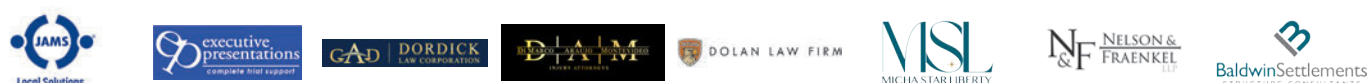


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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17

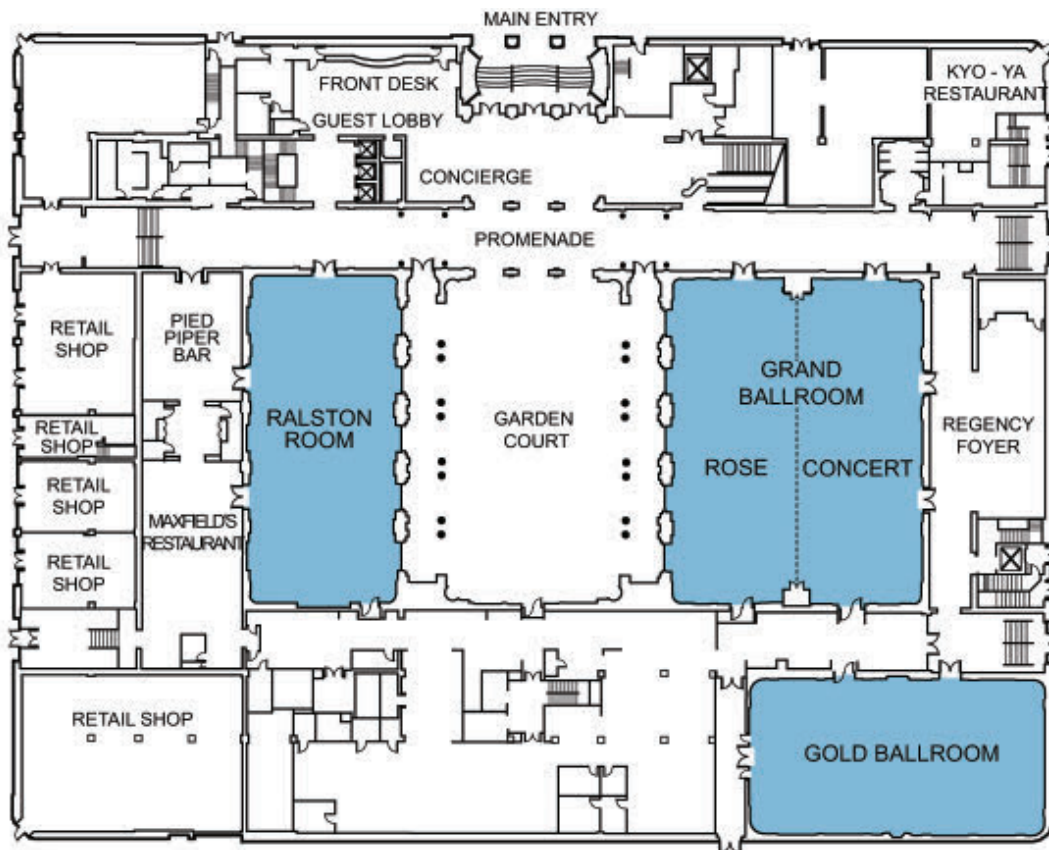
7 AM, 12 PM, 7 PM	Friends of Bill MENDOCINO ROOM			
7:30 AM- 4:30 PM	President's Club Hospitality Suite (<i>President's Club Members Only</i>) FRENCH PARLOR			
7:45 AM - 5:00 PM	Registration, Breakfast & Exhibits RALSTON ROOM			
9:00 AM - 10:15 AM	Liens GOLD ROOM	Excessive Force Cases CONCERT ROOM	Medical Malpractice TWIN PEAKS ROOM - UPSTAIRS	Legal Staff Sessions
10:15 AM - 10:30 PM	BREAK			
10:30 AM - 11:45 AM	Trying A Case GOLD ROOM	Depositions CONCERT ROOM	Government Entities TWIN PEAKS ROOM - UPSTAIRS	SEA CLIFF ROOM UPSTAIRS
11:45 AM - 12:00 PM	PICK UP LUNCH RALSTON ROOM			Deep Dive Into Discovery 100 Days to Trial and Expert Discovery Trial and Post-Trial Procedure
12:00 PM - 1:15 PM	Mikaila Brown, PhD — DEI: Trauma Informed Leadership GOLD ROOM		Opening Statements CONCERT ROOM	
1:15 PM - 1:30 PM	BREAK			
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	Closing Arguments GOLD ROOM	Auto Product Liability CONCERT ROOM	Legislative Update TWIN PEAKS ROOM - UPSTAIRS	
2:30 PM - 3:00 PM	BREAK			
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Voir Dire Examined GOLD ROOM	Mass Torts/Class Actions CONCERT ROOM	Employment Law TWIN PEAKS ROOM - UPSTAIRS	
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Welcome Reception SUNSET COURT			
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	President's Club Reception (<i>President's Club Members and Guests Only</i>) FRENCH PARLOR			
10:00 PM - 1:00 AM	New Lawyers Division (NLD) Party TERRA SF, 511 HARRISON STREET			

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

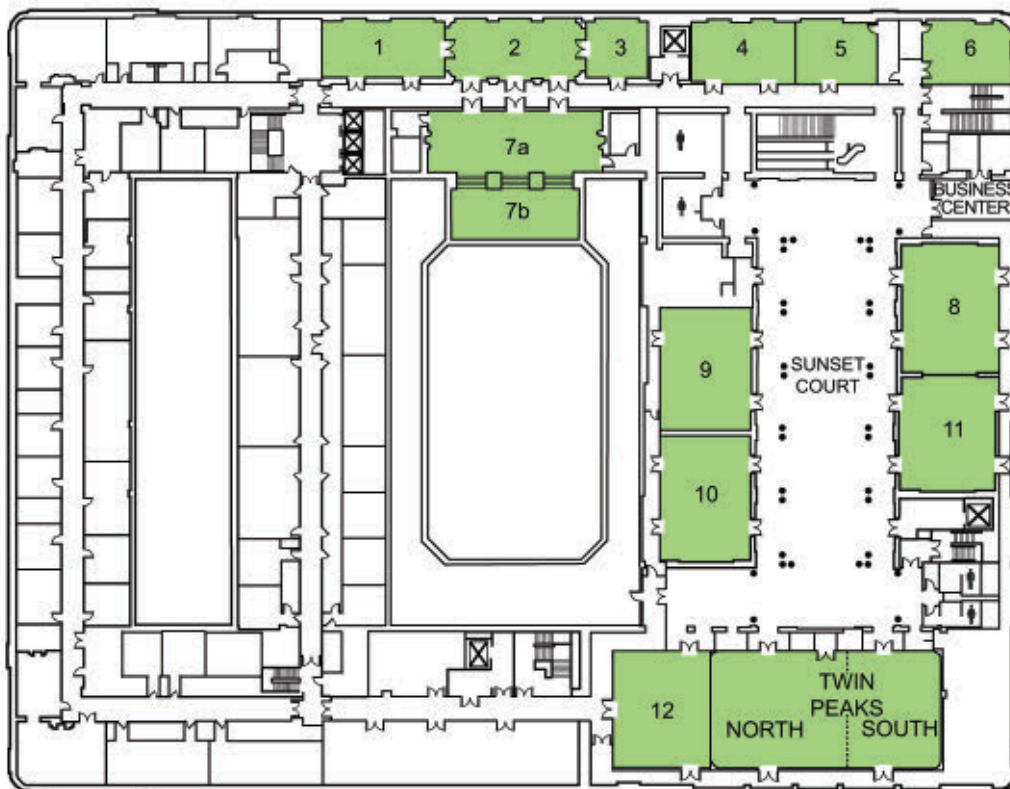
7 AM, 12 PM, 7 PM	Friends of Bill MENDOCINO ROOM			
7:30 AM - 4:30 PM	President's Club Hospitality Suite (<i>President's Club Members Only</i>) FRENCH PARLOR			
7:45 AM - 3:45 PM	Registration, Breakfast & Exhibits (<i>Exhibits close at 3:45 pm</i>) RALSTON ROOM			
9:00 AM - 10:15 AM	Pre-Trial Procedures GOLD ROOM	Mediation TWIN PEAKS ROOM - UPSTAIRS	Premises Liability SEA CLIFF ROOM - UPSTAIRS	
10:15 AM - 10:30 AM	BREAK			
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	Sexual Abuse Litigation GOLD ROOM	Case Selection TWIN PEAKS ROOM - UPSTAIRS	Cross-Exam of Medical Experts SEA CLIFF ROOM - UPSTAIRS	
11:30 AM - 12:00 PM	PICK UP LUNCH GRAND BALLROOM			
12:00 PM - 12:30 PM	MEMBERSHIP MEETING GRAND BALLROOM			
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM	Keynote: Mia Yamamoto GRAND BALLROOM			
1:30 PM - 2:00 PM	BREAK			
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	The Reality of AI GOLD ROOM	Tesla, Motorcycles, Planes & Trucks TWIN PEAKS ROOM - UPSTAIRS	Secrecy in Discovery SEA CLIFF ROOM - UPSTAIRS	
3:00 PM - 3:30 PM	BREAK SUBMIT VENDOR RAFFLE FORMS			
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	Damages GOLD ROOM	Emerging Torts TWIN PEAKS ROOM - UPSTAIRS		
5:30 PM - 6:00 PM	Advocates Club Reception (<i>Advocates Club Members and Guests Only</i>) FRENCH PARLOR			
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Installation and Awards Dinner Reception & Dinner Check-In SUNSET COURT			
7:00 PM - 9:30 PM	Installation and Awards Dinner GRAND BALLROOM			

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

7:00 AM	Friends of Bill MENDOCINO ROOM		
9:30 AM - 11:30 AM	Registration and breakfast pastries REGENCY FOYER		
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM	Ethics GOLD ROOM	Elder Abuse CONCERT ROOM	
11:45 AM	Adjournment		



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- 7b. FRENCH PARLOR LOWER
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- 2004*

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**To Outgoing President Greg Rizo and Incoming
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Bisnar Chase congratulates the incoming and outgoing board for their service to **Consumer Attorneys of California (CAOC)**. We commend the finalists for **Consumer Attorney of the Year** & **Street Fighter of the Year** and all the CAOC award recipients.

- Brian Chase

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PROGRAM • THURSDAY & FRIDAY

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16

1:00 - 4:00 PM

WOMEN'S CAUCUS PRESENTS TRIAL SKILLS PANEL FOR WOMEN

Voir Dire Demonstration

MODERATOR: KIMBERLY WONG, Coopers LLP
CHRISTA RAMEY, ACTS Law
ANDJE M. MEDINA, Altair Law LLP

Direct Examination Demonstration

MODERATOR: KELLY HANKER, Trial Lawyers For Justice
JENNIFER FIORE, Fiore Achermann
CHRISTINE SPAGNOLI, Greene Broillet & Wheeler, LLP
HON. SAMANTHA JESSNER, LA Superior Court

Cross Examination Demonstration

MODERATOR: ALEXANDRA HAMILTON, Fiore Achermann
MICHA STAR LIBERTY, Liberty Law
MARYANN GALLAGHER, Law Offices of Maryann Gallagher

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17

9:00 AM - 3:30 PM

SEA CLIFF ROOM

LEGAL STAFF SESSIONS

9:00 AM - Deep Dive Into Discovery

ASSAL BADRKHANI, Arias Sanguinetti
CHRISTINA LOPOPOLO, Shernoff Bidart Echeverria LLP
MICHELE MARKUS, Rizio Lipinsky Law Firm

10:15 AM - Race is On-100 Days to Trial and Expert Discovery

TALAR GUEDIKIAN, Altair Law LLP
ROSE GUTIERREZ, Philip Michels APC, dba Law Office of Michels & Lew
CHRISTINA LOPOPOLO, Shernoff Bidart Echeverria LLP
LOURDES MALAM, Mardirossian Akaragian LLP

1:30 PM - The Finish Line is in Sight-Trial and Post-Trial Procedure

CESAR GARCIA, Chang Klein LLP
TALAR GUEDIKIAN, Altair Law LLP
ADRIANA MACIAS, Bentley & More, LLP
FRANCHESKA STONE, Kesluk, Silverstein, Jacob & Morrison, P.C.

2:30 PM - Empower Hour

A round-table discussion on ways the legal staff community can support each other to address common challenges.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17

9:00 - 10:15 AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

GOLD ROOM

FINISHING STRONG: LIENS AND OTHER POST RESOLUTION MATTERS

MODERATOR: TATEVIK GASPARYAN, Morgan & Morgan
Medicare Update for 2023

JOHN J. RICE, John Rice, Esq.

Using Drafting Defenses to Reduce Reimbursement Liens

DONALD M. DE CAMARA, Law Offices Of Donald M. de Camara

Practical Solutions for Impractical Lien Negotiations

NOLAN R. JONES, Dreyer Babich Buccola Wood Campora, LLP

Statutory and Contractual Lien Rights

DANIEL E. WILCOXEN, Wilcoxen Callahan, LLP

CONCERT ROOM

IDENTIFYING & SUCCESSFULLY LITIGATING EXCESSIVE FORCE CASES

MODERATOR: SHARON P. RAMIREZ, Law Office of Kenny S. Ramirez

In-Custody Death Cases: Inmate-on-Inmate Violence; Overdose; Suicide

DENISSE O. GASTÉLUM, Gastélum Law, APC

Successful Trial Techniques in State and Federal Civil Rights Trials

V. JAMES DESIMONE, V. James DeSimone Law

Hitting the Mark: Identifying and Screening for Successful Police Shooting Cases

SARAH M. MUSUMECI, Iredale & Yoo, APC

Less Lethal Munitions: Their Use, Misuse, and Associated Litigation

DANTE T. PRIDE, The Pride Law Firm

TWIN PEAKS ROOM

MEDICAL MALPRACTICE INSIGHTS

MODERATOR: JASON N. ARGOS, Kohan & Bablove, LLP

Maximizing Case Results with Video and Other Tactics

BRUCE M. BRUSAVICH, ACTS Law

Delay in Diagnosis of Cancer Cases: AB 35

DANIEL M. HODES, Hodes Milman LLP

Leveling the Med Mal Playing Field: the EMR Audit Trail Hammer

JENNIFER JOHNSON, Law Office of Jennifer R. Johnson, APLC

Effective Use of Medical Literature & Evid. Code 721

AMY R. MARTEL, Law Office of Amy Martel

Connecting the Dots and Winning the Causation Fight

SARA PETERS, Walkup, Melodia, Kelly & Schoenberger

10:15 - 10:30 AM BREAK

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3D Laser Scanner for accident sites



Drones are used for aerial perspective

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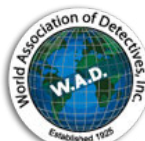
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PROGRAM • FRIDAY

10:30 - 11:45 AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

GOLD ROOM

TRYING A CASE IN 2023 AND BEYOND

MODERATOR: NARE KUPELIAN, The Dominguez Firm

Trying a Case in 2023 and Beyond

TRAVIS CORBY, Shernoff Bidart Echeverria LLP

David vs. Goliath: Using TBI Systems Against Corporate Titans

TAYLOR M. ERNST, Ernst Law Group

Re-configuring Your Theme After Pretrial Rulings have Chopped Up Your Case

MARYANN P. GALLAGHER, Law Offices Of Maryann P. Gallagher

Tips for the Introduction of Medical Evidence at Trial

MICHAEL E. GATTO, Law Office of Michael E. Gatto PC

Tips and Techniques from Jury Trials in the Past Year, Issues That Emerged Post-Povid

IVAN PUCHALT, Greene Broillet & Wheeler, LLP

TWIN PEAKS ROOM

TAKING ON THE STATE: THE INTRICACIES OF LITIGATING AGAINST GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

MODERATOR: CRISTINA GARCIA, Dolan Law Firm, PC

Uncovering Documents Against a Public Entity

YOSHIAKI C. KUBOTA, Kubota & Craig, PC

Design Immunity: Expect it and how to defeat it!

