted by our story in cooperation with the *Daily Journal*.

April's magazine also features consumer real estate, mergers and our cover story – how BMO, a rapidly growing bank, is setting up shop – and creating big waves – in Southern California.

None of these stories would exist without the region's diverse and dedicated businesspeople, and we invite all of you to follow us for need-to-know insights:

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Warm regards,

Anna Magzanyan

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# BUSINESS

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Cover photo by Ringo H.W. Chiu

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# EXPERTS WEIGH IN ON THE BUSINESS OF ENTERTAINMENT & SPORTS

W

ith a seemingly endless series of challenges and obstacles over the last few years, including devastating wildfires, protocol resets, health and safety concerns, supply chain shortages and industry-wide labor disputes, the entertainment and sports industries somehow manage to succeed, with creativity and innovation – always hallmarks of show business – sparking silver linings and trends that may actually benefit some sub-sectors of the industry long-term. The LA Times Studios team turned to three uniquely knowledgeable experts for their thoughts and insights about how Southern California's powerhouse entertainment and sports business sectors can continue to blaze new and creative paths to success. The following article excerpts highlights from that commentary.

## What do you consider to be the most challenging obstacles facing the industry in 2025?

In 2025, the entertainment and sports industries face several complex challenges from an employment law perspective. These obstacles are multifaceted and impact both the operational and legal frameworks within which businesses operate. Some of the challenges we anticipate our clients facing are issues with worker classification and employment status, unionization and collective bargaining, technological disruption and the impact of artificial intelligence, and as the American sports industry continues to go international, we anticipate more complex compliance





issues surrounding employment laws in various countries.

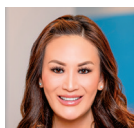
**Todd B. Scherwin**  
Regional Managing Partner  
Fisher Phillips LLP



### What long-term impact will the recent devastating wildfires have on the entertainment and sports landscape in Los Angeles?

The L.A. wildfires have resulted in the unprecedented destruction of approximately 16,000 homes, businesses and structures, displaced many more, and indefinitely disrupted the ecosystem of employment, operations and consumer spending across entertainment and sports. Many have lost their homes, businesses or jobs, and hazardous cleanup and toxic air quality from the fires continue to affect operations in these industries. In Hollywood, major events and productions have been disrupted or canceled, filming permits withdrawn and budgets recalibrated. In sports, the region's recovery and infrastructure rebuilding will change preparations for major events such as the 2028 Olympics. Consumers will reduce spending in both sectors and may cut down or cut out luxuries like dining out or attending games or movies during a time of critical rebuild. Combined effects could lead to delays, reduced economic activity and long-term shifts in how these events are managed and executed in Los Angeles.

**Christina S. Chang**  
Partner  
Nixon Peabody LLP



### How are new venue developments, such as SoFi Stadium and Intuit Dome, shaping the sports and entertainment landscape in L.A.?

Venues like SoFi Stadium and the Intuit Dome are no longer just sports arenas; they're financial powerhouses. These venues are designed to generate year-round revenue through multi-use facilities, entertainment partnerships and tech-driven fan experiences. The unique and diverse landscape of L.A. sports venues will allow L.A. to continue to take advantage of major events such as the Olympics, the World Cup, Super Bowl and numerous other world-class events for decades. Financing of these projects has also evolved, with more private investment, long-term sponsorship-backed lending and digital payment integration driving profitability. From a banking standpoint, these venues represent a shift toward infrastructure-backed financial models, where diversified revenue streams ensure sustained capital growth beyond traditional ticket and event sales.

**David Park**  
EVP, Head of Commercial  
Banking and Treasury  
Management  
Axos Bank



### How has the shift to NIL affected collegiate sports in the region?

The shift to NIL rights in collegiate sports has had significant implications from an employment law perspective, fundamentally altering the relationship between athletes, schools and third-party businesses. While this change has been celebrated by many, it has introduced various challenges and legal considerations, including employment status and classification issues: One of the most significant questions arising from the NIL shift is whether student-athletes should be classified as employees. If athletes are viewed as employees, this could have substantial legal consequences in terms of labor protections (e.g., workers' compensation, collective bargaining, wage laws) and the scope of responsibilities colleges have toward their athletes. For example, this could affect benefits, health insurance and even taxes.

**Todd B. Scherwin**  
Regional Managing Partner  
Fisher Phillips LLP



### What are your projections for the forthcoming Olympic Games in Los Angeles, and how will the event benefit and/or hinder the region?

Hosting the 2028 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles will offer significant benefits, particularly in terms of infrastructure improvements, economic growth and job creation, while showcasing the great weather, prestige, rebuild and resilience of the city following the recent fires. By leveraging existing venues, upgrading transportation systems and repairing local infrastructures and road conditions, the city aims to enhance long-term mobility, alleviate congestion and improve air quality. Investments in hotels will bolster the local hospitality sector, generating new jobs and stimulating business growth. This regional boom is expected to result in increased tourism with an economic impact of \$11 billion. However, potential cost overruns, delays, congestion and the risk of displacing local communities remain challenges. The city will need to carefully plan, execute and manage these issues to ensure that the Olympic Games leave lasting positive changes for Los Angeles beyond 2028.

**Christina S. Chang**  
Partner  
Nixon Peabody LLP



### How has the financial landscape of sports and entertainment in L.A. evolved post-pandemic, and what sectors have seen the strongest recovery?

The financial model for entertainment and sports has evolved from reliance on single revenue streams to multi-pronged monetization strategies. Sports teams are diversifying beyond ticket sales into real estate, media rights and venture capital investments. Entertainment companies are leveraging hybrid content distribution, balancing traditional box office with streaming and direct-to-consumer models. The strongest recoveries have been in live entertainment, experiential activations and high-end sponsorships, all fueled by a return to in-person engagement. Financial institutions are seeing increased demand for structured credit and advisory services as businesses recalibrate their financial strategies to this new reality.

**David Park**  
EVP, Head of Commercial  
Banking and Treasury  
Management  
Axos Bank



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# Children's Hospital Los Angeles Opens New Cardiac Imaging Suite



Walter Cicchetti - stock.adobe.com

"Low-field MRI opens up a world of possibilities that can improve care for children, including the development of real-time imaging capabilities," said Dr. John Wood, director of Cardiovascular MRI at Children's Hospital Los Angeles.

"This technology will allow Children's Hospital Los Angeles to pioneer novel MRI applications, such as using the 0.55T magnet to guide procedures such as cardiac catheterizations. Using low-field MRI instead of X-ray would be a big deal for children, as limiting radiation exposure is key. The applications for lung imaging are also exciting, as there is no good way currently to monitor the progression of lung disease in babies and children. While it will take time to develop these techniques and translate them to the clinical environment, that is where we are headed thanks to this revolutionary machine."

An international MRI expert, Dr. Wood and his team were the first in the world to perform real-time imaging of a human fetal heart – without the need for cardiac synchronization – using low-field MRI.

The Cardiac Imaging Suite also features the Siemens Sola 1.5 Tesla MRI machine, five patient prep and recovery bays, an anesthesia induction room and space for a future cardiac CT scanner. The 1.5T magnet is the current gold standard for advanced cardiac MRI and delivers exceptional image clarity, ensuring high-resolution imaging and faster scan times. The suite also offers specialized stress testing for myocardial perfusion, addressing blood flow issues in the heart. Children's Hospital Los Angeles is the only facility in California providing this advanced diagnostic service, setting a new standard for pediatric cardiac imaging. |

- Paul Williams

CHLA is the first pediatric hospital in the United States to feature low-field MRI technology

Children's Hospital Los Angeles has opened its new Cardiac Imaging Suite, a 6,650-square-foot facility that will improve access, service and quality of care for cardiac patients featuring state-of-the-art technology that cannot be found at any other pediatric center in the United States.

The suite houses the new, FDA-approved Siemens FreeMax 0.55 Tesla MRI system, a first-in-the-nation machine for pediatrics, that will allow for new ways to image children's hearts, lungs and more.

"Children's Hospital Los Angeles is committed to pioneering the latest research and innovations in the pursuit of advancing the standards of pediatric care. It's a commitment we take seriously as one of the top pediatric cardiology and heart surgery programs in the country that routinely treats some of the most complex cardiac patients," said Paul F. Kantor, MBBCh, MSc, FRCPC, chief of the Division of Cardiology

and co-director of the Heart Institute at Children's Hospital Los Angeles.

"We are thrilled to be the first in the U.S. offering this groundbreaking new technology to children and could not be more excited to harness this machine to further research and develop new applications in pediatric and fetal imaging."

Low-field MRI offers diagnostic-quality images of the heart in a quieter and much more spacious environment with a magnet that is three to six times lower in strength than today's conventional clinical systems, making it safer and more comfortable for children. While stronger magnets provide a stronger signal, any movement or air can cause distortion in the image. The low-field MRI has a weaker signal and can accommodate motion, making it ideal for imaging fetuses, the heart, lungs and GI tract.

In addition, because the patient does not need to be perfectly still, low-field MRI will reduce the need for general anesthesia in children as young as four or five years old; alternative methods of motion management with fewer side effects and preoperative restrictions can be used instead, such as virtual reality goggles. Low-field MRI is also excellent for patients who have metal implants such as pacemakers or have a larger body size, which can make it difficult to get good ultrasound or computed tomography images.



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# Quicker Fixer-Uppers

Big box home improvement stores take “DIY” to the next level with innovative new AI “assistants”

**T**he days of sauntering up to the hardware store counter in search of home improvement advice from a shop employee with an apron and a pencil behind an ear just took a futuristic turn, thanks to some new AI-based tech innovations debuting at the biggest named chains focused on “do it yourself.”

The Home Depot is rolling out Magic Apron, a proprietary suite of generative AI tools that helps customers answer how-to and product questions and assists them with their home improvement projects. Just in time for its busy spring selling season, Magic Apron is available 24/7 to assist with detailed questions for any spring product or project and beyond.

“Home Depot customers have always relied on the expertise of our orange-aproned associates in the aisles of our stores to answer questions and help them solve problems,” said Jordan Broggi, executive vice president of customer experience and president—online. “Magic Apron is designed to bring that same expertise to the digital world, leveraging our proprietary knowledge base to support our customers and give them the confidence to tackle their home improvement projects, anytime, anywhere. So, whether you’re staining a deck, searching for the latest grill or sprucing up the garden for spring, Magic Apron is ready to assist with your home project needs.”

Powered by best-in-class large language models, Magic Apron is trained on The Home Depot’s proprietary project expertise and product catalog as well as information from across the Internet to improve search results and answer customers’ product and project questions.

Say, for example, a customer is getting their lawn ready for spring. They may not know if aeration

is needed, how to overseed bare spots, what products are needed for weed control or how to fertilize it. That’s where Magic Apron comes in to answer questions with how-to instructions, product suggestions and more.

Today, when customers research products on The Home Depot website, Magic Apron is now available to answer product questions, provide project guides and summarize product reviews. Magic Apron can currently be found on millions of product pages on *homedepot.com* and in The Home Depot’s award-winning mobile app.

The technology will soon expand to The Home Depot’s Pro B2B site, offering enhanced support tailored to professional contractors and business account users. In the coming months, Magic Apron will roll out new features and be accessible across *homedepot.com*. Like a personal home improvement concierge, it will feature new functionality to assist customers with project inspiration, design ideas, product comparison and recommendations, comprehensive advice and more.

Magic Apron leverages The Home Depot’s extensive proprietary knowledge base and the company’s own human expertise to make the tool more accurate, reliable and helpful. The technology will continue to learn from customer and associate feedback and serve as a foundational tool for store and contact center associates to better help customers.



Not to be left in the (construction) dust, competitor Lowe’s newest “associate” is called Mylow, the chain’s own AI-powered virtual home improvement assistant. Now, Lowe’s customers can navigate the many questions of owning a home, from project know-how to how-to advice to top-rated product searches and more.

Developed in collaboration with OpenAI and leveraging Lowe’s expert advice, Mylow delivers the expertise of a trusted Lowe’s associate anytime and anywhere, providing customers with clear steps and practical solutions for projects ranging in type and complexity all from the palm of their hand.

Currently on desktop and mobile web, Mylow is available for MyLowe’s Rewards loyalty members or by visiting the store’s website. Customers can also expect Mylow voice capabilities and availability on the Lowe’s app later this year.

This new trend appears to be an industry-sweeping phenomenon in the home improvement space. |

— Paul Williams



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Miso launches next-generation Flippy Fry Station utilizing AI-powered robotic cooking



Los Angeles-based Miso, a restaurant technology disruptor in fry station automation and AI-powered robotics for commercial kitchens, has announced the launch of its next-generation Flippy Fry Station robot.

Powered by Miso's Kitchen AI and more than 25 patents, the new generation of Flippy Fry Station automates the preparation of French fries, onion rings, chicken, tacos and many other fried items with groundbreaking precision and consistency – aimed at delivering “day one” ROI to its customers with its reliability.

Now backed by investments from industry powerhouses like cleaning solutions leader Ecolab, collaborations with vision-AI leader NVIDIA and new leadership led by CEO Rich Hull, Miso began piloting its newest Flippy at several White Castle locations late last year. Compared to the prior version, the new Flippy is half the size, twice as fast, more reliable and installs in existing kitchens overnight in just a few hours (75% less time than previously). It was also designed in close collaboration with restaurant partners, including aforementioned collaborator White Castle, to create a next-generation product that caters to QSR operators' expectations.

“Being the first mover in fry station automation has brought years of successes, surely a few failures and mountains of proprietary data and learnings for Miso. Now all of those important experiences combine to make this game-changing new generation of Flippy the most reliable fry station automation product in the market,” said

Hull. “At a time of massive labor disruption and restaurants' inability to hire enough kitchen workers, the new Flippy creates immediate, provable customer ROI, while also unlocking much needed additional pools of labor under federal guidelines by reducing the danger to workers.”

Among the many dangerous jobs in a commercial kitchen, the fry station towers above the rest. A 2024 survey conducted by Hart Research Associates on behalf of the National Council for Occupational Safety and Health noted that almost 80% of fast food employees have sustained burns within the past year. Unlike with traditional frying stations, federal regulations allow employees under 18 years of age to operate a Flippy Fry Station, unlocking a much-needed additional pool of available labor for QSR kitchens.

Dennis Lock, Miso's head of sales, commented, “With no upfront costs and a rental price of \$5,400 per month, the new generation of Flippy generally costs less than the equivalent full-time employees, so there is little downside for restaurant operators. Plus, Flippy can drive \$5,000 to \$20,000 of new prime cost reductions and revenue increases per month through labor redeployment to higher value tasks, faster speed of service and reduced food waste.”

Rob Seely, AVP operations strategy & design of WD Partners, a strategy, design and execution consultancy for the restaurant industry, added, “We've spent a great deal of time over the past months to create real-world case studies that quantify the substantial labor, speed of service and food waste benefits that the new generation of Flippy Fry Station creates for a restaurant's bottom line. In a market where labor shortages and labor costs can no longer be passed onto customers through menu price increases, Flippy and kitchen automation like it provide the restaurant industry's best solution.”

Rollouts to additional White Castle locations, Jack in the Box and several other large brands are scheduled for 2025 in both corporate and franchisee locations.

Flippy's advancements are also bolstered by Miso's strategic and investment partnerships with Ecolab, a global leader in food safety and hygiene solutions. Ecolab's expertise has helped to enhance Flippy's cleaning speed and procedures and food safety capabilities. In addition to Miso's in-house sales team, Ecolab now also offers its customers Flippy rentals through a dedicated sales team derived from Ecolab's 6,000 sales professionals. |

- Paul Williams

# Want Fries with Your Machine Learning?



# Rivian Makes Its Commercial Van Available to Fleets of All Sizes

For U.S. customers, those big EV vans are no longer just for Amazon



**I**rvine-based Rivian Automotive recently announced that it is opening sales for the Rivian Commercial Van to fleets of all sizes in the U.S. for the first time.

The Rivian Commercial Van is the platform on which Amazon's custom electric delivery van (EDV) is based and is designed from the ground up, prioritizing safety, driver comfort, total cost of ownership and sustainability. Safety features include automatic emergency braking, collision warnings and 360-degree visibility – meaning the Rivian Commercial Van is engineered to be among the safest vehicles on the road today.

Since the conclusion of Rivian and Amazon's exclusivity period, Rivian has been trialing its commercial van with several large fleets in the U.S. and preparing its fleet management process for the mass market. These pilots have paved the way to enable Rivian to open sales further.

The Rivian Commercial Van comes in two sizes, the 500 and the 700, providing a payload around 2,600 lbs. and a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) of up to 9,500 lbs. Rivian's in-house software stack controls nearly every interaction from unlocking the vehicle and opening the door to charging and acceleration. These tools help streamline the ownership experience and minimize costs while increasing safety and productivity.

"Through existing partnerships, our commercial vans have already proved incredibly successful," said Tom Solomon, senior director of business development for Rivian. "Amazon currently has more than 20,000 in its fleet and delivered over a billion packages from its Electric Delivery Vans in 2024 alone. Over the last year, we have been focusing our efforts on testing with some larger fleets, and we're really pleased with how those trials have gone. As a result, we're excited to now be able to open sales to fleets of all sizes in the U.S., whether they want one van or thousands. Our vehicles are designed to not only be among the safest on the road but will also help fleet owners to reduce the cost of fleet ownership and their carbon footprint."

Rivian vehicles are built in the United States and are sold directly to consumer and commercial customers. The Orange County-based company provides a full suite of services that addresses the entire lifecycle of the vehicle and stays true to its mission to keep the world adventurous forever. Whether taking families on new adventures or electrifying fleets at scale, Rivian vehicles all share a common goal – preserving the natural world for generations to come. |

- Paul Williams



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photos courtesy of Rivian

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# CRE Entrepreneurs Focus on Innovation with New Venture

Industry leaders behind \$40 billion in development sales launch Redeavor, combining development sales, advisory and capital investment under one roof

Urban and resort new development marketing and sales leaders Mike Leipart, Andrew Wachtfogel and Wade Hundley, along with seasoned real estate brokerage operator Shane Farkas, have launched Redeavor, a groundbreaking real estate firm specializing in development sales, advisory services and capital investment.

Backed by a team responsible for over \$40 billion in new development sales volume and 14,000 residences sold, Redeavor debuts with \$4 billion in current global real estate represented and offices in Los Angeles, New York, Dallas, Las Vegas and Nashville. Breaking away from the traditional brokerage model, Redeavor offers a more strategic, developer- and investor-focused approach designed to maximize success at every stage of a project.

Leipart, whose founding of The Agency Development Group transformed the development sales industry, is joined by Farkas, who spent over 13 years as The Agency's COO and CTO; Wachtfogel, previously co-founder and president of new development at Official, as well as an executive and new development specialist at Douglas Elliman and Corcoran Sunshine; and Hundley, former CEO of ST Residential and current CEO of Formida Capital, will serve as senior managing partner and lead Redeavor's capital division.

Also joining Redeavor at launch are Violet Tudas (managing partner), Maranda Blanton (managing

director), Katherine Demakos (VP, marketing), Kirstin Corsetti (senior project manager) and Jenna Marks (project manager). This core team brings decades of collective experience and together have played an instrumental role in the planning, marketing and sellout of some of the most high-profile and successful launches and repositionings across major urban markets and resort destinations throughout the U.S., Mexico and the Caribbean.

"We've assembled an all-star team — a true who's who of new development marketing — with expertise that spans all market cycles and the successful sellout of new developments, repositioned developments, rental-to-condo and office-to-condo conversions," said Leipart.

"Our team's deep understanding of the development process — honed through decades of experience leading some of the world's most influential projects — guides our developer partners through every phase, ensuring unmatched expertise and strategic execution. By bringing this talent together under Redeavor, we are creating a new model for success in the development space — delivering exceptional results for developers and investors across all asset classes and market types."

"Redeavor is a strategic departure from traditional new development sales firms," added Leipart. "The brokerage-led model for development sales and marketing was created in a different era. Today's market demands a more sophisticated approach — one that combines deep sales and marketing expertise with strategic advisory services and access to capital."

Redeavor's three core divisions include:

- **Development Sales:** A full-service sales and marketing division with unparalleled residential and branded real estate expertise.
- **Advisory Services:** A turnkey solution for lenders and developers, Redeavor's advisory division specializes in repositioning, relaunching and optimizing developments.

- **Capital:** Led by Hundley, the capital investment division provides customized financial solutions for multi-family, luxury residential, hotel-branded and urban development projects.

"Our superstar team of experts leverages decades of experience navigating various financial markets and real estate cycles to provide unmatched planning and sales strategy to developers and investors worldwide," said Leipart.

"What sets Redeavor apart is our ability to look at development opportunities through multiple lenses," said Wachtfogel. "We're not just sales partners; we're bringing institutional-grade advisory services and capital solutions to the table. Given current market conditions, this integrated approach is particularly crucial, as many developments require creative solutions to optimize value."

"Redeavor's capital division was built to give developers and investors direct access to strategic funding solutions designed for today's market realities," said Hundley. "From fueling new construction to repositioning assets like office-to-residential conversions, we provide the financial resources and expertise needed to bring projects to completion and maximize long-term value."

With the current market landscape demanding innovative solutions, Redeavor's depth of expertise, strong financial acumen and long-standing industry relationships position it as the leading strategic partner for developers and investors worldwide.

The firm's current portfolio includes development projects across major urban markets and resort destinations, focusing on luxury residential, branded developments and strategic repositionings. |

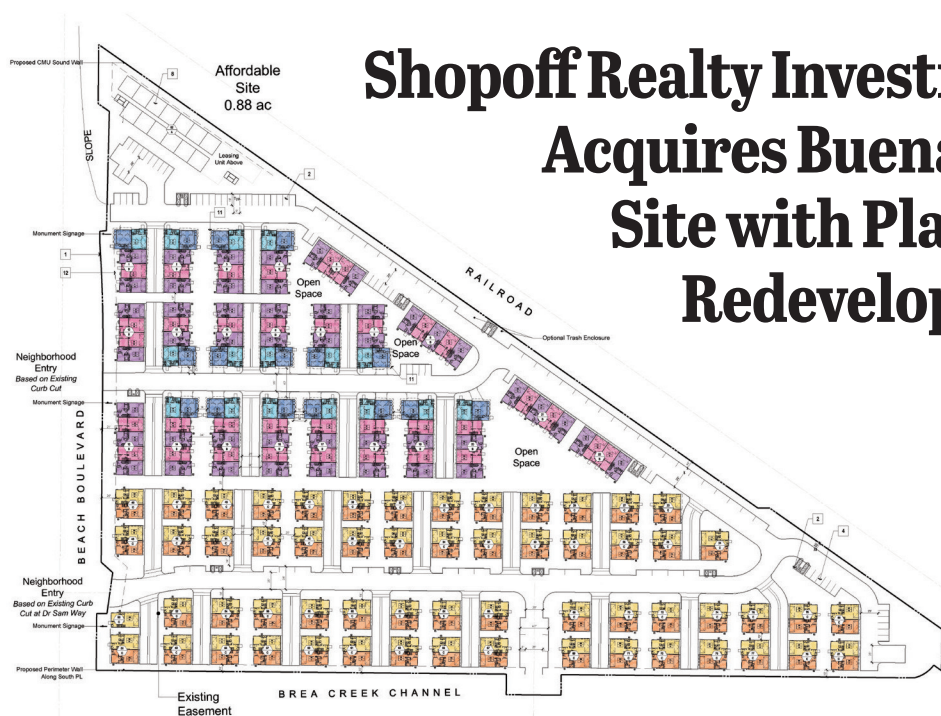
- Paul Williams



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# Shopoff Realty Investments Acquires Buena Park Site with Plans for Redevelopment



Formerly home to Amway's SoCal operations, the infill project will bring residential units to Orange County

Shopoff Realty Investments recently acquired a 13.75-acre site at 5600 Beach Blvd. in Buena Park from Amway for \$60 million, the latest in a group of developments set to convert underutilized and aging properties in Orange County into residential housing and apartments. For the Irvine-based developer, the Buena Park site is one of several residential infill developments in various stages of construction. Other projects include Uptown Newport, Magnolia Coast and redevelopment of the Westminster Mall.

Developers have had to deal with rising costs related to higher interest rates but are now facing additional costs related to labor, tariffs and overall market volatility. In addition to those factors, it can be difficult to find large development sites in urban markets where there are few vacant parcels, but opportunities exist and contingencies can help plan for price increases.

"Our business has been hard for a year-and-a-half to two years. If we look at May through the end of the year, we feel really good. This could be my best year ever for the company and for myself personally," said Bill Shopoff, principal of the firm that he started in 1992.

Converting properties is a multi-year process, but recent progress has led to new acquisitions. Progress at existing developments has made Shopoff confident for 2025 despite a slow start

in the first quarter. Overall, Shopoff Realty senior management owns and operates 30 million square feet of commercial property and has entitled more than 41,000 residential lots or units since inception of the firm.

For the Buena Park site, the company secured the acquisition with \$49 million in financing with support from JLL Capital Markets. Site plans are still being developed but will consist of a mix of residential units that will replace two aging industrial buildings that total 370,000 square feet.

Although projects are moving forward, Shopoff paused to reflect on the recent wildfires that devastated Southern California. As a real estate developer, he recognizes that there may be opportunities to assist with rebuilding efforts but has opted not to participate in the recovery until the needs become clearer.

"The first opportunity is to have compassion for people impacted by the fires," said Shopoff. "Our bigger concern out of the fires is the insurance industry and what happens to insure residential and commercial projects. We don't have an answer, but it's impactful," he said.

The project in Buena Park became available when nutritional supplement manufacturer Amway decided to shutter its Southern California operations and consolidate at its Michigan headquarters. It will invest more than \$100 million there and create 260 jobs in conjunction with the move, which will happen by the end of 2026. The company signed a short-term lease back as it transitions operations.

"A short-term lease back comes with challenges and benefits. We specialize in corporate transactions and understand the complexities involved,"

said Cameron Ghassemi, senior vice president of acquisitions at Shopoff.

That time will allow Shopoff to entitle the property and begin preparations to redevelop it into a residential development while collecting income to offset some of the carrying costs. Initial discussion with city leadership has been positive, especially because this housing development wasn't included in regional housing needs assessment, and it will help the city meet a statewide goal that mandates cities meet housing needs. One common theme between all of the Shopoff projects is the infill development converts an underutilized commercial property into a residential development. In addition, a key element is the inclusion of affordable housing units. Shopoff expects to deliver approximately 500 affordable units across four projects.

"At this stage in my career, I'm equally proud that 500 families will find housing that couldn't find housing. It's important that we do that for our communities and our society," Shopoff said.

At Magnolia Coast, a 28.9-acre oceanfront land parcel in Huntington Beach that previously housed massive fuel storage tanks, plans include more than 200 single-family homes, as well as a 50-unit apartment complex, a 215-room boutique hotel, and approximately 19,000 square feet of retail space. Affordable housing is a component of the project, and 25 units have been set aside for workers at the hotel. In February, Lionheart Strategic Management LLC provided \$60.9 million in financing to move the project forward following approval from the California Coastal Commission.

Meanwhile, construction is ready to begin on Park Palm, the latest element of the firm's flagship Uptown Newport development. The firm expects to break ground in the latter half of the year on the 60-unit luxury condominium project, which completes the first phase of construction. The entire development is entitled for 1,244 residential units, of which 548 units will be developed in the first phase. Some of those are apartments and some are for-sale housing. Two projects that have been completed include 458 luxury apartments and 30 condos. The condos have a price point ranging from \$2 to \$5 million and 25 have already been sold. The site also includes a one-acre park that is privately owned but open to the public.

"The future for Southern California and coastal communities in general in populated areas is infill development, whether it's office, industrial or even school sites," said Brian Rupp, executive vice president of real estate for Shopoff Realty. ■

- David Nusbaum



# Legal Experts Highlight Key IP Trends To Watch

From AI to embedded content, litigation and potential new laws could shape the future of IP

Legal experts are watching significant copyright cases that could reshape intellectual property law in the coming year – with artificial intelligence (AI) playing a significant but not exclusive role.

AI continues to raise novel IP issues, but open questions over things like the applicability of doctrines

such as fair use show signs of reaching a resolution in the year ahead. According to Justin Hughes, a professor at Loyola Law School who teaches patent law and intellectual property, one anticipated trend in AI-related copyright litigation is that the sheer volume of new lawsuits from content creators and publishers against AI platforms is likely to slow.

“In copyright, litigation over AI training sets has been fast and furious for the past three years.

I assume we will see a slowdown in the number of new cases filed,” Hughes stated in an email.

“More importantly, my guess is that we are going to see more of these disputes settle. With the growing number of business deals between major content owners and AI companies, it is getting harder for the AI companies to argue that it is fair use under 17 U.S.C. 107 to train on the content of everyone else with whom they don’t do deals. The recent district court decision in *Thomson Reuters v. Ross Intelligence* – written by a Third Circuit judge sitting by designation – also doesn’t help the AI companies. So, I expect to see more settlements.”

The precise impact of the *Thomson Reuters* case – in which a federal judge in Delaware ruled that an AI legal research company infringed on Thomson Reuters’ intellectual property by improperly accessing and copying content from the Westlaw legal research platform – isn’t clear.

The court ruled against the defendant’s attempt to invoke the fair use defense but limited its decision to non-generative AI.

“I will be surprised if that decision becomes a hugely significant decision just because it is so fact specific,” said Steven Stein, a partner with Greenberg Glusker Fields Claman & Machtinger





LLP who focuses on media, intellectual property, entertainment and business disputes.

Stein thinks the *New York Times et al. v. OpenAI* case, ongoing in the Southern District of New York, will be a far more significant test of whether fair use is an adequate defense against allegations AI companies improperly scrape data. The newspaper and other media organizations accuse OpenAI of improperly accessing their data to train its AI models.

“The New York Times case could definitely have broader implications for OpenAI and for AI generally,” Stein said. “And I think if there is an adverse ruling against OpenAI, I think it’s going to lead to and require AI companies to license content from companies like the New York Times to use in connection with their AI, even if it just involves training that AI.”

The case, depending on the outcome, could “also lead to legislation being passed or considered to try to address the ramifications of that decision, because it obviously has what would have a huge impact on this emerging industry,” Stein said.

Although there was no significant federal AI legislation in the pipeline, Stein said lawmakers would likely also be looking at a pending U.S.

Copyright Office report on the same issue being litigated by The New York Times. The office has been conducting a three-part evaluation of AI and copyright issues, with two reports already released and a third expected later this year examining the legal implications of training AI models on copyrighted works.

### International Termination Rights

Outside of AI, Stein said that a potential broadening of copyright terminations to overseas jurisdictions was an issue firmly on his radar for the year ahead.

Termination provisions allow creators to reclaim ownership rights to their work during a five-year window that opens on the 35th year after the original licensing agreement took effect. Stein explained that this legal mechanism often protects authors who license content before its market value is established.

“Part of the issue has been that a lot of people think copyright termination is limited to the United States,” Stein explained. “So, for example, if you have a copyright in the United States and you license it, and then you terminate the copyright, the idea has been or most people often the termination only applies within the United States.”

This can create issues when it comes time for authors to try to “renegotiate and get a better deal,” as they lack the international rights to the work, Stein said.

However, a recent ruling in *Vetter v. Resnick*, in the Middle District of Louisiana, significantly expanded copyright termination rights, establishing that the termination of rights for The Swingin’ Medallions’ 1966 song “Double Shot (Of My Baby’s Love)” applies both domestically and internationally.

“Many commentators believe that the court got it wrong, but that decision is being appealed to the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals, and it’s very interesting to see what the 5th Circuit, and ultimately, maybe even the United States Supreme Court, does with that, because there’s a lot of wheeling and dealing in Hollywood relating to IP and copyright termination notices, and if, in fact, the termination notice applies to broad, to rights internationally that would have a major impact in the entertainment industry,” Stein said.

### A Potential Embedded Content Circuit Split

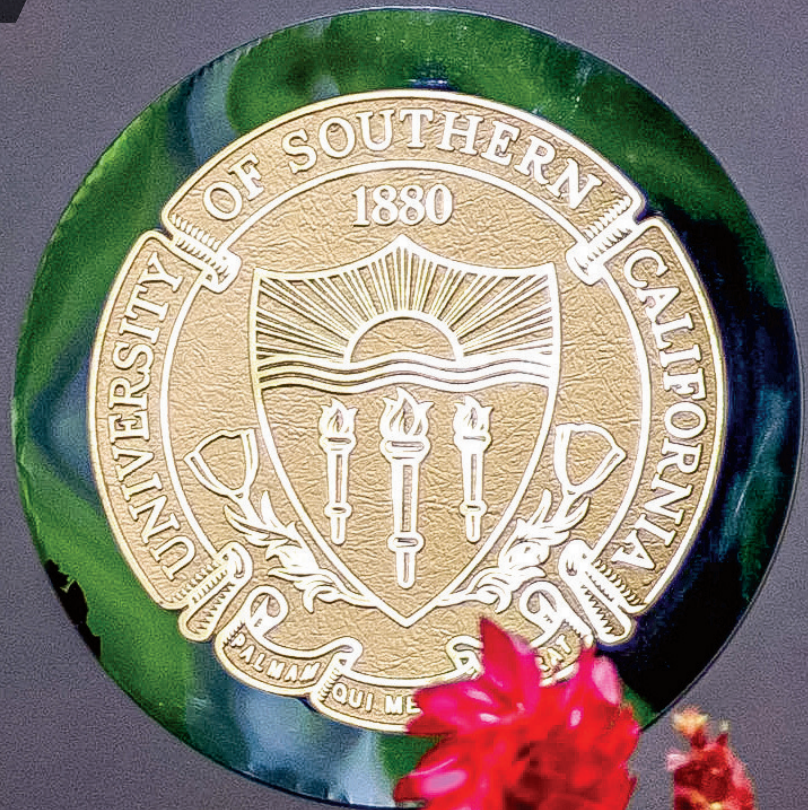
Copyright infringement as it pertains to the use of embedded videos on websites, and the potential for the issue to land before the U.S. Supreme Court, is another development catching Stein’s attention.