CLARE LUCICH, Bentley & More, LLP

How to Approach Claims Against Schools

CHRISTA HAGGAI RAMEY, ACTS Law

How to Try Cases Against Gov. Entities: Addressing the hurdles, and providing practical tips

BRETT SCHREIBER, Singleton Schreiber, LLP

CONCERT ROOM

TECHNIQUES TO HELP YOU WIN YOUR CASE IN DEPOSITION

MODERATOR: VANESSA DENISTON, Dolan Law Firm, PC

Depositions: A Potpourri of Practical Pointers

CHANTEL L. FITTING, Law Offices of Galine, Frye, Fitting & Frangos

You Get More Bees with Honey Than With Vinegar: How to Make Defense Experts Your Own

NEIL GEHLAWAT, Taylor & Ring

Preparing the Plaintiff for Deposition and Defending It

ELIZABETH A. HERNANDEZ, Dordick Law Corporation

Taking Treating Physician Depositions

CIOFFI REMMER, Dolan Law Firm, PC

Maximizing Value with the Defendant's Depo (Including PMKs)

BRIAN SHAPIRO, William D. Shapiro Law, Inc.

11:45 AM - 12:00 PM

PICK UP LUNCH

RALSTON ROOM

12:00 - 1:15 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

GOLD ROOM

FEATURED SPEAKER, MIKAILA BROWN

DEI: TRAUMA INFORMED LEADERSHIP

MODERATOR: SRINIVAS HANUMADASS, Singleton Schreiber, LLP

CONCERT ROOM

HOOK THEM FROM THE BEGINNING: OPENING STATEMENTS

MODERATOR: JENNIFER FIORE, Fiore Achermann

TBD

WILLIAM D. SHAPIRO, William D. Shapiro Law, Inc.

The Visual Language of Storytelling: Setting the Stage

LOURDES DEARMAS, Omega Law Group, PC

Telling The Story With Timelines: Winning Formulas

BRUCE A. BROILLET, Greene Broillet & Wheeler, LLP

Dismantling the Defenses: Using Video Depositions, Written Discovery, and Storytelling to Win Before they Begin

DANIEL KRAMER, Kramer Trial Lawyers A.P. C.

What's the Money For? Explaining Non-Economic Damages

BORIS TREYON, ACTS Law

1:15 - 1:30 PM BREAK

1:30 - 2:30 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

GOLD ROOM

ENDING WITH A BANG: CLOSING ARGUMENTS (ROUNDTABLE)

MODERATOR: MICHELLE FONSECA-KAMANA, West Coast Lemons

SIANNAH COLLADO, S.C. Law, APC

CHRISTOPHER B. DOLAN, Dolan Law Firm, PC

T. GABE HOUSTON, The Trial Lab Corporation

DANIEL RODRIGUEZ, Rodriguez & Associates

IBIERE SECK, Seck Law, P.C.

TWIN PEAKS ROOM

CAOC LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: HOW NEW LAWS PASSED IN 2023 WILL IMPACT YOU AND YOUR CLIENTS (ROUNDTABLE)

MODERATOR: LAUREL HALBANY, Kazan, McClain, Satterley & Greenwood, a Professional Law Corporation

GREGORY G. RIZIO, Rizio Lipinsky Law Firm

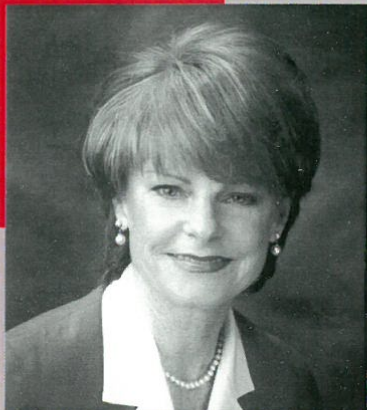
NANCY DRABBLE, Consumer Attorneys Of California

NANCY PEVERINI, Consumer Attorneys Of California

JACQUIE SERNA-ANGUIANO, Consumer Attorneys Of California

SAVEENA TAKHAR, Consumer Attorneys Of California

LEA-ANN TRATTEN, Consumer Attorneys Of California



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- Deposition/Arbitration
- Trial
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PROGRAM • FRIDAY

CONCERT ROOM

AUTOMOBILE PRODUCT LIABILITY CASES

MODERATOR: CYNTHIA A. CRAIG, Kubota & Craig, PC
TBD

BRIAN D. CHASE, Bisnar | Chase Personal Injury Attorneys, LLP

Other Similar Incidents: Getting the Keys to the Case

CHRISTINE D. SPAGNOLI, Greene Broillet & Wheeler, LLP

Types of Design Defects: What to Look For to ID Auto Defect Cases

MICHELLE M. WEST, Robinson Calcagnie, Inc.

Behind the Scenes: Lessons from the Trenches of a Landmark Autopilot Defect Trial

JONATHAN A. MICHAELS, MLG Attorneys at Law

2:30 - 3:00 PM BREAK

3:00 - 5:00 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

GOLD ROOM

VOIR DIRE EXAMINED: STRATEGIES, LESSONS LEARNED, AND TIPS FROM THE MASTERS (ROUNDTABLE)

MODERATOR: GEOFFREY WELLS, Greene Broillet & Wheeler, LLP

DORIS CHENG, Walkup, Melodia, Kelly & Schoenberger

ROGER A. DREYER, Dreyer Babich Buccola Wood Campora, LLP

JOSEPH H. LOW, IV, The Law Firm of Joseph H. Low IV

BRIAN J. PANISH, Panish Shea Boyle Ravipudi LLP

BOBBY THOMPSON, Thompson Law Offices, P.C.

JASON R. SANCHEZ, The Simon Law Group

CONCERT ROOM

POWER IN NUMBERS: MASS TORTS & CLASS ACTIONS

MODERATOR: SARAH N. SHAHATTO, McCune Law Group, McCune Wright Arevalo Vercoski Kusel Weck Brandt, APC

Distinctions and Similarities of Mass Torts and Class Action Cases

MIKE ARIAS, Arias Sanguinetti

Ups and Downs of Mass Torts Cases When Facing Bankruptcy

MARK P. ROBINSON, JR., Robinson Calcagnie, Inc.

Class Trials: It Looks Good on Paper, But How's it Look to a Jury?

TIMOTHY G. BLOOD, Blood Hurst & O'Reardon, LLP

The Future of Mass Torts Litigation

A.J. DE BARTOLOMEO, Tadler Law LLP

Upcoming Issues in Class Actions and Cases Pending in the U.S. Supreme Court

GRETCHEN M. NELSON, Nelson & Fraenkel LLP

Environmental Mass Torts-Keep it Clean

GARY A. PRAGLIN, Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy, LLP

Variations in Settlement and Approaches to Damages

LEXI J. HAZAM, Lieff Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein LLP

Setting Your Class Action Up for Success: Tips for Venue

Selection and Impact on Settlement Structure

ABBAS KAZEROUNIAN, Kazerouni Law Group, APC

TWIN PEAKS ROOM

PROTECTING WORKERS: EMPLOYMENT LAW DEEP DIVE

MODERATOR: DEREK T. TRAN, The Tran Firm, APLC

(Hopefully) Only in Fresno: How Two D!ck Pics from a Supervisor Wasn't Sexual Harassment

DARREN J. CAMPBELL, Aitken Campbell Heikaus Weaver LLP

What Simplifying Your Employment Case for Trial Really Means and How to Do It

DAVID M. DERUBERTIS, The deRubertis Law Firm, APC

The Power of Procedure: From Pre-Lit to Pleadings and Beyond

ALEXIS R. GAMLIEL, Gamliel Law, P.C.

Exposing the Lies: Demonstrating Pretext

JANET R. GUSDORFF, Gusdorff Law, P.C.

Winning the Shell Game: Exposing Alter Egos and Successor Corporations

DAREN H. LIPINSKY, Rizio Lipinsky Law Firm

Arbitration, Legislation and Lessons Learned

TAMARAH PREVOST, Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy, LLP

How to Protect Yourself and Your Client from Fraud and Exposure During Settlement TBD

JILL P. TELFER, Telfer Law

Discovering the Story: Bringing the Case to Life Beyond Legalese

TWILA S. WHITE, Law Office of Twila S. White

WELCOME RECEPTION

5:00 - 6:30 PM

SUNSET COURT

PRESIDENT'S CLUB RECEPTION (PC MEMBERS ONLY)

6:00 - 7:00 PM

FRENCH PARLOR

NEW LAWYERS DIVISION (NLD) PARTY

10:00 PM - 1:00 AM

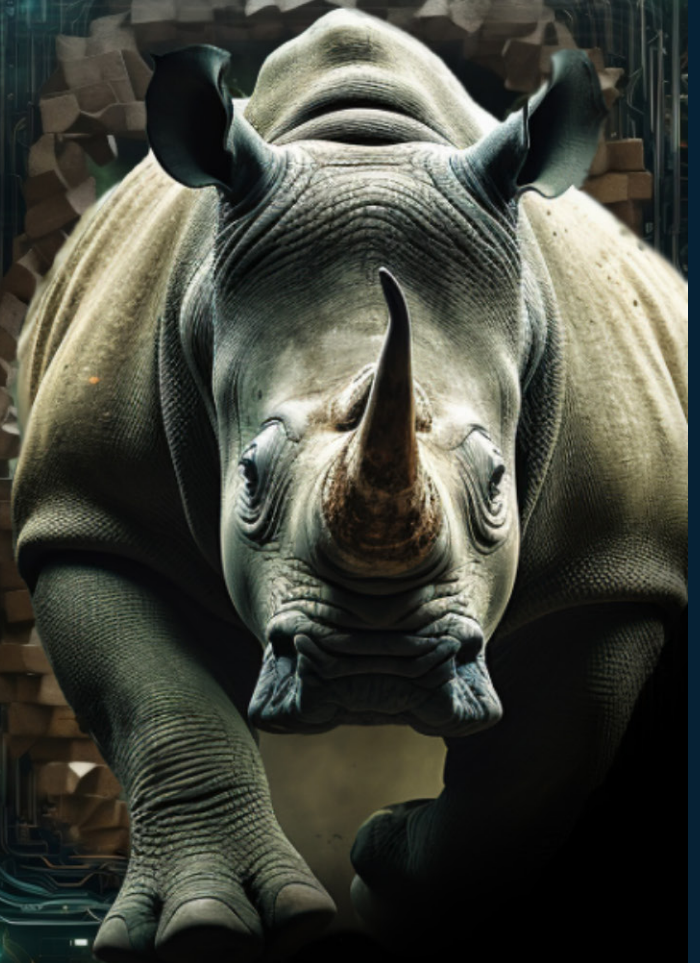
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PROGRAM • SATURDAY

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

9:00 - 10:15 AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

GOLD ROOM

MASTERFUL PRE-TRIAL PROCEDURES: SETTING YOUR CASE FOR SUCCESS

MODERATOR: KELLY WEIL, Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy, LLP

Intake and Investigation: Success from the Outset

TIEGA-NOEL VARLACK, Varlack Legal Services

Discovery: Building Evidence to Prove Your Case

CATHERINE McBAIN, Casey Gerry Schenk Francavilla Blatt & Penfield, LLP

Trial Success Through Witness Preparation

BOBBY SHUKLA, Shukla Law

Deposition Architecture: Building Outlines From the Elements Up

ROBERT BALE, Dreyer Babich Buccola Wood Campora, LLP

The Final 100 Days: Strategy When it's Go Time

MEGAN DEMSHKI, Aitken*Aitken*Cohn

TWIN PEAKS ROOM

MEDIATION: GOING FOR THE GOLD

MODERATOR: GARY PARTAMIAN, Kabateck LLP

Preparing Your Client for Mediation

KRISTY M. AREVALO, McCune Law Group, McCune Wright

Arevalo Vercoski Kusel Weck Brandt, APC

Showing Your Case at Mediation

JUNE P. BASHANT, Rouda, Feder, Tietjen & McGuinn

Finding Places to Add Value During Mediation (with an emphasis on Med-Mal cases)

RICHARD A. COHN, Aitken*Aitken*Cohn

Preparing the Winning Mediation Brief

DANIEL E. SELARZ, Selarz Law Corp.

Pre-litigation Mediation: How to Set Up Your Case for Early Resolution

KIMBERLY WONG, Coopers LLP

SEA CLIFF ROOM

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN PREMISES LIABILITY CASES

MODERATOR: SARAH SCHECKEL KIM, Chang Klein, LLP

The Impact of Premises Liability Claims in Sexual Assault Cases (Based on the recent amendments to CCP 340.1 and 340.16)

SANDRA SPEED, Ribera Law Firm

Alternative Avenues for Accountability: Third Party Criminal Conduct Cases

MARY E. ALEXANDER, Mary Alexander & Associates

How Big is the Crack to Break Your Mother's Back ... And Overcome the Trivial Defect Defense

CASEY HULTIN, Hultin Law, PC

CACI 1009A, Liability to Employees of Independent Contractors for Unsafe Concealed Conditions, and the Kinsman exception to Privette

TERESA A. JOHNSON, Kramer Trial Lawyers A.P. C.

TBD

MINH T. NGUYEN, Nguyen Theam Lawyers, LLP

10:15 - 10:30 AM BREAK

10:30 - 11:30 AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

TWIN PEAKS ROOM

EFFECTIVE CASE SELECTION: DECIDING WHICH CASES TO TAKE

MODERATOR: LINDSEY AITKEN CAMPBELL, Aitken Campbell Heikaus Weaver LLP

Evaluating Medical Device Cases

KHALDOUN A. BAGHDADI, Walkup, Melodia, Kelly & Schoenberger

Intake Step One: Honesty. Honesty with yourself. Honesty with your business model workflow. Honesty with the needs of your client and their case.

JOHN MICHAEL MONTEVIDEO, Montevideo Law, PC dba Dog Bite Law Group

Effective Case Selection: Deciding Which Cases to Take

KENNY S. RAMIREZ, Law Office of Kenny S. Ramirez

The Power of No

CYNTHIA SANTIAGO, Law Office of Cynthia Santiago

Prospective Employment Law Cases: Intake or Outtake?

DOUGLAS N. SILVERSTEIN, Kesluk, Silverstein, Jacob & Morrison, P.C.

GOLD ROOM

SEX ABUSE LITIGATION: FUNDAMENTAL ISSUES AND INSIGHTS

MODERATOR: NEDA L. LOTFI, Jeff Anderson & Associates, PA
Overcoming Procedural Hurdles in Childhood Sexual Abuse Cases against Public Entities: Gift Clause Constitutionality Challenge to AB 218

HOLLY N. BOYER, Esner, Chang & Boyer

Sex Abuse Cases: Identification, Intakes, Strategies, and Considerations

KELLY HANKER, Trial Lawyers For Justice

Marsy's Law: How to Fully Protect Your Client's Rights

MICHA STAR LIBERTY, Liberty Law

Protecting Your Client's Privacy Rights in Sexual Abuse Cases

LOUANNE MASRY, Masry Law Firm

Cross Examination of Defense Experts in Sexual Abuse Cases

COURTNEY THOM, Manly, Stewart & Finaldi

SEA CLIFF ROOM

EFFECTIVE CROSS EXAMINATION OF MEDICAL EXPERTS

MODERATOR: DAVID L. WINNETT Liuzzi, Murphy, Solomon, Churton, Hale & Winnett, LLP

Cross Examination: What's The Witness Not Saying

THOMAS S. FEHER, Feher Law, APC

TBD

ANDJE M. MEDINA, Altair Law LLP

Hospital Blood Testing False Positives

OKORIE OKOROCHA, The Okorocho Firm

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PROGRAM • SATURDAY

PICK UP LUNCH

11:30 AM - 12:00 PM

GRAND BALLROOM

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

12:00 - 12:30 PM

GRAND BALLROOM

12:30 - 1:30 PM KEYNOTE

GRAND BALLROOM

LAWYERING WITH AUTHENTICITY: THE LIFE OF A TRAILBLAZER

MIA YAMAMOTO, Attorney, Veteran, Advocate

1:30 - 2:00 PM BREAK

2:00 - 3:00 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

GOLD ROOM

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: THE REALITY OF AI

MODERATOR: BENJAMIN IKUTA, Ikuta & Hemesath, LLP

Using AI for Document Management

ROBERT D. JARCHI, Greene Broillet & Wheeler, LLP

The Ethics of AI

CASEY R. JOHNSON, Aitken*Aitken*Cohn

The Reality of AI

GIA JUNG, Cotchett Pitre & McCarthy

How AI Can Help Small Firms

ROBERT H. MARCEREAU, Marcereau Law Group

TWIN PEAKS ROOM

TESLA, MOTORCYCLES, PLANES AND TRUCKS (ROUNDTABLE)

MODERATOR: LAKSHMI ODEDRA, Nguyen Theam, LLP

STUART R. FRAENKEL, Nelson & Fraenkel LLP

AIMEE E. KIRBY, Dolan Law Firm, PC

ESE OMOFOMA, The Omofoma Law Firm

ELISE R. SANGUINETTI, Arias Sanguinetti

SEA CLIFF ROOM

SHINING THE LIGHT ON SECRECY IN DISCOVERY

MODERATOR: KARMAN GUADAGNI, Stebner Gertler Guadagni & Kawamoto A Professional Law Corporation

TBD

MICHAEL KELLY, Walkup, Melodia, Kelly & Schoenberger

Shining the Light on Secrecy: Getting the Goods from Neuropsychological DMEs after Randy's Trucking

LAURA F. SEDRISH, Jacoby & Meyers

Dealing With Protective Orders

ADAM SHEA, Panish Shea Boyle Ravipudi LLP

Protective Orders: An Insidious Threat to Public Safety and Civil Justice

BENJAMIN SIMINOU, Singleton Schreiber, LLP

3:00 - 3:30 PM BREAK

3:30 - 5:00 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

GOLD ROOM

DAMAGES: GETTING YOUR CLIENT EVERY PENNY THEY DESERVE

MODERATOR: LAUREN M. VOGT, Rizio Lipinsky Law Firm

What I Learned Doing My First Elder Neglect Case

DEBORAH CHANG, Chang Klein LLP

Different Techniques to Ask for Large Damage Awards

GARY A. DORDICK, Dordick Law Corporation

Wrongful Death Damages

BIBIANNE U. FELL, Fell Law, PC

Invisible Damages From Sexual Assault to TBI: How to prove that there is more than meets the eye

PAUL MATIASIC, The Matiasic Firm, P.C.

The Hardest Part: Valuing Emotional Toll

CRAIG M. PETERS, Altair Law LLP

Navigating Damages for Employment Cases

CARNEY R. SHEGARIAN, Shegerian Associates

TWIN PEAKS ROOM

EMERGING TORTS AND THEORIES OF LIABILITY

MODERATOR: JENNA D. EDZANT, Greene Broillet & Wheeler, LLP

Emerging Trends in Disability Insurance Bad Faith

MATTHEW BOURHIS, Bourhis Law Group

Technology and Liability: Holding responsible companies accountable in a new environment

MARC LAZARUS, Russell & Lazarus

Climate Change Litigation

MICHAEL I. LEVIN-GESUNDHEIT, Lieff Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein LLP

How to Pin Liability on Gun Manufacturers

VALERIE T. MCGINTY, Law Office of Valerie T. McGinty

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PROGRAM • SUNDAY

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

10:00 - 11:30 AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS

GOLD ROOM

ETHICS: SAFEGUARDING JUSTICE

MODERATOR: FELIPE GARCIA, Gomerman | Bourn & Associates

Duties Surrounding Client Communications: The Ceiling and the Floor

MICHAEL BRACAMONTES, Bracamontes & Vlasak, P.C.

Ethics in Legal Technology

EDWIN HONG, The Simon Law Group

Judicial Ethics (or lack thereof) in the Courtroom

NANCI E. NISHIMURA, Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy, LLP

Rule 8.3: Understanding the New Professional Misconduct Reporting Requirements

ALLISON SCHULMAN, Law Offices of Allison M. Schulman, APC

Can We All Play Well in the Sandbox: Update on Efforts to Alter the Practice of Law

CAROLIN K. SHINING, Shining Law Firm

CONCERT ROOM

PROTECTING THE ELDERLY & DEPENDENT ADULTS

MODERATOR: ANNE MARIE MURPHY, Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy, LLP

Proving Punitive Damages In An Elder Abuse Case

EDWARD P. DUDENSING, Dudensing Law

Trauma Informed Lawyering

EDIE MERMELSTEIN, FEM Law Group

Changing Behavior - Legislation, Class Actions and Individual Cases

KATHRYN STEBNER, Stebner Gertler Guadagni & Kawamoto A Professional Law Corporation

Proving Damages in an Elder Abuse Case

KIMBERLY VALENTINE, Valentine Law Group, APC

Rules of the Road in the Long-Term Care Industry

WENDY C. YORK, York Law Firm

11:30 AM Adjournment

MINIMUM CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION (MCLE)

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Compliance period: 2/1/21–1/31/24

Deadline to report: Feb. 1, 2024

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Taylor & Ring is recognized as one of the leading national law firms representing victims of sexual abuse, assault, and misconduct. The firm also handles serious personal injury cases and civil rights cases. John C. Taylor and Dave Ring have a combined 70 years of winning big lawsuits throughout California.

Thompson Flanagan, an NFP Company

CRYSTAL - NLD PUBLIC SERVICE EVENT

(312) 239-2813

<http://thompsonflanagan.com>

Thompson Flanagan, an NFP Company, is a national insurance brokerage focused on the placement of law firm professional liability insurance policies.

Valdez Team at Ringler

DIAMOND - NLD PARTY

(877) 231-3334

<http://www.ringlerassociates.com>

Our team focuses on settlement planning & producing Structured Settlements for personal injury, medical malpractice, elder abuse, workers' comp, product liability, mass torts, and construction defect cases. In addition, we also create Structured Settlements for non-physical injury cases and attorney fees.

The Veen Firm, PC

SATURDAY KEYNOTE LUNCH

(415) 673-4800

<https://www.veenfirm.com>

For nearly 50 years, the Veen Firm has earned the reputation for being tenacious and aggressive when prosecuting complex personal injury cases. We provide a powerful team approach to best serve the families and individuals who have suffered the trauma of a catastrophic injury or the death of a loved one.

Walkup, Melodia, Kelly & Schoenberger

EMERALD - WIFI (EXCLUSIVE)

(415) 981-7210

<http://www.walkuplawoffice.com>

For six decades our firm has been synonymous with courtroom excellence and satisfied clients. Our practice includes individual, class and mass tort claims, drug and device litigation, truck and auto collisions, dangerous highways, medical and obstetrical negligence, Kaiser Health Plan arbitrations, and premises liability.

SPONSORS

Wilshire Law Firm, PLC**SILVER**

(213) 381-9988

<http://www.wilshirelawfirm.com>

Established in 2007, Wilshire Law Firm is an award-winning law firm specializing in Personal Injury, Employment, and Class Action cases, holding a prestigious AV-Preeminent rating on a national level.



DOLAN LAW FIRM

Personal Injury | Employment Law | Truck & Auto | Motorcycles & Bikes | Elder Abuse

30 years of
serving the community

For referrals:



Dolan Law Firm has provided quality legal representation
throughout California for 30 years.

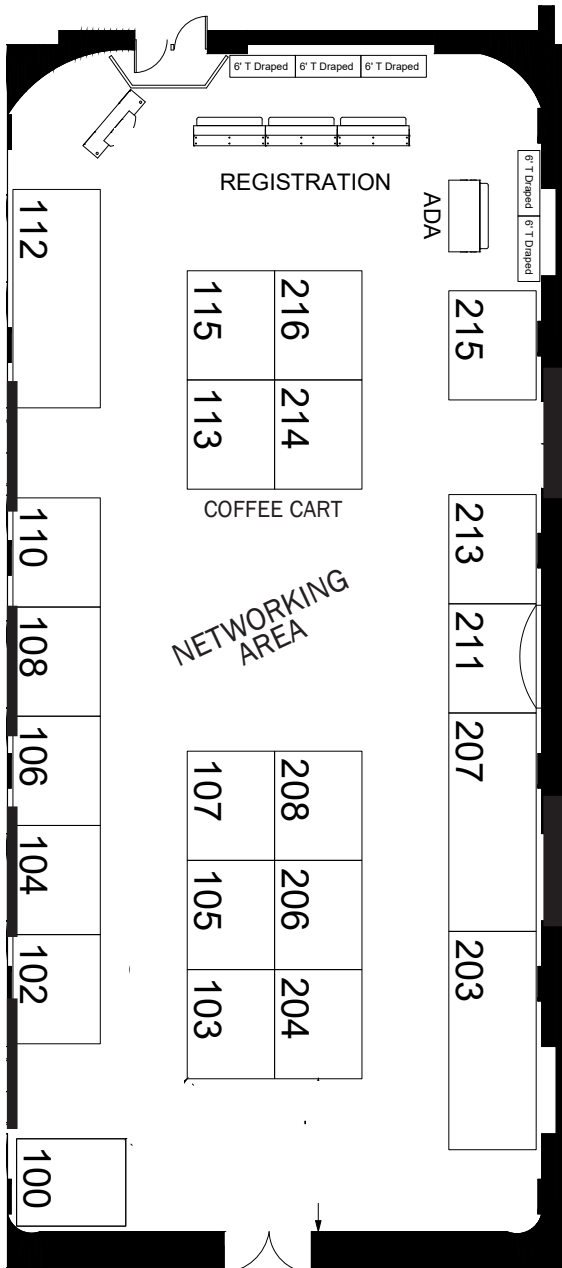


FREE CONSULTATION **DOLANLAWFIRM.COM** **888-424-5352**

SF 415.421.2800 | **OAK** 510.992.6935 | **REDONDO BEACH AND DTLA** 213.306.4221

EXHIBITORS • RALSTON ROOM

THE RALSTON ROOM



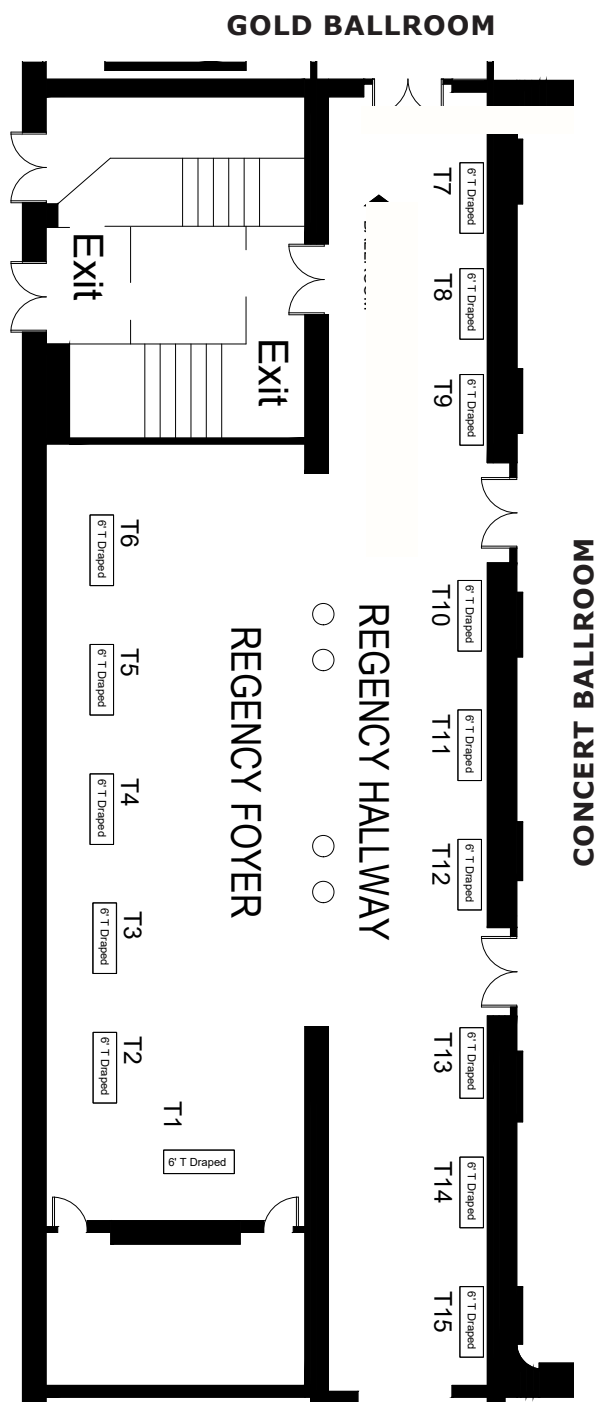
EXHIBITOR LISTINGS BY BOOTH NUMBER

100	CASEpeer
102	Medivest Benefit Advisors Inc.
103	Robson Forensic
104	EvenUp Law
105	SmartAdvocate
106	Vocational Economics, LLC
107	Steno
108	Physician Life Care Planning
110	Aperture LLC
112	Bisnar Chase Personal Injury Attorneys, LLP
113	HMR Servicing
115	Injury Institute
203	Dolan Law Firm, PC
204	Global Client Funding
206	Juris Productions, Inc.
207	Gerrel 1 Button by Mottko Productions
208	Expert Institute
211	ChartSquad
213	USA Express Legal & Investigative Services, Inc.
214	Doctors on Liens, Inc.
215	3D-Forensic
216	Roughan & Associates

- ← TO GARDEN COURT
- GOLD ROOM
 - CONCERT ROOM
 - ROSE ROOM
 - REGENCY AREAS (EXHIBITORS)
 - ESCALATOR TO 2ND FLOOR

EXHIBITORS • REGENCY AREAS

REGENCY HALLWAY & REGENCY FOYER



EXHIBITOR LISTINGS BY BOOTH NUMBER

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | LATLC |
| 2 | Esquire Bank |
| 3 | Rhino Investigation and Process Serving |
| 4 | Gemini Legal |
| 5 | TrialSmith, Inc. |
| 6 | Justice HQ |
| 7 | Advocate Capital, Inc. |
| 8 | MedQuest/Record Reform |
| 9 | ADR Services, Inc. |
| 10 | Rockpoint Legal Funding |
| 11 | LevelEsq |
| 12 | High Impact |
| 13 | Judicate West |
| 14 | Neural IT |
| 15 | KCC |

EXHIBITORS • ALPHA LISTING

3D-Forensic

(415) 754-7222

<http://www.3D-Forensic.com>

Forensic analysis, testimony and visualization. Our expert-led firm specializes in nighttime visibility, accident reconstruction, 3D video analysis, officer-involved shooting reconstruction, laser-based photogrammetry and medical animation.

BOOTH 215

ADR Services, Inc.

(415) 772-0900

<http://www.adrservices.org>

ADR Services, Inc. is one of the leading providers of alternative dispute resolution services in California. The company prides itself on offering unparalleled resolution services through its exclusive panel, which is comprised of more than 130 of the most distinguished and talented neutrals across the state.

BOOTH 9

Advocate Capital, Inc.

(615) 577-1793

<http://www.AdvocateCapital.com>

We are passionate about helping PI attorneys get even better results for their clients, mainly through our AdvoTrac® Case Expense Funding Service. As Seventh Amendment advocates, we are always looking for ways to encourage, educate, and support our law firm clients as they pursue justice on their clients' behalf.