USC Gould  
School of Law

# *Future-Proofing the Next Generation of Lawyers*





## Southern California's law schools embrace technology to prepare students for employment in a rapidly changing legal landscape

As the early 2000s gave way to the mid-century, one thing that continually occupied real estate in headlines was a simple, if not ominous question: “Will technology take my job?” From mailrooms to boardrooms, the idea that automation, including the advent and rapid adoption of artificial intelligence (AI) would have significant ramifications on employment was inescapable, including in the legal profession.

Technology hasn't replaced lawyers, doctors or other professionals, but it's a key tool to help them better practice their specialized professions. At local law schools, technologies like AI have quickly grown from a new and interesting trend into a tool that is essential to learn and incorporate into education and legal practice.

To that end, the University of Southern California's Gould School of Law launched a new program that offers a certificate for law and artificial intelligence. It's a 12-unit certificate that is offered on a part-time basis as a standalone program at law school. Enrollment is open to both students and other members of the community who take the coursework.

“Technology is a great equalizer. There's no going back. This has fundamentally changed how the law operates,” said Dean Franita Tolson, who is a nationally recognized expert in election law, who was named dean of the school last year after serving as interim dean during the prior year and vice dean for faculty and academic affairs from 2019 to 2022.

When AI was first adopted as a mainstream technology, it generated concerns related to

the potential for cheating. However, those fears quickly changed as the advantages of utilizing technology to review documents or research case law offered clear advantages. By providing exposure to technology at law school, Tolson recognized that it helps make students more marketable when they graduate and enter the legal profession. Ultimately, students need to have real-life skills in addition to a strong educational foundation to meet the needs of the firms and major companies that seek to hire law school graduates, and AI's time-savings benefits far outweigh the chances it will be used maliciously.

Other schools have created similar offerings. UC Berkeley Law will launch an AI-focused Master of Laws (LLM) degree law program this summer. The program can be completed over two summers or through remote study combined with one summer on campus.

Student groups have been formed to create programs devoted to education about artificial intelligence. At UCLA School of Law, the AI Law Association at UCLA was founded two years ago and develops programs such as industry panels, skills workshops and research publications. The group promotes AI tools as a complement to traditional legal education, but also stimulates conversations about the ethical and logistical consequences of technological disruption in the legal industry.

In California, there were 18 new laws signed by Governor Newsom that went into effect on Jan. 1 that directly addressed artificial intelligence. There are now significant regulations regarding deepfake technology, AI transparency, data privacy, and use of AI in medical records and health care. California is at the forefront of this technology, with many Silicon Valley area companies working on large language models and their implementation into all aspects of business and compliance with new and evolving laws regarding intellectual property and privacy. Some laws permit a private right of action, but most focus on state oversight to keep AI transparent and protect the public from misuse.

Furthermore, AB 2013 will go into effect in 2026 and requires developers to disclose extensive details about the data used to train their large language models going back to 2022 including sources, types and whether it includes copyrighted information. This type of documentation is designed to provide some transparency, but could create compliance issues

*[Continues on page 50]*



USC Gould School of Law Dean Franita Tolson photo courtesy of USC Gould School of Law.



# Coast-to-Coast

Dion  
Cominos



Miles  
Scully

For GRSM, growth has come through a unique 50-state strategy, providing advantages and challenges

**I**n growing a law business, there are milestones, and then there are *milestones*. For one firm, it's evident in their tagline: "Your 50-State Law Firm."

Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, or GRSM, is the only firm in the U.S. with offices in every state, and reaching that 50-state milestone in 2019 has led not only to a unique distinction, but to faster growth.

It continues to grow and add new offices, especially in Southern California – where there is a need to service clients in its large cities – but also in the Central Valley and Inland Empire. It opened offices in Ontario in 2021 and Ventura County in 2024.

Revenue has more than doubled at the San Francisco-based firm since it opened in Hawaii in 2019, the last state needed to achieve its goal. This year, it's on pace to surpass \$900 million in revenue this year and could surpass \$1 billion in the near future. That's compared to \$351 million in revenue in 2019, when the Hawaii office opened.

"We keep getting more – and bigger – work from the largest companies in America," said Miles Scully, a name partner with the firm who is credited as the architect of its growth strategy. "We hit a need that most people didn't know existed for one firm to cover all 50 states. It means that

*[Continues on page 74]*





# SKIMS Opens Los Angeles Flagship



The brand continues its nationwide retail expansion; announces key collaboration with Nike

In a move that will significantly expand its physical retail footprint, popular apparel brand SKIMS, co-founded by Kim Kardashian, launched its flagship West Hollywood retail location on the Sunset Strip on April 1.

The move gives the shapewear company a significant West Coast presence and marks its first standalone store in Southern California.

The storefront, spanning 4,546 square feet, follows the brand's successful New York City flagship debut on Fifth Avenue in 2024 and represents a continuation of SKIMS' strategy to build out its brick-and-mortar presence alongside its established – and hyped – e-commerce channel.

"Los Angeles has always been an important market for SKIMS and the place we call home, so opening a flagship store here was the natural next step," said co-founder and CEO Jens Grede.

"We're excited to keep expanding, giving both new and loyal customers a space to fully experience SKIMS." More store openings are anticipated later this year.

The space aims to create an immersive brand environment consistent with SKIMS' aesthetic. It incorporates signature elements like rounded fixtures, custom mannequins and materials such as Corian and ultrasuede.

Kardashian underscored the location's significance: "Opening a SKIMS store in Los Angeles is a full-circle moment. Having a space here where people can experience the brand in person makes it even more special."

To coincide with the opening, SKIMS has prepped an exclusive partnership with the iconic Sunset Strip Mel's Drive-In. The diner is hosting a "SKIMS Drive-In" themed pop-up from April 2 through 6. The transformed classic diner will have SKIMS-style touches throughout, a curated menu, priority access to the store included with a visit and, of course, a photobooth to capture that perfect selfie.

The news follows the SKIMS announcement of a significant collaboration with sportswear manufacturer Nike, resulting in an entirely new line: NikeSKIMS. The new brand merges Nike's approach to advanced innovation, sport science and athlete insights with SKIMS' obsession for the female form and pioneering pursuit of solutions for every body.

Built on a commitment to innovation, inclusivity and breaking boundaries, NikeSKIMS will offer an extensive line of training apparel, footwear and accessories designed to meet the unique needs and preferences of athletes around the world.

NikeSKIMS is set to debut its first collection at select retail locations and online this spring. A global expansion will follow in 2026, with extension to new markets and retail locations, including wholesale partners.

With a shared, long-term vision that celebrates every dimension of athleticism, from the elite to the everyday, NikeSKIMS is dedicated to creating covetable products meticulously crafted to fit the body's every curve, enhancing its natural form.

"We're energized by the opportunity to build a new brand and shake things up for the next generation of athletes with NikeSKIMS," said Heidi O'Neill, president of Consumer, Product and Brand at Nike.

"This partnership brings together the best of both brands and unlocks an incredible opportunity to disrupt the industry with our shared passion and commitment to innovation. We will invite even more athletes into sport and movement with a product that makes them feel strong and sexy." — Paul Williams



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# TRIPLE THREAT

*“Every day there’s new innovation, new wealth creation and an opportunity for us to jump in.”*

—Tony Sciarino



BMO’s dynamic Los Angeles leadership trio ready for new challenges and opportunities

A trio of high-powered banking executives has joined new-to-Southern-California BMO Financial Group in Los Angeles to lead the \$1.5 trillion bank’s wealth management, business banking and California operations. The three veteran bankers have diverse backgrounds, joining from different banks and are based in BMO’s new office in Century City.

**Michele Havens** was appointed BMO’s head of U.S. private wealth and will lead national operations from her office in Los Angeles. She will work alongside **Tony Sciarino**, who was hired as head of U.S. Commercial Bank and **Halé Behzadi** as vice chair for California. All three executives will report directly to BMO’s U.S. chief executive **Darrel Hackett**.

“We had the opportunity to bring in some incredible senior talent. It wasn’t necessarily by design that we had three senior leaders right here in Southern California, but there’s great talent in this market. They’re going to be incredibly important as we continue to grow our presence here,” said Hackett, who sat down with Business by LA Times Studios last month to discuss the bank’s growth with the new executives.

Havens joined from Northern Trust Bank, where she worked for 24 years, most recently was the president of Northern Trust’s west region, is responsible for leading BMO’s U.S. wealth

management business including family office, investment management and private banking. Sciarino most recently led commercial operations across the western United States for JPMorgan Chase. Havens and Sciarino are members of the BMO U.S. Management Committee.

Behzadi joined as vice-chair in a newly created role that will oversee operations in California. She will work to deepen client relationships, expand market share, and enhance brand awareness. She most recently served as chief executive of Citi Private Bank North America, where she led integrated sales teams across 23 North American offices.

The three new executives understand that they are joining a bank with a long history, but approach their roles with a chance to build and grow their respective divisions. In order to do so, the impetus is on collaboration – client needs cross over their unique business lines, requiring their touching base frequently.

“Ultimately we’re in the relationship business and, fortunately, we are hiring experienced people and many other people who have connections to the community,” said Havens.

For Behzadi, the opportunity to join BMO was based on the bank’s commitment to the market, culture and capabilities. Behzadi, who concluded a one-year term as chair of the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corp.’s board of directors last year, understands the needs of business owners in a diverse economy.

“You have to think about all the different ways people either create wealth or are engaged in business,” Behzadi said. “We work with all types of individuals, business leaders as well as very wealthy individuals so we have to align our specialty with what those people need and do it in partnership.”

The Bank of the West acquisition provided a foundation to bring on new employees who bring additional M&A capabilities, wealth management advisory and private banking expertise. In Southern California, that’s been important for clients in the media and finance space, as well as niche sectors such as the wine industry.

“Every day there’s new innovation, new wealth creation and an opportunity for us to jump in,” said Sciarino.

Many successful business owners struggle with various aspects of running and transitioning a multi-generational business, and the BMO team expects to be highly collaborative when



*“You have to think about all the different ways people either create wealth or are engaged in business.”*

—Halé Behzadi

working with business owners and high-net-worth individuals, whether they have questions related to business operations, wealth management or other issues.

One area that Havens cited as a consistent question was related to the idea of a family office, which manages wealth for an individual family, but can be costly to operate or creates concerns around risk and control. Many individuals forego a family office, she said, and outsource that work, but still desire the elevated client experience that would come from a dedicated office.

Opening an office in Century City puts the bank at the center of Southern California’s sprawling – and incredibly powerful – key industries. A network of branches is important, but having an office located amidst myriad high-profile law firms, media and entertainment companies, and other professional services has elevated their ability to meet their clients wherever they are located.

#### **Engaging With a New Community**

BMO is headquartered in Montreal, with its U.S. headquarters in Chicago. While it has a deep history of doing business in California dating back 160 years, it historically had the deepest market penetration in the Midwest.

*[Continues on page 22]*



(l to r) Michele Havens, Head, U.S. Private Wealth; Darrel Hockett, U.S. CEO; Halé Behzadi, Vice Chair, California. Not pictured Tony Sclarrino, Head, U.S. Commercial Bank. Photo by Ringo H.W. Chiu



*“Ultimately,  
we’re in the  
relationship  
business.  
Fortunately,  
we are hiring  
experienced  
people  
who have  
connections  
to the  
community.”*

—Michele Havens

*[Continued from page 21]*

That changed with its \$16.3 billion acquisition of Bank of the West in 2023 that added nearly 1.8 million customers and more than 500 additional branches, commercial banking and wealth management offices. Bank of the West was a West Coast regional bank with offices in nine states that was headquartered in San Francisco. The company had more than \$90 billion in assets at the time of the acquisition. As of January 31, 2025, BMO Financial Group was the eighth largest bank in North America by assets, with total assets of \$1.5 trillion.

BMO’s expansion occurred at a volatile time for the banking sector. Just a few weeks after the close of the Bank of the West acquisition, Silicon Valley Bank collapsed. This stunning development was followed shortly by the shuttering of both Signature Bank and First Republic Bank. The veteran banking executives saw that volatility in the market was seen as an opportunity for growth.

“We’ve only begun, and you’re going to see us double down in this market in a big way. We’re going to be known as California’s bank and as the best commercial bank on the continent,” said Scirriano.

After integrating operations with Bank of the West, BMO secured beneficial and highly noticeable partnerships with soccer teams LAFC and Angel City Football Club, in addition to naming rights to the now-named BMO Stadium in Exposition Park. Those deals stood as exemplary of how organizations that operate with a similar purpose reach out to, and want to do more, for their communities. BMO is also a partner with Major League Soccer teams CF Montréal, the Vancouver Whitecaps and Toronto FC.

“We partnered with [the teams] not just because they have an audience that is attracted to us, but they operate with a similar purpose. Our purpose is to boldly grow the good in business and life,” said Hackett.

Angel City allocates 10% of the partnership back into the community through the Angel City sponsorship model. For the BMO partnership, it supported Girls Play Los Angeles, which enables



400 high school-aged girls and non-binary youth across Los Angeles access to soccer.

It extended those local team partnerships this year with BMO “fan cards,” which are available with a BMO personal checking account. The card offers fans access to special team events, discounts on apparel and gear, and other exclusive perks. It partnered with LAFC’s Denis Bouanga and Angel City FC’s Madison Hammond to promote the fan cards with a new series of commercials.

#### **A Comprehensive Wildfire Response With a Personal Story**

When wildfires destroyed thousands of homes in Southern California, including several employees and customers, BMO responded by contributing \$3 million to relief efforts, marking one of the largest donations from a financial services company. Sadly, Havens was among those who lost their homes.

“I couldn’t have been more touched by how well BMO showed up for me and my family. We have another colleague who also lost his home entirely and many, many others that were disrupted by the evacuations. Going forward, access is absolutely critical, and we’ve seen locally the banking community already come together,” said Havens. █

—David Nusbaum



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# California Tourism Industry Unites in L.A. to Drive Post-Wildfire Economic Recovery

Visit California spotlights the region and the transformative power of travel at annual Outlook Forum

In a powerful demonstration of resilience and unity, the California tourism industry recently gathered in Los Angeles for the first time since January’s wildfires – reaffirming the state’s commitment to recovery and economic revitalization. More than 900 tourism executives, travel marketing professionals and other industry stakeholders convened at their annual Outlook Forum conference to collectively chart a path forward, emphasizing the vital role tourism plays in supporting the state’s economy and workforce.

Led by Visit California, the industry’s response to the recent crisis was both swift and strategic. Recognizing the wildfires’ widespread impact on traveler perceptions and local businesses, Visit California convened its first emergency board meeting in five years, resulting in a \$4.3-million crisis recovery fund. The allocation is fueling a data-driven marketing campaign aimed at countering misinformation and reigniting visitor confidence nationwide.

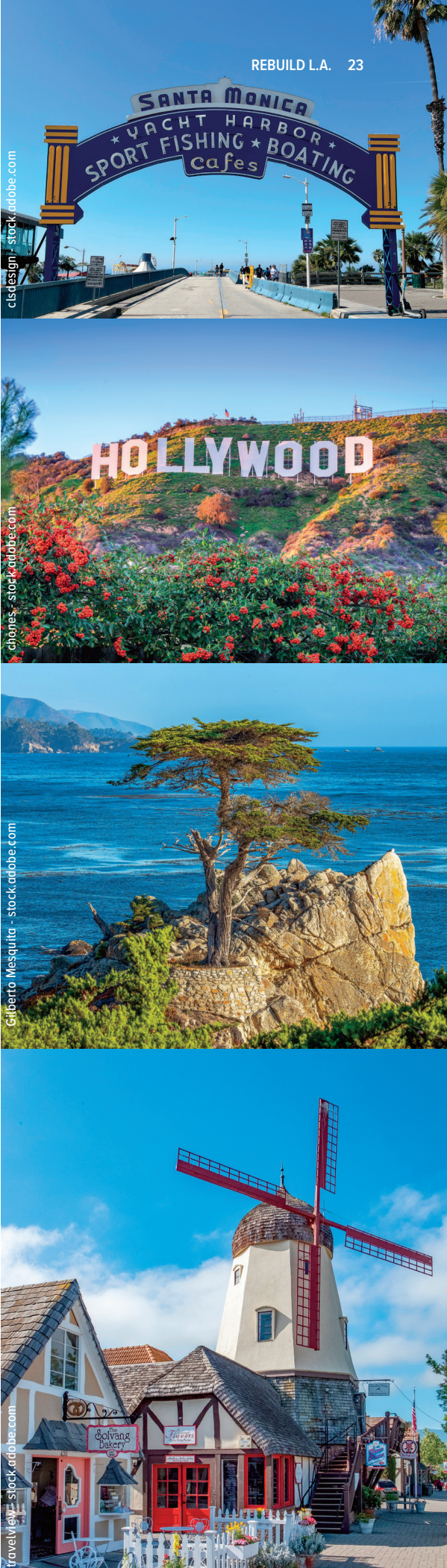
Early in the crisis, misleading reports led to consumers believing half of Los Angeles County had burned – when in reality, less than 2% of the region was affected directly by fires. Addressing misconceptions is critical in reassuring both

domestic and international travelers that Los Angeles remains open as a premier global destination and that visitors can still have an exceptional experience here.

Beyond economic recovery, the industry has rallied to support hospitality workers, who are at the heart of Los Angeles’ tourism experience. Restaurants Care, which provides grants to impacted restaurant employees, and the California Community Foundation Wildfire Recovery Fund, which has already raised nearly \$6 million, have received overwhelming industry support.

Despite the challenges, Los Angeles’ tourism future appears strong. Last year, visitor spending reached a record \$156 billion, while international travel rebounded to 94% of pre-pandemic levels. Further on the horizon, the state is set to host two Super Bowls, another NBA All-Star Weekend, FIFA World Cup matches and the 2028 Olympics, reinforcing its position as a global hub for world-class events and experiences. These milestones highlight the industry’s resilience and the collective effort to ensure Southern California and the state at large remain among the world’s most sought-after travel destinations.

- Paul Williams





# Movers & Shakers: Highlights of Recent Executive Hires and Climbs

## David Kramer to succeed Jeremy Zimmer as CEO of UTA in June 2025

**B**everly Hills-based global talent, entertainment, sports and advisory company United Talent Agency (UTA) has announced that David Kramer has been appointed CEO of the company, effective June 1, 2025.

As CEO, Kramer will oversee all strategic planning and operations of the company's global business. Jeremy Zimmer, who has served as CEO since 2012, will partner with Kramer to support UTA's long-standing planned succession process in the role of executive chairman through the end of 2025 and will continue to serve on the company's board of directors. Kramer has served as UTA's president since 2022.

## Steven M. Zimmerman Resumes Role as Principal of Los Angeles Office of Jackson Lewis

Nationwide employment law firm Jackson Lewis P.C. has announced the addition of principal Steven M. Zimmerman in Los Angeles. He resumes his role as principal after serving as director of labor relations at The Walt Disney Company. His practice focuses on traditional labor law, where he represents clients in the hotel, entertainment, media, distribution and warehousing industries before the National Labor Relations Board and in state and federal courts. Zimmerman has extensive experience in union-management relations, including collective bargaining and advising on the administration of labor agreements.

## City National Bank Announces Appointment of Anthony Di Santi as Managing Director, Head of Corporate Sports Banking

City National Bank recently announced the appointment of Anthony Di Santi as managing director, head of Corporate Sports Banking. He will lead the bank's strategic focus on serving the needs of professional teams, leagues, businesses and corporate partners throughout the sports industry.

Di Santi brings more than 30 years of experience and a proven track record of success across the global sports industry, having served as global managing director and global industry lead for Citi's Sports Investment Banking unit for more than 24 years. Over the course of his career, Di Santi has advised on more than 75 M&A transactions involving major professional sports franchises.

## Sidley Adds Partner Jason Mills to Los Angeles Office

Sidley has announced that Jason Mills has joined the firm's Regulatory and Enforcement group as a partner in the environmental practice in Los Angeles. He joins from Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP, where he co-lead the firm's workplace health and safety practice. Mills, who will be based in Los Angeles, is a United States Marine Corps veteran and trial lawyer. His trial experience extends to both Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) proceedings and high-level employment litigation. On the OSHA front, Mills represents employers in the defense of federal and state citations, including workplace incident response and whistleblower claims.

## Banc of California Names Karen Hon Chief Accounting Officer

Banc of California, Inc., the parent company of wholly-owned subsidiary Banc of California, has announced that Karen Hon has joined the company as executive vice president and chief accounting officer. In this role, she oversees all accounting, controllership and financial reporting, including Sarbanes-Oxley (SOX) controls. She is also a member of the company's senior management committee, helping to drive operational excellence, business process improvements and enhancements across the bank. Hon has more than 20 years of experience in finance and accounting.

## Consumer Product Safety Partner Judith Shophet Sidkoff Joins Sidley's Century City Office

Sidley has announced that Judith Shophet Sidkoff has joined as a partner in the firm's litigation practice in Century City as a member of its product liability and mass torts practice. She joins Sidley from Dentons, where she was a partner in both the litigation and dispute resolution and consumer products representation and services practice groups. She joins Sarah Carlson, who recently

joined Sidley's litigation practice. Sidkoff counsels manufacturers, importers, distributors and retailers of consumer products in connection with regulatory matters before and involving the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

## AEG Presents Names Andrew Klein President of Global Partnerships

Los Angeles-headquartered AEG Presents, a global leader in live entertainment, has announced that Andrew Klein has been promoted to president of global partnerships. In this role, he will oversee all sales and activation business for AEG Presents' Global Partnerships division, reporting to executive vice president and COO Shawn Trell.

Klein has spent two decades with AEG Presents and is responsible for spearheading its sponsorship sales efforts across the company's tours, festivals and music venues. These assets include marquee properties such as Stagecoach Festival, Camp Flog Gnaw, the New Orleans Jazz Fest & Heritage Festival and the company's 55+ owned and operated venues, as well as a plethora of music tours. Klein is widely recognized as a leader in the field of merging "brands with bands."

## Ruggable Taps Former Nike Executive as New CEO

Los Angeles-based Ruggable, the industry leader in washable rugs, has announced the appointment of Nicole Otto as its chief executive officer. Otto brings over 20 years of experience leading top-tier consumer brands. She rapidly ascended through the ranks at Nike, Inc. over the course of her 16-year tenure, ultimately overseeing the North America direct-to-consumer business. Most recently, Otto served as global brand president at The North Face.

## Cushman & Wakefield Names Robert Thornburgh Regional President, Southwest Region

Cushman & Wakefield has announced the appointment of Robert Thornburgh, SIOR, CCIM, FRICS as regional president of the Southwest Region, which includes Southern California, Nevada, Phoenix, Colorado, Utah and Idaho. In his new role, he will oversee Cushman & Wakefield's strategic growth of the Southwest, including client service delivery, talent development and recruiting, while developing strong partnerships across the firm's service lines. Thornburgh is based in the firm's Los Angeles office. |

- Paul Williams



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# M&A Roundup

## This month's top deals from around Southern California

### Clearlake Capital's acquisition of Dun & Bradstreet leads March M&A activity in Southern California

**G**lobal M&A activity ticked up in 2024 after two years of declines, according to Pitchbook's annual Global M&A report. With a strong first quarter, activity could increase for two consecutive years for the first time in a decade.

In Southern California, recent deals include several multi-billion transactions led by Los Angeles-based private equity firm Clearlake Capital Group's proposed acquisition of Dun & Bradstreet for \$4.1 billion in cash, plus assumption of debt.

Dun & Bradstreet was founded 184 years ago and has undergone

two stints as a private company. Its most recent initial public offering in 2020 valued Dun & Bradstreet at about \$9 billion, but its value declined by about 60% prior to Clearlake's offer of \$9.15 per share, which was a 4.8% premium to its prior close.

"We have been on a strategic journey over the past six years, executing a major transformation that has strengthened our business and financial results," said Anthony Jabbour, chief executive of Dun & Bradstreet, in a statement.

Ares Credit Funds and HSBC also participated in the committed financing for the transaction. The deal is expected to close in the third quarter.

#### Hawke Media Acquires Blue Light Media

Hawke Media, a leading U.S. performance marketing agency, has announced the acquisition of Blue Light Media, an Orange County-based full-service creative and social marketing agency.

"At Hawke, we believe every brand today must think and operate like a media company to stay competitive," said Erik Huberman, CEO and founder, Hawke Media. "At the center of that is consistent, quality content – CQC – driving connection, community and performance. Blue Light Media has built its reputation on delivering that level of creative excellence, and we're thrilled to integrate their expertise as we double down on social-first marketing at scale."

With the acquisition, Blue Light clients gain access to Hawke Media's full suite of marketing services, combining creative storytelling with data-driven strategies designed to maximize reach, engagement and business impact. |

## A Busy Year for L.A. County Law Firms

Fires, mergers and relocations part of a 2025 that is shaping up to be a banner year for legal representation

It has been a busy year for the 125 largest law firms in Los Angeles County, which have navigated financial challenges, regulatory issues, an election and natural disasters. All have contributed to an ever-changing landscape where technology has taken an increased role.

Consolidation and expansion were among the biggest changes to the legal sector in Los Angeles over the past year. Westwood-based healthcare firm **Nelson Hardiman** merged with Pittsburgh firm **Leech Tishman** in September. The combined firm has 12 offices nationwide and operates under the new moniker **Leech Tishman Nelson Hardiman Inc.**

Harry Nelson, a partner at Leech Tishman Nelson Hardiman, said that he spent 15 years seeking a growth partner and spoke to more than 100 firms of various sizes about a merger. The firm works primarily within the healthcare sector, which Nelson described as fundamentally a middle-market industry due to the prevalence of physician groups, pharmacies and labs.

"We needed to find lawyers that could round out practices in intellectual property and employment," he said. Nelson added that the Los Angeles firm had a growing number of clients on the East Coast and needed a strong New York presence.

Nelson Hardiman's healthcare specialty had evolved and expanded as the industry underwent a profound transformation in the way that healthcare is delivered with technology, telemedicine, changes to the payer/payee relationship and FDA practices. The most important part of a proposed merger for Nelson was finding a partner who would support the many smaller medical practices and companies that were clients, rather than solely focusing on the national healthcare and life science clients.

"We're only six months in, but it's been a homerun," said Nelson. "We're building a premier specialty practice for ourselves and rounding out to a full service offering."

#### Local Growth

For **Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP**, growth has happened quickly since opening a local office in September 2021. The firm has 100 attorneys, including 32 partners in Los Angeles, compared with just three attorneys who spearheaded the new office when it first opened. It was part of a major West Coast expansion that included offices in San Francisco and Palo Alto, which opened in 2019 and 2018, respectively.

Recent local additions include Douglas C. Emhoff, former Second Gentleman of the United States, in a move to private practice for the former high-ranking government official. Emhoff joined as a partner and has more than three decades of experience as a litigator and trusted counsel to clients and global business leaders. Other recent additions also include litigators Jason Linder and Glenn Vanzura from Mayer Brown.

*[Continues on page 26]*



# TOP 125 LAW FIRMS

RANKED BY NUMBER OF ATTORNEYS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

[Continued from page 26]

Last year, the firm launched the LA Office Foundation, which was funded with contributions from L.A.-based partners and matched by the firm. The foundation partnered with Vista Del Mar Child and Family Services to help establish a new substance abuse disorder treatment center for children ages 12-17.

## Downtown Relocation

**Reed Smith** relocated its 110-person downtown office to City National Plaza at 515 S. Flower St. The firm's new space covers more than 41,000 square feet on two floors, providing room to grow. Features of the newly renovated space include universally sized offices and hoteling work stations, as well as three conference rooms and two special-purpose areas integrated with the firm's HD video conferencing technology. The new office tower holds an Energy Star label and LEED Platinum certification, the highest level available.

At 350 S. Grand Ave., two firms relocated offices within the past year from elsewhere within downtown. **Sheppard Mullin** moved its headquarters to Bunker Hill.

"Our downtown Los Angeles office is our largest office and continues to add leadership and depth across our practices. A new, modern and efficient workspace will accommodate both immediate and future growth needs," said Luca Salvi, chair of Sheppard Mullin, in a statement.

**Alston & Bird** moved to the same building last year and it added a new office in Century City. Recent matters for the firm include representing Beverly Hills-based Platinum Equity as debt financing counsel in its acquisition of a majority interest in dairy products brands Horizon Organic and Wallaby from Danone.

Meanwhile, **Hanson Bridgett** marked the 10th anniversary of its Los Angeles office by relocating to the CalEdison DTLA, where it nearly doubled the size of its previous office.



-David Nusbaum



The 125 largest law firms with offices in Los Angeles County employ more than 9,000 attorneys in local offices. That includes 3,780 partners, plus associates, counsel and other staff attorneys.


Firms handle litigation and transactional work across a diverse range of industries spanning entertainment, finance, aerospace, media and others. The two largest firms have roots in Los Angeles. Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP, the largest firm with 317 local attorneys between offices in Century City and DTLA, was founded in Los Angeles in 1890, but does not recognize an official headquarters location as an international firm. It has more than 2,000 attorneys in 21 offices worldwide. Los Angeles-based Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP, which has offices in Century City and DTLA, is the only other firm with more than 300 attorneys in Los Angeles.



There are a total of 166 offices for the firms listed because some firms have multiple offices. Firms with dual locations tend to handle more entertainment work in Century City while downtown firms may handle more litigation.



Overall, the top 125 firms employ more than 16,000 people in Los Angeles County.



1 GIBSON DUNN & CRUTCHER LLP	
2029 Century Park East, Suite 4000, Los Angeles 333 S. Grand Ave., Los Angeles	
	Year Established <b>1890</b>
	Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County <b>317</b>
Managing Partners	
Candice <b>CHOH</b>	Number of Partners in Los Angeles County <b>87</b>
Kahn <b>SCOLNICK</b>	Number of Total Offices Firmwide <b>21</b>
gibsondunn.com	



2 SHEPPARD, MULLIN, RICHTER AND HAMPTON LLP	
350 S. Grand Ave., 40th Floor, Los Angeles 1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1600, Los Angeles	
	Year Established <b>1927</b>
	Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County <b>312</b>
Managing Partners	
Polly <b>TOWILL</b>	Number of Partners in Los Angeles County <b>76</b>
Olivier <b>THEARD</b>	Number of Total Offices Firmwide <b>16</b>
sheppardmullin.com	

3 LATHAM & WATKINS	
355 S. Grand Ave., Los Angeles	
	Year Established <b>1934</b>
Managing Partner	
Jeff <b>BJORK</b>	Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County <b>274</b>
Number of Partners in Los Angeles County <b>76</b>	
Number of Total Offices Firmwide <b>29</b>	
lw.com	


4 O'MELVENY & MYERS LLP	
400 S. Hope St., Suite 1900, Los Angeles 1999 Avenue of the Stars, Eighth Floor, Los Angeles	
	Year Established <b>1885</b>
	Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County <b>265</b>
Managing Partners	
Dawn <b>SESTITO</b>	Number of Partners in Los Angeles County <b>79</b>
Madhu <b>POCHA</b>	Number of Total Offices Firmwide <b>18</b>
omm.com	

5 LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH	
633 W. Fifth St., Suite 4000, Los Angeles	
	Year Established <b>1979</b>
	Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County <b>234</b>
Managing Partners	
Kathleen <b>WALKER</b>	Number of Partners in Los Angeles County <b>156</b>
Jana <b>LUBERT</b>	Number of Total Offices Firmwide <b>55</b>
lewisbrisbois.com	

6 KIRKLAND & ELLIS LLP	
2049 Century Park East, Suite 3700, Los Angeles 555 S. Flower St., Suite 3700, Los Angeles	
	Year Established <b>1909</b>
	Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County <b>220</b>
Managing Partners	
Hamed <b>MESHKI</b>	Number of Partners in Los Angeles County <b>109</b>
Philippa <b>BOND</b>	Number of Total Offices Firmwide <b>21</b>
kirkland.com	

7 QUINN EMANUEL URQUHART & SULLIVAN LLP	
865 S. Figueroa St., 10th Floor, Los Angeles	
	Year Established <b>1986</b>
	Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County <b>199</b>
Managing Partners	
Christopher <b>TAYBACK</b>	Number of Partners in Los Angeles County <b>54</b>
Justin <b>GRIFFIN</b>	Number of Total Offices Firmwide <b>36</b>
quinnemanuel.com	

8 SEYFARTH SHAW LLP	
2029 Century Park East, Suite 3500, Los Angeles 601 S. Figueroa St., Suite 3300, Los Angeles	
	Year Established <b>1945</b>
	Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County <b>166</b>
	Number of Partners in Los Angeles County <b>69</b>
Managing Partners	
Nicholas J. <b>WADDLES</b>	Number of Total Offices Firmwide <b>18</b>
Jonathan L. <b>BROPHY</b>	
Dana <b>TREISTER</b>	
seyfarth.com	

9 BUCHALTER APC	
1000 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1500, Los Angeles	
	Year Established <b>1933</b>
Managing Partner	
Adam J. <b>BASS</b>	Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County <b>145</b>
Number of Partners in Los Angeles County <b>73</b>	
Number of Total Offices Firmwide <b>14</b>	
buchalter.com	

\*Some firms may have qualified for this list, but declined to provide information.