TABLE 7

Aperture LLC

(510) 278-8805

<https://www.aperturellc.com>

Aperture is a best-in-class forensic engineering firm providing full-service expert analysis across eight unique service lines: Accident Reconstruction, Biomechanics, Construction Consulting, Digital Forensics, Human Factors, Premises Liability, Product Liability, Reconstruction Simulations and Computer Animations.

BOOTH 110

Bisnar | Chase Personal Injury Attorneys, LLP

(949) 752-2999

<http://www.bestattorney.com>

Bisnar Chase Personal Injury Attorneys, LLP has recovered over \$800 million for its clients with a 99% success rate. One of the top-rated law firms in Orange County with seasoned trial lawyers and superior client representation.

BOOTH 112

CASEpeer

(949) 416-5777

<http://www.casepeer.com>

CASEpeer is the leading practice management solution built for personal injury focused law firms. Since 2016, the company has focused on providing plaintiff law firms with visibility across operations, from case management and calendaring to employee performance, pipelines, and profitability.

BOOTH 100

ChartSquad

(949) 813-8450

<https://chartsquad.com>

ChartSquad is a digital solution that leverages Federal Law and technology to make the process of obtaining medical records simple, secure, and fast.

BOOTH 211

Doctors on Liens, Inc.

(855) 362-5436

<http://www.doctorsonliens.com>

Since 1993, Doctors on Liens, Inc. has provided qualified medical professionals to the legal community. All doctors have been pre-screened, preapproved, and will always work on a lien basis. Visit doctorsonliens.com to search for doctors near your clients in Northern and Southern California.

BOOTH 214

Dolan Law Firm, PC

(415) 421-2800

<https://dolanlawfirm.com>

Owned by Chris Dolan, CAOC Past President. Dolan Law Firm represents individuals in personal injury, medical negligence, government tort liability and employment discrimination actions. Offices in San Francisco, Oakland, Los Angeles and Redondo Beach.

BOOTH 203

Esquire Bank

(516) 535-2002

<http://www.esquirebank.com>

As a personal injury lawyer, you're willing to spend the time, money and effort to fully develop cases. However, in order to effectively represent your clients, and achieve the best results, you need a financial partner that understands your business.

TABLE 2

EvenUp Law

(415) 406-9002

<http://www.evenuplaw.com>

Never draft a demand again. Leading personal injury firms leverage EvenUp's team of former defense counsel and engineers to create detailed demands that include medical summaries with ICD codes, estimates for pain and suffering, loss of earnings, and loss of services all supported by verdict analysis and calculations.

BOOTH 104

Expert Institute

(646) 741-2680

<http://www.expertinstitute.com>

Expert Institute helps plaintiff firms win more cases, get bigger settlements, and grow their practice with industry-leading experts, physician consultations, comprehensive expert due diligence, and cutting-edge legal technology.

BOOTH 208

Gemini Legal

(877) 739-7481

<http://www.gemini.legal>

Gemini is the market-leading evidence retrieval service for applicant attorneys representing injured workers in contested workers' comp claims. Gemini is your licensed and bonded deposition officer. The Gemini Quick Reference Guide is a comprehensive document that references noteworthy workers' comp cases.

TABLE 4

Gerrel 1 Button by Mottko Productions

(650) 494-2413

<http://www.gerrel1button.com>

Gerrel 1 Button mini-TV Studio, built for Zoom, designed to restore Command Presence and Trust in depositions, trials, and mediations. System includes Skin-Smoothing Algorithm, TV Studio Lighting, Professional Camera, Broadcast Quality Mic, Physical Backdrop, 43" 4K Monitor, all controlled with just 1 Button.

BOOTH 207

EXHIBITORS • ALPHA LISTING

Global Client Funding

(888) 987-5496

<http://www.globalfunds.com>

We provide national funding on cash advances and medical funding. We have a robust suite of financial services to keep your cases going, until you secure the justice your client deserves! From Pre-Settlement Funding, Case costs, Medical/Surgical Funding, Facilities, Rehab, and Provider funding.

BOOTH 204

High Impact

(909) 276-1939

<http://highimpact.com>

High Impact is a litigation support firm that produces engaging and scientifically accurate visuals that attorneys use as trial exhibits. By providing innovative visual and interactive solutions, we help those who view our content better understand the facts and mechanisms presented.

BOOTH 12

HMR Servicing

(888) 377-1245

<https://hmr servicing.com>

At HMR Servicing, we help uninsured and underinsured personal injury victims with access to quality medical care. We offer 3 programs to help you in handling personal injury cases, Medical Funding, Pre-Settlement Funding & Case Cost Funding.

BOOTH 113

Injury Institute

(818) 795-1069

<http://www.injuryinstitute.com>

One of the top rated California Medical Network working on a lien basis. We are a network of highly experienced health professionals representing the best in personal injury care. Our surgeons, chiropractors, and other healthcare professionals are dedicated to providing your clients with the highest quality care.

BOOTH 115

Judicate West

(800) 488-8805

<http://www.judicategwest.com>

With offices from San Diego to Sacramento, Judicate West is one of California's leading providers of private dispute resolution services. Our distinguished roster of proven neutrals consists of retired state and federal court judges and full-time attorney mediators and arbitrators.

TABLE 13

Juris Productions, Inc.

(626) 356-3006

<http://www.jurisproductions.com>

Professional video production for plaintiffs' attorneys. We leverage years of broadcast news experience to create compelling documentaries for mediation and trial. Our expert storytellers turn your case into a television news magazine style presentation that gets results.

BOOTH 206

Justice HQ

(213) 592-1365

<http://justicehq.com>

There's a better way to practice law. Justice HQ is an application-only membership for consumer advocate attorneys looking to collaborate with peers, cultivate and grow their practices, and operate in a more modern way.

TABLE 6

KCC

(415) 798-5900

<http://www.kccllc.com>

KCC provides support services that help legal professionals realize time and cost efficiencies. With an integrated suite of corporate restructuring, class action, mass tort, and trustee & fiduciary services, KCC alleviates the administrative challenges of today's legal processes and procedures.

TABLE 15

LevelEsq

(305) 420-6058

<https://www.levelsq.com>

Exclusive lawsuit cost insurance and financing solutions that give trial lawyers an opportunity to increase their ROI. Level Insurance reimburses your case costs if you lose at trial helping you maximize case value. Stop being the bank for your clients. Use OUR money for case costs and use YOUR money to grow.

TABLE 11

Los Angeles Trial Lawyers' Charities

(844) 445-2852

<http://www.latlc.org>

Our managing Board of Directors includes 42 attorneys who have dedicated themselves to giving back to the Los Angeles community and who volunteer their time to help our organization. LATLC's members are committed to making a positive impact on the lives of those in need throughout Southern California.

TABLE 1

Med Quest Record Reform

(212) 481-4986

<http://www.RecordReform.com>

MedQuest and its Record Reform Division provide end to end Pre-lit to Trial: Medical Record Retrieval, \$35/hr MD Summaries, Testifying Medical Experts, Medical Cost Reports by Life Care Planners along with Non-recourse Case Financing.

TABLE 8

Medivest Benefit Advisors Inc.

(818) 730-8539

<http://www.medivest.com>

Medivest is a leading provider of Medicare Secondary Payer (MSP) compliance solutions to the workers' comp and general liability industries. Medivest has been administering medical custodial accounts since 1996, and in 1998, was the first to professionally administer a Medicare Set-Aside Arrangement.

BOOTH 102

Neural IT

(844) 648-8326

<https://www.neuralit.com>

We are an ISO 27001 Certified, HIPAA & GDPR Compliant Company, offering Medical-Legal, Voice & IT services for Personal Injury, Medical Malpractice, & Mass Torts Law Firms. Our core services include drafting Demand Letters, Medical Record Review, and Record Retrieval.

TABLE 14

EXHIBITORS • ALPHA LISTING

Physician Life Care Planning

(210) 501-0995

<http://www.PhysicianLCP.com>

PPLCP is a full service, nationwide provider of damages valuation services specializing in the formulation of Compensatory Economic Damages. We define the value of Future Medical Care, Loss of Earnings Capacity, and Loss of Household Services for chronically and catastrophically ill/injured individuals for attorneys.

BOOTH 108**Rhino Investigation and Process Serving**

(833) 711-3400

<http://Illegalassistance.com/>

We are a technology-driven litigation support company with over 30 years of experience. We are a one-stop shop that enables California law firms to manage process serving, e-filing, investigations, and more.

TABLE 3**Robson Forensic**

(206) 262-7924

<http://www.robsonforensic.com>

Robson Forensic is a national leader in expert witness consulting, providing technical expertise across many fields within engineering, architecture, science, and a wide range of specialty disciplines. Visit www.robsonforensic.com for expert CVs, bios, and contact information.

BOOTH 103**Rockpoint Legal Funding**

(855) 582-9200

<https://rockpointlegalfunding.com/>

Rockpoint's mission is to facilitate optimal case outcomes by providing critical funds and accessible medical treatment to plaintiffs as well as operational efficiencies and capital to law firms while maintaining our uncompromising ethical principles, technology-driven efficiencies, and customer service excellence.

TABLE 10**Roughan & Associates**

(626) 351-0991

<http://www.linc.biz>

Jan, a damages expert, provides Med/Legal Consulting services, including, but not limited to: Life Care Planning (LCP); Preliminary Cost Projections/Comprehensive LCP; LCP Critique; Reasonableness Analysis (Howell Number); Medical Record Organization & Chronology; IME Attendance; Video Services; etc.

BOOTH 216**SmartAdvocate**

(516) 723-4660

<http://www.smartadvocate.com>

A fully customizable, award-winning legal case management system made to handle the challenges of today's fast paced, highly competitive and technologically demanding legal landscape. Initially designed by and for, personal injury and mass tort litigation firms, it is now used by a wide range of practices.

BOOTH 105**Steno**

(310) 573-8380

<http://www.steno.com>

Steno provides court reporting and litigation support services on deferred, non-recourse payment terms. With no upfront costs, best-in-class service, and innovative technology built for you, Steno removes financial and administrative hurdles so you can focus on winning your case.

BOOTH 107**TrialSmith/Depo Connect**

(800) 443-1757

<https://www.trialsmith.com>

TrialSmith is the largest plaintiff-only expert database in the nation. Lawyers use our database to investigate and impeach defense experts, and our members can read everything in our database prior to purchasing. We also connect lawyers from 76 trial lawyer associations using our unique networking services.

TABLE 5**USA Express Legal & Investigative Services, Inc.**

(877) 872-3977

<http://www.usaexpressinc.com>

Since 1998. We provide Attorney Services, Mobile Copy, Private Investigations, Process Service and Subpoena Preparation all under one roof. A dedicated attorney support center specializing in Investigations, Intakes, E-Filing, Process Service, Subpoena Preparation, Document Filing, and Mobile Copy Services.

BOOTH 213**Vocational Economics, LLC**

(310) 533-1000

<http://www.vocecon.com>

A national, forensic consulting firm, specializing in defining economic damages. Our analysts work directly with attorneys to define, objectively, economic damages with a special emphasis on loss of earning capacity, future health and medical care costs (life care plans), and business and commercial damages.

BOOTH 106

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

LINDSEY AITKEN, Aitken Campbell Heikaus Weaver, LLP

Lindsey Aitken is the Managing Partner at the law firm Aitken Campbell Heikaus Weaver, specializing in employment law. ACHW represents employees in all aspects of employment law, including wrongful termination, discrimination, harassment, retaliation, including claims under both federal and California laws, such as the Family and Medical Leave Act, the California Family Rights Act, the California Fair Employment and Housing Act, the Equal Pay Act and other labor and employment laws. Prior to forming ACHW she was an associate attorney at the Law Offices of David P. Crandall, where she specialized in personal injury, medical malpractice and product liability. Lindsey is currently serving as President of the Orange County Trial Lawyers Association. She is a member of American Association for Justice, Consumer Attorneys of California, and the Orange County Bar Association.

MARY ALEXANDER, Mary Alexander and Associates, P.C.

Mary E. Alexander, M.P.H., J.D., Principal, Mary Alexander and Associates, P.C., specializing in personal injury, products liability and business litigation. In June 2012, Ms. Alexander was inducted into the Trial Lawyer Hall of Fame of the California State Bar Litigation Section. In July 2013, AAJ presented her with the Leonard Ring Champion of Justice Award for her continued dedication to human and civil rights. She has been repeatedly named one of the Top 10 Trial Attorneys in the Bay Area by the San Francisco Chronicle. The California Daily Journal named her one of the Top 100 Most Influential Lawyers in California as well as one of the Top 50 Women Litigators. She has been named a Northern California Super Lawyer each year since 2006. Member: AAJ (President, 2003); CAOC (President, 1996); ABOTA; College of Master Advocates & Barristers (Senior Counsel); NCVBA (President, 2012).

KRISTY AREVALO, McCune Law Group

Through her work at McCune Law Group, Kristy M. Arevalo has established herself as one of the Inland Empire's top plaintiffs attorneys in the legal fields of Medical Product Failure, Personal Injury, Wrongful Death, and Product Liability. Ms. Arevalo is dedicated to obtaining just redress for her clients while holding individuals, corporations, and entities responsible for defective and dangerous actions, products, and pharmaceuticals. She has litigated and settled multiple cases involving defective devices and drugs. She has been active in many multidistrict and coordinated litigations around the country involving defective drugs and medical devices, such as DePuy ASR and Pinnacle hips, Wright Medical hips, Inferior Vena Cava (IVC) filters, Hernia Mesh, Essure birth control, Truvada, and Phillips recalled CPAP machines. She holds multiple leadership positions in coordinated actions around the country. In addition to her mass torts practice, Ms. Arevalo handles catastrophic personal injury and wrongful death cases. She has argued in front of the California Court of Appeals and has tried multiple cases to verdict.

JASON ARGOS, Kohan & Bablove LLP

Jason graduated from the University of Arizona, then earned his J.D. from Thomas Jefferson School of Law in San Diego. He worked as a litigation associate for Reback, McAndrews, Kjar, Warford & Stockalper for almost five years before joining a large civil litigation practice in downtown Los Angeles. Unhappy with the big firm life, in November 2016 Jason called a plaintiffs attorney that he had a tried a case against the year prior, a call that would forever alter his career trajectory and life. In 2017, Jason joined the Law Offices of Sean M. Burke, an exclusive plaintiffs-only medical malpractice firm. In 2019, Mr. Burke made Jason his law partner, which led to the formation of Burke | Argos, Trial Attorneys. On August 18, 2022, Jason started at Kohan & Bablove in the role of Senior Trial Counsel specializing in catastrophic personal injury, birth injury and wrongful death. Jason is extremely active in Consumer Attorneys of California and is also a member of the Executive Committee for the Orange County Trial Lawyers Association.

MIKE ARIAS, Arias Sanguinetti

Mike Arias is the founding and managing partner of Arias Sanguinetti Wang & Torrijos LLP. He is a past president of both Consumer Attorneys of California and Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles, two of the largest trial lawyer associations in the nation. Mr. Arias is recognized as one of the top trial attorneys in California. In 2022, he was named California Lawyer of the Year by the Daily Journal. He was named a CAOC Consumer Attorney of the Year in 2021. The Daily Journal has also honored him as one of the Top 30 Plaintiff Attorneys in California every year since 2018 as well as one of the Top 100 Attorneys in California in 2019, 2021 and 2022. The National Law Journal honored him in 2020 as a Plaintiff Trailblazer, and Lawdragon has recognized him as one of the Top 500 Leading Plaintiff Consumers Lawyers in 2019 and 2020. During his nearly 40-year career, he has litigated and tried matters throughout the United States in both state and federal court.

ASSAL BADRKHANI, Arias Sanguinetti Wang & Torrijos, LLP

Assal Badrkhani is a Senior Litigation Paralegal at Arias, Sanguinetti, Wang & Torrijos, LLP, and the American Association for Justice's 2023 "Paralegal of the Year." She has 17 years of experience in civil litigation, focusing on personal injury, civil rights, sexual assault and catastrophic injury cases. She holds a bachelor's degree in political science from UCLA and earned her Paralegal Certificate from California State University. Assal is a member of AAJ, CAOC, SFTLA and CAALA. In addition to speaking on legal topics within these organizations, she also serves a leadership role among CAALA legal staff. Assal is fluent in Farsi, has an unhealthy obsession with the Freedom of Information Act, and thrives on investigating witnesses when she's not busy raising her amazing mini-me.

KHALDOUN BAGHDADI, Walkup Melodia Kelly Schoenberger

Khalidoun Baghdadi is a partner in the San Francisco firm of Walkup, Melodia, Kelly & Schoenberger. He has tried cases to verdict involving defective products, civil rights, medical negligence and public entity liability. Khalidoun serves as an adjunct instructor of trial advocacy at the University of California, Berkeley School of Law. He is a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates and the American College of Trial Lawyers. He serves in leadership capacity on state and federal coordinated proceedings on product liability matters ranging from medical devices to herbicides.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

ROBERT BALE, Dreyer | Babich | Buccola | Wood | Campora, LLP

Bob is a partner at Dreyer | Babich | Buccola | Wood | Campora, LLP. A three-time finalist for CAOC's Consumer Attorney of the Year award, including most recently back-to-back in 2021 and 2022, Bob specializes in products liability and complex cases that result in wrongful death or catastrophic injury. Bob serves on the CAOC Board of Directors and is a past president of Capitol City Trial Lawyers Association in Sacramento. Bob and firm partner Noemi Esparza helped spearhead CAOC's successful passage of AB 2159, codifying Evidence Code Section 351.2, which makes evidence of immigrant status inadmissible in PI and WD cases.

JUNE BASHANT, Rouda, Feder, Tietjen & McGuinn

June P. Bashant has established a 24-year-reputation for her hard work representing individuals and families injured by the careless conduct and choices of others. June is a partner with Rouda, Feder, Tietjen & McGuinn. She represents clients to secure financial stability after the loss of income and medical expenses that follow when a loved one is severely injured or killed by negligence. Her practice focus is catastrophic injuries and wrongful death. June consistently works on a wide variety of cases ranging from premises liability, negligent security, product defects, pedestrian and bike collisions, trucking accidents, auto defects, elder abuse, and medical malpractice. June's work on behalf of her clients has resulted in improved safety standards and consumer protections. June is a member of the American Association of Justice and is currently a board member for Consumer Attorneys of California. She has been recognized as a 2023 Lawyer of Distinction in the New York Times and was also named a Top 10 Female Attorney in Civil Litigation by the American Association of Attorney Advocates for 202

TIMOTHY G. BLOOD, Blood Hurst & O'Reardon, LLP

Tim Blood is the managing partner of Blood Hurst & O'Reardon, a firm focusing on the nationwide prosecution of class actions on behalf of consumers, insurance policy holders and investors. Tim has represented millions of consumers, insurance policy holders, mortgagors, credit card customers and homeowners in state and federal courts and before the Federal Trade Commission, the California Department of Justice and the California Department of Insurance. He has also lobbied on behalf of consumers in the U.S. Senate and the California Legislature. His practice encompasses a wide variety of class actions, including financial fraud, false advertising, data breaches, product liability and insurance market conduct violations. He has been appointed lead counsel in numerous class actions in courts across the country, has tried class actions and has obtained record setting recoveries, including obtaining the largest false advertising settlement in the history of the FTC.

MATTHEW BOURHIS, Bourhis Law Group

Matthew Bourhis is the president of Bourhis Law Group, a law firm that specializes in long term disability insurance and other insurance bad faith matters. He became passionate about representing individuals with disabilities after his mother lost her leg in horrific automobile accident in 2011. Mr. Bourhis prides himself on providing compassionate and zealous advocacy to disabled clients and fighting the insurance industry for bad faith. He is an avid writer, world traveler, scuba diver and historian, having done original interviews with combat veterans from World War II, Korea and Vietnam for the Library of Congress.

HOLLY BOYER, Esner, Chang, Boyer & Murphy

Holly N. Boyer is a certified appellate specialist and a partner at Esner, Chang, Boyer & Murphy, a boutique appellate firm. In addition to handling all aspects of appellate litigation, she also assists trial lawyers with dispositive and post-judgment motions. While the firm represents tort victims in all areas of the law, Holly specializes in representing victims of sexual abuse and has assisted with drafting legislation and testifying before the California State Legislature on such issues. She is a frequent author and speaker on issues facing the plaintiffs bar. Holly received the Appellate Attorney of the Year from the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles in 2019 and has been recognized as one of Southern California's Top 100 lawyers from 2019 to 2024, one of the Top 50 Women Attorneys of Southern California from 2019 to 2024, and a Super Lawyer from 2014 to 2024. Holly also received the 2024 Best Lawyers in America "Lawyer of the Year" award in appellate law.

MICHAEL BRACAMONTES, Bracamontes & Vlasak PC

Mr. Bracamontes teaches Housing Litigation & Policy at Berkeley Law. He also maintains an active civil practice and is a plaintiffs attorney who helps individuals in landlord-tenant, employment, personal injury and civil rights matters. Mr. Bracamontes has provided trainings and/or presented at the California Rural Legal Assistance Annual Housing Seminar, Consulate General of Mexico Labor Rights Week, UC Hastings Women Law Journal, Employment Discrimination of H.I.V.-Positive Persons, Twitter, Inc. and City College of San Francisco. Mr. Bracamontes earned his Juris Doctor degree from Berkeley Law, where he volunteered at the Worker's Rights Clinic and was a member of the La Raza Law Journal and officer of the Native American Law Students Association. He currently serves on the board of Consumer Attorneys of California and formerly served on the board for California Rural Legal Assistance. Mr. Bracamontes is also a contributing author to the California Eviction Defense Manual, CEB.

BRUCE BROILLET, Greene Broillet & Wheeler, LLP

Bruce A. Broillet of Greene Broillet & Wheeler, LLP, specializes in plaintiffs trial work. He handles cases in areas such as personal injury, wrongful death, product liability, professional malpractice and business litigation. Bruce has been inducted into The Inner Circle of Advocates, described by the Washington Post as a select group of 100 of the nation's most celebrated trial lawyers. He has been listed in "Best Lawyers in America" for over 35 years. Bruce has been named Trial Lawyer of the Year by Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles, Consumer Attorney of the Year by Consumer Attorneys of California, Litigator of the Year by the Century City Bar Association and Los Angeles Lawyer of the Year for Personal Injury by Best Lawyers in America. He has been inducted into the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, the American College of Trial Lawyers, the International Society of Barristers and the American Board of Trial Advocates. Bruce is in the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles Hall of Fame and the Lawdragon Hall of Fame.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

MIKAILA BROWN, The Common Thread Project (TCTP)

Mikaila Brown Ph.D. is a DEI educator, coach and consultant. In a previous role, she was the head of Inclusion, Equity, and Belonging at eCornell, Cornell's professional DEI certificate program. Mikaila has a Ph.D. in Anthropology and Education from Columbia University. Her work has historically centered around the intersections of fashion, race and equity. Her current entrepreneurial venture is The Common Thread Project, a DEI consulting, coaching and educational firm. Right now, they consult directly for corporations like MasterCard, Guess and Children's Aid, as well as lead diversity trainings for many universities like Johns Hopkins and John Jay. She also has a private membership group called The Seat, where she coaches DEI enthusiasts monthly on the most up-to-date DEI tools, tips and strategies across industries.

BRUCE BRUSAVICH, ACTS Law, L.L.P.

Bruce is a partner at ABIR COHEN TREYZON SALO, LLP. He specializes in personal injury and wrongful death cases, including traumatic brain injury, medical malpractice, bicycle, motorcycle and product liability. Bruce is a past president of CAALA and CAOC. He is a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates and the International Academy of Trial Lawyers. He has been the Chair of the CAOC MICRA Challenge Project for 20 years and was a member of the CAOC AB 35 working group to reform MICRA in 2022. Bruce has been named "Trial Lawyer of the Year" and among the "100 Most Influential Attorneys in the State of California" by the Los Angeles Daily Journal and among the "Top 50 LA Lawyers Who Stand Out" by the Los Angeles Business Journal. Bruce has received the Lifetime Legal Achievement award from Consumer Watchdog and in 2018 was inducted into the CAALA Hall of Fame.

DARREN CAMPBELL, Aitken Campbell Heikaus Weaver

Darren Campbell is a founding partner at Aitken Campbell Heikaus Weaver. He is a premier plaintiff employment law attorney, focusing primarily on claims for wrongful termination, discrimination, harassment and retaliation, including claims under both federal and California laws, such as the Family and Medical Leave Act, the California Family Rights Act, the Equal Pay Act, the California Fair Employment and Housing Act, and other labor and employment laws. Mr. Campbell is active in multiple bar associations, including previously serving as a member of the Board of Directors of the Orange County Trial Lawyers Association. He is also a member of Consumer Attorneys of California, American Association for Justice, Orange County Bar Association and Celtic Bar Association. Mr. Campbell received his J.D. from the University of California, Davis King Hall School of Law, where he served as an articles editor of the U.C. Davis Law Review and was a founding contributor to the U.C. Davis Business Law Journal. He received his B.S. in Biology and B.A. in Political Science from the University of California, Irvine.

LAUREN CERRI, Corsiglia, McMahon & Allard

Lauren Cerri is recognized for her results obtaining justice for victims of childhood sexual abuse. Ms. Cerri was particularly proud in March 2022, when a Santa Clara County jury returned a verdict against the Union School District in San Jose. The case involved two former students who were sexually abused by their music teacher, one of whom was represented by Ms. Cerri. In another case against the Union School District, Ms. Cerri obtained a settlement on behalf of five men in their fifties who were sexually abused by their elementary school teacher in the late 1970s and early 1980s. She has represented numerous victims throughout her career. Recognizing what is most important to victims and their parents, Ms. Cerri fights for more than just monetary compensation, taking legal action to mandate that institutions implement and enforce policies and procedures to better protect children from sexual abuse. She also lobbies state legislators to approve bills that better protect children from sexual predators.

DEBORAH CHANG, Chang | Klein LLP

Deborah Chang is the founder of Athea Trial Lawyers LLP and is also a partner with Chang | Klein LLP. She is a Past President of CAOC. She represents plaintiffs in complex catastrophic injury/wrongful death cases, achieving some of the highest verdicts and settlements in the country. Deborah has been an integral part of the trial teams, including the Michael Jackson wrongful death case, the first ASR model hip implant trial tried in the country, and a nightclub liability case resulting in a significant verdict that led to changes in the security guard industry. Many of her cases have led to vast improvements that enhanced safety for the public. She is a 2019 recipient of the California Lawyer Attorneys of the Year (CLAY) Award, was named in 2018 as one of the Elite Trial Lawyers, and was the 2014 recipient of CAOC's Consumer Attorney of the Year Award. She is the President of the Los Angeles Chapter of ABOTA.

BRIAN CHASE, Bisnar | Chase Personal Injury Attorneys

Bisnar | Chase is an AV-rated national law firm founded in 1977 in Newport Beach, California. Brian Chase is managing partner and senior trial attorney at the firm. The firm specializes in automotive defect cases, catastrophic personal injury cases, mass torts, employment and consumer class actions. Mr. Chase was the 2015 President of CAOC and the 2007 President of OCTLA. He is a member of ABOTA. In 2014 and 2004, he was named Trial Lawyer of the Year by OCTLA. In 2012, he was named Consumer Attorney of the Year by CAOC and was a Trial Lawyer of the Year Nominee by CAALA. In 2020, 2021 and 2023, he was listed in the Daily Journal's Top Plaintiff Lawyers. He's been listed as one of the Top 100 Trial Lawyers by ATLA since 2007. In 2009, Mr. Chase published a book, "Still Unsafe at Any Speed," dealing with litigating automotive defects. In 2019, he published his follow-up book dealing with auto defect cases, called "The Second Collision."

DORIS CHENG, Walkup, Melodia, Kelly & Schoenberger

Widely recognized for her legal work, Doris Cheng has been ranked as one of the top 50 women lawyers and top 100 lawyers in Northern California. She is listed among the Best Lawyers of America®, Lawdragon 500 Leading Lawyers, SuperLawyers® and San Francisco Best Lawyers. She has been chosen as Lawyer of the Year by Best Lawyers of America for 2017. Ms. Cheng is a partner in the law firm of Walkup, Melodia, Kelly & Schoenberger in San Francisco. She is a past president of ABOTA SF, Bar Association of San Francisco, Justice & Diversity Center and SFTLA. When not in court, Ms. Cheng has conducted training programs for trial lawyers and judges throughout the world, including Northern Ireland, Scotland, Singapore, Kosovo, Macedonia, Mexico, Antigua, Bahamas, Trinidad, Guyana and other programs in the Caribbean Basin. She is the co-author of the Rutter Group California Practice Guide for Personal Injury.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

RICHARD A. COHN, Aitken*Aitken*Cohn

Known as a persistent, aggressive trial attorney who takes a turn every stone approach toward the legal matters he handles, he has received numerous awards and accolades for his results. He was one of only three lawyers in Orange County to be recognized as Top 500 Litigators in the Nation in the inaugural issue of Lawdragon Magazine. The magazine again later recognized him as one of the Nation's Top 3000 Plaintiff's Lawyers in America. He has been repeatedly designated a Southern California Super Lawyer by Los Angeles Magazine and Law and Politics. He has also been repeatedly listed in U.S. News and World Report as a Best Lawyer in the category of Personal Injury and Medical Malpractice Litigation. Rich is AV rated by Martindale-Hubbell's Law Directory and is past president of the Orange County Trial Lawyers Association.

SIANNAH COLLADO, SC Law, APC

Siannah Collado founded SC Law in 2019, and since then is called upon to join a team for trial. Having been a sex crimes prosecutor, she likes to focus on representing adult and children survivors. However, Siannah has tried all sorts of personal injury cases. She is on the Board of Directors for CAOC and is the 2022 CAOC Women's Caucus Consumer Advocate Award recipient. www.sclawco.com email: siannah@sclawco.com

TRAVIS CORBY, Shernoff Bidart Echeverria LLP

CYNTHIA CRAIG, Kubota & Craig PC

Cynthia Craig is a Partner at Kubota & Craig, PC. Ms. Craig is exclusively experienced in personal injury trials and litigation. She focuses on advocating, protecting and advancing the rights of injured victims by being directly involved in organizations that advocate for and protect injured victims' rights. Ms. Craig is a Past President of the Orange County Trial Lawyers Association and served on the Board since 2006. She serves as a member of the Board of Directors of Consumer Attorneys of California. Ms. Craig served as a member of the Board of Directors for the Banyard Inns of Court. In 2019, she received Consumer Attorneys of California's Marvin E. Lewis Award, given in recognition of continued guidance, loyalty and dedication, all of which have been an inspiration to fellow attorneys. Since 2022, Ms. Craig has been recognized by Best Lawyers in America. Kubota & Craig, PC is recognized as a National Tier 1 ranking of Best Law Firms by Best Lawyers in America for the year 2024.

LOURDES DEARMAS, Omega Law Group, PC

Lourdes DeArmas advocates for equality in and out of the courtroom and coined the motto, "There are no women trial attorneys. We are trial attorneys that happen to be women." Lourdes is a Partner and Lead Trial Attorney at Omega Law Group. She has dedicated her trial practice to representing plaintiffs in catastrophic personal injury, premises liability, sexual abuse and wrongful death cases. Lourdes is recognized by Super Lawyers as Top 50 Women and Top 100 Lawyer for 2024. She was awarded Best Lawyer of America: Personal Injury Litigation Plaintiffs 2022 and 2023. Lourdes is a member of the Los Angeles chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA), where she serves on the Executive Committee and is Co-Chair of the Membership Committee. Lourdes is on the President's Advisory Committee on Women in the Legal Profession for the Los Angeles County Bar Association. Lourdes' work does not end at the courtroom steps. She proudly fights to bring awareness and hopefully change to the issue of sexual assault or harassment by empowering women.