# TOP 125 LAW FIRMS

RANKED BY NUMBER OF ATTORNEYS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

27

**10 ALLEN MATKINS**

865 S. Figueroa St., Suite 2800, Los Angeles  
1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1800, Los Angeles

Year Established **1977**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **141**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **57**

Managing Partners



Marissa M. DENNIS Spencer B. KALLICK

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **6**

[allenmatkins.com](http://allenmatkins.com)

**11 MUNGER, TOLLES & OLSON LLP**

350 S. Grand Ave., 50th Floor, Los Angeles

Year Established **1962**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **136**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **53**

Managing Partners


Hailyn CHEN Malcolm HEINICKE

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **3**

[mto.com](http://mto.com)

**12 SIDLEY AUSTIN LLP**

350 S. Grand Ave., Los Angeles  
1999 Avenue of the Stars, 17th Floor, Los Angeles




Year Established **1866**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **136**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **47**

Managing Partners


Dan CLIVNER Rollin A. RANSOM

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **21**

[sidley.com](http://sidley.com)

**13 LOEB & LOEB LLP**

10100 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 2200, Los Angeles



Year Established **1909**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **133**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **75**

Managing Partner


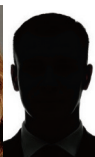
Alyse PELAVIN

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **8**

[loeb.com](http://loeb.com)

**14 GOODWIN**

601 S. Figueroa St., Suite 4100, Los Angeles  
520 Broadway, Suite 520, Santa Monica

Year Established **1912**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **127**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **26**

Managing Partners


Laura STOLL Matthew KANNY

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **17**

[goodwinlaw.com](http://goodwinlaw.com)

**15 GREENBERG TRAURIG LLP**

1840 Century Park East, Suite 1900, Los Angeles




Year Established **2000**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **122**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **56**

Managing Partners


Gregory A. FISHMAN Barbara A. JONES

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **49**

[gtlaw.com/en](http://gtlaw.com/en)

**16 DLA PIPER**

2000 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 400  
North Tower, Los Angeles



Year Established **2005**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **122**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **37**

Managing Partner


Angela AGRUSA

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **75**

[dlapiper.com](http://dlapiper.com)

**17 ATKINSON, ANDELSON, LOYA, RUUD & ROMO**

12800 Center Court Drive, Suite 300, Cerritos  
201 S. Lake Ave., Suite 360, Pasadena



Year Established **1979**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **115**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **64**

Managing Partner

James BACA

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **9**

[aalrr.com](http://aalrr.com)

# Buchalter

A FULL-SERVICE BUSINESS LAW FIRM

Buchalter is proud to be recognized among the **2025 Top Law Firms** in Los Angeles by *L.A. Times Studios*.

**Buchalter**  
[www.buchalter.com](http://www.buchalter.com)

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[DWT.COM](http://DWT.COM)

 **Davis Wright  
Tremaine LLP**



# TOP 125 LAW FIRMS

RANKED BY NUMBER OF ATTORNEYS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

## 18 PAUL HASTINGS

515 S. Flower St., 25th Floor, Los Angeles  
1999 Avenue of the Stars, 27th Floor, Los Angeles



Managing Partners

Cameron W. **FOX**  
Erik **HYMAN**

Year Established **1951**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **114**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **34**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **23**

[paulhastings.com](http://paulhastings.com)

## 19 GORDON REES SCULLY MANSUKHANI LLP

633 W. Fifth St., 52nd Floor, Los Angeles



Managing Partners

Peter **SCHWARTZ**  
Candice **NAM**

Year Established **1974**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **108**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **47**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **81**

[grsm.com](http://grsm.com)

## 20 MANATT, PHELPS & PHILLIPS LLP

2049 Century Park East, Suite 1700, Los Angeles



Managing Partner

Harvey **ROCHMAN**

Year Established **1965**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **107**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **68**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **11**

[manatt.com](http://manatt.com)

## 21 MANNING KASS

801 S. Figueroa St., 15th Floor, Los Angeles



Managing Partner

Dennis B. **KASS**

Year Established **1994**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **107**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **45**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **7**

[manningkass.com](http://manningkass.com)

## 22 GREENBERG GLUSKER LLP

2049 Century Park East, Suite 2600, Los Angeles



Managing Partner

Bob **BARADARAN**

Year Established **1959**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **106**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **75**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **1**

[greenbergglusker.com](http://greenbergglusker.com)

## 23 ORRICK

355 S. Grand Ave., Ste. 2700, Los Angeles  
120 Broadway, Fourth Floor, Santa Monica



Managing Partners

David **FUAD**  
Michael **YANG**

Year Established **1863**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **106**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **37**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **26**

[orrick.com](http://orrick.com)

## 24 DAVIS WRIGHT TREMAINE LLP

350 S. Grand Ave., 27th Floor, Los Angeles  
5870 W. Jefferson Blvd., Suite H, Los Angeles



Managing Partner

Julie **CAPELL**

Year Established **1944**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **104**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **40**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **11**

[dwt.com](http://dwt.com)

## 25 MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

300 S. Grand Ave., 22nd Floor, Los Angeles  
2049 Century Park East, Suite 700, Los Angeles



Managing Partners

J. Warren **RISSIER**  
Andrew **DEVKAR**

Year Established **1873**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **103**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **49**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **32**

[morganlewis.com](http://morganlewis.com)

## 26 WILLKIE FARR & GALLAGHER LLP

2029 Century Park East, Suite 2900, Los Angeles



Managing Partner

Alex **WEINGARTEN**

Year Established **1888**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **100**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **32**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **15**

[willkie.com](http://willkie.com)

## 27 REED SMITH LLP

515 S. Flower St., Suite 4300, Los Angeles  
1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 700, Los Angeles



Managing Partners

Jennifer C. **TERRY**  
Ashok W. **MUKHEY**

Year Established **2003**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **94**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **41**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **32**

[reedsmith.com](http://reedsmith.com)

## 28 ALSTON & BIRD LLP

350 S. Grand Ave., 51st Floor, Los Angeles  
1900 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 450, Los Angeles



Managing Partner

Jeffrey **ROSENFELD**

Year Established **1893**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **92**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **38**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **13**

[alston.com](http://alston.com)

## 29 MCDERMOTT WILL & EMERY

2049 Century Park East, Suite 3200, Los Angeles



Managing Partners

Yesenia **GALLEGOS**  
Sarah **BRO**

Year Established **1934**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **88**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **38**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **23**

[mwe.com](http://mwe.com)

## 30 VENABLE LLP

2049 Century Park East, Suite 2300, Los Angeles



Managing Partner

Daniel **HOFFER**

Year Established **1900**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **88**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **46**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **14**

[venable.com](http://venable.com)

## 31 MITCHELL SILBERBERG & KNUPP LLP

2049 Century Park East, 18th Floor, Los Angeles



Managing Partners

Gregory **HESSINGER**  
Yakub **HAZZARD**

Year Established **1908**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **87**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **56**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **3**

[msk.com](http://msk.com)

## 32 JACKSON LEWIS P.C.

725 S. Figueroa St., Suite 2800, Los Angeles



Managing Partner

Nicky **JATANA**

Year Established **1958**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **86**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **26**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **61**

[jacksonlewis.com](http://jacksonlewis.com)

## 33 HOLLAND & KNIGHT

400 S. Hope St., Eighth Floor, Los Angeles  
1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1200, Los Angeles



Managing Partners

Vivian L. **THOREN**  
Ariel B. **ROBINSON**

Year Established **1968**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **86**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **44**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **34**

[hklaw.com](http://hklaw.com)



# TOP 125 LAW FIRMS

RANKED BY NUMBER OF ATTORNEYS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

29

## 34 LITTLER

2049 Century Park East, Fifth Floor, Los Angeles  
633 W. Fifth St., 63rd Floor, Los Angeles



Year Established **1942**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **86**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **40**

Shannon **BOYCE** Number of Total Offices Firmwide **107**

[littler.com](http://littler.com)

## 35 PROSKAUER ROSE LLP

2029 Century Park East, Los Angeles



Year Established **1875**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **85**

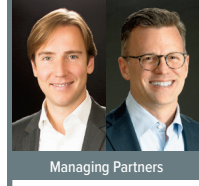
Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **30**

Bart H. **WILLIAMS** Number of Total Offices Firmwide **11**

[proskauer.com](http://proskauer.com)

## 36 COOLEY LLP

1333 Second St., Suite 400, Santa Monica  
355 S. Grand Ave., Suite 900, Los Angeles



Year Established **1920**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **84**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **22**

Nick **HOBSON** John-Paul **MOTLEY** Number of Total Offices Firmwide **19**

[cooley.com](http://cooley.com)

## 37 COX, CASTLE & NICHOLSON

2029 Century Park East, Suite 2100, Los Angeles



Year Established **1968**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **79**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **47**

Dwayne **MCKENZIE** Number of Total Offices Firmwide **3**

[coxcastle.com](http://coxcastle.com)

## 38 GLASER WEIL FINK HOWARD JORDAN & SHAPIRO LLP

10250 Constellation Blvd., 19th Floor, Los Angeles



Year Established **1988**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **78**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **44**

Peter M. **WEIL** Number of Total Offices Firmwide **4**

[glaserweil.com](http://glaserweil.com)

## 39 POLSINELLI

2049 Century Park East, Suite 2900, Los Angeles



Year Established **1972**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **76**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **35**

Noel **COHEN** Arthel **MCDANIEL** Number of Total Offices Firmwide **29**

[polsinelli.com](http://polsinelli.com)

## 40 JEFFER MANGELS BUTLER & MITCHELL LLP

1900 Avenue of the Stars, Seventh Floor, Los Angeles



Year Established **1981**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **75**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **51**

Bruce P. **JEFFER** Number of Total Offices Firmwide **3**

[jmbm.com](http://jmbm.com)

## 41 CLARK HILL PLC

555 S. Flower St., 24th Floor, Los Angeles



Year Established **1890**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **75**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **24**

Lisa **REIMBOLD** Number of Total Offices Firmwide **29**

[clarkhill.com](http://clarkhill.com)

## 42 JONES DAY

555 S. Flower St., 50th Floor, Los Angeles



Year Established **1973**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **74**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **28**

David J. **DIMEGLIO** Karen P. **HEWITT** Number of Total Offices Firmwide **40**

[jonesday.com](http://jonesday.com)

## 43 WINSTON & STRAWN LLP

333 S. Grand Ave., 47th Floor, Los Angeles



Year Established **1853**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **74**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **27**

Angela **MACHALA** Number of Total Offices Firmwide **14**

[winston.com](http://winston.com)

## 44 SKADDEN, ARPS, SLATE, MEAGHER & FLOM LLP

2000 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 200N, Los Angeles



Year Established **1948**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **70**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **16**

Jason D. **RUSSELL** Number of Total Offices Firmwide **21**

[skadden.com](http://skadden.com)

## 45 COVINGTON & BURLING

1999 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles



Year Established **1919**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **70**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **18**

Dan **SHALLMAN** Number of Total Offices Firmwide **14**

[cov.com](http://cov.com)

# Baker McKenzie.

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**PERRIE WEINER**

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

Over the past 4 years, our Los Angeles office has grown from 4 to over 72 lawyers and professional staff.




# TOP 125 LAW FIRMS

RANKED BY NUMBER OF ATTORNEYS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

**46 FISHER PHILLIPS LLP**

444 S. Flower St., Suite 1500, Los Angeles



Year Established **2011**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **70**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **22**

Managing Partner


Todd B. **SCHERWIN**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **41**

[fisherphillips.com](http://fisherphillips.com)

**47 KING & SPALDING**

633 W. Fifth St., Suite 1600, Los Angeles



Year Established **1885**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **70**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **30**

Managing Partner



Peter **STROTZ**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **24**

[kslaw.com](http://kslaw.com)

**48 MUSICK PEELER & GARRETT LLP**

333 S. Hope St., Suite 2900, Los Angeles

Year Established **1950**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **68**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **43**

Managing Partners


Richard A. **GALOFARO** Steven J. **ELIE**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **5**

[musickpeeler.com](http://musickpeeler.com)

**49 FOLEY & LARDNER LLP**

555 S Flower St., Suite 3300, Los Angeles



Year Established **1842**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **68**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **36**

Managing Partner



Kimberly **KLINSPORT**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **26**

[foley.com](http://foley.com)

**50 BLANK ROME LLP**

2029 Century Park East, Sixth Floor, Los Angeles

Year Established **1946**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **68**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **32**

Managing Partners


Gregory **BORDO** Cheryl **CHANG**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **16**

[blankrome.com](http://blankrome.com)

**51 ARENTFOX SCHIFF LLP**

555 S Flower St., 43rd Floor, Los Angeles



Year Established **1864**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **67**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **25**

Managing Partner


Aaron **JACOBY**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **8**

[afslaw.com](http://afslaw.com)

**52 PILLSBURY**

725 S. Figueroa St., 36th Floor, Los Angeles



Year Established **1868**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **67**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **35**

Managing Partner


Semma G. **ARZAPALO**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **19**

[pillsburylaw.com/en](http://pillsburylaw.com/en)

**53 MORRISON FOERSTER**

707 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 6000, Los Angeles



Year Established **1883**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **65**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **20**

Managing Partner


Thomas T.H. **CHOU**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **18**

[mofo.com](http://mofo.com)

**54 SQUIRE PATTON BOGGS**

555 S. Flower St., 31st Floor, Los Angeles



Year Established **1890**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **65**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **15**

Managing Partner


James L. **HSU**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **46**

[squirepb.com](http://squirepb.com)

**55 NIXON PEABODY LLP**

300 S. Grand Ave., Suite 4100, Los Angeles



Year Established **1999**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **64**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **30**

Managing Partner


Sonia **NAYAK**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **15**

[nixonpeabody.com](http://nixonpeabody.com)

**56 MAYER BROWN**

333 S. Grand Ave., 47th Floor, Los Angeles



Year Established **1985**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **63**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **24**

Managing Partner


John **NADOLENCO**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **26**

[mayerbrown.com/en](http://mayerbrown.com/en)

**57 NORTON ROSE FULBRIGHT US LLP**

555 S. Flower St., 41st Floor, Los Angeles



Year Established **1989**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **61**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **22**

Managing Partner


Jeffrey **MARGULIES**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **53**

[nortonrosefulbright.com/en-us/](http://nortonrosefulbright.com/en-us/)

**58 SIMPSON THACHER & BARTLETT LLP**

1999 Avenue of the Stars, 29th Floor, Los Angeles



Year Established **1884**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **59**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **9**

Managing Partner


Thomas A. **WUCHENICH**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **12**

[stblaw.com](http://stblaw.com)

**59 IRELL & MANELLA LLP**

1800 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 900, Los Angeles



Year Established **1941**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **58**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **18**

Managing Partner


Benjamin W. **HATTENBACH**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **3**

[irell.com](http://irell.com)

**60 PERKINS COIE**

1888 Century Park East, Suite 1700, Los Angeles  
633 W. Fifth St., Suite 5850, Los Angeles



Year Established **1912**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **58**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **24**

Managing Partner


George **COLINDRES**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **21**

[perkinscoie.com](http://perkinscoie.com)

**61 NOSSAMAN**

777 S. Figueroa St., Los Angeles



Year Established **1942**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **56**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **36**

Managing Partner

David **GRAELER**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **11**

[nossaman.com](http://nossaman.com)



# Miller Barondess<sub>LLP</sub>

## 2025 TOP LAW FIRMS

L.A. TIMES STUDIOS



**SKIP MILLER**

**MIRA HASHMALL**

## 2025 LAW FIRM VISIONARIES

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AMNON SIEGEL  
DAVID SCHECTER  
JEFF WHITE  
LAUREN BRODY  
CAITLIN JOLLEY  
MARY MANUKYAN  
BRIAN NEACH  
BRYAN REDFERN  
NATALIE SCHACHNER  
STEVE WILLIAMSON  
DON KARR  
RICKY REIS  
LOUISE GOLDWIRE  
ALEXANDRIA ALAMANGO  
D'ANDREA GREEN  
BRENDA RIDING  
ASHLEY PARADA  
JEREMY PARADA

JIM MILLER  
JAMES GOLDMAN  
NADIA SARKIS  
COLIN ROLFS  
KELLY DELVAC  
MARISA KOVACS  
ROB MCCARTHY  
JAMES NIKRAFTAR  
SAMANTHA RIFKIN  
KIVA SCHRAGER  
NICOLE KIM  
DEDE DRENNING  
SCARLET SPEAKMOORE  
CLEMENT LEUNG  
TISARAI BARBER  
TAHIRA MURPHY  
RACHEL ROBLEDOR  
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JAKE HAAS  
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FARBOD MORIDANI  
DANIELLE NOVELLY  
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MARI HERNANDEZ

DAN MILLER  
CASEY SYPEK  
JUSTIN EHRLICH  
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TRO ISKEDJIAN  
AMARA LOPEZ  
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ZACH SARNOFF  
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MELISSA IVERSON  
LESLIE EMGE  
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# TOP 125 LAW FIRMS

RANKED BY NUMBER OF ATTORNEYS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

**62 ELKINS KALT WEINTRAUB  
REUBEN GARTSIDE LLP**

10345 W. Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles

Year Established **2010**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **56**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **33**

Managing Partners


Scott **KALT** Keith **ELKINS**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **1**

[elkinskalt.com](http://elkinskalt.com)

**63 MCGUIREWOODS LLP**

1800 Century Park East, Eighth Floor, Los Angeles  
355 S. Grand Ave., Suite 4200, Los Angeles



Year Established **2005**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **55**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **22**

Managing Partner


Alice Marie **YOUNGBAR**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **21**

[mcguirewoods.com](http://mcguirewoods.com)

**64 BURKE, WILLIAMS  
& SORENSEN LLP**

444 S. Flower St., 40th Floor, Los Angeles



Year Established **1927**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **55**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **34**

Managing Partner


John J. **WELSH**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **10**

[bwsllaw.com](http://bwsllaw.com)

**65 BAKERHOSTETLER**

1900 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 2700, Los Angeles



Year Established **1916**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **54**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **21**

Managing Partner



Eric **SAGERMAN**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **18**

[bakerlaw.com](http://bakerlaw.com)

**66 COZEN O'CONNOR**

601 S. Figueroa St., Suite 3700, Los Angeles  
401 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 850, Santa Monica

Year Established **1970**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **51**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **31**

Managing Partners


Howard **MAYCON** Duane **MONTGOMERY**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **33**

[cozen.com](http://cozen.com)

**67 OGLETREE DEAKINS**

400 S. Hope St., Suite 1200, Los Angeles



Year Established **1977**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **51**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **21**

Managing Partner


Jack **SHOLKOFF**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **59**

[ogletree.com](http://ogletree.com)

**68 BAKER MCKENZIE**

10250 Constellation Blvd., Suite 1850, Los Angeles



Year Established **1949**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **51**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **20**

Managing Partner


Perrie M. **WEINER**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **78**

[bakermckenzie.com/en](http://bakermckenzie.com/en)

**69 HUESTON HENNIGAN**

523 W Sixth St., Suite 400, Los Angeles



Year Established **2015**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **50**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **14**

Managing Partner


Moez M. **KABA**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **3**

[hueston.com](http://hueston.com)

**70 AKIN GUMP STRAUSS HAUER  
& FELD LLP**

1999 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 600, Los Angeles



Year Established **1945**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **47**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **14**

Managing Partner



Alissa **MILLER**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **17**

[akingump.com](http://akingump.com)

**71 MILLER BARONDESS LLP**

2121 Avenue of the Stars, 26th Floor, Los Angeles

Year Established **2006**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **47**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **16**

Managing Partners

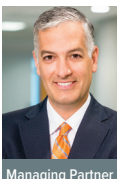
Jim M. **MILLER** Skip **MILLER**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **1**

[millerbarondess.com](http://millerbarondess.com)

**72 JENNER & BLOCK LLP**

515 S. Flower St., Suite 3300, Los Angeles  
2029 Century Park East, Suite 1450, Los Angeles



Year Established **1914**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **46**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **21**

Managing Partner


Brandon **FOX**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **7**

[jenner.com/en](http://jenner.com/en)

**73 RAINES FELDMAN LITRELL LLP**

1900 Avenue of the Stars, 19th Floor, Los Angeles



Year Established **2006**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **46**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **28**

Managing Partner


Jonathan D. **LITRELL**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **7**

[raineslaw.com](http://raineslaw.com)

**74 STUBBS ALDERTON  
& MARKILES LLP**

15260 Ventura Blvd., 20th Floor, Sherman Oaks



Year Established **2002**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **46**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **18**

Managing Partner


Scott **ALDERTON**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **1**

[stubbssalderton.com](http://stubbssalderton.com)

**75 THE UNITED FIRM | LA LIGA  
DEFENSORA APC**

3701 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 210, Los Angeles



Year Established **2015**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **45**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **1**

Managing Partner


Shawn **MATIAN**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **10**

[unitedfirm.com](http://unitedfirm.com)

**76 LAGERLOF LLP**

155 N. Lake Ave., 11th Floor, Pasadena  
16000 Ventura Blvd., Suite 804, Encino



Year Established **1908**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **45**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **15**

Managing Partner


Joshua **DRISKELL**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **4**

[lagerlof.com](http://lagerlof.com)

**77 SHEGERIAN & ASSOCIATES**

11520 San Vicente Blvd., Los Angeles



Year Established **2001**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **45**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **1**

Managing Partner

Carney R. **SHEGERIAN**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **5**

[shegerianlaw.com](http://shegerianlaw.com)




# TOP 125 LAW FIRMS

RANKED BY NUMBER OF ATTORNEYS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

33

**78** **ARNOLD & PORTER**

777 S. Figueroa St., 44th Floor, Los Angeles



Year Established **1946**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **45**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **12**

Managing Partner


Sean **MORRIS**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **15**

[arnoldporter.com](http://arnoldporter.com)

**79** **WOMBLE BOND DICKINSON (US) LLP**

655 N. Central Ave., Suite 2300, Glendale



Year Established **1876**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **43**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **35**

Managing Partner

Constantine **MARANTIDIS**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **37**

[womblebonddickinson.com/us](http://womblebonddickinson.com/us)

**80** **BEST BEST & KRIEGER LLP**

300 S. Grand Ave., 25th Floor, Los Angeles



Year Established **1891**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **43**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **21**

Managing Partner


John **HOLLOWAY**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **12**

[bbklaw.com](http://bbklaw.com)

**81** **FOX ROTHSCHILD**

10250 Constellation Blvd., Suite 900, Los Angeles



Year Established **1907**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **43**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **26**

Managing Partner


Darrell D. **MILLER**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **30**

[foxrothschild.com](http://foxrothschild.com)

**82** **CROWELL & MORING LLP**

515 S. Flower St., 41st Floor, Los Angeles



Year Established **1979**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **43**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **21**

Managing Partner


Valerie **GOO**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **12**

[crowell.com/en](http://crowell.com/en)

**83** **PANISH | SHEA | RAVIPUDI LLP**

1111 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles  
145 S. Spring St., Suite 440, Los Angeles



Year Established **2005**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **42**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **10**

Managing Partner


Brian J. **PANISH**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **4**

[panish.law](http://panish.law)

**84** **HILL, FARRER & BURRILL LLP**

300 S. Grand Ave., 37th Floor, Los Angeles



Year Established **1923**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **42**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **24**

Managing Partner


Dean E. **DENNIS**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **1**

[hillfarrer.com](http://hillfarrer.com)

**85** **SAUL EWING LLP**

1888 Century Park East, Suite 1500, Los Angeles



Year Established **1976**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **40**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **17**

Managing Partner

Steven **ZIVEN**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **18**

[saul.com](http://saul.com)

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[lewitthackman.com](http://lewitthackman.com) ▪ 818-990-2120




# TOP 125 LAW FIRMS

RANKED BY NUMBER OF ATTORNEYS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

**86 TUCKER ELLIS LLP**

515 S. Flower St., 42nd Floor, Los Angeles



Year Established **2003**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **40**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **16**

Managing Partner


Ndubisi **EZEOLU**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **10**

[tuckerellis.com](http://tuckerellis.com)

**87 LEWITT HACKMAN**

16633 Ventura Blvd., 11th Floor, Encino



Year Established **1969**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **38**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **24**

Managing Partner

Keith T. **ZIMMET**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **1**

[lewitthackman.com](http://lewitthackman.com)

**88 AKERMAN LLP**

633 W. Fifth St., Suite 6400, Los Angeles



Year Established **2006**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **38**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **22**

Managing Partner


Michael R. **WEISS**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **26**

[akerman.com/en](http://akerman.com/en)

**89 RUSS AUGUST & KABAT LLP**

12424 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1200, Los Angeles



Year Established **1990**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **38**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **25**

Managing Partner


Larry C. **RUSS**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **2**

[raklaw.com](http://raklaw.com)

**90 NELSON MULLINS RILEY & SCARBOROUGH LLP**

19191 S. Vermont Ave., Suite 900, Torrance  
350 S. Grand Ave., Suite 2200, Los Angeles



Year Established **1897**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **38**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **16**

Managing Partner


Richard H. **OTERA**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **38**

[nelsonmullins.com](http://nelsonmullins.com)

**91 TROUTMAN PEPPER LOCKE LLP**

350 S. Grand Ave., Suite 3400, Los Angeles



Year Established **1887**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **38**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **16**

Managing Partner


Tambry L. **BRADFORD**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **33**

[troutman.com](http://troutman.com)

**92 HANSON BRIDGETT LLP**

601 W. Fifth St., Suite 300, Los Angeles



Year Established **1958**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **38**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **10**

Managing Partner


Raffi **ZEROUNIAN**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **6**

[hansonbridgett.com](http://hansonbridgett.com)

**93 YUKEVICH | CAVANAUGH**

355 S. Grand Ave., 15th Floor, Los Angeles



Year Established **1995**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **37**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **13**

Managing Partner

James **YUKEVICH**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **3**

[yukelaw.com](http://yukelaw.com)

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**94 TROY GOULD**

1801 Century Park East, Suite 1600, Los Angeles



Year Established **1970**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **36**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **18**

Managing Partner


Aaron B. **BLOOM**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **1**

[troygould.com](http://troygould.com)

**95 K&L GATES LLP**

10100 Santa Monica Blvd., Eighth Floor, Los Angeles



Year Established **2007**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **35**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **14**

Managing Partner


Christina N. **GOODRICH**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **48**

[klgates.com](http://klgates.com)

**96 PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES LLP**

10100 Santa Monica Blvd., 13th Floor, Los Angeles



Year Established **1983**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **35**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **35**

Managing Partner



Richard **PACHULSKI**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **5**

[pszjlw.com](http://pszjlw.com)

**97 LEECH TISHMAN NELSON HARDIMAN INC.**

1100 Glendon Ave., 14th Floor, Los Angeles  
200 S. Los Robles Ave., Suite 300, Pasadena

Year Established **2004**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **34**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **24**

Managing Partners

Harry J. **NELSON** Sandford L. **FREY**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **12**

[leechtishman.com](http://leechtishman.com)



# TOP 125 LAW FIRMS

RANKED BY NUMBER OF ATTORNEYS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

35

## 98 OMLO LAW

500 S. Grand Ave., 12th Floor, Los Angeles



Managing Partner

Rick **OLIVAREZ**

Year Established **2010**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **34**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **9**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **1**

[omlolaw.com](http://omlolaw.com)

## 99 WOLF RIFKIN SHAPIRO SCHULMAN & RABKIN LLP

11400 W. Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles



Managing Partner

Michael **WOLF**

Year Established **1977**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **33**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **25**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **2**

[wrslawyers.com](http://wrslawyers.com)

## 100 SKLAR KIRSH LLP

1880 Century Park East, Suite 300, Los Angeles



Managing Partners

Jeffrey **SKLAR**

Andrew **KIRSH**

Year Established **2013**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **33**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **11**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **1**

[sklarkirsh.com](http://sklarkirsh.com)

## 101 KELLY, TROTTER & FRANZEN

111 W. Ocean Blvd., 14th Floor, Long Beach



Managing Partners

Michael J. **TROTTER**

John C. **KELLY**

Year Established **1994**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **32**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **18**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **2**

[kellytrotter.com](http://kellytrotter.com)

## 102 BCLP

120 Broadway, Suite 300, Santa Monica



Managing Partner

Puanani **NORWOOD**

Year Established **1990**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **32**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **13**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **30**

[bclplaw.com](http://bclplaw.com)

## 103 MICHELMAN & ROBINSON LLP

10880 Wilshire Blvd., 19th Floor, Los Angeles



Managing Partner

Lara A. H. **SHORTZ**

Year Established **1999**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **31**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **14**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **7**

[mrllp.com](http://mrllp.com)

## 104 WITHERSWORLDWIDE

10250 Constellation Blvd., Suite 1400, Los Angeles



Managing Partner

Michael **BROPHY**

Year Established **1896**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **31**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **11**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **17**

[withersworldwide.com](http://withersworldwide.com)

## 105 VEDDER PRICE

1925 Century Park East, Suite 1900, Los Angeles



Managing Partner

Jason W. **REESE**

Year Established **1952**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **31**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **10**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **9**

[vedderprice.com](http://vedderprice.com)

## 106 YOKA | SMITH LLP

445 S. Figueroa St., 38th Floor, Los Angeles



Managing Partner

Alice **CHEN SMITH**

Year Established **1995**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **29**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **15**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **2**

[yokasmith.com](http://yokasmith.com)

## 107 BARNES & THORNBURG LLP

2029 Century Park East, Suite 300, Los Angeles



Managing Partner

Kevin D. **RISING**

Year Established **1982**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **29**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **35**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **23**

[btlaw.com/en](http://btlaw.com/en)

## 108 FRANDZEL ROBINS BLOOM & CSATO

1000 Wilshire Blvd., 19th Floor, Los Angeles



Managing Partner

Hemal **MASTER**

Year Established **1979**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **28**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **11**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **2**

[frandzel.com](http://frandzel.com)

## 109 SHOOK, HARDY & BACON LLP

2121 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1400, Los Angeles



Managing Partner

Michael **MALLOW**

Year Established **1889**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **28**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **11**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **18**

[shb.com](http://shb.com)

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**Michael Mallow**

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# TOP 125 LAW FIRMS

RANKED BY NUMBER OF ATTORNEYS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

<b>110</b> <b>MINTZ</b> 2049 Century Park East, Suite 300, Los Angeles  Managing Partner Joshua <b>BRIONES</b> Year Established <b>1933</b> Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County <b>28</b> Number of Partners in Los Angeles County <b>11</b> Number of Total Offices Firmwide <b>8</b> mintz.com	<b>111</b> <b>ENENSTEIN PHAM GLASS &amp; RABAT LLP</b> 8439 W. Sunset Blvd., Suite 300, Los Angeles  Managing Partner David <b>GLASS</b> Year Established <b>2002</b> Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County <b>28</b> Number of Partners in Los Angeles County <b>10</b> Number of Total Offices Firmwide <b>3</b> epglawyers.com	<b>112</b> <b>GIBBS GIDEN</b> 12100 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 300, Los Angeles  Managing Partner Chris <b>NG</b> Year Established <b>1978</b> Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County <b>27</b> Number of Partners in Los Angeles County <b>18</b> Number of Total Offices Firmwide <b>5</b> gibbsgiden.com	<b>113</b> <b>THEODORA ORINGER PC</b> 1840 Century Park East, Suite 500, Los Angeles  Managing Partner Kevin <b>DORSE</b> Year Established <b>1991</b> Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County <b>26</b> Number of Partners in Los Angeles County <b>10</b> Number of Total Offices Firmwide <b>2</b> tocounsel.com
<b>114</b> <b>DYKEMA GOSSETT PLLC</b> 444 S. Flower St., Suite 2200, Los Angeles  Managing Partner Ashley R. <b>FICKEL</b> Year Established <b>1926</b> Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County <b>24</b> Number of Partners in Los Angeles County <b>10</b> Number of Total Offices Firmwide <b>13</b> dykema.com	<b>115</b> <b>WEINSTOCK MANION</b> 1875 Century Park East, Suite 2000, Los Angeles  Managing Partner Jonathan <b>FORSTER</b> Year Established <b>1959</b> Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County <b>24</b> Number of Partners in Los Angeles County <b>13</b> Number of Total Offices Firmwide <b>1</b> weinstocklaw.com	<b>116</b> <b>FMBK</b> 12424 Wilshire Blvd., Ninth Floor, Los Angeles  Managing Partner Steve <b>MINDEL</b> Year Established <b>1996</b> Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County <b>23</b> Number of Partners in Los Angeles County <b>12</b> Number of Total Offices Firmwide <b>3</b> fmbklaw.com	<b>117</b> <b>HAHN &amp; HAHN LLP</b> 301 E. Colorado Blvd., Ninth Floor, Pasadena  Managing Partner Christianne F. <b>KERNS</b> Year Established <b>1899</b> Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County <b>23</b> Number of Partners in Los Angeles County <b>12</b> Number of Total Offices Firmwide <b>1</b> hahnlawyers.com

[Continued from page 15]

He explained that a recent New York federal court decision in *Richardson v. Townsquare Media* diverged from previous New York rulings by finding that embedding YouTube videos does not constitute copyright infringement.

The court applied fair use principles for one video and determined YouTube's terms of service granted an implicit license for the second. This ruling differed from the findings of other New York federal courts that have held embedding does infringe, contrasting with the 9th Circuit's position that it does not. The Richardson decision potentially sets the stage for an eventual Supreme Court review of this contentious copyright issue, Stein said, if the 2nd Circuit took up the issue and ruled differently to the 9th circuit.

Stein said that "it's certainly not imminent, but it's possible" that the issue could "rise to the level of the Supreme Court in the not-too-distant future."

#### Music Copyright Claims on the Rise

Stein said that music publishing companies are increasingly pursuing copyright infringement claims against organizations that use unlicensed music in social media content, with Sony recently filing a lawsuit against USC for music used in university-related social media posts.

"Out of all these music infringement cases that have been filed, there haven't really been rulings in them that address or speak to the issues implicated by these claims. Most of these cases are settled. So, if any of these cases are ever litigated, and there are many pending, including the one that was filed last week [against USC], it'd be very interesting to see what the judges do with them."

#### Open Questions on Vicarious Liability

Hughes said that he would be keeping an eye on whether the U.S. Supreme Court would take up the question of whether the 4th Circuit correctly upheld a jury verdict that Cox Communications willfully contributed to copyright infringement because it knew of its users' infringing activity and materially contributed to it.

"If the Supreme Court grants cert. in *Cox Communications v. Sony Music Entertainment*, we could get some reshaping of the contours of indirect liability in copyright law. Some folks think the Fourth Circuit erred in its contributory liability analysis, while others – myself included – think the appellate court created confusion, if not an outright circuit split, on vicarious liability," he wrote.