AJ DE BARTOLOMEO, Tadler Law LLP

A shareholder of Tadler Law LLP, with thirty years' experience prosecuting class actions, complex and collective matters in courts nationwide. Court-appointed Lead or Co-Lead Counsel, or Plaintiffs' Steering Committee member in numerous MDL class action, mass torts and bankruptcy proceedings. She is the former Chair of the Women's Trial Lawyer Caucus of the American Association of Justice. An AAJ Board of Governors, member of the American Bar Association, and Consumer Attorneys of California. A frequently invited speaker before industry organizations and public corporations on ethical procedures for case management in complex litigation. She has also written articles on class action best practices and litigation and regulatory risks. Ms. de Bartolomeo has been recognized for her litigation skills by prominent legal industry rating organizations: Martindale Hubbell AV® Preeminent™ Peer Review; Chambers and Partners, 2020 edition of U.S. News – Best Lawyers in America; Northern California Super Lawyer; Top 50 Women Lawyers in Northern California, and Above and Beyond Award, AAJ.

DONALD M. DE CAMARA, Law Offices of Donald M. de Camara

Donald de Camara is a sole practitioner in San Marcos, California, specializing in lien litigation and resolution. He has lectured at well over 100 trial lawyers' seminars throughout California about liens and has presented four nationwide webinars on ERISA liens. He has had more than 20 articles on liens published in various trial lawyer magazines. He was lead counsel for the eight defendants in the case of Carpenters Health v. Vonderharr, 384 F.3d 667 (2004), cert. denied 126 S.Ct. 729 (2005), establishing that defendants prevailing in litigation with their ERISA plan are equally entitled as plaintiffs to the strong special circumstances presumption in favor of an award of attorneys fees. He briefed and argued AC Houston v. Berg, 407 Fed. Appx. 208 (9th Cir. 2010) as amicus counsel for CAOC in the 9th Circuit, resulting in the court reversing the district court judgment holding a plaintiffs attorney liable on an ERISA lien.

MEGAN DEMSHKI, Aitken*Aitken*Cohn

Megan G. Demshki is a partner at Aitken*Aitken*Cohn in Riverside, specializing in the areas of catastrophic personal injury, wrongful death and medical malpractice. Megan was recognized as the 2022 CAOIE Streetfighter of the Year for Ruehle v. California Republican Party, which held a political party accountable for the conduct of an unlicensed paid campaign canvasser. Megan was also a finalist for CAOC's 2021 Consumer Attorney of the Year for the same matter. Megan was involved and named in the California Court of Appeal decision Sumrall v. Modern Alloys, Inc., which clarified the business errand exception. As a result of her role in the Sumrall matter, Megan was a finalist for CAOC's 2019 Consumer Attorney of the Year award. Megan is a Past President of Consumer Attorneys of the Inland

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Empire. She was awarded the 2018 CAOIE Presidential Award for Distinguished Service. In 2023, Megan was recognized by the Daily Journal as both a Top Woman Lawyer and Top 40 Under 40 Lawyer. Megan is Vice President of the Riverside County Bar Association.

VANESSA DENISTON, Dolan Law Firm, PC

Vanessa C. Deniston is a Senior Associate Attorney at the Dolan Law Firm, PC, practicing in the Bay Area. Ms. Deniston focuses her practice on employment law, including discrimination, harassment, retaliation and wrongful termination cases, as well as personal injury matters, ranging from catastrophic injury, premises liability, wrongful death and products liability, as well as cases involving elder abuse. Guided by tenacity, grit and creativity, Ms. Deniston has secured multiple six- and seven-figure settlements for her clients against numerous top Fortune 500 companies. Ms. Deniston currently serves as the Interim Chair of Consumer Attorneys of California's DE&I Committee and is the current Executive Director of the Dolan Law Firm's DE&I Committee. She is a recent graduate of the CAOC's Leadership Academy, and currently sits on the Board of Legal Assistance to the Elderly. She is a regular volunteer attorney coach and mentor for the SF YMCA's Mock Trial program for young adults, and had been recognized as a Rising Star from 2018 to 2022 by the Northern California Super Lawyers.

DAVID DERUBERTIS, deRubertis Law Firm

VINCENT JAMES DESIMONE, V. James DeSimone Law

Jim DeSimone is the founder of V. James DeSimone Law, a Los Angeles-based litigation practice located in Marina del Rey. V. James DeSimone Law takes on civil rights cases including employment cases, police brutality cases and personal injury cases where people are harmed or injured through abuses of power or negligence. Jim is a trial lawyer going to bat for the people against corporations and the government and has achieved groundbreaking trial verdicts and appellate victories in civil rights and employment cases. He has been named a Top Employment Lawyer in California by the Daily Journal for the past ten years. Jim has been named a top 100 Southern California Super Lawyer for six straight years and is annually honored as a Best Lawyer in the United States. In 2023, he was honored by Best Lawyers as Best Civil Rights Lawyer In Los Angeles. In 2022, he was honored by the Daily Journal as a Top Plaintiff's Lawyer. Learn more about V. James DeSimone Law at: <http://www.vjamesdesimonelaw.com>

CHRIS DOLAN, Dolan Law Firm

Christopher B. Dolan, M.S.M., J.D., is the founder and Chief Legal Counsel of the Dolan Law Firm, San Francisco. Recognized as one of the top plaintiffs lawyers in California, he spearheaded significant and challenging lawsuits filed in California state and federal courts against insurance companies, Fortune 500 companies, cities, other public agencies and product manufacturers. Chris has received numerous awards from his peers, including Consumer Attorney of the Year for the state of California from CAOC; Trial Lawyer of the Year, twice, from SFTLA; Trial Lawyer of the Year from MTLA; and Trial of the Year from the ACBA. He has been awarded the prestigious CLAY Award from California Reporter, has been repeatedly selected as one of the top 25 Plaintiffs Lawyers and as one of the Top 100 Lawyers in California by the Daily Journal. CAOC awarded him the Edward I. Pollock Award. Chris served as President of both CAOC and SFTLA.

GARY DORDICK, Dordick Law Corporation

Gary A. Dordick, the founder of Dordick Law Corporation, is a trial attorney specializing in plaintiff jury trials, with over 150 Jury trials in his career. Mr. Dordick went directly from high school to law school, never attending college. He put himself through a four-year evening program while working at a law firm, starting as a file room clerk. Immediately after passing the bar, Mr. Dordick opened his own law firm, initially without any employees. Today, the Dordick Law Corporation has three locations, 56 employees and 16 associate attorneys. Mr. Dordick is on the executive board of the American Board of Trial Advocates, Los Angeles chapter, and will be ABOTA's incoming Vice President/President 2025. He is an Emeritus member of the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles Board of Governors. He is CAALA's 2001 Trial Lawyer of the Year, an award he was subsequently nominated for an unprecedented eleven times. He was also Consumer Attorneys of California's 2009 Consumer Attorney of the Year. In 2023, Mr. Dordick was inducted into the CAALA Hall of Fame.

NANCY DRABBLE, CAOC

Nancy Drabble is CEO and chief lobbyist of CAOC. She has spearheaded the organization's involvement in court issues and has been named one of the top ten lawyer-lobbyists in Sacramento by California Lawyer magazine. She has also been profiled in the Sacramento Business Journal and she has been recognized as one of the Capitol Top 100 by Capitol Weekly for ten consecutive years. Before coming to CAOC, Ms. Drabble lobbied on consumer, environmental, legal and regulatory issues for Public Citizen's Congress Watch, founded by Ralph Nader. During that time, she testified before Congressional committees on numerous occasions and served as a commentator at CNN for one year. She earned her bachelor's degree summa cum laude from the University of California, Santa Barbara and her law degree from UC Berkeley School of Law. Ms. Drabble is admitted to the State Bar of California and the District of Columbia bar.

ROGER DREYER, Dreyer | Babich | Buccola | Wood | Campora

Mr. Dreyer has spent the last 40 years specializing in catastrophic injury and wrongful death matters against public entities, manufacturers and corporations. He is a Diplomat with ABOTA, having tried in excess of 150 plaintiff jury trials to verdict. He has repeatedly had verdicts in the top 100 verdicts in the United States and has obtained record-setting verdicts for his clients throughout California, with multimillion dollar verdicts in nine different counties. He has been repeatedly recognized as a Top 10 attorney in Northern California by Super Lawyers. He has received the Trial Lawyer of the Year award on several occasions by Capitol City Trial Lawyers and has been a finalist for Consumer Attorney of the Year by CAOC on seven occasions, receiving the award in 2010. Cal ABOTA awarded him the statewide Trial Lawyer of the Year in 2004. He has also been recognized as the Outstanding Board Leader by the Nonprofit Resource Center in 2002 for his work with the Child Abuse Prevention Center.

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ED DUDENSING, Dudensing Law

For the last twenty years, Ed Dudensing has owned and operated his own law firm representing exclusively victims of elder neglect and abuse in health care facilities. Mr. Dudensing has successfully prosecuted scores of elder abuse cases and acted as lead trial counsel on the three largest elder abuse verdicts in the in the Sacramento/Greater San Francisco Bay Area.

JENNA EDZANT, Greene Broillet & Wheeler LLP

Jenna Edzant is an attorney at Greene Broillet & Wheeler LLP whose practice focuses on catastrophic injury, traumatic brain injury, premises liability, and product liability. In 2023, Jenna has helped bring multiple cases to successful verdicts, including the highest ever non-lethal dog bite verdict in the country. She also successfully represented two victims against the UC Regents, exposing a decades-long history of hazing and sexual assault at the UCLA Alumni Bruin Woods summer camp. The lawsuit resulted in the camp being closed while significant reforms and protections are put in place for the next group of student counselors. Jenna graduated from both sides of town, completing her J.D. at USC's Gould School of Law and a Bachelor of Science in Experimental Psychology from UCLA and Oxford University in England. She currently serves as the Education Chair for CAOC's New Lawyer Division and on the executive board of the Santa Clarita Valley Bar Association, in addition to her involvement with CAALA, AAJ, and ABTL.

TAYLOR ERNST, Ernst Law Group

Taylor Ernst grew up going to trial lawyer conventions and classes. Attending trial lawyer CLE's when he was barely able to walk, he grew up learning how to speak to a jury. A student of trials and focus groups, Taylor is always seeking new ways to present a case. Applying the knowledge from being surrounded by attorneys for a lot of his life, Taylor has looked for new ways to create advantages in litigation. Taylor has already secured multiple seven-figure results in both verdicts and settlements.

TOM FEHER, Feher Law, APC

Tom Feher is a trial lawyer, founder and CEO of Feher Law, APC. His firm specializes in litigating and trying catastrophic injury, wrongful death and employment cases throughout California. At just 40 years old, he has tried over 50 jury trials to verdict. He has been honored with CAALA's Rising Star Award in 2018 and OCTLA's Young Gun Award in 2017. He has given lectures, presentations and workshops on trying cases throughout the country for numerous organizations including CAOC, CAALA, CASD, OCTLA, Brain Society of California, TBI Med Legal and Trial Lawyers University. He is a proud board member of Consumer Attorneys of California, Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles, Los Angeles Trial Lawyers Charity and the Brain Society of California. He is a 2013 graduate of Gerry Spence's Trial Lawyers College and instructor of the Gerry Spence's Trial Program.

BIBIANNE FELL, Fell Law, PC

Bibi represents plaintiffs who suffered catastrophic injuries or the death of a loved one. She is the Founding Partner of Fell Law, PC, in San Diego and is a Partner at Athea Trial Lawyers, a nationwide plaintiffs firm comprised of six prominent female trial lawyers. Bibi is a National Board Member for the American Board of Trial Advocates. Membership is extended by invitation only to lawyers who have demonstrated extensive trial experience, civility and professionalism. In 2021, Bibi was one of the finalists for Consumer Attorneys of California's Consumer Attorney of the Year award. She has received the Outstanding Trial Lawyer award and Outstanding Advocate award from Consumer Attorneys of San Diego, and in 2020 she received the Trial Lawyer of the Year award from Pepperdine Law School. Bibi has also been selected to be a member of Lawdragon 500, The National Trial Lawyers: Top 100 Trial Lawyers, the Daily Journal's Top 100 Women Lawyers and has been selected as a Top 50 San Diego Superlawyer and Top 25 Women Superlawyer.

JENNIFER FIORE, Fiore & Achermann

Jennifer Fiore is a partner at Fiore Achermann, where she focuses on sexual abuse, elder abuse, public entity, railroad, maritime and other torts. Since 2015, she has been named a Northern California Super Lawyer and has been named to the Top 50 Women Northern California and Top 100 Northern California Super Lawyers lists since 2020. She is a proud member of the trial team that received 2022 SFTLA's Trial Lawyer of the Year.

CHANTEL FITTING, Galine, Frye, Fitting & Frangos

Chantel Fitting is a partner at Galine, Frye, Fitting & Frangos and has been practicing civil litigation exclusively for 23 years, with an emphasis on personal injury cases. Ms. Fitting has developed an expertise in evaluating complex medical damages as a result of life-altering injuries and has successfully tried numerous jury cases and arbitrations in several Bay Area counties, with substantial awards for her clients. She is an active member of Consumer Attorneys of California; she currently serves on the Board for the San Mateo County Bar Association; and she is a past president of the San Mateo County Trial Lawyers Association. Her determination and success as a trial lawyer for consumers has been recognized by several entities throughout her career. She has been nominated as Street Fighter of the Year by CAOC; she was awarded Trial Lawyer of the Year by the SMTLA; and she has been nominated as a Super Lawyer and one of the Top 50 Women Trial Lawyers for Northern California by Super Lawyers.

MICHELLE FONSECA-KAMANA, West Coast Lemons APC

Michelle Fonseca-Kamana is the Founder and Principal Attorney at West Coast Lemons APC, a law firm specializing in California lemon law. Having personally negotiated over \$7.5 million worth of settlements from auto and RV manufacturers throughout her career, she is most proud of coupling incredible results with an unparalleled client experience. Her law firm origin story is unique in that she started her law firm three weeks before the pandemic hit in 2020, but this became a blessing in disguise, as she became a pioneer in the area of social media marketing for attorneys and law firms. By actively sharing her lemon law knowledge in both English and Spanish via informational videos with her followers on Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube and TikTok she built a solid direct to consumer and direct to business referral network all using social media. In her spare time, she mentors attorneys across the country on how to start their own law firms and use social media as a marketing tool.

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STUART FRAENKEL, Nelson & Fraenkel

Mr. Fraenkel has a broad range of experience in civil litigation, including complex high-profile aviation, admiralty/maritime, auto, bus, truck, motorcycle, premises, personal injury, wrongful death, products liability, insurance bad faith, business litigation, mass tort, patent and entertainment matters. Having handled numerous high-profile personal injury and wrongful death cases throughout his career with notable results, Mr. Fraenkel's litigation experience has spanned the world, including Africa, Asia, Canada, Central America, Europe, Mexico, the Middle East, South America and just about all 50 states of the U.S. He is well versed in State and Federal Tort claims procedures and requirements, in addition to being an authority in national and international conflicts and choice of law issues. He has reached the height of professional excellence and is recognized for the highest levels of skill and integrity as a preeminent-rated attorney through the prestigious Martindale-Hubbell® Peer Review Ratings. Mr. Fraenkel has litigated numerous international and domestic airline, commuter, military and general aviation crash cases. Mr. Fraenkel was one of the lead attorneys in the landmark Silk Air matter.