He also anticipated that the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) would continue

to crack down on the "monopolize" slogans and words.

"It's not a 'court' per se, but my guess is that the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board at USPTO will quietly continue to strengthen its 'failure to function' decisions as a way to deny trademark registration to slogans and single words that are being claimed as trademarks, but really are just efforts to monopolize control of words on t-shirts and other apparel – more power to them in this effort," he wrote. |

- Jack Needham

The Los Angeles/San Francisco Daily Journal is a publication for lawyers practicing in California, featuring updates on the courts, regulatory changes, the State Bar and the legal community at large.



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# TOP 125 LAW FIRMS

RANKED BY NUMBER OF ATTORNEYS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

37

**118 GREENSPOON MARDER LLP**

1875 Century Park East, Suite 1900, Los Angeles  
333 S. Grand Ave., Suite 3400, Los Angeles



Year Established **1981**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **23**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **12**

Managing Partners


Gerald **GREENSPOON** Michael **MARDER**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **21**

[gmlaw.com](http://gmlaw.com)

**119 BROWN NERI SMITH & KHAN LLP**

11601 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 2080, Los Angeles



Year Established **2014**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **23**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **10**

Managing Partner


Ethan J. **BROWN**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **2**

[bnsklaw.com](http://bnsklaw.com)

**120 WOLFSDORF ROSENTHAL LLP**

1416 Second St., Santa Monica  
6320 Canoga Ave., Suite 230, Woodland Hills



Year Established **1986**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **22**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **8**

Managing Partner


Bernard **WOLFSDORF**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **10**

[wolfsdorf.com](http://wolfsdorf.com)

**121 OMEGA LAW GROUP**

8350 Wilshire Blvd., Third Floor, Beverly Hills  
704 S. Spring St., Suite 1105, Los Angeles



Year Established **2016**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **22**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **5**

Managing Partner


Robin **SAGHIAN**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **20**

[omegalaw.com](http://omegalaw.com)

**122 KNOBBE MARTENS**

1925 Century Park East, Suite 400, Los Angeles



Year Established **2000**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **22**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **9**

Managing Partner


Brian **HORNE**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **7**

[knobbe.com](http://knobbe.com)

**123 OFFIT KURMAN**

445 S. Figueroa St., 18th Floor, Los Angeles



Year Established **1987**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **22**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **20**

Managing Partners


Deborah **PETITO** Michele **FRIEND**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **18**

[offitkurman.com](http://offitkurman.com)

**124 IVIE MCNEILL WYATT PURCELL & DIGGS**

444 S. Flower St., Suite 3200, Los Angeles  
4401 Crenshaw Blvd., Suite 219, Los Angeles



Year Established **1943**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **21**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **5**

Managing Partners

Byron M. **PURCELL** Rodney S. **DIGGS**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **4**

[imwlaw.com](http://imwlaw.com)

**125 KENDALL BRILL & KELLY LLP**

10100 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 2500, Los Angeles  
818 W Seventh St., Suite 960, Los Angeles



Year Established **2009**

Number of Attorneys in Los Angeles County **21**

Number of Partners in Los Angeles County **10**

Managing Partners

Janet I. **LEVINE** Richard B. **KENDALL**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **2**

[kbkfirm.com](http://kbkfirm.com)



**THEODORA  
ORINGHER**  
COUNSELORS AT LAW

**IS PROUD TO BE RECOGNIZED AMONG  
THE 2025 TOP LAW FIRMS  
IN LOS ANGELES BY LA TIMES STUDIOS**

**Century City**  
1840 Century Park East, Suite 500  
Los Angeles, CA 90067  
310.557.2009

**Orange County**  
535 Anton Boulevard, Ninth Floor  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626  
714.549.6200

[www.tocounsel.com](http://www.tocounsel.com)



# TOP 25 LAW FIRMS

RANKED BY NUMBER OF ATTORNEYS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

## CORPORATE

Corporate attorneys handle a wide range of transactions, financing and M&A deals. At top corporate firm Kirkland & Ellis, Los Angeles-based attorneys served as lead counsel on announced deals that totaled more than \$16 billion in 2024. That included six deals greater than \$1 billion. Other major matters include advising Energy Capital Partners on a \$6.7-billion closing of its fifth flagship equity strategy, which surpassed the fund's \$4-billion target. On the debt side, Kirkland & Ellis advised Thoma Bravo in its all-cash acquisition of Darktrace plc., a cybersecurity company, in a transaction that included \$2.3 billion of debt financing.

Attorneys at Proskauer advised Los Angeles-based investment firm Shamrock Capital on the closing of two funds last year that had approximately \$1.6 billion in assets combined. At Los Angeles-based Greenberg Glusker, notable transactions include advising apparel brand Off Season on the launch of the company. Meanwhile, the attorneys in the Los Angeles office of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP represented Stone Point Capital on the debt financing aspects of its \$15.5-billion acquisition of Truist Insurance Holdings.

Overall, the 25 largest corporate practice groups employ approximately 1,000 attorneys in local offices.\*

1

### KIRKLAND & ELLIS LLP

2049 Century Park East, Suite 3700, Los Angeles  
555 S. Flower St., Suite 3700, Los Angeles

Practice  
LeadersNumber of  
Attorneys **127**

**Hamed  
Meshki**



**Philippa  
Bond**

[kirkland.com](http://kirkland.com)

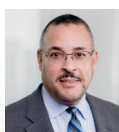
2

### O'MELVENY & MYERS LLP

400 S. Hope St., Suite 1900, Los Angeles  
1999 Avenue of the Stars, Eighth Floor, Los Angeles

Practice  
LeadersNumber of  
Attorneys **83**

**C. Brophy  
Christensen**



**Eric A. S.  
Richards**

[omm.com](http://omm.com)

3

### GIBSON DUNN & CRUTCHER LLP

2029 Century Park East, Suite 4000, Los Angeles  
333 S. Grand Ave., Los Angeles

Practice  
LeadersNumber of  
Attorneys **71**

**Kahn  
Scolnick**



**Candice  
Choh**

[gibsondunn.com](http://gibsondunn.com)

4

### SHEPPARD, MULLIN, RICHTER AND HAMPTON LLP

350 S. Grand Ave., 40th Floor, Los Angeles  
1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1600, Los Angeles

Practice  
LeadersNumber of  
Attorneys **63**

**Jeralin  
Cardoso**



**John  
Tishler**



**Adam  
Shipley**

[sheppardmullin.com](http://sheppardmullin.com)

5

### ORRICK

355 S. Grand Ave., Ste. 2700, Los Angeles  
120 Broadway, Fourth Floor, Santa Monica

Practice  
LeaderNumber of  
Attorneys **53**

**Matthew  
Gemello**

[orrick.com](http://orrick.com)

6

### COOLEY LLP

1333 Second St., Suite 400, Santa Monica  
355 S. Grand Ave., Suite 900, Los Angeles

Practice  
LeaderNumber of  
Attorneys **53**

**Dave  
Young**

[cooley.com](http://cooley.com)

7

### DLA PIPER

2000 Avenue of the Stars,  
Suite 400 North Tower, Los Angeles

Practice  
LeadersNumber of  
Attorneys **44**

**John  
Gilluly**



**Andrew  
Gilbert**

[dlapiper.com](http://dlapiper.com)

8

### PAUL HASTINGS

515 S. Flower St., 25th Floor, Los Angeles  
1999 Avenue of the Stars, 27th Floor, Los Angeles

Practice  
LeaderNumber of  
Attorneys **43**

**Jennifer  
Hildebrandt**

[paulhastings.com](http://paulhastings.com)

9

### HOLLAND & KNIGHT

400 S. Hope St., Eighth Floor, Los Angeles  
1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1200, Los Angeles

Practice  
LeadersNumber of  
Attorneys **39**

**Stephen  
Dietrich**



**Vivian L.  
Thoreen**

[hklaw.com](http://hklaw.com)

\*Some firms may have qualified for this list, but declined to provide information.



# TOP 25 LAW FIRMS



RANKED BY NUMBER OF ATTORNEYS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

39

**10 LOEB & LOEB LLP**

10100 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 2200, Los Angeles

Practice Leaders	Number of Attorneys <b>38</b>
------------------	-------------------------------

Arash Khalili Lloyd Rothenberg

loeb.com

**11 MANATT, PHELPS & PHILLIPS LLP**

2049 Century Park East, Suite 1700, Los Angeles

Practice Leader	Number of Attorneys <b>36</b>
-----------------	-------------------------------




Scott Schwartz

manatt.com

**12 PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES LLP**

10100 Santa Monica Blvd., 13th Floor, Los Angeles

Practice Leader	Number of Attorneys <b>35</b>
-----------------	-------------------------------



Richard Pachulski

pszjlaw.com

**13 WILLKIE FARR & GALLAGHER LLP**

2029 Century Park East, Suite 2900, Los Angeles

Practice Leader	Number of Attorneys <b>34</b>
-----------------	-------------------------------



Alan Epstein

willkie.com

**14 SKADDEN, ARPS, SLATE, MEAGHER & FLOM LLP**

2000 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 200N, Los Angeles

Practice Leader	Number of Attorneys <b>33</b>
-----------------	-------------------------------



David C. Eisman

skadden.com

**15 WINSTON & STRAWN LLP**

333 S. Grand Ave., 47th Floor, Los Angeles

Practice Leaders	Number of Attorneys <b>28</b>
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Bradley Vaiana Timothy Kincaid

winston.com

**16 PROSKAUER ROSE LLP**

2029 Century Park East, Los Angeles

Practice Leaders	Number of Attorneys <b>26</b>
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Andrew Bettwy Lauren Boglivi

proskauer.com

**17 FOLEY & LARDNER LLP**

555 S Flower St., Suite 3300, Los Angeles

Practice Leader	Number of Attorneys <b>25</b>
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James Peterson

foley.com

**18 STUBBS ALDERTON & MARKILES LLP**

15260 Ventura Blvd., 20th Floor, Sherman Oaks

Practice Leader	Number of Attorneys <b>24</b>
-----------------	-------------------------------



Scott Alderton

stubbalderton.com

**19 GREENBERG TRAURIG LLP**

1840 Century Park East, Suite 1900, Los Angeles

Practice Leaders	Number of Attorneys <b>23</b>
------------------	-------------------------------





Mark J. Kelson Edward T. Schultz

gtlaw.com/en

**20 AKIN GUMP STRAUSS HAUER & FELD LLP**

1999 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 600, Los Angeles

Practice Leader	Number of Attorneys <b>22</b>
-----------------	-------------------------------




Zach Wittenberg

akingump.com

**21 GREENBERG GLUSKER LLP**

2049 Century Park East, Suite 2600, Los Angeles

Practice Leader	Number of Attorneys <b>21</b>
-----------------	-------------------------------



Richard J. Sweet

greenbergglusker.com

**22 TROY GOULD**

1801 Century Park East, Suite 1600, Los Angeles

Practice Leaders	Number of Attorneys <b>21</b>
------------------	-------------------------------





Calvin Cheng Darren Freedman Young Kim

troygould.com

**23 MCGUIREWOODS LLP**

1800 Century Park East, Eighth Floor, Los Angeles  
355 S. Grand Ave., Suite 4200, Los Angeles

Practice Leader	Number of Attorneys <b>20</b>
-----------------	-------------------------------



Richard Viola

mcmguirewoods.com

**24 PAUL, WEISS, RIFKIND, WHARTON & GARRISON LLP**

2029 Century Park East, Suite 2000, Los Angeles

Practice Leader	Number of Attorneys <b>19</b>
-----------------	-------------------------------



Eric Wedel

paulweiss.com

**25 BAKERHOSTETLER**

1900 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 2700, Los Angeles

Practice Leader	Number of Attorneys <b>17</b>
-----------------	-------------------------------



JR Lanis

bakerlaw.com



# TOP 25 LAW FIRMS

RANKED BY NUMBER OF ATTORNEYS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

## LABOR & EMPLOYMENT

Labor and employment attorneys specialize in a practice group that can impact all industries, but tend to focus on labor-intensive work such as health care, hospitality, automotive and retail. Issues are complex and there are various federal, state and local laws governing wages which drive demand for this niche.

Recent statewide issues that labor and employment practice groups have focused on include a ban on non-compete agreements that went into effect last year. AB 1076 specifies that California's statutory provision voiding noncompete contracts is broadly construed to void the application of any noncompete agreement in an employment context, or any noncompete clause in an employment contract, no matter how narrowly tailored, that does not satisfy specified exceptions. In addition, a law that requires employers to create and implement a written workplace violence prevention plan went into effect on July 1.

Overall, the 25 largest labor and employment practice groups in Los Angeles County reported 910 attorneys for the specialty in local offices, which included 350 partners.\*

1

### SEYFARTH SHAW LLP

2029 Century Park East, Suite 3500, Los Angeles  
601 S. Figueroa St., Suite 3300, Los Angeles

Practice  
LeadersNumber of  
Attorneys **102**

**Laura  
Wilson Shelby**



**Dana L.  
Peterson**



**Jeffrey A.  
Wortman**

[seyfarth.com](http://seyfarth.com)

2

### LITTLER

2049 Century Park East, Fifth Floor, Los Angeles  
633 W. Fifth St., 63rd Floor, Los Angeles

Practice  
LeaderNumber of  
Attorneys **86**

**Shannon  
Boyce**

[littler.com](http://littler.com)

3

### JACKSON LEWIS P.C.

725 S. Figueroa St., Suite 2800, Los Angeles

Practice  
LeadersNumber of  
Attorneys **86**

**Kevin  
Lauri**



**Samantha  
Hoffman**

[jacksonlewis.com](http://jacksonlewis.com)

4

### ATKINSON, ANDELSON, LOYA, RUUD & ROMO

12800 Center Court Drive, Suite 300, Cerritos  
201 S. Lake Ave., Suite 360, Pasadena

Practice  
LeadersNumber of  
Attorneys **77**

**Amber  
Solano**



**Anthony  
De Marco**



**Kevin  
Dale**

[aalrr.com](http://aalrr.com)

5

### FISHER PHILLIPS LLP

444 S. Flower St., Suite 1500, Los Angeles

Practice  
LeadersNumber of  
Attorneys **70**

**Todd  
Scherwin**



**Kristen  
Nesbit**

[fisherphillips.com](http://fisherphillips.com)

6

### OGLETREE DEAKINS

400 S. Hope St., Suite 1200, Los Angeles

Practice  
LeaderNumber of  
Attorneys **51**

**Liz  
Washko**

[ogletree.com](http://ogletree.com)

7

### SHEPPARD, MULLIN, RICHTER AND HAMPTON LLP

350 S. Grand Ave., 40th Floor, Los Angeles  
1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1600, Los Angeles

Practice  
LeadersNumber of  
Attorneys **47**

**Denise  
Giraudo**



**Jason  
Kearnan**

[sheppardmullin.com](http://sheppardmullin.com)

8

### SHEGERIAN & ASSOCIATES

11520 San Vicente Blvd., Los Angeles

Practice  
LeaderNumber of  
Attorneys **43**

**Carney R.  
Shegerian**

[shegerianlaw.com](http://shegerianlaw.com)

9

### LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH

633 W. Fifth St., Suite 4000, Los Angeles

Practice  
LeadersNumber of  
Attorneys **41**

**Elinor  
Shiloh**



**Rachel  
Lee**



**Steven  
Gately**

[lewisbrisbois.com](http://lewisbrisbois.com)

\*Some firms may have qualified for this list, but declined to provide information.



# TOP 25 LAW FIRMS

RANKED BY NUMBER OF ATTORNEYS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

41

## 10 MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

300 S. Grand Ave., 22nd Floor, Los Angeles  
2049 Century Park East, Suite 700, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys **35**



**David  
McManus**

[morganlewis.com](http://morganlewis.com)

## 11 DAVIS WRIGHT TREMAINE LLP

350 S. Grand Ave., 27th Floor, Los Angeles  
5870 W. Jefferson Blvd., Suite H, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys **31**



**Julie  
Capell**

[dwt.com](http://dwt.com)

## 12 MITCHELL SILBERBERG & KNUPP LLP

2049 Century Park East, 18th Floor, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leaders

Number of  
Attorneys **25**



**Anthony  
Amendola**



**Emma  
Luevano**

[msk.com](http://msk.com)

## 13 WOLFSDORF ROSENTHAL LLP

1416 Second St., Santa Monica  
6320 Canoga Ave., Suite 230, Woodland Hills

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys **22**



**Bernard  
Wolfsdorf**

[wolfsdorf.com](http://wolfsdorf.com)

## 14 IVIE MCNEILL WYATT PURCELL & DIGGS

444 S. Flower St., Suite 3200, Los Angeles  
4401 Crenshaw Blvd., Suite 219, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys **21**



**Rodney S.  
Diggs**

[imwlaw.com](http://imwlaw.com)

## 15 PAUL HASTINGS

515 S. Flower St., 25th Floor, Los Angeles  
1999 Avenue of the Stars, 27th Floor, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys **20**



**Elena  
Baca**

[paulhastings.com](http://paulhastings.com)

## 16 BURKE, WILLIAMS & SORENSEN LLP

444 S. Flower St., 40th Floor, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leaders

Number of  
Attorneys **19**



**Timothy L.  
Davis**



**Daphne M.  
Anneet**

[bwslaw.com](http://bwslaw.com)

## 17 MUSICK PEELER & GARRETT LLP

333 S. Hope St., Suite 2900, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leaders

Number of  
Attorneys **17**



**Elaine M.  
Vukadinovich**



**Philip  
Ewen**

[musickpeeler.com](http://musickpeeler.com)

## 18 REED SMITH LLP

515 S. Flower St., Suite 4300, Los Angeles  
1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 700, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys **16**



**Cindy S.  
Minniti**

[reedsmith.com](http://reedsmith.com)

## 19 K&L GATES LLP

10100 Santa Monica Blvd., Eighth Floor, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys **16**



**Eugene  
Ryu**

[klgates.com](http://klgates.com)

## 20 MELMED LAW GROUP

1801 Century Park E, #850, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys **16**



**Jonathan  
Melmed**

[melmedlaw.com](http://melmedlaw.com)

## 21 POLSINELLI

2049 Century Park East, Suite 2900, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leaders

Number of  
Attorneys **15**



**Gillian M.  
Bidgood**



**Lindsay  
Ryan**

[polsinelli.com](http://polsinelli.com)

## 22 OMLO LAW

500 S. Grand Ave., 12th Floor, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys **14**



**Rick  
Olivarez**

[omlolaw.com](http://omlolaw.com)

## 23 FORDHARRISON LLP

350 South Grand Avenue, Suite 2300, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys **14**



**David  
Cheng**

[fordharrison.com](http://fordharrison.com)

## 24 BAKERHOSTETLER

1900 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 2700, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys **13**



**Shareef  
Farag**

[bakerlaw.com](http://bakerlaw.com)

## 25 PROSKAUER ROSE LLP

2029 Century Park East, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leaders

Number of  
Attorneys **13**



**Adam  
Lupion**



**Allan  
Bloom**

[proskauer.com](http://proskauer.com)



# TOP 25 LAW FIRMS

RANKED BY NUMBER OF ATTORNEYS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

## LITIGATION

Litigation practice groups can engage across a wide range of industries from intellectual property to insurance, white-collar defense, class actions and dozens of other areas. As a group, the 25 largest litigation practice groups in Los Angeles employ approximately 1,850 attorneys.

Quinn Emanuel is one of the largest litigation firms in Los Angeles with 199 local attorneys. It was one of the first firms to file a lawsuit related to the wildfires when it filed a nine-count lawsuit against Southern California Edison for the Eaton Fire. It filed suit for the Davis family of Altadena, who lost their home in Altadena.

"They are our neighbors, our friends, our clients and this never should have happened," said John Quinn, executive chairman of the firm and Pasadena resident.

Other notable litigation unrelated to the wildfires that involved local attorneys included Loeb & Loeb's successfully representation of The Claremont Colleges in a favorable resolution to an eight-year dispute with the Claremont School of Theology in 2024. The case involved five actions, three appeals and an arbitration. The Claremont Colleges completed the acquisition of the property in December 2024. At Glaser Weil, the Los Angeles office launched two new practice groups last year, focused on advanced transportation and energy transition as well as affordable housing.

### 1 LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH

633 W. Fifth St., Suite 4000, Los Angeles

Practice Leaders

Number of Attorneys **215**



Dana Fox



Craig Holden

[lewisbrisbois.com](http://lewisbrisbois.com)

### 2 QUINN EMANUEL URQUHART & SULLIVAN LLP

865 S. Figueroa St., 10th Floor, Los Angeles

Practice Leaders

Number of Attorneys **199**



John B. Quinn

Christopher Tayback

Justin Griffin

[quinnemanuel.com](http://quinnemanuel.com)

### 3 GIBSON DUNN & CRUTCHER LLP

2029 Century Park East, Suite 4000, Los Angeles  
333 S. Grand Ave., Los Angeles

Practice Leaders

Number of Attorneys **192**



Candice Choh



Kahn Scolnick

[gibsondunn.com](http://gibsondunn.com)

### 4 O'MELVENY & MYERS LLP

400 S. Hope St., Suite 1900, Los Angeles  
1999 Avenue of the Stars, Eighth Floor, Los Angeles

Practice Leaders

Number of Attorneys **180**



Steven J. Olson



Pamela A. Miller

[omm.com](http://omm.com)

### 5 SHEPPARD, MULLIN, RICHTER AND HAMPTON LLP

350 S. Grand Ave., 40th Floor, Los Angeles  
1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1600, Los Angeles

Practice Leaders

Number of Attorneys **81**



Robert Friedman



Sascha Henry



John Brooks

[sheppardmullin.com](http://sheppardmullin.com)

### 6 KIRKLAND & ELLIS LLP

2049 Century Park East, Suite 3700, Los Angeles  
555 S. Flower St., Suite 3700, Los Angeles

Practice Leaders

Number of Attorneys **71**



Hamed Meshki



Philippa Bond

[kirkland.com](http://kirkland.com)

### 7 REED SMITH LLP

515 S. Flower St., Suite 4300, Los Angeles  
1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 700, Los Angeles

Practice Leader

Number of Attorneys **69**



Casey D. Laffey

[reedsmith.com](http://reedsmith.com)

### 8 KING & SPALDING

633 W. Fifth St., Suite 1600, Los Angeles

Practice Leader

Number of Attorneys **65**



Peter Strotz

[kslaw.com](http://kslaw.com)

### 9 JONES DAY

555 S. Flower St., 50th Floor, Los Angeles

Practice Leaders

Number of Attorneys **59**



John M. Majoris



Steven N. Geise

[jonesday.com](http://jonesday.com)

*Some firms may have qualified for this list, but declined to provide information.*



# TOP 25 LAW FIRMS



RANKED BY NUMBER OF ATTORNEYS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

43

**10** **DLA PIPER**

2000 Avenue of the Stars,  
Suite 400 North Tower, Los Angeles

Practice Leaders	Number of Attorneys <b>53</b>
------------------	-------------------------------

Loren Brown      Ilana Eisenstein

[dlapiper.com](http://dlapiper.com)

**11** **VENABLE LLP**

2049 Century Park East, Suite 2300, Los Angeles

Practice Leaders	Number of Attorneys <b>50</b>
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Stacie Tobin      Edward Boyle      Geoffrey Garinther

[venable.com](http://venable.com)

**12** **ALSTON & BIRD LLP**

350 S. Grand Ave., 51st Floor, Los Angeles  
1900 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 450, Los Angeles

Practice Leaders	Number of Attorneys <b>50</b>
------------------	-------------------------------




Brett Jaffe      Bill Jordan

[alston.com](http://alston.com)

**13** **BURKE, WILLIAMS & SORENSEN LLP**

444 S. Flower St., 40th Floor, Los Angeles

Practice Leaders	Number of Attorneys <b>47</b>
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Leah Castella      Nathan A. Oyster

[bwslaw.com](http://bwslaw.com)

**14** **SQUIRE PATTON BOGGS**

555 S. Flower St., 31st Floor, Los Angeles

Practice Leader	Number of Attorneys <b>47</b>
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Marisol Mork

[squirepb.com](http://squirepb.com)

**15** **LOEB & LOEB LLP**

10100 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 2200, Los Angeles

Practice Leaders	Number of Attorneys <b>46</b>
------------------	-------------------------------

David Grossman      Christian Carbone

[loeb.com](http://loeb.com)

**16** **GLASER WEIL FINK HOWARD JORDAN & SHAPIRO LLP**

10250 Constellation Blvd., 19th Floor, Los Angeles

Practice Leaders	Number of Attorneys <b>46</b>
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Patricia L. Glaser      Andrew Baum      Julie R. F. Gerchik

[glaserweil.com](http://glaserweil.com)

**17** **GREENBERG TRAURIG LLP**

1840 Century Park East, Suite 1900, Los Angeles

Practice Leaders	Number of Attorneys <b>46</b>
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Karin Bohmholdt      Jordan D. Grotzinger

[gtlaw.com/en](http://gtlaw.com/en)

**18** **MANATT, PHELPS & PHILLIPS LLP**

2049 Century Park East, Suite 1700, Los Angeles

Practice Leader	Number of Attorneys <b>45</b>
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Naeun Rim

[manatt.com](http://manatt.com)

**19** **MORRISON FOERSTER**

707 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 6000, Los Angeles

Practice Leaders	Number of Attorneys <b>44</b>
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Richard S.J. Hung      Erin Bosman

[mofo.com](http://mofo.com)

**20** **COVINGTON & BURLING**

1999 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles

Practice Leader	Number of Attorneys <b>43</b>
-----------------	-------------------------------



John Hall

[cov.com](http://cov.com)

**21** **PANISH | SHEA | RAVIPUDI LLP**

1111 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles  
145 S. Spring St., Suite 440, Los Angeles

Practice Leader	Number of Attorneys <b>42</b>
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Peter Polos

[panish.law](http://panish.law)

**22** **ARNOLD & PORTER**

777 S. Figueroa St., 44th Floor, Los Angeles

Practice Leaders	Number of Attorneys <b>40</b>
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Kenneth Chernof      James Herschlein

[arnoldporter.com](http://arnoldporter.com)

**23** **SHEGERIAN & ASSOCIATES**

11520 San Vicente Blvd., Los Angeles

Practice Leader	Number of Attorneys <b>40</b>
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Carney R. Shegerian

[shegerianlaw.com](http://shegerianlaw.com)

**24** **MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP**

300 S. Grand Ave., 22nd Floor, Los Angeles  
2049 Century Park East, Suite 700, Los Angeles

Practice Leader	Number of Attorneys <b>38</b>
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Troy Brown

[morganlewis.com](http://morganlewis.com)

**25** **CLARK HILL PLC**

555 S. Flower St., 24th Floor, Los Angeles

Practice Leaders	Number of Attorneys <b>38</b>
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Ray Koenig III      Jerri Ryan      Brad Hughes

[clarkhill.com](http://clarkhill.com)



# TOP 25 LAW FIRMS

RANKED BY NUMBER OF ATTORNEYS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

## REAL ESTATE

The real estate sector has faced immense challenges stemming from the recent wildfires. In the wake of these devastating tragedies, real estate practice groups have advised on issues such as land use, zoning, building codes, environmental laws and building approval process with governmental agencies. When people are ready to move forward with rebuilding, real estate attorneys advise on construction agreements, architects' agreements, mortgage financing and transactions.

Many firms offered pro bono support to victims of the wildfires, have raised funds to contribute for wildfire relief efforts and have supported the process of navigating FEMA and other agencies that provide benefits to fire victims. In addition to fires, there are significant state laws that impact commercial real estate development. Enacted in 2025, AB 98 addresses large warehouse construction and mandates truck routing plans for these facilities.

Overall, the 25 largest real estate practice groups in Los Angeles County reported 518 attorneys for the specialty in local offices, which included 286 partners.\*

1

### COX, CASTLE & NICHOLSON

2029 Century Park East, Suite 2100, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys

79



Dwayne  
McKenzie

coxcastle.com

2

### ALLEN MATKINS

865 S. Figueroa St., Suite 2800, Los Angeles  
1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1800, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys

72



Tony N.  
Natsis

allenmatkins.com

3

### HOLLAND & KNIGHT

400 S. Hope St., Eighth Floor, Los Angeles  
1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1200, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leaders

Number of  
Attorneys

30



Douglas A.  
Praw



Jennifer L.  
Hernandez

hklaw.com

4

### SHEPPARD, MULLIN, RICHTER AND HAMPTON LLP

350 S. Grand Ave., 40th Floor, Los Angeles  
1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1600, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leaders

Number of  
Attorneys

27



Keith  
Garner



Michael  
Leake

sheppardmullin.com

5

### ELKINS KALT WEINTRAUB REUBEN GARTSIDE LLP

10345 W. Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles

Practice  
Leaders

Number of  
Attorneys

22



Keith  
Elkins



Scott  
Kalt

elkinskalt.com

6

### GREENBERG GLUSKER LLP

2049 Century Park East, Suite 2600, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys

20



Brian H.  
Kang

greenbergglusker.com

7

### MANATT, PHELPS & PHILLIPS LLP

2049 Century Park East, Suite 1700, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leaders

Number of  
Attorneys

20



Susan  
Hori



Craig  
Moyer

manatt.com

8

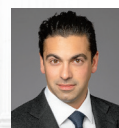
### KIRKLAND & ELLIS LLP

2049 Century Park East, Suite 3700, Los Angeles  
555 S. Flower St., Suite 3700, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leaders

Number of  
Attorneys

18



Hamed  
Meshki



Philippa  
Bond

kirkland.com

9

### SEYFARTH SHAW LLP

2029 Century Park East, Suite 3500, Los Angeles  
601 S. Figueroa St., Suite 3300, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys

18



Stacy  
Paek

seyfarth.com

\*Some firms may have qualified for this list, but declined to provide information.



# TOP 25 LAW FIRMS

RANKED BY NUMBER OF ATTORNEYS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

45

## 10 GREENBERG TRAURIG LLP

1840 Century Park East, Suite 1900, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leaders

Number of  
Attorneys **18**



Michael H.  
Davis



Garin T.  
Muranaka

[gtlaw.com/en](http://gtlaw.com/en)

## 11 O'MELVENY & MYERS LLP

400 S. Hope St., Suite 1900, Los Angeles  
1999 Avenue of the Stars, Eighth Floor, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys **17**



Michael D.  
Hamilton

[omm.com](http://omm.com)

## 12 DLA PIPER

2000 Avenue of the Stars,  
Suite 400 North Tower, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys **17**



Bryan  
Connolly

[dlapiper.com](http://dlapiper.com)

## 13 RAINES FELDMAN LITTLRELL LLP

1900 Avenue of the Stars, 19th Floor, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys **16**



Andrew  
Raines

[raineslaw.com](http://raineslaw.com)

## 14 PAUL HASTINGS

515 S. Flower St., 25th Floor, Los Angeles  
1999 Avenue of the Stars, 27th Floor, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys **16**



Derek  
Roth

[paulhastings.com](http://paulhastings.com)

## 15 SKLAR KIRSH LLP

1880 Century Park East, Suite 300, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys **16**



Andrew  
Kirsh

[sklarkirsh.com](http://sklarkirsh.com)

## 16 LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH

633 W. Fifth St., Suite 4000, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leaders

Number of  
Attorneys **13**



Frank  
Cerza



Wade  
Houser

[lewisbrisbois.com](http://lewisbrisbois.com)

## 17 BURKE, WILLIAMS & SORENSEN LLP

444 S. Flower St., 40th Floor, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys **13**



Anna C.  
Shimko

[bwslaw.com](http://bwslaw.com)

## 18 NIXON PEABODY LLP

300 S. Grand Ave., Suite 4100, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys **13**



Gregory  
Doran

[nixonpeabody.com](http://nixonpeabody.com)

## 19 FRANDZEL ROBINS BLOOM & CSATO

1000 Wilshire Blvd., 19th Floor, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys **12**



Hemal  
Master

[frandzel.com](http://frandzel.com)

## 20 LAGERLOF LLP

1801 Century Park E, #850, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys **11**



Richard  
Rasmussen

[melmedlaw.com](http://melmedlaw.com)

## 21 ALSTON & BIRD LLP

350 S. Grand Ave., 51st Floor, Los Angeles  
1900 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 450, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leaders

Number of  
Attorneys **11**



Jason  
Howard



Elizabeth  
Murphy

[alston.com](http://alston.com)

## 22 LEWITT HACKMAN

16633 Ventura Blvd., 11th Floor, Encino

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys **10**



John B.  
Marshall

[lewitthackman.com](http://lewitthackman.com)

## 23 MCGUIREWOODS LLP

350 South Grand Avenue, Suite 2300, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys **10**



Dennis  
Mensi

[fordharrison.com](http://fordharrison.com)

## 24 MINTZ

2049 Century Park East, Suite 300, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys **10**



Daniel  
Guggenheim

[mintz.com](http://mintz.com)

## 25 JEFFER MANGELS BUTLER & MITCHELL LLP

1900 Avenue of the Stars, Seventh Floor, Los Angeles

Practice  
Leader

Number of  
Attorneys **9**



Jim  
Butler

[jmbm.com](http://jmbm.com)



# TOP 25 LAW FIRMS

RANKED BY NUMBER OF ATTORNEYS IN ORANGE COUNTY

## ORANGE COUNTY

Law offices in Orange County consist of a diverse mix of local and national firms led by Rutan & Tucker, a regional firm with 140 attorneys who work at its Irvine headquarters. It is followed by Irvine-based Knobbe Martens, which has 130 attorneys in Orange County. International firm Gibson Dunn & Crutcher rounds out the top three firms with 105 local attorneys.

Snell & Wilmer's Orange County office had a change in leadership as of Jan. 1. Jon Frank became the office managing partner succeeding Eric Pezold, a partner in the firm's bankruptcy, insolvency and business reorganization practice group. Pezold will lead the firm's technology committee this year.

"As Jon assumes the Orange County leadership role, we are excited for his capable guidance and are confident that the office will continue to thrive as an integral part of our growing California team," said Barb Dawson, chair of Snell & Wilmer, in a statement.

The top 25 largest law firms with offices in Orange County employ about 1,400 attorneys in local offices. That includes more than 600 partners, plus associates, counsel and other staff attorneys. As a group, the 25 largest firms employ approximately 2,500 people including attorneys, paralegals and support staff.\*

### 1 RUTAN & TUCKER LLP

18575 Jamboree Road, Ninth Floor, Irvine



Vijay  
PAI

Year Established **1955**

Number of Attorneys in Orange County **140**

Number of Partners in Orange County **65**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **4**

[rutan.com](http://rutan.com)

### 2 KNOBBE MARTENS

2040 Main St., 14th Floor, Irvine



Steven  
NATAUPSKY

Year Established **1962**

Number of Attorneys in Orange County **130**

Number of Partners in Orange County **88**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **7**

[knobbe.com](http://knobbe.com)

### 3 GIBSON, DUNN & CRUTCHER LLP

3161 Michelson Drive, Suite 1200, Irvine



Michele  
MARYOTT

Year Established **1890**

Number of Attorneys in Orange County **105**

Number of Partners in Orange County **13**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **21**

[gibsondunn.com](http://gibsondunn.com)

### 4 SHEPPARD, MULLIN, RICHTER AND HAMPTON LLP

650 Town Center Drive, Tenth Floor, Costa Mesa



Sean Frances  
O'CONNOR HERNANDEZ

Year Established **1927**

Number of Attorneys in Orange County **96**

Number of Partners in Orange County **39**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **16**

[sheppardmullin.com](http://sheppardmullin.com)

### 5 SNELL & WILMER

600 Anton Blvd., Suite 1400, Costa Mesa



Jonathan E.  
FRANK

Year Established **1938**

Number of Attorneys in Orange County **73**

Number of Partners in Orange County **33**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **16**

[swlaw.com](http://swlaw.com)

### 6 FISHER PHILLIPS LLP

2050 Main St., Suite 1000, Irvine



Jeffrey Grace  
THURRELL HOROUPIAN

Year Established **1943**

Number of Attorneys in Orange County **64**

Number of Partners in Orange County **31**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **43**

[fisherphillips.com](http://fisherphillips.com)

### 7 O'MELVENY & MYERS LLP

610 Newport Center Drive, 17th Floor, Newport Beach



Amy  
LAURENDEAU

Year Established **1885**

Number of Attorneys in Orange County **64**

Number of Partners in Orange County **17**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **18**

[omm.com](http://omm.com)

### 8 BUCHALTER APC

18400 Von Karman Ave., Suite 800, Irvine



Eric  
KENNEDY

Year Established **1933**

Number of Attorneys in Orange County **59**

Number of Partners in Orange County **26**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **14**

[buchalter.com](http://buchalter.com)

### 9 ALLEN MATKINS

2010 Main St., Eighth Floor, Irvine



Drew M.  
EMMEL

Year Established **1977**

Number of Attorneys in Orange County **59**

Number of Partners in Orange County **25**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **6**

[allenmatkins.com](http://allenmatkins.com)

\*Some firms may have qualified for this list, but declined to provide information.




# TOP 25 LAW FIRMS

RANKED BY NUMBER OF ATTORNEYS IN ORANGE COUNTY

47

**10** **GORDON REES SCULLY MANSUKHANI LLP**

5 Park Plaza, Suite 1100, Irvine



Year Established **2003**

Number of Attorneys in Orange County **58**

Number of Partners in Orange County **25**

Managing Partners


Christine **BARKER** Manuel **SALDANA**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **81**

[grsm.com](http://grsm.com)

**11** **JACKSON LEWIS P.C.**

200 Spectrum Center Drive, Suite 500, Irvine



Year Established **1958**

Number of Attorneys in Orange County **58**

Number of Partners in Orange County **21**

Managing Partner


Alison **LYNCH**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **61**

[jacksonlewis.com](http://jacksonlewis.com)

**12** **TROUTMAN PEPPER LOCKE LLP**

100 Spectrum Center Drive, Suite 1500, Irvine



Year Established **1887**

Number of Attorneys in Orange County **48**

Number of Partners in Orange County **22**

Managing Partner


Peter N. **VILLAR**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **33**

[troutman.com](http://troutman.com)

**13** **LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH**

650 Town Center Drive, Suite 1400, Costa Mesa



Year Established **1979**

Number of Attorneys in Orange County **44**

Number of Partners in Orange County **29**

Managing Partner


Charles **HARRIS**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **55**

[lewisbrisbois.com](http://lewisbrisbois.com)

**14** **MORGAN LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP**

600 Anton Blvd., Suite 1800, Costa Mesa



Year Established **1873**

Number of Attorneys in Orange County **42**

Number of Partners in Orange County **16**

Managing Partners


Collie F. **JAMES IV** Randall J. **WOOD**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **32**

[morganlewis.com](http://morganlewis.com)

**15** **LITTLER**

18565 Jamboree Road, Suite 800, Irvine



Year Established **1942**

Number of Attorneys in Orange County **40**

Number of Partners in Orange County **16**

Managing Partner


Heather **VIGIL**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **107**

[littler.com](http://littler.com)

**16** **ATKINSON, ANDELSON, LOYA, RUUD & ROMO**

20 Pacifica, Suite 1100, Irvine



Year Established **1979**

Number of Attorneys in Orange County **39**

Number of Partners in Orange County **21**

Managing Partner


Brigham **CHENEY**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **9**

[aalrr.com](http://aalrr.com)

**17** **JONES DAY**

3161 Michelson Drive, Suite 800, Irvine



Year Established **1893**

Number of Attorneys in Orange County **36**

Number of Partners in Orange County **15**

Managing Partners


Erin L. **BURKE** Karen P. **HEWITT**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **40**

[jonesday.com](http://jonesday.com)

**18** **K&L GATES LLP**

1 Park Plaza, 12th Floor, Irvine



Year Established **2007**

Number of Attorneys in Orange County **32**

Number of Partners in Orange County **19**

Managing Partner


Michael **HEDGE**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **48**

[klgates.com/orange-county](http://klgates.com/orange-county)

**19** **CROWELL & MORING LLP**

3 Park Plaza, 20th Floor, Irvine



Year Established **1979**

Number of Attorneys in Orange County **32**

Number of Partners in Orange County **6**

Managing Partner

Deb **ARBABI**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **12**

[crowell.com/en](http://crowell.com/en)

**20** **BEST BEST & KRIEGER LLP**

18101 Von Karman Ave., Suite 1000, Irvine



Year Established **1891**

Number of Attorneys in Orange County **32**

Number of Partners in Orange County **15**

Managing Partner


Matthew **RICHARDSON**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **12**

[bbklaw.com](http://bbklaw.com)

**21** **GREENBERG TRAURIG LLP**

18565 Jamboree Road, Suite 500, Irvine



Year Established **2004**

Number of Attorneys in Orange County **32**

Number of Partners in Orange County **16**

Managing Partners


Bruce **FISCHER** Susan L. **HELLER**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **49**

[gtlaw.com/en/locations/orange-county](http://gtlaw.com/en/locations/orange-county)

**22** **NOSSAMAN**

18101 Von Karman Ave., Irvine



Year Established **1942**

Number of Attorneys in Orange County **30**

Number of Partners in Orange County **18**

Managing Partner


David **GRAELER**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **11**

[nossaman.com](http://nossaman.com)

**23** **ORRICK**

2050 Main St., Suite 1100, Irvine



Year Established **1863**

Number of Attorneys in Orange County **28**

Number of Partners in Orange County **8**

Managing Partner


Khai **LEQUANG**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **26**

[orrick.com](http://orrick.com)

**24** **THEODORA ORINGER PC**

535 Anton Blvd., Ninth Floor, Costa Mesa



Year Established **1991**

Number of Attorneys in Orange County **28**

Number of Partners in Orange County **19**

Managing Partner


Todd **THEODORA**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **2**

[tocounsel.com](http://tocounsel.com)

**25** **OGLETREE DEAKINS**

Park Tower 695 Town Center Drive, Suite 1500, Costa Mesa



Year Established **1977**

Number of Attorneys in Orange County **28**

Number of Partners in Orange County **10**

Managing Partner

Michael **SEXTON**

Number of Total Offices Firmwide **59**

[ogletree.com](http://ogletree.com)



# LAW SCHOOL INSIDER

## AN IN-DEPTH LOOK AT LAW SCHOOLS AND THEIR PROGRAMS

Business by LA Times Studios presents the 25 largest law schools operating in California. The 25 largest law schools on the next pages awarded more than 2,200 degrees last year.

While schools are affiliated with larger universities, several schools are independent law schools that offer a wide range of programs, including University of California College of the Law in San Francisco and Southwestern Law School in Los Angeles.

Many law schools are accredited by the American Bar Association. Law schools approved by the American Bar Association must maintain a 75% two-year cumulative pass rate.

In California, some schools are accredited by the State Bar of California. These state-accredited law schools may offer online-only programs. All state-accredited law schools must maintain a minimum, five-year cumulative bar passage rate of 40% or higher. Unaccredited law schools are not required to maintain a minimum bar pass rate.

Most law schools responded to questionnaires for this list, but in

some instances, information from accreditation reports was utilized.

The number of law schools in California declined last year. Golden Gate University School of Law in San Francisco discontinued its program due to declining enrollment and financial troubles.

Many law schools offer clinics that allow students an opportunity to gain experience around various areas of law. For example, UCLA School of Law operates a Tribal Legal Development Clinic to improve the lives of Indigenous people throughout California and the country. The school received a \$2.2 million grant from the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians in October 2024 to further support the ongoing work of that clinic.

On the following pages, you'll also find in-depth profiles of law schools that offer a wide array of programs and classes to fit a diverse California student population.

Overall, the 25 largest law schools in California have more than 7,400 students enrolled as of Jan. 1.

## TOP LAW PROGRAMS IN CALIFORNIA

1

### UC Berkeley Law



Location: **Berkeley**  
Law Degrees Awarded: **754**  
Total Graduate Level Enrollment: **1847**  
Year Founded: **1894**  
Dean: **Erwin CHERMERINSKY**

[law.berkeley.edu](http://law.berkeley.edu)

2

### University of California College of the Law, San Francisco



Location: **San Francisco**  
Law Degrees Awarded: **412**  
Total Graduate Level Enrollment: **1174**  
Year Founded: **1878**  
Dean: **David FAIGMAN**

[uclawsf.edu](http://uclawsf.edu)

3

### LMU Loyola Law School



Location: **Los Angeles**  
Law Degrees Awarded: **408**  
Total Graduate Level Enrollment: **1056**  
Year Founded: **1920**  
Dean: **Brietta R. CLARK**

[lls.edu](http://lls.edu)

4

### UCLA Law



Location: **Los Angeles**  
Law Degrees Awarded: **372**  
Total Graduate Level Enrollment: **994**  
Year Founded: **1949**  
Dean: **Michael WATERSTONE**

[law.ucla.edu](http://law.ucla.edu)

5

### University of San Diego, School of Law



Location: **San Diego**  
Law Degrees Awarded: **356**  
Total Graduate Level Enrollment: **836**  
Year Founded: **1954**  
Dean: **Robert A. SCHAPIRO**

[sandiego.edu/law](http://sandiego.edu/law)



## TOP LAW PROGRAMS IN CALIFORNIA

6

**Pepperdine University,  
Rick J. Caruso School of Law**

Location: **Malibu**  
 Law Degrees Awarded: **319**  
 Total Graduate Level Enrollment: **803**  
 Year Founded: **1969**  
 Dean: **Paul L. CARON**

[law.pepperdine.edu](http://law.pepperdine.edu)

7

**Southwestern  
Law School**

Location: **Los Angeles**  
 Law Degrees Awarded: **290**  
 Total Graduate Level Enrollment: **1006**  
 Year Founded: **1911**  
 Dean: **Darby DICKERSON**

[swlaw.edu](http://swlaw.edu)

8

**UC Davis, School of Law**

Location: **Davis**  
 Law Degrees Awarded: **243**  
 Total Graduate Level Enrollment: **605**  
 Year Founded: **1965**  
 Dean: **Jessica BERG**

[law.ucdavis.edu](http://law.ucdavis.edu)

9

**USC Gould School of Law**

Location: **Los Angeles**  
 Law Degrees Awarded: **221**  
 Total Graduate Level Enrollment: **TBD**  
 Year Founded: **1900**  
 Dean: **Franita TOLSON**

[gould.usc.edu](http://gould.usc.edu)

10

**California Western  
School of Law**

Location: **San Diego**  
 Law Degrees Awarded: **218**  
 Total Graduate Level Enrollment: **650**  
 Year Founded: **1924**  
 Dean: **Sean M. SCOTT**

[cwsf.edu](http://cwsf.edu)

11

**University of the Pacific,  
McGeorge School of Law**

Location: **Sacramento**  
 Law Degrees Awarded: **202**  
 Total Graduate Level Enrollment: **682**  
 Year Founded: **1924**  
 Dean: **Michael HUNTER SCHWARTZ**

[pacific.edu/law](http://pacific.edu/law)

12

**Santa Clara University,  
School of Law**

Location: **Santa Clara**  
 Law Degrees Awarded: **202**  
 Total Graduate Level Enrollment: **694**  
 Year Founded: **1911**  
 Dean: **Michael J. KAUFMAN**

[law.scu.edu](http://law.scu.edu)

13

**Stanford Law School**

Location: **Stanford**  
 Law Degrees Awarded: **199**  
 Total Graduate Level Enrollment: **565**  
 Year Founded: **1893**  
 Dean: **George TRIANTIS**

[law.stanford.edu](http://law.stanford.edu)

14

**UC Irvine School of Law**

Location: **Irvine**  
 Law Degrees Awarded: **195**  
 Total Graduate Level Enrollment: **509**  
 Year Founded: **2008**  
 Dean: **Austen PARRISH**

[law.uci.edu](http://law.uci.edu)

15

**Chapman University,  
Dale E. Fowler School of Law**

Location: **Orange**  
 Law Degrees Awarded: **144**  
 Total Graduate Level Enrollment: **404**  
 Year Founded: **1995**  
 Dean: **Paul PATON**

[chapman.edu/law](http://chapman.edu/law)

16

**University of San  
Francisco School of Law**

Location: **San Francisco**  
 Law Degrees Awarded: **117**  
 Total Graduate Level Enrollment: **572**  
 Year Founded: **1912**  
 Dean: **Johanna KALB**

[usfca.edu/law](http://usfca.edu/law)

17

**Purdue  
Global Law School**

Location: **Los Angeles**  
 Law Degrees Awarded: **95**  
 Total Graduate Level Enrollment: **650**  
 Year Founded: **1998**  
 Dean: **Martin PRITIKIN**

[purduegloballawschool.edu](http://purduegloballawschool.edu)

18

**Western State College of  
Law at Westcliff University**

Location: **Irvine**  
 Law Degrees Awarded: **76**  
 Total Graduate Level Enrollment: **353**  
 Year Founded: **1966**  
 Dean: **Marisa S. CIANCARULO**

[wsulaw.edu](http://wsulaw.edu)

19

**Thomas Jefferson  
School of Law**

Location: **San Diego**  
 Law Degrees Awarded: **71**  
 Total Graduate Level Enrollment: **270**  
 Year Founded: **1969**  
 Dean: **Dawn DEKLE**

[tjst.edu](http://tjst.edu)

20

**Colleges of Law**

Location: **Ventura**  
 Law Degrees Awarded: **66**  
 Total Graduate Level Enrollment: **363**  
 Year Founded: **1969**  
 Dean: **Jackie GARDINA**

[collegesoflaw.edu](http://collegesoflaw.edu)



## TOP LAW PROGRAMS IN CALIFORNIA

21

## Monterey College of Law



Location: **Seaside**  
 Law Degrees Awarded: **53**  
 Total Graduate Level Enrollment: **248**  
 Year Founded: **1972**  
 Dean: **Mitchel L. WINICK**

[montereylaw.edu](http://montereylaw.edu)

22

## UWLA School of Law



Location: **Inglewood**  
 Law Degrees Awarded: **52**  
 Total Graduate Level Enrollment: **315**  
 Year Founded: **1966**  
 Dean: **Jay FRYKBERG**

[uwla.edu](http://uwla.edu)

23

## San Joaquin College of Law



Location: **Clovis**  
 Law Degrees Awarded: **40**  
 Total Graduate Level Enrollment: **n/a**  
 Year Founded: **1969**  
 Dean: **Janice PEARSON**

[sjcl.edu](http://sjcl.edu)

24

## Trinity Law School



Location: **Santa Ana**  
 Law Degrees Awarded: **38**  
 Total Graduate Level Enrollment: **459**  
 Year Founded: **1980**  
 Dean: **Eric HALVORSON**

[tls.edu](http://tls.edu)

25

## Cal Northern School of Law



Location: **Chico**  
 Law Degrees Awarded: **13**  
 Total Graduate Level Enrollment: **54**  
 Year Founded: **1983**  
 Dean: **Sandra L. BROOKS**

[calnorthern.edu](http://calnorthern.edu)

[Continued from page 17]

as many companies did not track this information previously in the manner that needs to be disclosed under the law.

### New Programs For a Changing Legal Landscape

USC Gould School of Law is celebrating its 125th anniversary this year, and Dean Tolson explained that the school prides itself on engaging with new and evolving areas of law as part of its long history of innovation. The first modern legal aid program grew out of a USC Gould clinic established in 1929. It has developed new programs as the university expanded, currently offering 15 dual-degree programs.

This fall, USC Gould will launch a sports, media, entertainment and technology center to capitalize on the major events such as the World Cup, Olympics and Super Bowl coming to Southern California in the next few years. The school created a program that connects students with internships at local sports teams, law firms and other sports industry companies. The sports, media and entertainment industry has grown tremendously over the past few years as student-athletes gained the legal right to commercialize their name, image and likeness and the growth of streaming services.

"We are well past the time of people being able to graduate and think like lawyers. They need to have some expectations of how a transaction works. There is an obligation that we have to make sure our students are prepared," said Tolson.

Clinics are a vital part of practical, hands-on training for attorneys. At Loyola Law School in Downtown Los Angeles, Dean Brietta Clark described the work done at the school's 20 different legal clinics that ranges from working with children to immigrant justice, a project for the innocent and a focus on working with those who have suffered from atrocities. Clark, an alumnus of USC Gould, was named dean of Loyola Law School last year after serving as interim dean. She joined the law school faculty in 2001.

"The clinics are grounded in our mission as a Jesuit university. It's an aspect of the program that draws people to us because they want to make a difference as soon as possible," said Clark.

While clinics are an excellent opportunity for students to gain real life work experience, at USC Gould, a different type of program was launched under Tolson's leadership that provides opportunities for visiting professors to teach at the school, offering a chance to spend a year or two in an academic role while simultaneously spending time writing a law article.



Loyola Law School Dean Brietta Clark (left) and USC Gould School of Law Dean Franita Tolson (right)

"We want to do our part to make it more accessible to those who don't consider teaching. They just need an opportunity," said Tolson.

### Campus Life: Onsite, Remote or Hybrid

In addition to enhanced course offerings, Tolson's hiring coincided with a major fundraising campaign to support the construction of a new and dedicated law school building. The proposed six-level building will provide USC Gould with an additional 55,000 square feet and will be located directly west of the current Musick Law Building. The campaign seeks to raise \$50 million and the school is hosting numerous events as part of its year-long celebration of its 125th anniversary that will also benefit future student bodies.

Even as schools expand physically to meet the needs of the next generation of lawyers, at Loyola Law School, Dean Clark noted that technology has also changed the way that students interact with the physical campus, leading them to develop a hybrid learning program. The school had a part-time program that traditionally met four evenings per week, but that changed due to COVID-19.

"COVID really escalated the idea that so much more legal work is becoming online. Many court appearances are now remote. We need to incorporate technology into education to show students what the practice looks like – today and tomorrow."

- David Nusbaum



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# Albany Law School



Albany Law

## NAME OF SCHOOL AND PROGRAMS

Albany Law School

## SCHOOL DEAN

Cinnamon P. Carlarne

## YEAR INSTITUTION WAS FOUNDED

1851

## YEAR SCHOOL OR PROGRAM STARTED

1851

## TOTAL ENROLLMENT

580

## PLATFORMS OFFERED

Residential Juris Doctor

Flex Juris Doctor (all online except for one 3-4 day in person component a year)

100% Online Graduate Programs – LL.M., Master of Science, Certificate

## AREAS OF EMPHASIS OFFERED

Residential Juris Doctor

- 19 areas of concentration available

Flex Juris Doctor

- Business Law
- Environmental Law
- Government Law and Public Service
- Social Justice and Public Interest

Online Graduate Programs

- Cybersecurity and Data Privacy
- Financial Compliance and Risk Management
- Government Affairs and Advocacy
- Health Law and Healthcare Compliance
- Human Resources, Law, Leadership and Policy

## LENGTH OF PROGRAMS

Residential Juris Doctor: 2, 3, and 4 year options

Flex Juris Doctor: 3 years, 3 months (10 semesters)

Online Graduate Degree: LL.M. and Master of Science (provide flexible pacing options)

## PROGRAM CAMPUS OPTIONS

Residential Juris Doctor: 100 on-campus in Albany, New York

Flex Juris Doctor: Online with one in-person 3-4 day session per year

Online Graduate Programs: 100% online and asynchronous

## PROGRAM ACCREDITATIONS

Albany Law School is accredited by the American Bar Association (which accredits only J.D. programs) and Middle States Commission on Higher Education.

## RANKINGS

#1 in Government Law (preLaw magazine)

"A" rating for health law (preLaw magazine)

Top School for Online Education (preLaw magazine)

"A" rating for technology law (preLaw magazine)

FlexJD recognized as Top 10 Innovative Program by Bloomberg Law

## TOTAL COST OF PROGRAM

Residential Juris Doctor – \$86,076/yr for 3yr program (includes fees, and estimated costs for housing, books, etc.)

Flex Juris Doctor – \$83,735/yr (includes fees and estimated costs for housing, books, etc.)

## Online Graduate Programs:

MS: \$47,730 with scholarships for all admitted students up to \$10,800 (based on 2025-26 rates)

LLM: \$48,264 with scholarships for all admitted students up to \$11,040 (based on 2025-26 rates)

Advanced Certificate: \$14,319 with scholarships for all admitted students up to \$3,240 (based on 2025-26 rates)

## REQUIRED TESTING

Residential and Flex Juris Doctor:

LSAT (GRE accepted)

## UPCOMING INFORMATION SESSIONS

See [albanylaw.edu/applications-admissions/information-sessions](http://albanylaw.edu/applications-admissions/information-sessions) for up-to-date information schedule.

## APPLICATION DEADLINES

Residential and Flex Juris Doctor: The suggested priority application deadline is March 15, 2026. The final application deadline is August 1, 2026.

Online Graduate Programs have 6 start times throughout the year. Go to [www.albanylaw.edu/graduate](http://www.albanylaw.edu/graduate) for more information.

## PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION

Jonathan Rosenbloom

Associate Dean of Online Education

and Professor of Law

phone: 518.445.3385

email: [jrose@albanylaw.edu](mailto:jrose@albanylaw.edu)



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Earn your Juris Doctor without pausing your career. Online-first, with one in person 3-4 day session per year.

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# LMU Loyola Law School



**NAME OF INSTITUTION**  
LMU Loyola Law School

**NAME OF SCHOOL OR PROGRAM**  
Hybrid JD Evening Program

**SCHOOL OR PROGRAM DEAN**  
Brietta R. Clark

**YEAR SCHOOL OR PROGRAM WAS STARTED**  
1920

**TOTAL PROGRAM ENROLLMENT**  
185 evening students

**PROGRAM PLATFORMS OFFERED**  
With a regular on-campus commitment of one night a week, the Hybrid JD Evening Program integrates in-person and remote learning opportunities to enrich both classroom learning and practical training. Visit [lls.edu/HybridJD](https://lls.edu/HybridJD) to learn more.

**LENGTH OF PROGRAMS**  
Four years, including two summer sessions. See [lls.edu/HybridJD](https://lls.edu/HybridJD) for details.

**PROGRAM CAMPUS OPTIONS**  
In-person classes are held on LMU Loyola Law School's award-winning Frank Gehry-designed campus in downtown Los Angeles. See [lls.edu/HybridJD](https://lls.edu/HybridJD) for a range of virtual tours.

**PROGRAM ACCREDITATIONS**  
American Bar Association, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) Senior College and University Commission

**RANKINGS**  
LMU Loyola Law School is perennially No. 1 for the number of its alumni named among the Top 100 Southern California Super Lawyers, which honors attorneys "who have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement." It continues to be ranked among the Top Entertainment Law Schools by The Hollywood Reporter, among many other accolades.

**COST OF PROGRAM**  
2025-2026 Tuition: \$52,220. More information is available at [lls.edu](https://lls.edu).

**REQUIRED TESTING**  
Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) or Graduate Record Examination (GRE). For other requirements, visit [lls.edu/admissions/apply](https://lls.edu/admissions/apply)

**UPCOMING INFORMATION SESSIONS**  
Learn about info sessions, campus tours, or chat with an admissions counselor at [lls.edu/admissions/visitcampus](https://lls.edu/admissions/visitcampus).

**APPLICATION DEADLINES**  
May 1, 2025: Extended priority application deadline for fall 2025.

**PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION**  
Contact the LMU Loyola Law School Admissions Office at 213.736.1074, [admissions@lls.edu](mailto:admissions@lls.edu) or via chat at [lls.edu/admissions/visitcampus](https://lls.edu/admissions/visitcampus).



LMU Loyola Law School opened its doors more than a century ago as an evening program. The Hybrid Juris Doctor (JD) Evening Program builds on this legacy of excellence, combining the best of traditional and innovative legal education. Requiring a regular commitment of one night a week on campus, the program integrates synchronous and structured on-demand content to enrich both classroom learning and practical training.

The Hybrid JD Program is designed to meet its students where they are. Current students maintain full-time jobs, raise families and volunteer in their community — sometimes all at once. Hybrid JD students regularly participate in on-campus student organizations and contribute to one of the law school's prestigious law reviews. Loyola alumni are among the most successful and prominent members of the legal profession, rising to high ranks in business, government and the judiciary.

Fabricio Lopez '04 — assistant general counsel at The Walt Disney Company

— admires lawyers who earned their degree through an evening law program. "If you can manage to be good at your job and do well at night school, that tells me a lot about your work ethic and your commitment," he said, noting two recent general counsels of Disney went to law school in the evening.

Home to 20-plus live-client clinics, Loyola Law School has designed practical training opportunities specifically for the needs of Hybrid JD students. These include offerings in the Workers' Rights Clinic and the Loyola Justice for Atrocities Clinic (LJAC), which offers a one-semester hybrid option focused on representing Holocaust victims and their families seeking reparations.

"With my travel schedule, it's nearly impossible to get a traditional internship," said Timothy Brewster '26, a professional volleyball player. "But LJAC fills that gap by offering a law firm-like environment where I can develop critical legal skills remotely."



Learn more about how Loyola Law School's Hybrid JD Evening Program leverages the best of in-person and virtual learning to offer all worlds at [lls.edu/HybridJD](https://lls.edu/HybridJD).



# THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

A new kind of lawyer  
for a new kind of world.

Our **Hybrid JD Evening Program** is designed to meet you where you are. Requiring a regular commitment of one night a week on campus, the program integrates synchronous and structured on-demand content to enrich both classroom learning and practical training.

Our alumni are among the most successful and prominent members of the legal profession, rising to high ranks in business, government, and the judiciary.



**LMU**  
Loyola Law School



FIND OUT MORE.  
[lls.edu/hybridjd](https://ls.edu/hybridjd)



# UWLA School of Law



## ABOUT UWLA SCHOOL OF LAW

Since 1966, the UWLA School of Law (UWLA Law) has been dedicated to providing accessible, high-quality legal education to those who might not otherwise have the opportunity. With a whole-person, high-touch approach, UWLA Law supports students at every stage of their journey – from admissions to graduation and the launch of their legal careers.

Offering flexible full-time and part-time options, students can choose multiple learning modalities to fit their schedules. UWLA Law's accredited degree program blends academic knowledge with practical skills, ensuring graduates are well-prepared for real-world legal practice.

With small class sizes and a supportive environment, UWLA Law is ideal for nontraditional students, including working professionals and those with families. The program empowers individuals who may have never envisioned themselves as lawyers and fosters a highly supportive and engaged community. Students can complete their degrees in three to four years, depending on their enrollment status (full-time or part-time).

For transfer students, UWLA Law provides a welcoming atmosphere, personalized

academic plans and pre-admission transfer credit evaluations, ensuring a smooth transition.

At UWLA Law, faculty members are practicing professionals who bring real-world insights into the classroom. While the curriculum aligns with other institutions, our faculty's hands-on teaching approach bridges the gap between theory and practice. UWLA Law fosters a collegial, supportive learning environment where students and faculty champion each other's success. Serving a diverse student body from multicultural and socioeconomic backgrounds across Southern California, UWLA Law is committed to democratizing legal education. As University President Robert W. Brown often says, "Education at UWLA is elite, not elitist."

UWLA School of Law is accredited by the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) and has been continuously accredited by the Committee of Bar Examiners of the State Bar of California since 1978.

For nearly six decades, the UWLA School of Law has transformed lives and career trajectories – one student at a time.

Note About Accreditation: Study at, or graduation from, this law school may

not qualify a student to take the bar examination or be licensed to practice law in jurisdictions other than California. A student who intends to seek licensure to practice law outside of California at any time during their career should contact the admitting authority for information regarding its education and licensure requirements prior to enrolling at this law school.

### PROGRAM ACCREDITATIONS

UWLA is accredited by WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC); additionally, the committee of Bar Examiners of the State Bar of California has continuously accredited the School of Law since 1978. By choosing to focus on state bar accreditation (vs. ABA approval), UWLA can more capably expand opportunity and equity for students in pursuit of their law education. Note About Accreditation: Study at, or graduation from, this law school may not qualify a student to take the bar examination or be licensed to practice law in jurisdictions other than California. A student who intends to seek licensure to practice law outside of California at any time during their career should contact the admitting authority for information regarding its education and licensure requirements prior to enrolling at this law school.

### NAME OF SCHOOL AND PROGRAMS

UWLA School of Law

### SCHOOL DEAN

Dean Jay Frykberg, Dean Emeritus David Chaney, Associate Dean Steve Zand

### YEAR INSTITUTION WAS FOUNDED

1966

### YEAR SCHOOL OR PROGRAM WAS STARTED

1966

### TOTAL ENROLLMENT

315

### PROGRAM PLATFORMS OFFERED

UWLA School of Law offers the following platform options: Online/Distance Education, Onsite/On-campus Education, and Hybrid (In-Person and Online) Education

### AREAS OF EMPHASIS OFFERED

UWLA School of Law offers a practitioner-focused legal education for the resilient learner, inclusive of transfer law students who receive individualized projected schedules and transfer credit authorizations before acceptance.

### LENGTH OF PROGRAMS

Three (3) years for full-time study and four (4) years for part-time study

### PROGRAM CAMPUS OPTIONS

Online/Distance Education, Onsite/On-campus Education, and Hybrid (In-Person and Online) Education are offered at two campus locations in Los Angeles: WEST LA CAMPUS, 9800 S. La Cienega Blvd., 12th FL., Inglewood, CA 90301 SAN FERNANDO VALLEY CAMPUS, 21650 Oxnard Blvd., Suite 200, Woodland Hills, CA 91367

### RANKINGS

Not Applicable

### TOTAL COST OF PROGRAM

\$96,475 (Tuition) plus fees. Scholarships and grants may be available through the UWLA Financial Aid Office.

### REQUIRED TESTING

LSAT (Law School Admissions Test)

### UPCOMING INFORMATION SESSIONS

Monthly virtual information sessions; information at [www.uwla.edu](http://www.uwla.edu) or on Instagram @UWLAedu. For information session dates and details, contact: [ADMISSIONS@UWLA.EDU](mailto:ADMISSIONS@UWLA.EDU) or phone: 310.342.5291

### APPLICATION DEADLINES

Rolling admissions (Fall, Spring, and Summer)

### PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION

Jay Frykberg, Dean, UWLA School of Law Verdel Baskin, admissions contact, [vbaskin@uwla.edu](mailto:vbaskin@uwla.edu) or [admissions@uwla.edu](mailto:admissions@uwla.edu) ph: 310.342.5291 [uwla.edu](http://uwla.edu)





**UWLA**  
University of West Los Angeles  
SCHOOL OF LAW



SINCE 1966, A PREMIER CALIFORNIA LAW SCHOOL WITH A MISSION OF PROVIDING  
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**Your career in law doesn't need to be only a dream.  
Make a Juris Doctorate degree your reality with UWLA School of Law.**



### UWLA School of Law Offers These 10 Key Differences Over Similar Programs:

- ◆ Flexible three- and four-year program options, depending on full-time or part-time
- ◆ Hands-on, high-touch student care and support (financial aid, academic support, career development)
- ◆ Small class sizes and individualized attention – you're more than a number at UWLA
- ◆ Entirely online, fully on-campus, and hybrid (in-person+online) course options
- ◆ Rolling admissions and flexible class schedules, all designed to help you get it all done, even while you're working
- ◆ Mentored, practical skill development from experienced faculty who are working law professionals, including Judges, public servants, and private practice
- ◆ Analytical, technological, ethics-based, and career-focused curriculum
- ◆ Friendly, understanding, supportive environment and team who guide you from admissions through graduation
- ◆ California Bar exam study support
- ◆ We welcome transfer students with individualized attention

UWLA is accredited by WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC); additionally, the committee of Bar Examiners of the State Bar of California has continuously accredited the School of Law since 1978. By choosing to focus on state bar accreditation (vs. ABA approval), UWLA can more capably expand opportunity and equity for students in pursuit of their law education.