MARYANN GALLAGHER, Law Offices of Maryann P. Gallagher

Maryann Gallagher owns her own employment law firm in Los Angeles, blocks from the courthouse downtown. Maryann has been trying employment cases for over 30 years, obtaining verdicts in sexual assault, sexual harassment, sexual orientation discrimination, disability discrimination and whistleblower cases. Maryann is the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles trial lawyer of the year for 2016, the second female to be awarded that honor in over 58 years. She is a mom of three boys. Maryann believes in reaching out to lawyers who are on their own to help them. She is a strong advocate of diverse trial teams and welcomes attorneys to join her in trial for the experience. Feel free to reach out. mail@mpg-law.com

ALEXIS GAMLIEL, Gamliel Law, P.C.

Alexis Gamliel is the Founder and Principal Trial Attorney of Gamliel Law, an elite litigation firm focusing on personal injury, wrongful death, and employment matters. As a leader in the legal community, Alexis currently serves on the Executive Committee and Board of Directors for Consumer Attorneys of California. Equipped with deep litigation experience, Alexis dedicates her craft to the fight for justice. She prides herself on litigating with sincerity and skill, giving her clients light and hope in some of their darkest days. Combining discerning focus with heart and soul, Alexis gives each case the thoughtful attention it deserves. She applies unparalleled performance to attain justice for those who have been wronged, and her results speak for themselves. Alexis is committed to giving back to the community, and she highly values building relationships. Last year, Alexis served as the Chair of CAOC's New Lawyers Division, and she currently serves as the New Lawyers Representative on CAOC's Executive Committee. To learn more about Alexis, visit her bio at <https://gamliellaw.com/about-alexis/>.

CESAR GARCIA, Chang | Klein LLP

Cesar R. Garcia is the senior trial/litigation paralegal with Chang | Klein LLP. Mr. Garcia has over 32 years of experience in handling large document multi-party multi-million litigation matters, including large and complex personal injury, wrongful death, vehicular accidents, product liability and class action cases on behalf of injured individuals and consumers. In addition to working on the firm's largest cases and handling client and court relations, retaining experts, and the preparation of documents, discovery, motions, memoranda and correspondence, Mr. Garcia is the designated trial paralegal for the firm's most important and influential legal cases. In this role, he has mastered the use of technology, both in and out of the courtroom, and use of the most up-to-date applications, ranging from cloud-based file storage to applications including but not limited to TrialPad, TranscriptPad and DocuReviewPad, and the use of technology to display exhibits, video deposition designations, etc. at trial. Moreover, Mr. Garcia serves as a trainer for new hire paralegals at Chang | Klein LLP.

CRISTINA GARCIA, Dolan Law Firm

An associate attorney in the Dolan Law Firm's Los Angeles office, Cristina is a forceful, passionate, and skilled advocate for the injured. In 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021, Super Lawyers recognized Cristina as a Rising Star among Northern California attorneys, which is an honor bestowed on fewer than 2.5% of California Lawyers. Cristina has successfully represented clients in a wide range of individual personal injury and wrongful death lawsuits. Cristina possesses a deep appreciation of her role as a counselor and advocate for her clients. In all of her cases, Cristina understands that she is assisting people coping with major losses and life-altering changes. As such, she operates with genuine compassion and vigor in the pursuit of justice for her clients. Cristina is an active member of Consumer Attorneys of California and currently serves on the CAOC Board of Directors. Cristina is also a member of the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles and the Mexican American Bar Association. Cristina is fluent in Spanish.

FELIPE GARCIA

TATEVIK GASPARYAN, Morgan & Morgan

Tatevik Vicki Gasparyan is a personal injury attorney for Morgan & Morgan's Los Angeles office. Vicki's practice focuses on representing clients injured in serious automobile collisions, wrongful death, premises liability and cases involving traumatic brain injuries. Prior to joining the firm, Vicki worked in the insurance industry, where she served in key technical roles representing the interest of individuals and the Fortune 500 companies. Vicki brings nearly two decades of industrywide experience and skillset which adds tremendous value to representing her clients. Vicki was named Top 40 Under 40 by the National Trial Lawyers and was appointed as a Board member for the Women Lawyers of Los Angeles, New Lawyers Chapter. Vicki is a proud member and supporter of the Leadership Academy of Consumer Attorneys of California. Vicki prides herself in advocacy and fighting for the rights of her clients. Apart from practice, she serves Adjunct Professor of Law for both Legal Research and Writing and Trial Advocacy.

DENISSE GASTÉLUM, Gastélum Law, APC

Denisse O. Gastélum is the founder and principal trial attorney at Gastélum Law, APC, where her civil rights practice focuses primarily on

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police shootings and in-custody death cases, representing plaintiffs in state and federal courts throughout the state of California. She previously worked as a defense attorney, where she specialized in public entity defense. This experience provides her with the unique ability to analyze a case from both a defense and plaintiff's perspective. Ms. Gastélum is a proud Past President of the Latina Lawyers Bar Association and the Mexican American Bar Association. She is the current President of California La Raza Lawyers Association and currently serves on the Board of Directors of the ACLU of Southern California, National Police Accountability Project, Los Angeles County Bar Association, Consumers Attorneys Association of Los Angeles and Consumer Attorneys of California. In 2022, Denisse was a recipient of the Street Fighter of the Year award by CAOC for her role on the litigation team behind the Alarcio v. County of Los Angeles federal civil rights action.

MICHAEL GATTO, Law Office of Michael E. Gatto, PC

Michael is a former prosecutor and has tried over 100 jury trials. Michael owns and manages his own firm, Law Office of Michael E. Gatto, PC, located in Walnut Creek. Michael specializes in cases involving complex legal and medical issues and accepts catastrophic injury cases on a referral basis. Michael has handled matters involving medical malpractice, skilled nursing facilities, product liability, premises liability, exceptions to Worker's Compensation, motor vehicle and trucking accident matters, and general negligence and intentional torts. Michael uses his extensive knowledge of medicine to obtain favorable resolutions for his clients by effectively communicating complex medical issues to mediators, judges and, when necessary, jurors. Michael holds the record for the largest medical malpractice verdict in Contra Costa County. Michael appeared as himself in the documentary "This Giant Beast that is the Global Economy, Episode 6, The Death Episode" on Amazon Prime. Michael discussed how governments and businesses assess risk associated with expected carnage from their activities. Michael is a past president of the Alameda Contra Costa Trial Lawyers Association.

NEIL GEHLAWAT, Taylor & Ring

Neil Gehlawat is a partner at Taylor & Ring, where he concentrates his practice in the areas of sexual abuse, police misconduct and serious personal injury. Many of Neil's cases have been covered in national media outlets, including most recently his representation of the family of Diego Stolz, who was bullied and killed at Landmark Middle School in Moreno Valley. Neil and Dave Ring obtained a \$27 million settlement for the family. Neil is a member of the Board of Directors for CAOC.

KARMAN GUADAGNI, Stebner Gertler Guadagni & Kawamoto

Karman is the Managing Partner at Stebner Gertler Guadagni & Kawamoto. Her practice focuses on elder abuse litigation. Karman advocates on behalf of the elderly, dependent adults and their families to compensate them for wrongs they have suffered and works for reform within the long term care industry. She has been selected as a Super Lawyer in 2022 and 2023, and as a Rising Star among California's Super Lawyers from 2015 to 2021. Karman is a frequent speaker and author on topics related to elder abuse and neglect. She serves on the board of directors for the San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association and is the co-author of "Litigating Cases Against Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly" in CEB's "California Elder Law Litigation: An Advocate's Guide." Karman was a finalist for CAOC's Street Fighter of the Year Award in 2018 for her work on an elder abuse abandonment case related to the 2017 Tubbs Fire. She has served as a guest professor at Stanford Law since 2015.

TALAR GUEDIKIAN, Altair Law LLP

Talar "Tal" Guedikian completed her Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice at California State University, Long Beach. Thereafter, she earned her paralegal certificate from Pasadena City College in 2010. Tal prides herself on having worked through the various positions at a firm, starting out as a receptionist and file clerk while working with a solo practitioner in the family law field. Upon receiving her certification, she began her career as a paralegal at Keller, Fishback & Jackson LLP, and after about five years became the paralegal supervisor. Tal then gained approximately 10 years of experience on the defense side when she was a senior paralegal at Weston Herzog LLP, representing large corporations and assisting on multiple trial teams, with successful results at each turn. Recently, Tal began as a senior litigation paralegal with Altair Law LLP and has been preparing for multiple trials anticipated to commence in early 2024. Additionally, Tal teaches two courses in the paralegal program at Pasadena City College, where she has been an adjunct instructor for 11 years.

JANET GUSDORFF, Gusdorff Law, P.C.

Janet R. Gusdorff, a Certified Appellate Law Specialist (California Board of Legal Specialization), handles appeals in state and federal court, with an emphasis on plaintiffs employment and personal injury matters. Janet is the owner and principal of Gusdorff Law, P.C., in Westlake Village. Since 2012, she has been repeatedly selected by Southern California Super Lawyers as one of its Rising Stars and Super Lawyers in appellate law, and one of its Top 50 Up-and-Coming Women Southern California Rising Stars and Top 100 Up-and-Coming Southern California Rising Stars in 2019 and 2021. She has been AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell and recognized by Pasadena Magazine as one of its Top Attorneys in 2017 and 2018. Janet graduated from Loyola Law School, where she served as Note and Comment Editor on the Loyola Law Review. Janet serves on the executive committee of the Appellate Courts Section of the Los Angeles County Bar Association and regularly speaks and publishes on employment law, appellate law and legal research and writing.

ROSE GUTIERREZ, Michels & Lew

Rose Gutierrez is the Litigation Manager at the law firm of Michels & Lew, which represents catastrophically injured plaintiffs throughout California in medical malpractice and personal injury actions. For the last 23 years, Rose has overseen and managed the firm's litigation assistants and all cases that are in active litigation and has worked closely with the attorneys in the formulation and implementation of case strategy. Rose holds a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and a Master of Education, both from UCLA. She has presented at seminars for the nation's largest plaintiff attorney advocacy organization, the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles, and at the Annual CAALA Attorneys Conference. Rose was the Chair of the Legal Staff Support Group of CAALA in 2022 and 2023. She has

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also presented at the Annual Convention for Consumer Attorneys of California. Rose has published articles in California's most widely circulated Plaintiff's attorney's magazine, The Advocate. In her personal time, Rose volunteers her time towards the promotion and advancement of her sorority, Gamma Phi Beta.

LAUREL HALBANY, Kazan, McClain, Satterley & Greenwood

Laurel Halbany is an attorney at Kazan, McClain, Satterley & Greenwood in Oakland, representing victims of asbestos-related disease, particularly mesothelioma. She is a member of the CAOC Board of Directors and past chair of the AAJ LGBT Caucus, and she received the Marvin E. Lewis Award in 2021 for advocacy on behalf of asbestos victims.

ALEXANDRA HAMILTON, Fiore Achermann

Alexandra A. Hamilton is a partner at Fiore Achermann, which handles complex cases involving injuries and death arising from construction and worksite conditions, defective products, dangerous property conditions, sexual assault, elder abuse, negligent security, and collisions between cars, trucks, pedestrians and bicyclists. Ms. Hamilton has been recognized as one of the top young litigators in California. She was named Top 40 Under 40 by the National Trial Lawyers Association, Top 10 Under 40 in California by the National Academy of Personal Injury Attorneys, 10 Best Female Attorneys in California by the American Institute of Personal Injury Attorneys, and Super Lawyers Rising Star every year since 2014. Ms. Hamilton graduated from Santa Clara University, School of Law. Prior to joining Fiore Achermann in 2020, Ms. Hamilton worked at two prominent plaintiffs firms, focusing on mass torts, personal injury, product liability and other complex civil litigation. She brings the knowledge that she has developed over her career to passionately advocate for people suffering life-altering injuries.

KELLY HANKER, Trial Lawyers for Justice

Kelly Hanker is a trial attorney known for increasing the value of cases, including catastrophic and traumatic injury, medical malpractice, employment law, class actions and sexual assault/abuse cases. Often referred to as the Empathy Lawyer, Kelly's connection to her clients after sustaining a permanent partial disability in a car crash herself and being called to the plaintiffs' side by her then trial attorney, now mentor and partner, Nick Rowley, is unmatched. In addition to her own cases, Kelly also associates in as trial counsel around the country and consults on trials, client and witness deposition and DME preparation, conducting the human story and developing the story of your client/case. Kelly has repeatedly been named a Super Lawyers Rising Star for Southern California, is a graduate of the Gerry Spence Method trial college and has been honored by numerous organizations for her nonprofit board service and philanthropic work, including by the Los Angeles Business Journal as a finalist for Philanthropist of the Year.

SRINIVAS HANUMADASS, Singleton Schreiber LLP

Srinivas Hanumadass, Counsel at Singleton Schreiber, focuses on single-event catastrophic personal injury cases. Known as Vas by all, he is honored each and every time someone asks him to be their voice and takes that as a moral as well as legal obligation. Recognized as a Southern California Super Lawyer every year since 2017, and a Daily Journal Top 40 under 40, Mr. Hanumadass actively participates as a leader in the legal community and beyond. He served two terms as president of the South Asian Bar Association of San Diego, one term as vice president of the San Diego County Bar Association, and was past Scholarship Committee Chair of the Lawyers Club of San Diego, whose mission is to promote women in the law and society. He is a current Board member of Consumer Attorneys of California and an active member in the American Association for Justice. Mr. Hanumadass is one of few attorneys to be selected to participate in the Leadership Academies of both CAOC and AAJ.

LEXI HAZAM, Lieff Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein

A leader within the plaintiffs' bar, Lexi chairs the firm's Mass Torts Practice group and represents clients in mass tort cases and environmental class actions, as well as whistleblower/false claims act actions. In November 2022, Judge Yvonne Gonzalez Rogers of the Northern District of California appointed Lexi as Co-Lead Counsel of MDL 3047, In re Social Media Adolescent Addiction/Personal Injury Products Liability Litigation, the nationwide multi-district litigation against major social media platforms including Facebook, Instagram (owned by Meta), TikTok, Snapchat and YouTube (owned by Google), alleging that the platforms cause addiction and mental health problems in adolescents due to the defective and profit-driven design of their algorithmic recommendations and inadequate parental controls and age verification. Lexi is also Court-appointed Interim Co-Lead Class Counsel for the plaintiffs in litigation arising from the October 2, 2021, oil pipeline rupture off the coast of Orange County, which resulted in contamination of beaches, harbors and fisheries with toxic oil. The National Law Journal named Lexi a Plaintiffs' Lawyer Trailblazer for 2022.

ELIZABETH HERNANDEZ, Dordick Law Corporation

Elizabeth A. Hernandez is an attorney at Dordick Law Corporation in Beverly Hills. Her areas of practice include catastrophic personal injury, premises liability and wrongful death cases. She is the 2022 recipient of Consumer Attorneys of California's Robert E. Cartwright, Sr. Award, which is given in recognition of excellence in trial advocacy and dedication to teaching trial advocacy to fellow lawyers and to the public. She was selected for the Daily Journal's Top Women Lawyers 2021. She has been selected by her peers for inclusion in the 22nd (2016) through 29th (2023) Editions of The Best Lawyers in America for her work in Personal Injury Litigation and named to the 2020 through 2023 Southern California Super Lawyers list. Ms. Hernandez is the 2023 President-Elect of the Mexican American Bar Association, the 2023 Second Vice-President, and a CAOC Board Member. She is also a member of the Latina Lawyers Bar Association.