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**UWLA School of Law – Opportunity for You!**

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21650 Oxnard Blvd. Suite 200, Woodland Hills, CA 91367



# LEGAL VISIONARIES

What does it mean to be a legal visionary? The following lawyers listed on these pages are some of the best and brightest in a large and highly competitive world of Southern California professionals, but it is their dogged dedication to both clients and craft that make them worthy of this recognition. As you read to learn more about the legal visionaries for 2025 – their education, major cases and lives, you'll understand how each person demonstrates commitment to their practice, their firm and the community at large.

## Daniel **AHN**

Partner | **Reed Smith LLP**

*USC Gould School of Law*

**Litigation**

Daniel Ahn, a key partner at Reed Smith, is a former senior federal prosecutor with two decades of legal experience. As a former acting chief and deputy chief at the U.S. Attorney's Office in California, he led high-profile corruption cases, securing convictions against the former mayor of Anaheim, a Democratic Party official and business leaders. Ahn's prosecution efforts continue to make an impact, including the recent bribery conviction of an Orange County supervisor. In private practice, he represents individuals and companies in cross-border white-collar cases, leveraging deep ties with South Korean legal authorities. He leads major corporate bribery and securities fraud defenses and mentors first-generation and minority lawyers. Recognized by The Legal 500 and the Los Angeles Business Journal, Ahn also lectures on cybersecurity at USC and serves in key bar and community leadership roles.



## Marissa **ALGUIRE**

Partner | **Akerman LLP**

*Loyola Law School*

**Labor & Employment**



Marissa Alguire, a partner at Akerman LLP, serves as deputy chair of the firm's nationwide Labor and Employment Practice Group and leads its California team. She specializes in defending management in complex labor disputes, including wage and hour class actions, PAGA claims and discrimination cases. Notably, she secured a favorable settlement for a national airline cargo company in a state-wide PAGA case. Recognized by The Legal 500 and the Los Angeles Business Journal, Alguire moderates panels on workplace trends and AI. A dedicated advocate for women's advancement, she is active in the Women Lawyers Association and the National Association of Women Lawyers. She also serves on the L.A. Committee for Tina's Wish, raising funds for ovarian cancer research, including running the 2024 NYC Marathon for the cause.



## Sayan **ABOUDI** Esq.

Attorney | **LionsGate Law Group, APC**

*Abraham Lincoln University*

**Litigation**

Attorney Sayan Aboudi, founder and managing partner of LionsGate Law Group, APC, is a leading advocate in personal injury law across California. His firm specializes in cases involving car, motorcycle, truck and pedestrian accidents, traumatic brain injuries, wrongful deaths and catastrophic injuries. Recognized as a Super Lawyers Rising Star from 2019 to 2024, one of America's Top 100 Attorneys in 2020 and a Top 10 Under 40 Personal Injury Attorney, Aboudi has also received multiple accolades from the Los Angeles Times. With a perfect 10.0 Avvo rating, he is known for his dedication, meticulous case handling and securing significant client recoveries. Through LionsGate Law Group, he ensures injury victims receive the advocacy and resources needed to rebuild their lives.



## Wade **ACKERMAN**

Partner | **Covington & Burling LLP**

*Harvard Law School*

**Life Sciences & Healthcare**

Wade Ackerman, a partner at Covington & Burling LLP, leverages two decades of experience in private practice, the FDA and Capitol Hill to guide clients through complex regulatory challenges. He co-leads Covington's Digital Health Initiative, advising on legal, regulatory and policy issues in digital health. Ackerman played a key role in modernizing the FDA's cosmetics regulation, negotiating the reform enacted in 2022 and now leading industry implementation efforts. He serves as outside counsel for Accumulus Synergy, advising on global regulatory technology solutions and leads the RWE Alliance's engagement with the FDA and Congress on real-world evidence use. Additionally, he advises Johnson & Johnson on federal policy, including OTC drug reforms under the CARES Act. Ackerman sits on the boards of the Keck Graduate Institute and the Williams Institute at UCLA Law.

## Clifton W. **ALBRIGHT**

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

*Loyola Law School*

**Labor & Employment**

Clifton Albright, president and founding partner of Albright, Yee & Schmit, specializes in labor and employment law in Los Angeles. A Loyola Law School graduate, he was the first attorney to win a lawsuit against the Department of Health and Human Services regarding its Public Health Service Training Program. Appointed to the International Trade Advisory Committee by Presidents Obama and Trump, Albright is a sought-after speaker on employment law and complex litigation. Recognized as a Best Lawyer in America and Super Lawyer, he holds an AV Preeminent Rating from Martindale-Hubbell. His firm, honored as a Best Law Firm\* and an Orange County Business Journal award winner, has defended employment cases for nearly 30 years. Albright actively mentors young professionals and serves in key bar and community leadership roles.



## Tyrine Shawron **LAILA AMAN**

Provisionally Licensed Lawyer

**Ivie McNeill Wyatt Purcell & Diggs, APLC**

*Howard University School of Law*

**Labor & Employment**

Tyrine Shawron Laila Aman, a fourth-year associate at Ivie McNeill Wyatt Purcell & Diggs, has quickly established herself as a skilled litigator in labor and employment law. She made history as a Provisionally Licensed Lawyer in 2020, excelling beyond traditional counterparts. Aman won her first trial as a second-year associate, securing dismissal through a motion for nonsuit. She also played a key role in a groundbreaking employment arbitration, winning nearly \$1 million for her client. Recognized as her firm's MVP and Top Biller, she has managed 100+ cases, securing over \$1 million in settlements last year. She leads the firm's Young Lawyers Committee and lectures at Howard University. Passionate about community service, Aman is active in the Black Women Lawyers Association and John M. Langston Bar Association.



**Michael M. AMIR**Co-Founder | **Doll Amir & Eley LLP***UC Law San Francisco***Litigation**

Michael M. Amir, co-founder of Doll Amir & Eley LLP, is a seasoned litigator with a 20-year track record of winning high-stakes cases. He represents health organizations, banks, tech companies, universities and high-net-worth individuals in complex litigation at all levels, including trials, arbitrations and appeals. Recognized as a Super Lawyer since 2010 and one of California's Top 35 Healthcare Lawyers by the Daily Journal, Amir has secured major victories, including a jury verdict rejecting a \$30-million damages claim against healthcare clients and multiple injunctions in trade secret and misappropriation cases. He currently defends healthcare clients in the False Claims Act and unfair competition lawsuits. A UC Hastings graduate, Amir previously practiced at Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP and O'Brien Zarian LLP.

**Sharon APPELBAUM**Managing Attorney | **Appelbaum Law, P.C.***Temple University Beasley School of Law***Litigation**

Sharon Appelbaum, founding and managing attorney of Appelbaum Law, P.C., is a nationally recognized criminal defense and white-collar litigator. A former Manhattan prosecutor, she led groundbreaking cybercrime and fraud investigations, including the indictment of 94 defendants. Now, she leverages her government insight to defend clients in high-stakes state and federal cases. Named a Top 100 Lawyer by National Trial Lawyers and a fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America, Appelbaum has secured dismissals, mental health diversions and exonerations in complex criminal cases. She also handles civil litigation, including domestic violence advocacy and defending clients in sexual assault and elder abuse matters. Beyond the courtroom, she mentors young attorneys and supports survivors of human trafficking.

**Ryan BAKER**Co-Founding Partner | **Waymaker LLP***Harvard Law School***Intellectual Property**

Ryan Baker, co-founding partner of Waymaker LLP, is an elite trial lawyer known for winning high-stakes intellectual property and technology cases. Recognized as a Top 100 Lawyer by the Daily Journal and ranked by Chambers USA, he has argued precedent-setting cases in state and federal courts, including the California Supreme Court. His firm, named a Top Boutique, represents high-profile clients like DIRECTV, USC and digital currency exchange

Kraken. Recently, Baker won an \$18.3-million judgment in a trade secrets case involving a medical device. A frequent legal analyst for BBC and NBC, he also dedicates time to pro bono work, representing indigent clients and advocating for social justice. He has committed time and resources to organizations such as the Inner City Law Center, Public Counsel and the Anti-Defamation League.

**Robert BEGLAND**Partner | **Cox, Castle & Nicholson***University of Virginia School of Law***Litigation**

Robert Begland, a partner at Cox, Castle & Nicholson, is a leading trial lawyer specializing in real property, contract, corporate governance and insurance recovery disputes. He has extensive experience in state and federal courts, arbitrations and international litigation. Begland played a key role in litigation against Southern California Gas Company over the Porter Ranch gas leak, representing developers with claims exceeding \$100 million. He

successfully defeated the utility's summary judgment arguments, leading to a confidential settlement. Beyond litigation, he chairs the Veterans Community Oversight and Engagement Board, advising the VA on redeveloping the West Los Angeles campus to provide 1,200 housing units for unhoused veterans. Under Begland's leadership, the committee has influenced major land use decisions in L.A. County, including budget recommendations and expert consultations on the project's master plan.

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**Debbie BIRNDORF-ZEILER**Partner | **Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP***Washington University School of Law***Labor & Employment**

Debbie Birndorf-Zeiler, a partner at Norton Rose Fulbright, brings over 30 years of employment law experience, representing employers in harassment, discrimination, wage, Private Attorneys General Act (PAGA) and trade secret cases. She also advises on compliance, contracts and workplace policies. After founding and leading Birndorf Law Offices for over 20 years, Birndorf-Zeiler joined Norton Rose Fulbright to help build a top-tier employment law team. Recognized by Super Lawyers and Lawdragon 500, she has been named a Top 100 Lawyer and Leader of Influence by the Los Angeles Business Journal. A frequent speaker at HR conferences, Birndorf-Zeiler also serves on the Executive Committee of the Los Angeles County Bar Association, Labor and Employment Section and co-chairs the Saturday Seminar Program Committee.

**Stephanie I. BLUM**

Chair of the Family Law Department

**Reuben Raucher & Blum***USC Gould School of Law***Litigation**

Stephanie Blum, a Certified Family Law Specialist with over 25 years of experience, is a leading California divorce attorney and chair of the Family Law Department at Reuben Raucher & Blum. She blends strategic mediation with courtroom advocacy to protect families during crises. Recent accomplishments include reversing unjust trial court orders in an appellate case, restoring custody for a father through mediation, negotiating high-conflict financial settlements and securing a domestic violence restraining order to protect a child. Blum has been named among Lawdragon's 500 Leading Family Lawyers and recognized by the Daily Journal. She contributes to legal publications and has provided pro bono services for low-income clients. Blum is also a member of the Los Angeles County Bar Association Family Law Section.

**Lina BRAVERMAN**Associate | **Sheppard Mullin***Loyola Law School***Corporate**

Lina Braverman, a private credit attorney at Sheppard Mullin, represents lenders in secured and unsecured debt transactions, focusing on middle-market deals. A 2016 Loyola Law School graduate and Order of the Coif honoree, she externed for the U.S. District Court and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Previously at Hogan Lovells, she advised on a \$62-million sustainable energy debt facility in Africa and worked on the Speedcast International

Chapter 11 case. Known for her legal acumen and community involvement, Braverman's leadership extends beyond the courtroom through her dedication to charitable causes. Her board affiliations include being a member of the California, Florida and District of Columbia bars.

**Kevin BROGAN**Partner | **Hill, Farrer & Burrill LLP***UC Law San Francisco***Litigation**

Kevin Brogan, partner at Hill, Farrer & Burrill LLP, is a trial lawyer specializing in eminent domain, inverse condemnation and real property disputes. His clients include multinational corporations, property owners and law firms. He authored the California chapter of The Law of Eminent Domain for the ABA and is a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. Brogan has successfully represented clients in high-profile cases, including disputes

involving Century City Mall, UCLA, LAX and Metro. He also defends professionals in malpractice and fiduciary duty cases and is certified as a Specialist in Legal Malpractice. A UC Berkeley graduate with a J.D. from UC San Francisco Law, he clerked for Chief Judge Oliver Seth. Brogan also chairs the board of directors at Children's Hospital Los Angeles.

**Esther E. CHO**Partner-In-Charge | **Stradley Ronon Stevens & Young, LLP***Loyola Law School***Litigation**

Esther Cho, partner-in-charge of Stradley Ronon's Southern California office, co-chairs the firm's securities litigation and enforcement practice. With over 20 years of experience, she represents financial institutions in high-stakes securities, regulatory and employment disputes across state and federal courts and arbitration forums like FINRA and AAA. Cho is a board member at Stradley Ronon and an expert in mortgage banking and employment law, handling complex cases involving foreclosure, unfair business practices and labor code violations. She has secured major victories, including a complete defense verdict in a multimillion-dollar FINRA arbitration, a seven-figure settlement with record expungement and a favorable award in an \$8.5-million AAA arbitration. She serves on the advisory board for the Community of Legal Innovators and the Orange County Asian American Bar Association.

**Morgan CHU**Partner | **Irell & Manella LLP***Harvard Law School***Litigation**

Morgan Chu, a partner at Irell & Manella, has secured over \$9 billion in verdicts, judgments and settlements, earning recognition as one of the nation's top trial lawyers. He led the team that won a record \$2.3-billion patent judgment for VLSI Technology against Intel and a separate \$948-million verdict in a related case. Chu also secured a major defense win in Intel Corp. v. Fortress Investment Group, with the Ninth Circuit dismissing Intel's antitrust claims. Beyond the courtroom, he chairs City of Hope's boards and has endowed multiple academic chairs at UCLA, Harvard and City of Hope. He is a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and a member of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences.

**Susanne B. COHEN**Partner | **Hahn & Hahn LLP***Loyola Law School***Litigation**

As partner at Hahn & Hahn LLP, Susanne Cohen advises clients on estate and special needs planning, trust and estate administration, conservatorships and elder financial abuse litigation. With over 30 years of probate court experience, she provides pragmatic and compassionate guidance in complex legal matters. A former legal aid lawyer from Pasadena, Cohen is dedicated to community service. She is a member of the Academy of Special Needs Planners

and the Professional Fiduciaries Association of California. She also contributes to legal publications on conservatorships, elder law and trust litigation. Cohen is active in professional organizations, including the Estate Planning Council of San Gabriel Valley and Pasadena Rotary Club. She serves on the board of Villa Esperanza Services and supports local arts and philanthropic initiatives.

**Kanika CORLEY**Partner, Sports & Entertainment | **Akerman LLP***University of San Diego School of Law***Litigation**

Kanika Corley, a litigation partner at Akerman LLP, specializes in complex commercial and intellectual property litigation, focusing on the sports, entertainment and media industries. She represents media companies, advertising firms, designers and professional sports entities, advising on asset protection, litigation risk and IP issues. Corley has secured major victories, including two recent summary judgments in copyright and business tort cases. She

also defended a mass-media company in a First Amendment case and advised a broadcaster on international news rights. Recognized as a top litigator, she has earned accolades from Lawdragon 500 and Benchmark Litigation. Corley co-chairs Akerman's Professional Development Council and mentors attorneys. As an active speaker and author, she serves on editorial boards and is involved in professional organizations supporting women and minority attorneys.



**Emahn COUNTS**Managing Attorney | **Counts Law Firm PC***Loyola Law School***Litigation**

Emahn Counts, founder and managing attorney of Counts Law Firm PC, has 20 years of experience in business, family and real estate litigation. He has represented corporate clients like American Express, Porsche and Honda Finance, as well as thousands of individuals and small businesses in Los Angeles. Counts has successfully litigated over 1,000 cases, recovering tens of millions for clients. He is known for his negotiation and litigation skills. A dedicated mentor, he co-founded Brothers of Consciousness at Loyola and supports LMU's African American Alumni Association. He also mentors Black law students and advocates for racial equity through the Pasadena NAACP. Counts is a member of multiple bar associations and has been featured in the Daily Journal for his impactful legal work.

**Kelly CUNNINGHAM**Partner | **Ervin Cohen & Jessup LLP***UCLA School of Law***Litigation**

Kelly Cunningham is a partner at Ervin Cohen & Jessup LLP. A seasoned intellectual property attorney with over 25 years of experience, he specializes in patent, trademark and copyright litigation across numerous courts. Recognized for his strategic problem-solving, Cunningham assists clients in IP procurement, protection and enforcement across diverse industries, including technology, medical devices, publishing and entertainment. A patented inventor, he contributed to the 2012 Leahy-Smith America Invents Act while advising U.S. lawmakers. His recent cases include securing patents, defending IP rights in reexaminations and negotiating high-stakes settlements. Notably, Cunningham defended a client against a German company's patent challenge, resulting in reaffirmed patent claims. He also reduced a major record label's copyright infringement claim from seven to six figures, with an insurer covering most costs.

**Emil DAVTYAN**Founder & Managing Attorney | **D.Law***Southwestern Law School***Labor & Employment**

Emil Davtyan, founder and managing attorney of Davtyan Law Firm, earned his Bachelor of Science from Woodbury University and his Juris Doctor from Southwestern Law School, graduating cum laude in the top 10%. He externed at the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California and clerked at a global business immigration firm. After defending companies in Santa Monica, Davtyan shifted focus to helping workers, founding his firm in 2015. Now with over

150 lawyers and staff, his firm has recovered over \$1.15 billion for California workers, handling 6,000+ cases. During COVID-19, his firm fielded 70,000+ employment cases. Davtyan serves on the advisory board of Woodbury University's School of Business and as a board member for LAIFC.

**Joshua R. DRISKELL**Managing Partner | **Lagerlof, LLP***University of Toledo College of Law***Corporate**

Joshua R. Driskell, managing partner at Lagerlof, LLP and chair of the Private Client Services Department, specializes in estate planning, wealth transfer, business succession, post-death administration and fiduciary litigation. His clients include high-net-worth individuals, business owners, real estate investors and entertainment figures. Driskell advises on tax-efficient wealth transfers, business succession planning and charitable giving,

helping establish charitable trusts and private foundations. A sought-after speaker, he has presented at We Fund LA, Thomson Reuters and the California Lawyers Association. Admitted to multiple state and federal courts, he has earned accolades such as a Business of Law Visionary and a Top 100 Attorney. Active in his community, Driskell serves on the boards of the Pasadena Museum of History, Pasadena Fire Foundation and Leadership Pasadena.

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**Daniel DUBELMAN**Partner | **Massumi + Consoli***University of Virginia School of Law***Corporate**

Daniel Dubelman, partner at Massumi + Consoli, is a highly regarded transactional attorney specializing in private equity and complex corporate transactions. He advises top firms like KKR, Oaktree Capital and Brentwood Associates on acquisitions, growth equity, joint ventures and governance. His expertise spans industries such as software, financial services, consumer goods and energy. A trusted advisor, Dubelman excels in structuring deals, mitigating risks and aligning transactions with clients' strategic goals. Beyond client work, he is an adjunct professor at UCLA School of Law and a key advisor to UVA Law's transactional competition. Previously with Latham & Watkins, he now drives strategic growth and mentorship at Massumi + Consoli, helping establish it as a premier middle-market private equity firm.

**Joseph R. DUNN**Partner | **Covington & Burling LLP***Washington and Lee University School of Law***Bankruptcy**

As partner at Covington & Burling LLP, Joseph Dunn is a seasoned bankruptcy attorney specializing in creditor rights, asset recovery and insolvency litigation. He represents institutional creditors, fiduciaries and boards in bankruptcy cases, restructuring and asset protection matters. His expertise includes piercing fraudulent schemes and offshore asset protection. Recently, Dunn secured a \$300-million settlement for Global Gaming Asset Management in a dispute with Philippine casino operators. He also won the dismissal of a \$50-million fraudulent transfer case and successfully negotiated a Chapter 11 resolution for a Rancho Santa Fe homeowners association. Active in the legal and nonprofit sectors, Dunn has served on the boards of the Center for Community Solutions, the California Bankruptcy Forum and ABI's Battleground West conference.

**Hunter R. ELEY**Managing Partner | **Doll Amir & Eley LLP***William & Mary School of Law***Litigation**

Hunter R. Eley, managing partner at Doll Amir & Eley LLP, is a leading litigator specializing in class action defense and financial services litigation. He has successfully argued cases in the Ninth Circuit, California Court of Appeal and trial courts nationwide. As chair of the firm's financial services practice, Eley represents clients in consumer lending, banking, mortgage and auto loan disputes. He has defended Fortune 500 companies in major class actions,

including "Right to Repair" lawsuits and consumer protection claims. He has secured key victories in arbitration and appellate courts, including a complete defense win in a \$10-million consumer protection case. He is a published author on consumer finance law and an active member of the California and Virginia State Bars.

**Steven J. ELIE**Managing Partner | **Musick, Peeler & Garrett LLP***UC Law San Francisco***Litigation**

Steven J. Elie, co-managing partner at Musick, Peeler & Garrett LLP, specializes in complex business, insurance and environmental litigation. With over 30 years of experience, he represents insurers, businesses and public entities in high-stakes disputes involving environmental regulations, insurance coverage and white-collar matters. Elie has secured major victories, including a defense verdict in a seven-month environmental trial and multiple summary

judgments for insurers. He also serves as outside general counsel for mid-sized companies and advises on regulatory compliance. An elected director of the Inland Empire Utilities Agency since 2010, he also holds leadership roles with the National Water Research Institute and Southern California Water Coalition. Recognized by Best Lawyers and Lawdragon 500 Leading Litigators, Elie has also raised over \$70,000 for the National MS Society.

**Sierra ELIZABETH**Partner | **Kirkland & Ellis LLP***Duke University School of Law***Litigation**

Sierra Elizabeth, a nationally recognized trial lawyer and partner at Kirkland & Ellis LLP, specializes in high-stakes litigation, including product liability, mass torts and intellectual property disputes. Since 2020, she has won five bet-the-company jury trials, securing billions in exposure for clients such as 3M, Abbott, BP and General Motors. Elizabeth's victories include a full defense verdict for Abbott in a \$5.2-billion lawsuit and a unanimous jury win for Constellation Brands in a major trademark dispute. Recognized by Chambers USA, Law360 and The American Lawyer, she has also appeared on CNN Headline News. She co-chairs Kirkland's Racial and Ethnic Diversity Subcommittee and founded SuitKits, a custom suiting company for professional women. Elizabeth also serves on the WILEF Global Advisory Board and the John M. Langston Bar Association.

**Phillip J. ESKENAZI**Partner | **BakerHostetler***UC Law San Francisco***Litigation**

Phillip Eskenazi, a trial lawyer and partner at BakerHostetler, specializes in complex business, securities litigation and class action defense. With over 32 years of experience, he has served as lead counsel in more than 250 class actions and secured notable trial victories, including a rare jury win against the SEC. As co-head of the firm's retail industry team, Eskenazi represents major brands like Victoria's Secret, Lowe's and Petco in high-stakes litigation. His practice also includes defending environmental, securities fraud, fiduciary duty and false advertising cases. Since joining BakerHostetler, he has led the firm's retail industry expansion and helped grow its Los Angeles office. Eskenazi remains at the forefront of legal issues affecting retailers, manufacturers and employees nationwide.

**Jason FAIR**Partner | **Robins Kaplan LLP***Loyola Law School***Litigation**

Jason Fair, managing partner of Robins Kaplan LLP's Los Angeles and Silicon Valley offices, is a distinguished business trial attorney known for his strategic approach to complex corporate disputes. His expertise spans real estate development, construction, offshore oil bonds and shareholder disputes, earning him a reputation as a skilled problem-solver in high-stakes litigation. Fair co-chairs the firm's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee and was honored

with the 2024 Latino Leadership Award by Profiles in Diversity Journal. His pro bono work advocates for the rights of underserved children, ensuring they have access to safe homes, healthcare and education. Recognized on Super Lawyers' Southern California Rising Stars list from 2016 to 2024, Fair also served on Law360's Construction Editorial Advisory Board.

**Miles FELDMAN**Founding Partner | **Raines Feldman Littrell LLP***UC Berkeley School of Law***Litigation**

Miles Feldman, founding partner of Raines Feldman Littrell LLP, is a seasoned trial lawyer with nearly 30 years of experience in high-stakes litigation. He represents top clients in technology, media and finance, including TikTok, United Talent Agency and rapper Killer Mike. Recognized as a Super Lawyer and Top Litigator by the Los Angeles Business Journal, Feldman has led landmark cases shaping entertainment and corporate law. His recent work includes

representing Range Media in a dispute with CAA and co-representing the receiver in a \$750-million Ponzi scheme case. He has expanded RFL nationally, growing offices in Chicago, New York and Orange County. Committed to pro bono work, Feldman supports the Survivor Justice Center and CISLA and raises funds for PATH through the Law Rocks charity event.





**Amber S. FINCH**Partner | **Reed Smith LLP***USC Gould School of Law***Litigation**

Amber Finch, global chair of the insurance recovery group and partner at Reed Smith, leads high-stakes insurance litigation and pro bono efforts. She advises clients on complex insurance issues, including aiding Los Angeles wildfire victims in navigating claims. She co-leads representation of global aircraft lessors in a \$2-billion dispute over aircraft lost to Russian airlines and defends a major drug distributor in opioid-related insurance claims. Finch also secured a favorable settlement for a utility company in a \$20-million wildfire insurance dispute. A former Los Angeles office managing partner, she co-founded the firm's Racial Equality Action Plan. She serves on boards for USC Gould School of Law, Crystal Stairs and Black Women Lawyers Association of LA. Finch has led efforts in bail reform, immigration and legal aid services.

**Terrence Mark FRANKLIN**

Partner

**Sacks, Glazier, Franklin, Lodise, McMurtrey & Scheerer, LLP***Harvard Law School***Litigation**

Terrence Franklin, a founding partner at Sacks, Glazier, Franklin, Lodise, McMurtrey & Scheerer, LLP, has over 30 years of experience in high-profile trusts and estates litigation. He has successfully represented beneficiaries, trustees and institutions in complex disputes, including the landmark *Moeller v. Superior Court* case, which shaped California fiduciary law. Beyond his legal practice, Franklin is a leading advocate for diversity in the profession. He spearheaded the UCLA School of Law Postgraduate Fellowship for Racial Equity in Trust & Estate Law, securing nearly \$200,000 in funding. His efforts have expanded access to estate planning resources for underserved communities. Recognized with the 2021 Chambers Lifetime Achievement Award, Franklin serves on multiple legal and community boards, including ACTEC and USC's Trust and Estate Conference.

**Michael G. FREEDMAN**Founder & Principal | **The Freedman Firm PC***UC Law San Francisco***Litigation**

Michael G. Freedman, founder and principal of The Freedman Firm, is a top criminal defense and trial attorney handling high-profile federal cases nationwide. A former federal prosecutor, he has quickly grown his firm to five lawyers since launching in 2021. Freedman represents high-profile clients, including Harvey Weinstein, Bill Cosby, Trey Songz and Ippei Mizuhara, along with executives, doctors, lawyers and corporations. He recently

defended former L.A. Deputy Mayor Raymond Chan in a federal RICO trial and has tried over a dozen cases as both a prosecutor and defense attorney. He has been recognized as a Top White Collar Lawyer by the Daily Journal. Freedman serves on the Beverly Hills Bar Association board and co-chairs Bet Tzedek's New Leadership Council and the ABA's White Collar Crime Committee.

**Robert P. FRIEDMAN**Shareholder | **Carlton Fields***Georgetown University Law Center***Corporate**

Robert Friedman, shareholder at Carlton Fields, is a trusted adviser to developers, property owners and businesses, handling high-value real estate transactions. He has structured major deals, including a \$500-million sale of shopping center interests and a \$46 million, 75-year ground lease for a Los Angeles retail project. In 2024, Friedman led three key acquisitions for Primestor Development, one of L.A.'s most active developers. His expertise spans acquisitions,

dispositions, financing and public-private partnerships. A dedicated community leader, he chairs the board of trustees at Culver City's Turning Point School and assists a nonprofit supporting artists displaced by California wildfires. Friedman is also active in the ABA, the State Bar of California and the L.A. County Bar Association.

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**Richard GALOFARO**Co-Managing Partner | **Musick, Peeler & Garrett LLP***Tulane University School of Law***Corporate**

Richard Galofaro, co-managing partner at Musick, Peeler & Garrett LLP's Los Angeles office, specializes in estate and gift tax planning for high-net-worth individuals and families, trust administration and probate matters. His expertise includes structuring sophisticated tax strategies, business succession planning and charitable giving. Galofaro has advised clients on maximizing estate tax exemptions ahead of 2026 law changes and facilitated the creation of an \$800-million private foundation benefiting Los Angeles. He has also represented financial institutions in trust administration and guided estate plans for non-U.S. citizens using Qualified Domestic Trusts. A trusted leader, he plays a key role in the firm's strategic direction. In addition to his legal work, Galofaro serves as a board member and secretary of After-School All-Stars, Los Angeles, supporting programs for underserved youth.

**Mahfam GRANDT**Senior Counsel | **Sanders Roberts LLP***UCLA School of Law***Litigation**

Mahfam Grandt, senior counsel at Sanders Roberts LLP, represents Fortune 100 corporations in business litigation, employment disputes and product liability cases in state and federal courts. Known for handling complex, multi-jurisdictional matters, she has secured key dismissals, led high-stakes settlement negotiations and managed large legal teams. Grandt has successfully defended clients in the food service, healthcare and education industries, crafting innovative legal strategies to meet their goals. She played a pivotal role in a milestone decision on attorney's fees and oversees significant case portfolios for corporate clients. A dedicated mentor, she actively supports associates in their career growth and contributes to the legal community. Grandt is affiliated with UCLA Law School Alumni and recognized for her leadership and commitment to client success.

**Demetria L. GRAVES**Founding & Managing Partner | **The Graves Law Firm***Loyola Law School***Litigation**

Demetria Graves, a Certified Family Law Specialist, is the founding and managing partner of The Graves Law Firm, with offices in Pasadena and Beverly Hills. A leading attorney in family law, she has earned numerous accolades, including Super Lawyer and Top Family Lawyers by the Daily Journal. Graves is the immediate past chair of the Family Law Executive Committee (FLEXCOM) with the California Lawyers Association and co-chairs Loyola Law School's

African American Alumni Association. She mentors young attorneys and advocates for diversity in the legal profession. Committed to community service, she offers free workshops to ensure fair access to family law resources. A sought-after speaker and author, Graves hosts the Legally Uncensored podcast and wrote When Women Run the Firm.

**Anton (Tony) HANDAL**Partner | **Munck Wilson Mandala, LLP***Southwestern Law School***Intellectual Property**

Anton Handal, a seasoned litigator and partner at Munck Wilson Mandala, LLP, has tried over 100 cases and served as lead counsel in more than 170 patent litigation matters. His expertise spans intellectual property law, international business disputes and complex transactions. Fluent in Arabic, Handal advises U.S. and international clients across the Middle East and Pacific Rim, helping companies navigate legal complexities. His transactional experience

includes M&A due diligence, contract negotiations and patent strategy, drawing from his background as a tech startup CEO. Since joining Munck Wilson Mandala, he has expanded its intellectual property practice, securing major clients like Volvo Car USA and Illumina. Handal serves as pro bono counsel for New International Cottages, Inc. and is a member of the California State Bar.

**David HANNA**Member | **Mintz***University of Minnesota Law School***Life Sciences & Healthcare**

David Hanna, member at Mintz, is a leading intellectual property attorney with over 15 years of experience, specializing in pharmaceutical, biologics and medical device patent litigation. He has successfully represented clients in billion-dollar patent disputes, Federal Circuit appeals and PTAB proceedings. Recognized for his strategic litigation skills, Hanna has defended Amgen's Prolia and XGEVA franchises, secured a major win for Sanofi and SK Chemical against Pfizer and led Amgen's biosimilar challenge to Stelara. He also represents pharmaceutical companies in product liability matters. Honored by Best Lawyers and Super Lawyers, Hanna is dedicated to diversity and pro bono advocacy for LGBTQ+ rights. He serves on the Echo Theater Company board and is an American Chemical Society Executive Committee member.

**J. Mira HASHMALL**Partner | **Miller Barondess, LLP***USC Gould School of Law***Labor & Employment**

As partner at Miller Barondess, LLP, J. Mira Hashmall is a seasoned trial lawyer with over 20 years of experience, specializing in high-stakes litigation and employment matters. Her notable victories include reversing an \$8.1-million FEHA ruling against Los Angeles County and securing a California Court of Appeal decision limiting whistleblower protections for elected officials, now under Supreme Court review. She also defends LA County and the City of Inglewood in complex employment lawsuits. Hashmall presents at major legal conferences and is actively involved with the League of Women Voters of Los Angeles. She serves on the boards of Teach Democracy, Center Dance Arts at The Music Center of Los Angeles and the Litigation Section of the LA County Bar Association.

**Esra HUDSON**Partner | **Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP***UCLA School of Law***Labor & Employment**

Esra Hudson, partner at Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP's employment and labor practice, is a top adviser to major entertainment, insurance, healthcare and financial firms, specializing in wage and hour class actions, PAGA matters and trade secret disputes. She excels in crisis management and has successfully defended clients in litigation and arbitration. Notably, Hudson represents Blake Lively in litigation against Justin Baldoni and Wayfarer Studios. A

longtime board member of the California Women's Law Center, she led the oversight of a 17-year Title IX case for equity in girls' sports. She also secured a federal settlement for a family separated at the border. Hudson has filed amicus briefs before federal courts, including the Supreme Court. She is recognized by the Daily Journal, Legal 500, Chambers and Lawdragon.

**Brittani JACKSON**Partner | **Hueston Hennigan***Harvard Law School***Litigation**

Brittani Jackson, a partner at Hueston Hennigan, handles high-profile litigation, including commercial disputes, privacy issues, trade secret misappropriation and corporate governance. She represents Amazon's Twitch in wrongful death claims over a live-streamed shooting and defends Activision Blizzard in mass arbitration. Jackson also represents Southern California Edison in gender discrimination and wildfire litigation. She secured a key

victory for SoCalGas in an environmental claims investigation and was part of the team that negotiated a favorable plea deal in the "Varsity Blues" scandal. She actively leads pro bono cases and serves in leadership roles, including as chair of Friends of the Los Angeles County Law Library. Jackson is recognized in Daily Journal's Top 40 Under 40 and Los Angeles Business Journal's Women of Influence: Attorneys.





**Richard KAPLAN**

Partner | **Kaplan Marino**  
*Pepperdine University School of Law*

**Litigation**



Richard Kaplan co-founded Kaplan Marino, PC in 1988, transforming white-collar defense law. His independent background enables creative, persuasive legal strategies, challenging conventional arguments. He has led the Beverly Hills Bar Association, served on multiple legal boards and received the State Bar of California's Excellence in Practice Award in 2020. Kaplan manages high-stakes criminal cases for high-net-worth individuals, corporations and entertainers. His strategic negotiations have led to acquittals, dismissed charges and expungements. He also defends clients in California's mental health diversion program. Recent victories include a full dismissal of a \$775,000 fraud case, felony dismissals for a cyclist and no charges filed for an illegal firearm. Kaplan frequently speaks at legal conferences on ethics, AI and white-collar crime.

**Stephen KAUFMAN**

Founder & Principal | **Kaufman Legal Group**  
*UC Law San Francisco*

**Litigation**



Stephen Kaufman, founder and principal of Kaufman Legal Group, is a leading authority on campaign finance and election law. He represents elected officials, candidates, PACs, corporations, labor unions, nonprofits and government agencies on campaign finance, ethics and election matters. He was a recount attorney for the Gore-Lieberman campaign and served as chief counsel to the U.S. House Democratic Caucus Special Committee on Election Reform. Kaufman chairs the State Voting Modernization Board and previously served on the Los Angeles Municipal Elections Reform Commission. He has advised top officials, including Senator Alex Padilla and Mayor Karen Bass, and played key roles in statewide ballot measures. Kaufman frequently speaks on election issues and has served on multiple nonprofit boards, including the UCLA Political Science Board of Advisors and the Labor 411 Foundation.

**Jason S. KIM**

Partner, Corporate Law | **Blank Rome LLP**  
*UCLA School of Law*

**Corporate**



Jason S. Kim is a partner at Blank Rome LLP. He represents domestic and foreign companies, financial institutions, funds and high-net-worth individuals in corporate and real estate transactions, with a focus on cross-border deals. Kim frequently advises on private equity transactions and major investments. Notable deals include raising over \$150 million for a green energy company, a \$200-million private bond placement for a Korean airline and a \$130-million acquisition of a U.S. gaming company. Recent transactions include a \$120-million capital raise for FirstElement Fuel, a \$49-million Hyatt Place acquisition and the sale of Intimo Industry to Westbridge Capital. Kim is co-chair of his firm's diversity & inclusion committee and has taught at USC Gould School of Law.

**Ji WON KIM**

Partner | **Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP**  
*University of Michigan Law School*

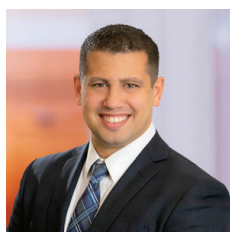
**Cybersecurity**



Recently promoted to partner at Norton Rose Fulbright, Ji Won Kim is a key member of the firm's Global Cybersecurity and Privacy team. She advises global clients on cybersecurity risk management, compliance, governance and incident response, handling complex investigations involving critical infrastructure. With expertise in cross-border litigation, she engages with regulators and resolves cybersecurity disputes across industries. Kim teaches cybersecurity law at USC Gould School of Law and frequently speaks on cyber threats. A Certified Information Privacy Professional (CIPP/US), she leads high-profile incident response efforts worldwide. She is deeply committed to pro bono work, securing asylum for persecuted individuals and protecting hate crime victims. Kim received Norton Rose Fulbright's Unsung Hero Award in 2023 and serves on the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles Associates Advisory Board.

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**Andrew T. KIRSH**Co-Chairman; Chair, Real Estate Department  
**Sklar Kirsh LLP***Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law***Corporate**

Andrew T. Kirsh is the co-chairman of Sklar Kirsh LLP, chair of its Real Estate Practice Group and a management committee member. He represents investors, funds, developers and lenders in acquisitions, equity investments, syndications, fund formation, financing and foreclosures. Kirsh began his career at Latham & Watkins before co-founding Sklar Kirsh in 2013. He has led high-profile deals, including the \$153.5-million Aon Center acquisition and a \$107-million multifamily purchase in Washington. A frequent industry speaker, he also hosts the podcast Real Talk with Andrew Kirsh. Active in philanthropy, Kirsh serves on the Jewish Federation Executive Board and AIPAC's Real Estate Leadership Council. Recognized as a Best Lawyer and Super Lawyer, he was named a 2021 Commercial Real Estate Visionary by Commercial Real Estate Magazine.

**Arsen KOURINIAN**Partner | **Mayer Brown**  
*Loyola Law School***Cybersecurity**

As partner at Mayer Brown, Arsen Kourinian is a leading data privacy and artificial intelligence (AI) counselor in Los Angeles, holding AI governance (AIGP) and certified information privacy (CIPP) credentials across multiple regions. He advises major tech and financial firms on AI compliance, including under the EU AI Act and U.S. state laws. Kourinian has conducted AI governance audits, developed AI policies and led global privacy compliance efforts for corporations. He has also represented companies in regulatory investigations, preventing public enforcement actions. He serves on advisory boards for the International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP) and the State Bar of California's Privacy Law Specialization Group. Additionally, Kourinian contributes to the Interactive Advertising Bureau's Privacy Task Force.

**JR LANIS**Partner | **BakerHostettler***University of Texas School of Law***Corporate**

JR Lanis, partner at BakerHostettler, is an experienced attorney specializing in securities offerings, mergers and acquisitions and corporate transactions. He advises public companies, investment banks and registered investment firms on stock and debt offerings, IPOs, M&A and compliance for OTC, Nasdaq and NYSE-listed issuers. Lanis provides strategic counsel across industries, including technology, financial services, hospitality and life sciences. He ensures clients navigate complex regulations while leveraging market opportunities. Currently, he serves as business leader for BakerHostettler's Los Angeles office and was recently confirmed as co-leader of the firm's capital markets, securities and corporate governance practice. Lanis continues to drive firm growth and provide high-level guidance to publicly traded and privately held companies, as well as investors, on regulatory and transactional matters.

**Paul LAURIN**Partner | **Barnes & Thornburg***UC Law San Francisco***Bankruptcy**

Paul Laurin, partner at Barnes & Thornburg, is a leading attorney in commercial litigation, creditor's rights and bankruptcy law. A key member of Barnes & Thornburg's California restructuring and bankruptcy group, he advises on high-stakes litigation, restructurings and loan enforcement disputes. Laurin's work has shaped legal precedent, influenced billion-dollar cases and protected creditor rights. His recent successes include securing full claim satisfaction for a landlord in a brewery bankruptcy and advising on cross-border monitorships and Chinese bankruptcy proceedings. He is a past president of the UC Hastings (now UC San Francisco Law) Alumni Board and has lectured at UCLA Law. Laurin supports underserved communities, serves on the Los Angeles County Bar Judicial Appointments Committee and is active in Provisors, the Financial Lawyers Conference and the American Bankruptcy Institute.

**Adriana LEVANDOWSKI**Associate | **Nixon Peabody LLP***University of Denver-Sturm College of Law***Litigation**

As an associate at Nixon Peabody LLP, Adriana Levandowski is a skilled litigator specializing in labor and employment, business law and entertainment industry disputes. She provides strategic counsel, risk management and innovative legal solutions. She also leads diversity initiatives as associate chair of the firm's Women's Resource Group. Levandowski is deeply committed to pro bono work, receiving recognition from Public Counsel for her advocacy on behalf of a South L.A. homeowner. She also assists transgender individuals through Bet Tzedek's name change clinic. She is active in Visionary Women's GenV Group and Professional Entertainment Female Attorneys (PEFA). A dedicated animal welfare advocate, Levandowski volunteers with the Animal Rescue Mission and Del Gato Cat Rescue while serving on the LA County Bar Association's Animal Law Section.

**Lily LI**Founder & President | **Metaverse Law***Duke University School of Law***Cybersecurity**

Lily Li is the founder and president of Metaverse Law. She founded Metaverse Law in 2018 to address the growing need for legal services in artificial intelligence (AI), data privacy and protection. A Duke Law graduate, she advises on AI governance, CCPA, GDPR, NIST frameworks, healthcare privacy and breach response. She holds multiple privacy and security certifications, including FIP, CIPP/US/E/M and GCFA. Li's firm recently developed a global privacy and AI compliance program for a publicly traded AI company, aligning it with NIST and ISO standards. She frequently speaks and publishes on AI, cybersecurity and privacy, with articles in Bloomberg Law and Law360. She is a legal analyst on the U.S. TikTok ban and serves on the Orange County Asian American Bar Association Board.

**Jonathan LITRELL**Founding Partner | **Raines Feldman Littrell LLP***Loyola Law School***Corporate**

Jonathan Littrell, managing partner and CEO of Raines Feldman Littrell LLP, advises public and private entities, fund sponsors and asset management firms on corporate governance, finance, mergers and acquisitions, fund formation and private placements. He has extensive experience in structuring transactions and guiding businesses through complex financial matters. Before practicing law, Littrell was a project manager for a Los Angeles development firm specializing in low-income housing, gaining hands-on experience in acquisition, construction and asset management. He has been featured in Law360 and the Los Angeles Business Journal for his leadership and insights on private equity and firm management. He was also named one of the Top 20 Dynamic CEOs of 2020 by CEO Publication.



**Meg LODISE**

Partner

**Sacks, Glazier, Franklin, Lodise, McMurtrey & Scheerer, LLP***UCLA School of Law***Litigation**

Meg Lodise, partner at Sacks, Glazier, Franklin, Lodise, McMurtrey & Scheerer, LLP, has built a distinguished 37-year career handling complex, high-value trust and estate disputes in California. She secured a precedent-setting decision in *O'Connor v. O'Connor* (26 Cal.App.5th 871), shaping state law on powers of appointment. Appointed as Guardian Ad Litem for Michael Jackson's children, she represented their interests from 2009 to 2020. Lodise also served as an expert witness in a NAFTA arbitration, successfully supporting Canada's position on California trust law. A fellow and vice president of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel, she is a past president of the Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles and an adjunct professor at Loyola Law School. Her accolades include recognition from Chambers and Partners and Benchmark Litigation.

**Michael MALLOW**Managing Partner | **Shook, Hardy & Bacon***George Washington University Law School***Litigation**

Shook, Hardy & Bacon's managing partner, Michael Mallow, achieved significant legal victories in 2024. He defeated the Federal Trade Commission's injunction attempt, which sought to ban his client from marketing products online and via telemarketing. Later, he secured a Ninth Circuit affirmation of summary judgment and class decertification in a case against Mazda. With nearly 30 years in consumer litigation, Mallow has defended companies in class actions and regulatory investigations by the FTC, DOJ, CPSC, FCC and state agencies. He leads Shook's Los Angeles office and co-chairs its class action & appellate litigation practice. Recognized by Chambers USA, The Legal 500 and Law360, he is also active in community and athletic initiatives, including founding the Mallow Junior/U23 National Triathlon Team to support LA2028 Olympic hopefuls.

**Patrick MERRITT MALONEY**Founding Partner | **The Maloney Firm APC***University of San Diego School of Law***Litigation**

Patrick M. Maloney, a certified legal malpractice specialist and founding partner at The Maloney Firm APC, is a leading litigator focused on business disputes and fair billing practices. His expertise has saved clients millions in legal fees, with notable wins in antitrust, patent, shareholder and fiduciary duty disputes. Recent victories include a defense verdict in a \$10-million shareholder case, a favorable verdict in a defamation suit, a \$1.1-million arbitration

win over film distribution and summary judgment in a \$150-million racketeering case. Recognized as a Super Lawyer (2015-2024) and an AV-Preeminent-rated attorney, Maloney actively engages in the legal community and has held leadership roles in the South Bay Bar Association and the Manhattan Beach Chamber of Commerce.

**Scott MALZAHN**Managing Partner | **Waymaker LLP***UC Law San Francisco***Litigation**

Scott Malzahn, managing partner of Waymaker LLP, is a leading California litigator specializing in complex commercial, intellectual property, fintech and securities class action disputes. In 2024, he secured an \$18.3-million award in a trade secret theft case and crafted the winning argument in *FilmOn, Inc. v. DoubleVerify, Inc.*, establishing a key anti-SLAPP legal test. Under his leadership, Waymaker was named a 2024 Top Boutique by the Daily Journal.

Recognized by Chambers, Benchmark Litigation and Law360, Malzahn has led landmark cases and promotes diversity, with women comprising half of the firm's attorneys. He is also the president of Equality California, the largest statewide LGBTQ+ civil rights group and a former constitutional law professor at USC. His work has earned recognition as a Legal Visionary by the Los Angeles Times and a Super Lawyer.



**We are proud to congratulate partners Agustin Orozco and Jennie VonCannon on being recognized among *LA Times Studios*' "2025 Law Firm Visionaries."**

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**Sophia MANCALL-BITEL**Partner | **Mayer Brown***Columbia Law School***Litigation**

Sophia Mancall-Bitel, a partner at Mayer Brown, specializes in complex commercial litigation, focusing on wiretapping and internet data privacy cases for major tech and social media companies. She represents clients in class actions involving the California Invasion of Privacy Act (CIPA), the federal Wiretap Act and other privacy statutes. Recent work includes defending social media platforms in wiretapping and biometric privacy cases and leading the defense of a tech company in a CIPA class action. Committed to pro bono advocacy, Mancall-Bitel co-chairs the Law Firm Antiracism Alliance's Reproductive Justice Working Group and has litigated on reproductive rights, immigration and gun control. She is lead counsel in ACLU of Southern California v. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, a pro bono Freedom of Information Act case seeking records from ICE.

**Michael V. MANCINI**Founding Partner | **Mancini Shenk LLP***Georgetown University Law Center***Litigation**

As founding partner of Mancini Shenk LLP, Michael V. Mancini specializes in shareholder, cannabis, business and entertainment disputes. A leader in cannabis litigation, he has recovered tens of millions for clients and successfully defended against multimillion-dollar claims. Mancini frequently advises top firms and speaks on cannabis litigation trends and ethics. His litigation success includes dismissing nine-figure fiduciary duty claims, defeating emergency restraining orders and securing favorable settlements in high-profile cases. His pro bono work includes impactful amicus briefs on immigration and family law. Mancini is the vice-chair of membership for the Los Angeles County Bar Association's Cannabis Section and a graduate of its Traditional Trial Advocacy Project. He is an active member of the American Bar Association and Los Angeles County Bar Association.

**Chris MANDERSON**Partner | **Ervin Cohen & Jessup LLP***UCLA School of Law***Corporate**

Chris Manderson, partner at Ervin Cohen & Jessup LLP, specializes in mergers and acquisitions, venture capital, corporate finance, distressed transactions and preserving Net Operating Loss (NOL) tax assets. He advises public and private boards on corporate governance and previously served as EVP & general counsel at Real Industry, Inc., leading its \$525-million acquisition and NASDAQ listing. Manderson has reorganized companies preserving over

\$2 billion in NOL assets, including Real Industry and Triad Guaranty. Recent deals include the sale of Bitium to Google, multiple financing rounds for tech companies and an \$87-million sale of NABCO. His clients range from Amgen and Dole to private equity firms and individuals. Manderson began his career at Skadden and Paul Hastings and is recognized for his expertise in complex corporate transactions.

**Nina MARINO**Partner | **Kaplan Marino, PC***University of La Verne College of Law***Litigation**

Nina Marino is the co-founder and partner of Kaplan Marino, PC. She is a globally recognized white-collar and complex criminal defense attorney. Named a Band 3 Leading Lawyer by Chambers USA, Marino is lauded for her skillful representation of senior executives. She has secured numerous courtroom victories, including a full acquittal in a high-profile bribery case in 2024 and multiple case dismissals in complex fraud and embezzlement matters. She is first

vice chair of the ABA Criminal Justice Section, founder of the Women in White Collar Subcommittee and City Leader of WWCD Los Angeles. A sought-after speaker and author, she co-hosts the podcast White Collar Talks with Nina and Joe. Marino actively supports women's leadership and serves on the executive board of C5LA, advocating for underserved youth.

**Marianne S. MARTIN**Partner | **Jeffer Mangels Butler & Mitchell LLP***Brooklyn Law School***Corporate**

Marianne S. Martin, a corporate finance partner at Jeffer Mangels Butler & Mitchell LLP, specializes in borrower-side representations for founder-owned and sponsor-backed private companies, with expertise in syndicated and complex bilateral credit transactions. She has advised on nearly \$700 million in financing over the past two years, focusing on industries including industrials, media, consumer products and healthcare. Martin is known for navigating growth-oriented and distressed financing, including workouts, UCC foreclosures and DIP financing. Her clients include private equity sponsors, family offices and private credit lenders. She frequently speaks on trends in private credit markets. Martin is also dedicated to community engagement, having founded an affinity group supporting neurodivergent children. She is admitted to practice in California and New York and is active in several industry associations.

**Hemal MASTER**Managing Shareholder  
**Frandzel Robins Bloom & Csato, L.C.***Tulane University School of Law***Corporate**

Hemal Master, managing shareholder at Frandzel Robins Bloom & Csato, L.C., specializes in lender representation, advising commercial banks, private equity funds and financial institutions on real estate and commercial loan transactions, workouts, liability defense and enforcement of lender remedies. He completed a three-year secondment advising a regional bank on distressed debt and litigation in 45 states. Master frequently speaks on finance topics and serves as general counsel for the Western Independent Bankers and on the event planning committee for the Special Assets Management Association. His recent work includes leading a \$125-million syndicated hotel construction loan and restructuring a \$120-million credit for an engine leasing company. Master is also active in real estate development and hospitality ventures in Los Angeles.

**Jordan MATTHEWS**Founding Partner | **Holtz Matthews LLP***Pepperdine University School of Law***Litigation**

Holtz Matthews LLP's founding partner, Jordan Matthews, served as lead counsel in landmark litigation against Steve Wynn, representing the primary witness in The Wall Street Journal's exposé on Wynn's alleged sexual misconduct. The case contributed to Wynn's resignation and a \$10-million fine in 2023, removing him from the gaming industry. Matthews fought for five years against aggressive defense tactics, filing a civil RICO case against Wynn

and Wynn Resorts, coinciding with DOJ litigation over Wynn's alleged FARA violations. He argued the case before the Ninth Circuit in 2022. His work aligned with legislative changes like the Adult Survivors Act, expanding legal options for sexual assault victims. Matthews also represented clients in high-profile disputes, including fitness celebrity Deja Riley and entertainment figures like Brian A. Metcalf and Alexis Varouxakis.

**Michelle E. MCCARTHY**Partner | **Nossaman***University of San Diego School of Law***Labor & Employment**

As partner at Nossaman, Michelle E. McCarthy, with over 20 years of legal experience in employee benefits and taxation, advises a diverse clientele—including tax-exempt organizations, governmental plans and Fortune 100 companies—on the design, compliance and administration of retirement, health and welfare benefit plans. She specializes in regulatory compliance, fiduciary duties, tax qualifications and policy development for both private and public sector plans. McCarthy represents clients before the IRS, DOL and PBGC in audits, compliance programs and corrective filings. She also advises on data privacy and cybersecurity for benefit plans. Her expertise extends to Taft-Hartley multiemployer plans and corporate transaction support. An active speaker and author, McCarthy serves on various industry boards, including the ABA and the National Conference on Public Employee Retirement Systems SECURE 2.0 Task Force.





**Jonathan MELMED**Founder | **Melmed Law Group***Loyola Law School***Labor & Employment**

Jonathan Melmed, founder of Melmed Law Group, is a leading employment attorney with a decade of experience advocating for employees' rights. He has secured recoveries for thousands of California workers and served as lead counsel in hundreds of class and representative actions, achieving numerous multi-million dollar settlements. Recognized as a Super Lawyers Rising Star and featured on the 2024 Legal Visionaries list, Melmed also led his firm to be ranked among the Top 25 Employment Law Firms in Los Angeles. His commitment to justice has earned him a place on the Lawdragon 500 list of Leading Civil Rights & Plaintiff Employment Lawyers. A graduate of NYU and Loyola Law School, Melmed's work has been featured in Yahoo! Finance, Bloomberg, USA Today and Law360.

**Lisa HELFEND MEYER**Co-Founder & Senior Partner  
**Meyer, Olson, Lowy & Meyers, LLP***Loyola Law School***Litigation**

Lisa Helfend Meyer, co-founder and senior partner at Meyer, Olson, Lowy & Meyers, LLP, has been a certified Family Law Specialist by the State Bar of California since 1989. For over four decades, she has been a trailblazer in family law, representing clients in high-conflict divorces, complex custody cases, domestic violence matters and LGBTQ+ family issues. Known for taking on challenging cases and prevailing, Meyer has successfully litigated international move-away, domestic abuse and parental alienation cases. Recognized as a Top 100 Women Lawyer in California and a Super Lawyer for over 20 years, her expertise has been featured by the Associated Press and CNN. She supports organizations aiding children with special needs and victims of domestic violence, including the Glenwood Housing Foundation and The Harriett Buhai Center for Family Law.

**Felicia R. MEYERS**Co-Founder & Senior Partner  
**Meyer, Olson, Lowy & Meyers, LLP***Whittier College School of Law***Litigation**

Felicia R. Meyers is a founding partner at Meyer, Olson, Lowy & Meyers, LLP, a boutique family law firm in Century City and Irvine, California. Specializing in complex litigation and trials, she handles high-conflict divorces, custody disputes and high-asset cases. Meyers has successfully led significant cases, including the landmark J.M. v. G.H. (2014), where the court upheld a mother's

move to Israel with her child. She also secured visitation rights for a brain-damaged mother in a high-profile case. Recognized as a Super Lawyer for over 15 years and honored as a top family lawyer by the Daily Journal in 2023, Meyers previously chaired the Beverly Hills Bar Association's Family Law Section, receiving its President's Award.

**Skip MILLER**Partner | **Miller Barondess, LLP***UCLA School of Law***Litigation**

Skip Miller, co-founder and partner of Miller Barondess, LLP, is a prominent trial lawyer known for handling high-stakes litigation. He has served as lead counsel in over 100 state and federal cases, representing corporations, Fortune 500 companies, entertainers and government entities. Recent successes include securing a dismissal in a complex securities fraud case, resolving a \$1.3-billion Ponzi scheme through substantial settlements and defending high-profile clients like Byron Allen in major lawsuits. Miller also represents LifeBrite Laboratories in a \$1-billion RICO case and the County of Los Angeles in significant litigation, including a \$119.5-million settlement over the Aliso Canyon gas leak. His firm is known for its trial-focused approach and community support, including contributions to the Hollywood Food Coalition and Alzheimer's Association.

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Barnes & Thornburg is proud to congratulate its own **Paul Laurin** on being named to the 2025 Visionaries by L.A. Times B2B Publishing.



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**Robert “BOB” F. MILLMAN**Shareholder | **Littler***Cornell Law School***Labor & Employment**

Robert F. Millman, a senior shareholder at Littler, is a leading figure in labor and employment law with 50 years of experience. He joined Littler in 1974 as its 18th attorney and later founded its two Los Angeles offices, playing a key role in the firm's growth. Millman has successfully represented employers in NLRB proceedings, employment litigation, arbitration and collective bargaining, and is known for advising on complex workplace issues and compliance strategies. Recognized by The Best Lawyers in America, Chambers & Partners and Lawdragon, he was named a Top 100 Lawyer by the Los Angeles Business Journal and is a fellow of the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers. He frequently speaks on labor law topics and provides pro bono legal counsel to community organizations.

**Kirk L. MOON**Partner | **Hahn & Hahn LLP***University of San Diego School of Law***Corporate**

As partner at Hahn & Hahn LLP, Kirk L. Moon advises individuals and entities on business, residential and commercial real estate transactions, with a focus on succession planning and mergers and acquisitions. Known for his thoughtful planning and meticulous execution, he also brings valuable insight from his background representing physicians, medical groups and health plans in transactional and regulatory matters. Beyond his practice, Moon actively supports the community. He serves on the board of directors, audit committee and finance/investment committee at Five Acres, a nonprofit dedicated to protecting and supporting vulnerable children. Additionally, Moon contributes to the Continuing Education of the Bar Business Law guide, which is a vital resource for the legal community.

**Esteban MORALES**Member | **Mintz***UCLA School of Law***Litigation**

Esteban Morales, a partner at Mintz, is a leading litigator specializing in class action defense and consumer/privacy-related litigation. Known for securing early dismissals and employing aggressive defense strategies, he has successfully defended clients under statutes like the TCPA, California Invasion of Privacy Act and Unfair Competition Law. Notable victories include securing dismissals in landmark cases before the Second and Ninth Circuit

Courts of Appeals. Morales is also dedicated to pro bono work, earning Public Counsel's Children's Rights Project Award for securing Special Immigrant Juvenile Status for vulnerable minors. He actively contributes to industry discussions, recently speaking at LeadsCon 2024, and is a frequent legal publication contributor. He also participates in Mintz LA's Lawyer for a Day program, introducing underserved students to the legal profession.

**Elisabeth MORIARTY**Chair, Litigation Department | **Greenberg Glusker LLP***UCLA School of Law***Litigation**

Elisabeth “Liz” Moriarty, chair of Greenberg Glusker's litigation department, is a seasoned trial attorney with over 30 years of experience handling complex, high-stakes disputes in entertainment, intellectual property and high-net-worth divorce litigation. She has successfully represented prominent clients, including Marvel Entertainment and the Estate of J.R.R. Tolkien, in landmark cases shaping profit participation, merchandising rights and copyright law. Recent victories include securing a summary judgment in an “idea theft” case and resolving high-stakes sequel and remake rights disputes. Moriarty also advises high-net-worth individuals in complex divorce matters. As a leader and mentor, she co-chairs the firm's mentorship program and has been recognized for fostering associate development. Beyond her practice, she serves on the advisory board of Seven Arrows Elementary and supports The Forgotten Dog Foundation.

**Michael MORTENSON**Managing Partner | **Mortenson Taggart Adams LLP***Case Western Reserve University School of Law***Litigation**

Michael Mortenson, managing partner at Mortenson Taggart Adams LLP, became the first in his family to graduate college, earning a degree from the University of Virginia in 1999. He worked for the U.S. House Speaker and in private equity before attending Case Western Reserve University School of Law, serving as the Student Bar Association president. His litigation career includes roles at Bingham McCutchen LLP, K&L Gates, BakerHostetler and Stradling Yocca Carlson & Rauth. In 2019, Mortenson co-founded Mortenson Taggart Adams LLP, which now has 25 attorneys and staff. He has achieved notable outcomes, including a Top 100 jury verdict in California, precedent-setting judgments for Ford and successful class action defenses. Dedicated to pro bono work, he has represented the family of Navy SEAL Glen Doherty and California foster children.

**Ann Marie MORTIMER**

Managing Partner, Los Angeles Office

**Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP***UC Berkeley School of Law***Cybersecurity**

Ann Marie Mortimer, founder and managing partner of Hunton Andrews Kurth's Los Angeles office and executive committee member, leads the firm's commercial litigation practice. A nationally recognized cybersecurity litigator, she defended Yahoo! in class actions from the largest reported data breach and achieved a precedent-setting California Consumer Privacy Act victory for Walmart. Mortimer is a recipient of the L.A. Times B2B Publishing Business of Law Visionary Award from 2021 to 2024 and was named a Leader in Privacy & Data Security by Chambers USA. Also, she serves on the board of trustees for the Children's Burn Foundation, supporting the recovery of critically burned children worldwide, and advises on cutting-edge privacy claims, including mass arbitrations, consent issues and data access by third parties.

**Mark NEUBAUER**Los Angeles Office Managing Shareholder  
**Carlton Fields***UCLA School of Law***Litigation**

Mark Neubauer, founding managing shareholder of Carlton Fields' Los Angeles office, has over 45 years of litigation experience. He has secured pivotal wins for major clients, including defeating class action claims against Johnson & Johnson and securing defense verdicts in high-stakes insurance cases, such as a \$49-million bad faith claim for Hartford's Twin City Fire Insurance. Neubauer also played a key role in the Tribune Co. fraudulent conveyance class action, helping dismiss intentional fraud claims. A former chair of the California State Bar Litigation Section and editor-in-chief of the ABA Litigation Journal, he has shaped legal discourse and trained attorneys. His pro bono work includes landmark education reform in Cruz v. California, earning him multiple ACLU awards.



played a key role in the Tribune Co. fraudulent conveyance class action, helping dismiss intentional fraud claims. A former chair of the California State Bar Litigation Section and editor-in-chief of the ABA Litigation Journal, he has shaped legal discourse and trained attorneys. His pro bono work includes landmark education reform in Cruz v. California, earning him multiple ACLU awards.

**Agustin OROZCO**Partner | **Crowell & Moring LLP***UC Berkeley School of Law***Litigation**

Agustin Orozco is a partner at Crowell & Moring LLP. He excels in complex white-collar cases, pretrial litigation and federal trials, including briefing and arguing cases before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. A former assistant U.S. attorney in the Public Corruption & Civil Rights Section for the Central District of California, he prosecuted cases involving public corruption, fraud, obstruction, money laundering and civil rights violations. Orozco holds leadership roles in Crowell's white collar & regulatory enforcement group and diversity council. He mentors diverse associates and contributes to DEI initiatives through roles with For People of Color, Just the Beginning and the Mexican American Bar Foundation. He also served as a commissioner on California's Judicial Nominee Evaluation Commission and was the USAO's first Pro Bono Coordinator.





**Andy OUVRIER**Partner | **Cox, Castle & Nicholson***Loyola Law School***Life Sciences & Healthcare**

Andy Ouvrier, partner at Cox, Castle & Nicholson, is a leading commercial real estate attorney specializing in the leasing, acquisition, disposition and development of life science, retail, office, medical office, media and mixed-use properties. He represents institutional investors, entrepreneurs and tenants, with expertise in structuring complex transactions and managing life science projects, retail centers and office developments. Ouvrier has negotiated millions of square feet in life science leases, including San Diego's largest lease in 2024. His experience spans lab, R&D and office facilities for universities, biotech and pharmaceutical companies. Recent deals include a 230,000-square-foot lease with a major biotech firm and multiple high-end leases within San Diego's core life sciences cluster. He also lectures on real estate topics and advises on market trends and sector-specific complexities.

**Pamela PALMER**Member | **Clark Hill***Gonzaga University School of Law***Litigation**

Pamela Palmer is a Los Angeles-based attorney and member at Clark Hill, specializing in insurance coverage and maritime law, with nearly 25 years of experience. She advises insurers on environmental contamination, marine, clergy abuse, natural disasters and suspicious claims. Notable achievements include dismissing a multi-million-dollar case involving an accountant for a rock band, reversing an excessive wrongful death verdict and securing damages from the 2021 Orange County oil spill. Palmer frequently comments on industry issues, including recent insights on marine insurance in *Insurance Journal* and *Law360*. She serves as chair of the Maritime Law Association's Marine Insurance Committee and on the ABA TIPS Council. Recognized by *The Best Lawyers in America* and *Super Lawyers*, she is also a fellow of the American Bar Foundation.

**Paul PORTER**Partner | **Hill, Farrer & Burrill LLP***Loyola Law School***Litigation**

Paul Porter is a business and real estate litigation attorney and partner at Hill, Farrer & Burrill LLP. He represents Fortune 500 companies, individuals, property owners, public agencies and businesses in real estate, contract, business disputes, eminent domain and inverse condemnation. Porter develops strategic approaches tailored to clients' goals, helping manage risk and maximize success. He collaborates closely with clients to navigate challenges and minimize unnecessary litigation. He advocates for private property owners in eminent domain cases, leveraging experience from representing public agencies in hundreds of acquisitions. Porter handles jury trials, arbitrations, mediations and appeals across California. He is active in the State Bar of California's Litigation and Real Property Sections and has spoken at the Georgetown Advanced Commercial Leasing Institute and International Council of Shopping Centers conferences.

**Amy PROCTOR**Partner | **Irell & Manella LLP***USC Gould School of Law***Intellectual Property**

Amy Proctor, a partner at Irell & Manella LLP, is a leading intellectual property attorney recognized for her role in landmark patent cases for VLSI Technology. She helped secure a \$2.3-billion judgment – the largest U.S. patent judgment at the time – and a \$948-million jury verdict against Intel. Proctor led the development of VLSI's damages case and examined key experts. She advises on complex IP matters, guiding patent owners and defending against infringement claims. She also co-leads Irell's Technical Analysis Laboratory, developing AI tools for patent analysis. Proctor serves on Irell's executive and hiring committees and is deeply involved in mentoring and diversity initiatives. She holds board roles with Bet Tzedek Legal Services and the Los Angeles Innocence Project.

**Paul | Weiss****Congratulations to Eric Wedel  
2025 Law Firm Visionary**

Paul, Weiss congratulates partner Eric Wedel, Head of the Los Angeles office and Global Co-Chair of the firm's Finance and Capital Markets Group, for his recognition as a 2025 Law Firm Visionary by the *LA Times Studios*.



**John B. QUINN**

Chairman & Founding Partner  
**Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, LLP**

*Harvard Law School*

**Litigation**

John B. Quinn founded Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan in 1986, growing it from four lawyers in Los Angeles to the world's largest litigation firm with 1,200 attorneys across 36 offices in 13 countries. Under his leadership, the firm was named Chambers' 2024 USA Commercial Litigation Law Firm of the Year and saw revenues rise from \$194 million in 2005 to over \$2 billion. Recognized as a Legal Legend by Lawdragon and a master strategist by American Lawyer, Quinn has led numerous high-profile victories. He currently represents Shein Technology LLC and Roadget Business PTE Ltd. in major IP litigation. He also serves as general counsel for the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and is a fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers.

**Neama RAHMANI**

President & CEO  
**West Coast Trial Lawyers**

*Harvard Law School*

**Litigation**

Neama Rahmani is president and co-founder of West Coast Trial Lawyers. A UCLA graduate at 19 and Harvard Law graduate at 22, he began his career representing major corporations like Disney and Marriott. He later joined the Department of Justice, prosecuting drug and human trafficking cases and capturing a fugitive murderer featured on America's Most Wanted. Rahmani also served as director of enforcement for the Los Angeles City Ethics Commission. He has successfully led dozens of jury trials, securing over \$1 billion in settlements and judgments. Licensed in California, Nevada, Arizona and Washington, he frequently appears on CNN, Fox News and BBC for legal analysis. Rahmani serves on UCLA's Political Science Board and authored Harvard to Hashtag, with proceeds supporting foster children's rights.

**Ashwin RAM**

Partner | **Stephoe LLP**

*University of Kansas School of Law*

**Litigation**



Ashwin Ram is a leading white-collar defense attorney and partner at Steptoe LLP, representing companies, executives and entrepreneurs in high-profile investigations and cases across California, New York and Illinois. A former fraud prosecutor at the U.S. Attorney's Office, he has nearly 20 years of experience handling criminal, civil and regulatory matters, including securities litigation, False Claims Act cases, class actions and healthcare compliance. Ram has tried approximately two dozen cases and argued successfully before state and federal appellate courts, including the Ninth Circuit. He is a past president of the South Asian Bar Association and the Network of Indian Professionals, leading numerous community initiatives. He has also earned awards for his public service as an assistant U.S. attorney.

**David RAWI**

Senior Counsel | **Lagerlof, LLP**

*Michigan State University College of Law*

**Life Sciences & Healthcare**



David Rawi, senior counsel at Lagerlof, LLP, is a litigation and transaction lawyer with 15 years of experience in the healthcare and business sectors. He represents small to medium healthcare businesses, startups, physician practices and providers, advising on business formation, equity structuring, risk assessment and transactions. He also defends providers in malpractice claims, disciplinary actions and reimbursement audits. Rawi previously served as litigation counsel for Fortune 100 and 200 companies and earned a "Top 100 Verdict" in California in 2021. He holds the AV Preeminent® rating from Martindale-Hubbell®. He serves on the editorial boards of the Journal of Health and Life Sciences and Los Angeles Lawyer Magazine and is a member of the American Health Law Association, California Society of Healthcare Attorneys and multiple bar associations.

**Angela REDDOCK-WRIGHT**

Employment & Title IX Mediator  
**Reddock Law Group/Signature Resolution**

*UCLA School of Law*

**Labor & Employment**

Angela Reddock-Wright is a leading employment and Title IX attorney mediator with nearly 30 years of experience, the founder of Reddock Law Group and a distinguished panelist with Signature Resolution. A former employment litigator, she transitioned to full-time mediation in 2011 and has since handled high-profile cases involving discrimination, harassment and workplace disputes. Reddock-Wright is a fellow of the International Academy of Mediators and the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers. Recognized as a 2024 Top 100 Southern California Super Lawyer, she also serves as an adjunct professor at USC Gould School of Law. She is an author, speaker and legal commentator, dedicated to creating healthy workplaces. Reddock-Wright serves on multiple boards, including the LA Chamber of Commerce and the LA Urban League.

**Will REED**

Shareholder | **Shegerian & Associates**

*California Western School of Law*

**Labor & Employment**

Will Reed, a top litigator and shareholder at Shegerian & Associates, specializes in employment law and has secured significant victories in high-profile cases. In the past two years, he achieved notable outcomes, including a \$9.2-million judgment in Lawler v. Bikram Choudhury (2023), a \$23.9-million appellate affirmation in Rudnicki v. Farmers Insurance (2024), a \$14-million verdict in Pinter-Brown v. UC Regents (2024) and a \$14.1-million verdict in Sosa v. Comerica Bank (2023). Known for his strategic litigation skills, Reed is also a mentor and leader within the firm. He received the Wiley Emanuel Award for pro bono work and is a member of CAALA, advocating for justice in California workplaces.

**Lisa REIMBOLD**

Member-in-Charge | **Clark Hill**

*Pepperdine University School of Law*

**Labor & Employment**



Lisa Reimbold, member-in-charge of the Los Angeles office of Clark Hill, is a leader in class action employment litigation. She has successfully defended clients in multi-million-dollar wage-and-hour cases, often defeating claims or securing favorable settlements. Reimbold advises major employers on harassment, discrimination, retaliation, ADA, whistleblower and PAGA litigation. She conducts employment investigations, provides counsel on workplace accommodations and terminations and leads training seminars on harassment, social media and the Public Records Act. Recent highlights include compelling a wage-and-hour case into arbitration, settling a class action with minimal exposure and obtaining a summary judgment in a harassment case. Dedicated to mentorship, Reimbold guides Pepperdine law students and coaches a middle school mock trial team through the Teach Democracy organization.

**Timothy REUBEN**

President & Director | **Reuben Raucher & Blum**

*Harvard Law School*

**Litigation**



Timothy Reuben, president and director of Reuben Raucher & Blum, is a distinguished litigator with over three decades of experience in business and tort cases, including real estate, entertainment, intellectual property, employment and complex civil matters. A Harvard Law graduate, he founded his firm in 1992, known for strategic advocacy and personalized service. Reuben has achieved significant client victories, including defending a nonprofit in a discrimination case, securing an injunction in a trademark dispute and winning an appellate retrial in a family law matter. He actively contributes to the legal community as a settlement officer, temporary judge and mediator. He has authored over 50 legal articles and has been named to the Super Lawyers list annually since 2004.



**Naeun RIM**Partner | **Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP***Harvard Law School***Litigation**

Naeun Rim, leader of Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP's trial, white collar and investigations practice, is a trial attorney known for defending clients in multimillion-dollar civil lawsuits. She secured a \$100-million fraud case win and prevailed in a commercial real estate trial. Notable successes include defending Hanmi Financial Corporation in a shareholder derivative action, consolidating and dismissing claims against an online brokerage company and securing a favorable bench trial outcome for a technology client. Currently, Rim leads the defense for a community bank in a class action linked to an alleged Ponzi scheme. She is actively involved in advancing diversity in law, serving as executive vice president of the Korean American Bar Association of Southern California and mentoring through the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles.

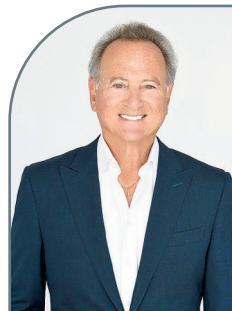
**Jeffrey ROSENFELD**Partner-In-Charge | **Alston & Bird***Pepperdine University School of Law***Litigation**

As partner-in-charge of Alston & Bird's Los Angeles and Century City offices, Jeffrey Rosenfeld has been pivotal in shaping the firm's growth and culture in California. With three decades of experience in complex commercial litigation, he focuses on trial and appellate matters, particularly class actions. In 2024, Rosenfeld led the firm's downtown L.A. office relocation and the opening of the Century City office, enhancing collaboration and client service. Under his leadership, the firm saw increased lateral hires, strengthening its presence in key sectors like IP, real estate and media. He recently secured a major win for a global telecommunications client, defeating attempts to halt store closures nationwide. Rosenfeld also defends a financial institution in a high-stakes real estate lawsuit.

**Michael ROTH**Partner | **King & Spalding***UCLA School of Law***Litigation**

Michael Roth is a leading civil litigator and partner at King & Spalding, specializing in consumer class actions, complex business disputes and entertainment litigation. He has represented major brands like The Gap, VF Corp., Nike and Stiiizy Inc. Roth has defended companies in privacy litigation involving the California Invasion of Privacy Act (CIPA) and the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA). His victories include defining key aspects of CCPA claims

and securing a summary judgment in a landmark CIPA case for Converse Inc. He also achieved an unprecedented \$1 civil penalty settlement in high-profile litigation with the CFPB and NYAG. Roth's strategic approach and expertise in emerging legal issues have made him a sought-after advocate. He serves on the UCLA School of Law Alumni Associate Board of Directors.

**Larry C. RUSS**Founding Partner | **Russ August & Kabat***UC Law San Francisco***Intellectual Property**

Larry C. Russ, co-founder and managing partner of Russ August & Kabat (RAK), has driven the firm's growth by establishing leading practices in patent litigation, entertainment and mergers and acquisitions (M&A). He played a pivotal role in building one of the nation's largest plaintiff's patent litigation teams and expanding the firm's M&A practice. An accomplished trial attorney, Russ' expertise spans trademark, copyright, patent, antitrust and complex business

litigation. Notable achievements include a landmark settlement with Yahoo!, a major privacy class action win against LinkedIn and a successful defense of Forever 21. Beyond law, he is an entrepreneur, involved with American Rag Cie and tech ventures. Russ actively supports the Jewish National Fund and chairs boards for StandWithUs Center for Legal Justice and NGA 911.

**Baker  
McKenzie.**

Baker McKenzie congratulates  
**Perrie Weiner** for being  
recognized as a **2025 Law Firm  
Visionary** by LA Times Studios.

**Perrie M. Weiner**

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

Over the past 4 years, our Los Angeles office has grown  
from 4 to over 72 lawyers and professional staff.

WILLKIE PROUDLY CONGRATULATES

Our partner **Alex Weingarten**

for being recognized as a **2025 Law Firm  
Visionary** by *LA Times Studios*

**WILLKIE**

1,200 LAWYERS | 15 OFFICES | 6 COUNTRIES



**Jesse SAIVAR**

Chair, Intellectual Property & Technology  
**Greenberg Glusker LLP**  
*UCLA School of Law*

**Intellectual Property**

As chair of Greenberg Glusker's intellectual property & technology group, Jesse Saivar is a leading advisor in digital media and IP law. He counsels top media companies on IP licensing, content distribution, talent deals and brand partnerships. Key successes include guiding Dave Portnoy's repurchase of Barstool Sports, advising Bari Weiss on launching The Free Press, supporting Morning Brew's expansion and representing Invisible Universe in celebrity-driven animations. Saivar also advises Quinn, Down Home Media and Estate Media on strategic IP and content agreements. Known for blending legal expertise with business strategy, he helps clients maximize IP value and navigate talent negotiations. He's been featured in Forbes, The Hollywood Reporter and Law.com, and named among the Los Angeles Business Journal's Most Influential Lawyers: Digital Media and E-Commerce Law.

**Michael BERJ SARYAN**

Founder | **Concord Legal Group, PC**  
*UCLA School of Law*

**Corporate**

Michael B. Saryan, founder of Concord Legal Group, PC, began his legal career at Gibson Dunn and Sheppard Mullin, handling high-profile matters in mergers and acquisitions, venture capital and litigation. After nearly a decade in big law, he became counsel and partner at boutique firms, successfully launching the Los Angeles office of a Silicon Valley-based firm. In 2024, Saryan founded Concord Legal Group, PC, a boutique business law firm representing entrepreneurs, executives and companies in formation, capital raising and M&A transactions. The firm's client base includes celebrities, top executives and tech leaders. Within 18 months, the firm was recognized by Chambers and Partners' California Spotlight Guide for 2025. He also advises companies like CertiPro Solutions, Palari Homes and PayEngine, and serves as a preferred legal vendor to StartEngine.

**Christian SCALI**

Founder & Managing Partner | **Scali Rasmussen, PC**  
*Ohio State University–Moritz College of Law*

**Litigation**

As founder & managing partner of Scali Rasmussen, PC, Christian Scali is a seasoned attorney specializing in advice, counsel and high-stakes litigation, primarily for the retail automotive industry. He gained statewide recognition for his role in advertising lawsuits under California's Unfair Competition Law and as part of the Defense Steering Committee in the In re Vehicle Lease Document Cases. Scali has successfully defended clients in complex cases, including

discrimination, wage and hour class actions and wrongful termination. Beyond litigation, he authored chapters in PLI's Healthcare Law Handbook and the California New Car Dealer Association's Advertising Law Manual. He serves on the executive committee of the Los Angeles County Bar Association's Litigation Section and as a delegate for the Independent Auto Dealers Association of California.

**John SCHREIBER**

Chair, Los Angeles Office Litigation Practice  
**Winston & Strawn LLP**

*University of Wisconsin Law School*

**Litigation**

John Schreiber, a partner at Winston & Strawn and chair of the firm's Los Angeles litigation practice, is a nationally recognized leader known for his precedent-setting legal victories. He has twice led teams to unanimous wins before the U.S. Supreme Court in federal securities cases, including an April 2024 victory for Macquarie, clarifying that silence does not equal fraud. In 2023, Schreiber

secured a high-profile appellate win for Semiconductor Manufacturing International Corp. He also champions pro bono work, helping Winston rank as a top 15 firm on The American Lawyer Pro Bono Scorecard for six years. He has advocated for gun control groups, trafficking victims and veterans. Schreiber previously served as hiring partner for Winston's L.A. office and on Law360's Securities Editorial Advisory Board.

**Carney R. SHEGERIAN**

Founding Partner | **Shegerian & Associates**  
*Loyola Law School*

**Labor & Employment**

Carney R. Shegerian is a top plaintiff-side employment litigator and founding partner of Shegerian & Associates, renowned for securing over 50 seven-, eight- and nine-figure verdicts throughout his career. In the past two years, he led seven multimillion-dollar jury verdicts, including a \$3.6-million win in *Incalza v. Porsche* and a \$14-million verdict in *Pinter Brown v. UC Regents* – one of California's largest gender discrimination verdicts in 2024. He also secured a \$23.9-million appellate judgment in *Rudnicki v. Farmers Insurance*. Shegerian has overseen litigation in over 200 cases, achieving \$350 million in results for wrongfully terminated employees. Named CAALA Trial Lawyer of the Year in 2013 and nominated 11 times, he is also an active member of numerous legal organizations, advocating for workers' rights and justice.

**Aisha SHELTON ADAM**

Founder & Managing Partner | **Adam Investigations Counsel**  
*University of Iowa College of Law*

**Labor & Employment**

Aisha Shelton Adam, founder and managing partner of Adam Investigations Counsel, is a leader in neutral workplace and Title IX investigations. With 15 years of litigation experience, she has conducted over 200 independent investigations addressing misconduct, harassment, discrimination and more for public, private and educational institutions. Known for empathy and discretion, Shelton Adam uses trauma-informed techniques to deliver clear, legally sound reports. In 2024, she expanded her team and presented at seminars for the Los Angeles County Bar Association and the Association of Workplace Investigators. A frequent presenter for USC's Bridges to Business Success Program, she advocates for safer, more inclusive workplaces. Shelton Adam previously served on Cedars-Sinai's NICU Patient & Family Advisory Council and has received the Profiles in Diversity Journal's Women Worth Watching in Leadership honor.

**John W. SHENK**

Founding Partner | **Mancini Shenk LLP**  
*USC Gould School of Law*

**Litigation**

John W. Shenk, founding partner of Mancini Shenk LLP, specializes in shareholder, derivative, cannabis and business disputes, often referring to his practice as "business divorce." He guides clients – partners, shareholders, LLC members and joint venturers – through strategic negotiations, arbitration and litigation. Shenk is recognized for handling complex shareholder and investor litigation in the legal cannabis industry, focusing on fraud, fiduciary breaches, unfair

competition and real estate disputes. Recent successes include favorable resolutions in shareholder disputes, executive separation negotiations and trade secret enforcement. A member of ProVisors, the Los Angeles County Bar Association and the International Cannabis Bar Association, he also serves as a board member for Rose City Center. Shenk was named to the Lawdragon 500 X – The Next Generation guide and the 2023 Southern California Super Lawyers list.

**Jeffrey SKLAR**

Co-Chairman | **Sklar Kirsh LLP**  
*Loyola Law School*

**Corporate**

Jeffrey Sklar is co-chairman of Sklar Kirsh LLP, chair of its corporate department and a member of the management committee. He advises clients across industries, including advertising, entertainment, technology and hospitality, specializing in corporate law, mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures and executive compensation. Sklar co-founded Sklar Kirsh in 2013, building it into a premier boutique law firm. Notable representations include

InnovateMR's growth investment from CIVC Partners and Ohmega Technologies' sale to Arcline Investment Management. He serves on the advisory board of Loyola Law School's Transactional Lawyering Institute and multiple nonprofit boards. Recognized as a legal visionary by L.A. Times B2B Publishing, Sklar is also a volunteer with the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law.





**Alfred E. SMITH**Chair of Nossaman's Water Group | **Nossaman***Harvard Law School***Litigation**

Alfred E. Smith, chair of Nossaman's water group, is a leading expert in water, environmental, transportation and public agency law. He has secured over \$750 million in contamination settlements and successfully litigated multiple water rights adjudications, including a unanimous U.S. Supreme Court victory. He advises on water rights, SGMA, Colorado River issues, contamination remediation and environmental compliance. Smith also guides public agencies on governance, CEQA and public contracting. His clients include the Sites Reservoir Project and the Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster. Recognized among Los Angeles's Top 100 Lawyers by the Los Angeles Business Journal and The Best Lawyers in America by U.S. News & World Report, Smith serves on boards including the Water Education Foundation and the California Special Districts Association's Legal Advisory Committee.

**Gregory Matthew SMITH**Senior Attorney | **The Maloney Firm APC***University of San Diego School of Law***Litigation**

Gregory Matthew Smith, senior attorney at The Maloney Firm APC, is a business litigator specializing in legal malpractice, fee disputes and breach of fiduciary duty actions. He represents individuals and companies in litigation against prior attorneys, accountants and advisors, as well as in civil litigation across diverse industries, including sports, real estate and manufacturing. Notable victories include securing full ownership for a client in a multi-million-dollar property dispute, a summary judgment win in a \$150-million racketeering case and multiple successful defamation and contract dispute outcomes. Smith has been named to Super Lawyers' Rising Stars list annually since 2016. He holds leadership roles with Provisors and the Hon. Benjamin Aranda, III American Inn of Court and formerly served on the Downtown Los Angeles Bar Association Board.

**Justin SOLOMON**Partner | **Kirkland & Ellis LLP***University of Michigan Law School***Corporate**

Justin Solomon, a key partner at Kirkland & Ellis' Los Angeles office, has been instrumental in expanding the firm's investment funds group. With nearly 20 years of experience, he has advised leading private equity firms on fund formations, totaling over \$21 billion in the past two years. His work spans funds from under \$100 million to over \$15 billion and includes guiding emerging managers in spinouts and startups. Recognized by Chambers USA, Solomon recently led major deals for firms like ECP (\$6.7 billion), Francisco Partners (\$3.3 billion) and Frazier Healthcare (\$2.3 billion). He serves on multiple Kirkland committees, including Associate Review and Los Angeles Recruiting. He holds a J.D. from the University of San Diego and a B.A. from UC Berkeley.

**Rose B. SORENSEN**Partner | **Snell & Wilmer L.L.P.***Loyola Law School***Corporate**

Rose B. Sorensen is a partner at Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. who specializes in mergers and acquisitions (M&A), divestitures, corporate finance, private placements and corporate governance across industries including technology, manufacturing, aerospace, healthcare and construction. Her experience as general counsel for a telecommunications company shaped her pragmatic approach to advising businesses, from startups to multinational corporations.

Sorensen is recognized for advancing women in M&A and fostering professional networks. She co-founded the TAP Network for CFOs and the DTLA Women's Networking Group and leads the Snell & Wilmer Virtual Networking Community. She serves on the board of directors for the Association for Corporate Growth Los Angeles and the board of governors for the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce.

**Ana TAGVORYAN**Partner | **Blank Rome LLP***Pepperdine University School of Law***Litigation**

Ana Tagvoryan, co-chair of Blank Rome's corporate litigation and privacy class action defense groups, has over 18 years of experience defending high-stakes consumer class actions involving privacy, data handling, advertising and e-commerce. Known for early, strategic case resolutions, she has secured key victories, including class certification denials in *Soto v. Keiser University* and *Colin v. Alpagatas USA*, and a complete dismissal in *Licea v. The Finish Line Inc.* Tagvoryan is a frequent speaker on privacy and class action law and advocates for women and diversity in the legal profession. She serves on the board of the Atlantic Legal Foundation and is active in her local community. Her honors include Lawdragon's 500 Leading Litigators in America and Los Angeles Business Journal's Leaders of Influence.

**Christopher TAYBACK**

Co-Managing Partner

**Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan, LLP***Harvard Law School***Litigation**

Christopher Tayback, co-managing partner of Quinn Emanuel's Los Angeles office, is a nationally recognized trial lawyer with over 40 years of experience. He has tried or arbitrated over 100 civil and criminal cases across the U.S., covering antitrust, bankruptcy, class actions, IP and more. Notable wins include a \$120-million verdict for TRC against Chevron and a published appellate victory affirming the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences' "winners agreement." A former prosecutor, Tayback is a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and a visiting trial advocacy instructor at Harvard Law School. He is also active in several legal organizations and previously served on the board of governors for the Association of Business Trial Lawyers.

**Douglas Andrew THOMPSON**Partner | **Snell & Wilmer L.L.P.***Pepperdine University School of Law***Litigation**

Douglas Andrew Thompson is a partner at Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. and a seasoned litigator with extensive experience defending financial institutions and businesses in over 250 class actions and related regulatory investigations. He specializes in claims involving federal banking laws, consumer lending, deposit operations and privacy issues. Thompson also advises on ESG, climate risks and regulatory compliance. His leadership roles include serving as co-leader of

global practice groups at an Am Law 100 firm and managing Bank of America's nationwide class actions. He is a member of Snell & Wilmer's Pro Bono and DEI Committees and serves on the boards of the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles, the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Foundation and Harlem Lacrosse. Thompson frequently writes and presents on litigation and regulatory topics.

**Daron TOOCH**Partner | **King & Spalding***Harvard Law School***Life Sciences & Healthcare**

Daron Tooch, partner at King & Spalding, specializes in managed care litigation, recovering hundreds of millions for healthcare providers through over 100 trials in federal, state and administrative courts. He is currently representing the California Hospital Association in a lawsuit against Anthem Blue Cross over post-acute care authorization failures. Tooch also represents Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center in a high-stakes case against Kaiser Health Plan, securing a \$105.8-million jury verdict in 2023, with a second trial pending. Additionally, he represents Vitiuty in a lawsuit against Cigna over underpayment of emergency services under the No Surprises Act and Prime Health Services in a class action against Kaiser and Medlimal for improper billing denials.



**Rajan TREHAN**Partner | **Hueston Hennigan***Columbia Law School***Litigation**

As partner at Hueston Hennigan, Rajan Trehan is a trial-focused litigator known for winning complex, high-stakes cases. He represents major clients, including Lionsgate, Palantir Technologies, PacifiCorp, Match Group and the State of Hawaii. Trehan is leading groundbreaking copyright litigation for major record labels against AI music companies Suno and Udio. He helped Match secure a \$300-million settlement with Google in 2023 and achieved a favorable verdict for PacifiCorp in a \$225-million wildfire damages trial. He also played a key role in Hawaii's historic \$4-billion Maui wildfire settlement and defended Activision Blizzard in a high-profile misconduct case. Trehan is committed to pro bono work and serves on the board of the Legal Education Access Pipeline (LEAP), supporting diversity in the legal profession.

**Thomas VIDAL**Partner | **Pryor Cashman LLP***Pepperdine University School of Law***Litigation**

Thomas H. Vidal is a first-chair trial lawyer and partner at Pryor Cashman LLP, specializing in litigation, media and entertainment, intellectual property, and technology law. With over 20 years of experience, he has won high-stakes cases nationwide, including a \$26-million verdict in a federal elder abuse and fraud case. Vidal has represented CEOs, founders, investors, and executives in post-merger disputes, corporate governance conflicts, copyright and patent litigation, and high-profile defamation cases. He secured a landmark fair use settlement for a YouTuber and successfully defended clients in #MeToo and white-collar disputes. A leader in his field, Vidal is active in the L.A. County Bar Association, Beverly Hills Bar Association, and the Association of Business Trial Lawyers, earning a reputation for strategic and aggressive advocacy.

**Jennie WANG VONCANNON**Partner | **Crowell & Moring LLP***UC Berkeley School of Law***Cybersecurity**

Jennie Wang VonCannon, a partner at Crowell since October 2022, specializes in white-collar defense, regulatory enforcement, privacy, cybersecurity and AI governance. With over 20 years of experience, including 11+ years as a federal prosecutor and deputy chief of the Cyber and Intellectual Property Crimes Section, she excels in high-stakes litigation, investigations and crisis management. Certified as an AI Governance Professional (AIGP) and Certified Information Privacy Professional (CIPP/US), VonCannon is a leader in emerging technologies and regulatory risks. She serves as first vice president of the Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles and founded the LACBA Privacy and Cybersecurity Section. Recognized in the GIR 100 list for 2024, she is a sought-after speaker on AI, privacy and cybersecurity.

**George J. WALL**Partner | **Glaser Weil***University of Miami Law School***Corporate**

George J. Wall, senior partner and chair of Glaser Weil's mergers and acquisitions practice, is a leading transactional attorney with over 500 successful deals across diverse industries. He has advised high-profile clients, including the ownership groups for the NBA's Sacramento Kings and New Orleans Hornets, Alacer Corporation, McDonald's and Ambassador George Argyros. Recent highlights include leading Crown Technical Systems' \$325-million sale to Flex and TriMed Inc.'s majority sale to Henry Schein. Wall's expertise spans M&A, recapitalizations, venture capital, tax planning and securities. He is also committed to philanthropy, serving on Chapman University's Board of Trustees and founding the Wall Scholar Program. He has supported organizations like City of Hope and served as a director for nonprofits and NASDAQ-listed companies.

*[Continued from page 18]*

a general counsel could call one attorney for all of their legal problems."

Scully and firm chief executive Dion Cominos started working with the firm when it had a single office in San Francisco with 40 attorneys and have been integral leaders of the firm's expansion. GRSM's total attorney headcount has grown to 1,682 attorneys as of March 1, which makes it one of the 15 largest firms in the country. There are an additional 1,443 staff employed across its 82 offices firmwide.

Moreover, growth has come organically through hiring rather than by merger or acquisition. Firm leadership traveled to many different states to recruit attorneys to join the firm. In some instances, it has added groups of attorneys, but it has refrained from making wholesale acquisitions, which could be problematic and come with unknown liabilities.

"We have very motivated, educated, ambitious people and we haven't had a problem with allowing people to work remotely or part-time to fit their lifestyle," said Cominos.

With offices in every state, the firm can offer consistent pricing while handling litigation and transactions anywhere rather than needing to partner with a local or regional firm for cases or transactions where it doesn't have a location. Clients know that they can call the firm and it can handle work in all locales.

For employees, a collateral advantage has been the ability to stay with the firm without sacrificing a job should a spouse need to relocate. Plus, during the pandemic, employees were able to relocate and still remain with the firm as it has offices nationwide.

These regional offices can accommodate employees by shortening commute times and aid remote employees who don't need to be in an office every day. By meeting the needs of its employees with flexible work arrangements when needed, offering regional offices and by utilizing technology to keep employees connected, it has built a diverse workforce with low attrition rate, including 25% female ownership, among the upper tier of large firms.

"We and our clients believe that having a diverse law firm is a symbol of strength. At the same time, that can be accomplished in a lawful way without quotas and discrimination. We promote the best

people. There doesn't have to be this feeling that firms can't be diverse, they just need to use legal means to get there," said Cominos.

Running a firm as large as GRSM, let alone one with locations in every state, can present challenges. Cominos explained that each state has a separate bar association that regulates lawyers. Employment laws vary state-by-state, but those challenges are similar for all large companies. There are also complexities with filing tax returns in every state, but he said that the benefits of aggregation have far outweighed any of the challenges.

"We would have regressed," Cominos said, if it were not for the growth. Instead, "we're taking business from regional firms. It's been well worth it."

*- David Nusbaum*

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## Eric WEDEL

Partner | **Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP**

*Fordham University School of Law*

Corporate

Eric Wedel, one of the nation's top private equity finance lawyers, is realizing his vision of building a premier Los Angeles presence as partner and head of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP's L.A. office and global co-chair of the finance and capital markets group. A prolific dealmaker with a client roster that includes Warburg Pincus, KKR, Hg Capital, Stone Point Capital and Stonepeak, he has led approximately \$70 billion in major deals in

2024. Since joining Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP in 2023, Wedel has driven the firm's bold Southern California expansion. His notable deals include Stone Point's \$15.5-billion acquisition of Truist Insurance and Envestnet's \$4.5-billion take-private deal with Bain Capital. He also serves on boards including the Melanoma Research Alliance and the University of Arizona Foundation.

## Alex WEINGARTEN

Managing Partner | **Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP**

*Georgetown University Law Center*

Litigation

Alex Weingarten, managing partner of Willkie Farr & Gallagher's Los Angeles office and chair of its entertainment litigation practice, is a leading commercial trial lawyer known for his expertise in entertainment, probate and business litigation. Recognized by *Variety*, *Billboard* and the *Los Angeles Business Journal* as a top trial lawyer, he has led the firm's L.A. office expansion from three to nearly 100 attorneys in four years. In 2024, Weingarten launched the LA Office Foundation, partnering with Vista Del Mar Child and Family Services to establish a substance abuse treatment center for youth. A committed philanthropist, he serves on several boards, including the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles, Bet Tzedek and the California Legislative Jewish Caucus PAC.



## Craig WELIN

Managing Partner, President  
**Frandzel Robins Bloom & Csato, L.C.,**

*USC Gould School of Law*

Bankruptcy

Craig Welin, president of Frandzel Robins Bloom & Csato, L.C., has nearly 30 years of experience resolving business challenges in creditors' rights, bankruptcy litigation, real estate financing and secured transaction workouts. He also represents state and federal equity receivers nationwide. Notable cases include serving as lead counsel for a federal equity receiver in a \$1-billion Ponzi

scheme, achieving a full return of principal to investors and representing a bank in a \$2.5-billion asset sale. Welin frequently speaks at industry conferences and values a teamwork approach to foster long-term client relationships. He serves on boards, including the Commercial Real Estate Finance Council, Mortgage Bankers Association and California Receivership Forum, demonstrating his commitment to the field.



## Walter M. YOKA

Chairman & Owner | **YOKA | SMITH, LLP**

*Southwestern Law School*

Litigation

Walter M. Yoka, chairman & owner of YOKA | SMITH, LLP, is a nationally recognized trial attorney specializing in product liability, commercial disputes and class actions. He has successfully tried numerous high-profile cases and argued before California's Supreme and Appellate courts. Yoka is a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates, serving as the Los Angeles chapter president in 2014 and CAL-ABOTA president. He is also a member of the Product Liability Advisory Counsel, International Society of Barristers and ASCDC, where he served as president and was inducted into its Hall of Fame. He received Loyola Law School's Champion of Justice Award in 2016 and was named Southwestern Law School's 2018 Alumnus of the Year.



## Perrie M. WEINER

Partner | **Baker McKenzie**

*Loyola Law School*

Litigation

Perrie M. Weiner, partner-in-charge of Baker McKenzie's Los Angeles office and chair of its North America securities litigation group, is a leading authority in high-stakes securities class action, shareholder derivative litigation, SEC enforcement and complex business litigation. Recognized by *Chambers* and *The Legal 500 USA*, he is known as the "go-to advocate" for hedge funds and CEOs facing SEC scrutiny. Under his leadership, Baker McKenzie's L.A. office grew from four to over 74 lawyers, becoming one of the firm's fastest-growing offices. Weiner also leads the firm's SPAC Rapid Response and Lease Litigation and Restructuring Groups. He serves on several boards, including Windward School and Friends of the Israel Defense Forces, and organizes charity events through his band, raising significant funds for local causes.



## Sharon Z. WEISS

Partner | **BCLP**

*Southwestern Law School*

Bankruptcy

Sharon Z. Weiss, a partner in BCLP's corporate & finance transactions department, is a leading insolvency lawyer with extensive experience in bankruptcy, litigation and out-of-court workouts. She represents debtors, creditors, trustees and committees across sectors like real estate, aviation and technology. She recently led high-profile cases, including representing Oceanwide Plaza LLC in its Chapter 11 case involving the stalled, graffiti-covered "Graffiti Towers" in Downtown L.A., and advising Treetop Development and Hilco Real Estate Holdings in complex bankruptcy proceedings. Honored by the American College of Bankruptcy in 2024, Weiss is also a leader in diversity initiatives. She serves on the BCLP Women's Affinity Group Board and ABA Diversity Committee, promoting inclusion within the legal community.



## Gary WINUK

Managing Attorney | **Kaufman Legal Group**

*University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law*

Litigation

As managing attorney at Kaufman Legal Group, Gary Winuk specializes in campaign, election and governmental ethics, advising government agencies, officials, candidates and nonprofits. A seasoned litigator, he was named to *The Best Lawyers in America* in 2024. From 2009-2015, he led the enforcement division at the Fair Political Practices Commission, prosecuting major political ethics cases. Winuk also held leadership roles in California's homeland security under Governors Schwarzenegger and Davis. He served 13 years in the California National Guard JAG Corps, earning multiple commendations. He holds a J.D. from the University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law and a B.A. from Rutgers University. Winuk's board affiliations include former chair of the Elk Grove Planning Commission and adjunct faculty member at McGeorge School of Law.



## Michael YOUNG

Partner | **Massumi + Consoli**

*University of Texas School of Law*

Corporate

Michael Young, partner at Massumi + Consoli, is an accomplished transactional attorney with extensive experience advising private equity firms, portfolio companies and public and private entities on complex transactions, including acquisitions, leveraged buyouts, mergers, joint ventures and dispositions. His clients include Abry Partners, AeroVironment, Amphenol Corporation, Angeles Equity Partners and Clearlake Capital Group, spanning diverse industries.

Recognized by *The Legal 500* and the *Los Angeles Business Journal* for his excellence in private equity and M&A, Young is known for navigating complex, cross-border deals and regulatory challenges. Before joining Massumi + Consoli, he spent nearly a decade at Latham & Watkins. At Massumi + Consoli, he has been pivotal in driving firm growth, leading culture initiatives and enhancing operations while fostering client relationships and supporting charitable efforts like the Posse Foundation.







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