DANIEL HODES, Hodes Milman, LLP

Daniel M. Hodes is a 1981 graduate of Pepperdine University School of Law and moved to California from New York after undergraduate. He is now in his 42nd year in practice. He has been a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates since 1995. He was the president of the Orange County Trial Lawyers Association in 1999 and served on the Board of Governors of Consumer Attorneys of

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California for 15 years. Mr. Hodes has attained what is believed to have been the two highest medical malpractice/wrongful death jury verdicts in the history of Orange County at the time. He was named as trial lawyer of the year for medical malpractice by the Orange County Trial Lawyers Association in 2002, 2006, 2016 and 2023, and was elected into their Hall of Fame in 2022. For the third time, Mr. Hodes has been a finalist for Consumer Attorney of the Year (2004, 2006 and 2023). Mr. Hodes was a senior partner in the Lopez Hodes firm for 20 years and founded Hodes Milman, LLP 16 years ago.

EDWIN HONG, Simon Law Group

Edwin's passion for the law began as he worked at the Superior Court and observed countless people unable to effectively fight for their rights, lost in a complicated and intimidating justice system. He had the fortune of working directly in the courtroom as a Court Attendant and Court Clerk, observing over 100 trials under several judges. Edwin has a Bachelor's Degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice, graduating summa cum laude from Arizona State University. He enrolled as a part-time evening student with the Western State College of Law, where he was accepted with a full scholarship. Throughout law school, Edwin worked as a certified law clerk during the day, attending classes in the evening and maintaining the number-one rank in his class. He also served as the Editor-in-Chief of the Western State Law Review. He then graduated summa cum laude, the valedictorian of his graduating class, and went on to pass the bar exam and began practicing law with the Simon Law Group, where he is now a Managing Attorney.

T. GABE HOUSTON, The Trial Lab Corporation

T. Gabe Houston is the founding trial attorney at The Trial Lab Corporation, where he runs the firm's trial division. He practices primarily in last-minute trials, product liability, catastrophic personal injury and aviation-related cases. Gabe received his undergraduate degree from the University of California and earned his J.D. from Chapman University Fowler School of Law in Orange, graduating painfully average. Gabe is an occasional trial attorney, occasional private and commercial fixed-wing and helicopter pilot, and occasional start-up entrepreneur. He has frequently tried and arbitrated complex cases in multi-month trials. He is a graduate of the Gerry Spence Trial Lawyers College and regularly spends time working with other trial lawyers in local working groups, working on story development, jury selection, witness preparation, opening statements and closing arguments. He operates The Trial Lab, a local working group where lawyers practice their craft in preparation for trial and receive real-time feedback from their colleagues. He is admitted to practice in California and Florida, and he holds offices in both states. Gabe can be reached at TGH@TheTrialLab.com.

CASEY HULTIN, Hultin Law, PC

BENJAMIN IKUTA, Ikuta Hemesath, LLP

Benjamin T. Ikuta is the founding partner at Ikuta Hemesath LLP in Santa Ana, where he concentrates his practice entirely on medical malpractice on the plaintiff side. Ben is a preeminent attorney in prosecuting medical malpractice actions who has tried multiple cases to verdict. He has presented and been published many times on medical malpractice issues. In 2018, Ben co-founded the Medical Malpractice Trial Attorneys of California. Ben can be reached at ben@ih-llp.com.

ROBERT JARCHI, Greene Broillet & Wheeler

Robert Jarchi has been an attorney and partner at Greene Broillet & Wheeler for over 23 years. Rob's practice includes exposure to toxic chemicals such as Roundup, wildfire litigation, brain injuries and wrongful death matters.

HON. SAMANTHA P. JESSNER, San Francisco Superior Court

JENNIFER JOHNSON, Law Office of Jennifer R. Johnson

Jennifer R. Johnson is the founding partner at the Law Office of Jennifer R. Johnson. Jennifer's firm focuses on plaintiffs' medical malpractice and personal injury cases. Her firm has a special interest in spinal cord injury and ophthalmology medical malpractice cases. Jennifer earned a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology with a minor in Music Education from Evangel College in Springfield, Missouri. She then attended nursing school at Mesa Community College in Arizona, after which she became a Registered Nurse. Jennifer then attended law school at the University of Arizona. Prior to and during law school, Jennifer worked as an RN in intensive care units. Jennifer spent the first eight years of her career representing doctors and hospitals in medical malpractice cases. She then joined the plaintiffs firm Lopez Hodes before starting her own firm in 2012. In 2020, the Orange County Trial Lawyers Association awarded Jennifer with the Distinguished Achievement Award for an eight-figure settlement she obtained, and in 2021 Jennifer was recognized as the OCTLA Member of the Year for her work mentoring law students.

CASEY JOHNSON, Aitken*Aitken*Cohn

Casey R. Johnson is a partner at the law firm of Aitken*Aitken*Cohn, representing plaintiffs in matters involving catastrophic injuries, wrongful death, insurance bad faith and elder abuse. He currently serves as the Third Vice President of Consumer Attorneys of California, is Immediate Past President of the Western Trial Lawyers Association and serves on the boards of directors for the American Association for Justice, Orange County Lavender Bar Association, the Public Law Center and Operation Helping Hands. He is a Past President of the Orange County Trial Lawyers Association, the Robert A. Banyard Inn of Court, and the Orange County Lavender Bar Association, and is Past Chair of the Diversity Committee of Consumer Attorneys of California. Casey is a frequent author and lecturer on a wide range of legal subjects including bias, pool safety, discovery, elder abuse and insurance bad faith. He has repeatedly been recognized as a Rising Star and Super Lawyer by Southern California Super Lawyers Magazine, including repeated recognition as one of the Top 50 attorneys in Orange County.

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TERESA JOHNSON, Kramer Trial Lawyers A.P.C.

Teresa is a trial lawyer and partner at Kramer Trial Lawyers, practicing in the areas of plaintiffs personal injury, wrongful death and employment litigation. Teresa has secured several seven- and eight-figure verdicts on behalf of her clients and is often asked to speak on trial strategy. In 2021, Teresa was selected as a finalist for the CAALA Rising Star Award and the CAOC Street Fighter of the Year Award.

NOLAN JONES, Dreyer | Babich | Buccola | Wood | Campora

Nolan R. Jones has been an attorney with Dreyer | Babich | Buccola | Wood | Campora, LLP since 2016. He joined the firm in 2013 as a law clerk, working for Roger Dreyer and Robert Bale on various complex cases while he attended law school during the evenings at McGeorge School of Law in Sacramento. While working with highly experienced trial attorneys on these complex cases, Mr. Jones was often tasked with handling various lien issues to maximize the net recovery for the firm's clients. Over time, he has developed various tactics that have worked in significant lien reductions. In March 2023, Mr. Jones and Robert Bale co-authored an article for Forum Magazine titled "Practical Solutions for Impractical Lien Negotiations," which focused on applying California laws regarding personal injury cases generally in order to maximize lien reductions with Kaiser, Balance Billers and Medi-Cal.

GIA JUNG, Cotchett Pitre & McCarthy

Gia Jung is an associate at Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy LLP. She specializes in complex commercial litigation and class actions. Gia received her J.D. from University of California, Berkeley School of Law, with a certificate in IP & Technology Law. During law school, Gia was active as a student advisor for the Law and Technology Writing Workshop. Prior to law school, Gia graduated with highest honors from University of California, Santa Barbara, where she received a B.A. in English and a minor in Labor Studies. Before joining CPM, Gia worked at a large law firm in San Francisco, representing clients in commercial litigation, consumer class actions and trade secret matters.

ABBAS KAZEROUNIAN, Kazerouni Law Group, APC

Abbas Kazerounian is one of the founding partners at Kazerouni Law Group, APC. Mr. Kazerounian's areas of specialty are consumer rights and class actions. Abbas prides himself in being an innovator in the area of consumer rights jurisprudence. Abbas has been responsible for over 800 published opinions. He has argued successfully before the Ninth Circuit of Appeals on numerous occasions. Abbas has been lead counsel in hundreds of national class actions. Abbas has obtained over \$1 billion for consumers nationwide in the last five years alone. Abbas is also an adjunct professor of law at California Western School of Law, where he teaches a three-credit course in consumer law. Abbas is licensed in California, New York, Texas, Illinois, Michigan, Colorado, the District of Columbia and Washington.

MICHAEL A. KELLY, Walkup, Melodia, Kelly & Schoenberger

Michael A. Kelly is the managing shareholder of Walkup, Melodia, Kelly & Schoenberger. He is a former Cal-ABOTA Trial Lawyer of the Year and a four-time Trial Lawyer of the Year nominee of the SFTLA. He has tried cases in most of the Superior Courts of Northern California, the Northern California Federal District Court, the Los Angeles Superior Court and the Orange County Superior Court. He is a past President of SFTLA and the San Francisco chapter of ABOTA. He is a member of the Inner Circle of Advocates, the ACTL and the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, the ISOB and the Lawdragon 500. He is a member of the Judicial Council CACI committee. He has served on the board of governors of the National Institute for Trial Advocacy since 2000. He is a recipient of CAOC's Robert E. Cartwright, Sr. Award for advocacy teaching. His practice includes government liability, medical malpractice, premises, consumer product liability, and drug and device defects.

SARAH KIM, Chang | Klein LLP

Sarah Kim, an attorney with Chang | Klein LLP, has extensive experience in representing personal injury plaintiffs, especially in matters involving wrongful death, catastrophic injury and elder neglect. A compassionate and successful advocate, Sarah always takes the time to connect with her clients and understand their injuries and losses. According to her, there is nothing more rewarding than being able to make her clients feel heard and understood. Sarah's creative and innovative storytelling to illustrate her client's losses has led to many successful outcomes.

AIMEE KIRBY, Dolan Law Firm

The Managing Attorney of the Torts Practice Group at the Dolan Law Firm and a Senior Trial Attorney, Aimee Kirby supervises significant and precedent-setting lawsuits for individuals who suffered grave injuries and for families whose loved ones died. With more than 22 years of experience in the courtroom to draw upon, Aimee is a skilled, compassionate and accomplished trial lawyer who practices law in courtrooms across California. Aimee has successfully tried 20 cases and settled hundreds of matters, helping the clients recover over \$100 million in verdicts and settlements. Committed to preserving access to the courtroom for all, Aimee is an active member of the American Association for Justice, Consumer Attorneys of California and the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles. Aimee serves on the Board of Governors of CAALA. In 2015, Aimee led the Los Angeles Trial Lawyers' Charities as its President. The LATLC focuses on issues related to education, children, battered women, persons with disabilities, and homelessness, by providing financial assistance and food donations to needy persons and groups.

DANIEL KRAMER, Kramer Trial Lawyers APC

Dan Kramer is a trial lawyer and founder of Kramer Trial Lawyers APC in Los Angeles, which he founded in 2020 after founding Kramer Holcomb Sheik LLP in 2012. Dan has obtained numerous seven- and eight-figure jury verdicts as lead counsel on behalf of his clients. Multiple verdicts have been featured in the Daily Journal, Verdict Search, The Huffington Post and Fox 11 News. This year he was a top 10 finalist of CAALA's Trial Lawyer of the Year. In 2015, Daniel graduated from the renowned Gerry Spence Trial Lawyers College; that

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same year he graduated from CAALA's Plaintiff Trial Academy. In 2017 and 2018 he was a finalist for CAALA's prestigious Rising Star award, given to the top plaintiff attorney in Los Angeles under the age of 40. In 2021, Daniel served as President of the Los Angeles Trial Lawyers' Charities. In 2017, Daniel was elected as one of the youngest members to the American Board of Trial Advocates, and in 2019 he was elected by the entire membership to the LA-ABOTA Executive Committee.

YOSHI KUBOTA, Kubota & Craig, PC

Yoshiaki C. Kubota has exclusively represented individuals for two decades in the areas of complex litigation, catastrophic injuries, wrongful death, product liability and governmental tort liability. Mr. Kubota has tried in excess of 30 jury trials to conclusion and has handled upwards of 1000 cases. Mr. Kubota has developed extensive knowledge and experience in the area of litigation, case evaluation, trial practice and catastrophic injury. In 2011, Mr. Kubota served as President of the Orange County Trial Lawyers Association. He has also served on the Board of Directors of Consumer Attorneys of California. Mr. Kubota has also served as a Board of Director for the Banyard Inn of Court and is a Master Benchler. He has also served on the Board of the Japanese American Citizen League in Riverside from 1995 to 1997. In 2006, Mr. Kubota became a member of ABOTA, reaching the rank of associate.

NARE KUPELIAN, The Dominguez Firm, LLP

Nare Kupelian is a trial attorney in The Dominguez Firm's personal injury department. Her diverse legal background includes handling personal injury, wrongful death and products liability actions. Additionally, she has worked abroad at an international law firm, where she drafted model legislation for the criminalization of domestic violence. Nare became a lawyer to help people navigate the legal system effectively. Having moved to the U.S. at a young age, finding innovative ways to deal with conflicts and reach resolutions fascinated her. This, coupled with her awareness of the obstacles immigrant communities face when seeking quality legal representation, reinforced her career. She uses this foundational base in providing quality representation for her clients. Kupelian holds a J.D. from Whittier Law School and a B.A. in History and Political Science from the University of California, San Diego. She's a member of several legal organizations, including CAOC, CAALA, AAJ and LACBA. She completed the CAOC Leadership Academy this past year.

MARC LAZARUS, Russell & Lazarus

Mr. Lazarus has served as lead counsel on hundreds of litigated actions in which he has taken and/or defended over a thousand depositions of parties, witnesses, and experts. He has also represented clients as lead counsel on approximately five bench trials, approximately 20 jury trials, approximately 100 binding arbitrations, more than 100 judicial arbitrations and over 200 mediations, mandatory settlement conferences and voluntary settlement conferences. As proof of success, Marc has received recognition as a Southern California Super Lawyer and a Clients' Choice Award from Avvo. Mr. Lazarus has been married to his wife, Cathy, for over 26 years. Their son Jake is 21 years old and playing soccer in Europe.

MICHAEL LEVIN-GESUNDHEIT, Loeff Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein

Michael Levin-Gesundheit is a partner in Loeff Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein, LLP's San Francisco office. He is dedicated to seeking fairness for government entities, employees, consumers and injury victims, regardless of the resources of the defendant. His practice has been varied, from representing women who were subject to discrimination at Goldman Sachs to consumers whose privacy Google has invaded. In recent years, Michael served as a leader within the San Francisco opioid bellwether team. In particular, he focused on developing the testimony of line-level Walgreens pharmacists, whose voices played a prominent role in the successful 2022 trial. After a liability finding, Walgreens settled with San Francisco for approximately \$230 million and entered into multi-billion-dollar national settlements.

MICHA STAR LIBERTY, Liberty Law

Micha Star Liberty has held the title of President and Vice President of multiple legal and political organizations. She is a frequent lecturer and published author, focusing much of her public speaking on trial practice, discovery techniques, the importance of mentoring and diversity and inclusion, and best practices for employment and sexual assault cases. She is a certified mediator and has performed private mediations as well as mediations for the Contra Costa Superior Court. She conducts trainings on leadership and trauma-informed practices. Prior to becoming an attorney, she worked at the White House (Clinton Administration) and for two Members of Congress. Currently, Ms. Liberty has a diverse legal practice, primarily focused on helping individuals who have suffered a serious injury or abuse, including sexual abuse. The firm also represents employees who have been discriminated against or harassed in the workplace.

DAREN LIPINSKY, Rizio Lipinsky Law Firm

Daren H. Lipinsky is a Senior Trial Attorney with the Rizio Lipinsky Law Firm. For over 25 years, Mr. Lipinsky has successfully represented workers in all areas of employment litigation. Mr. Lipinsky is a Member of the American Board of Trial Advocates and a Fellow with The College of Labor & Employment Lawyers. For the past seven consecutive years, Mr. Lipinsky has been named California Whistleblower Attorney of the Year by Corporate Intl Magazine. Mr. Lipinsky is co-author of "Inside the Minds: Representing Employees in Sexual Harassment Cases" (Thompson Reuters, 2012) and has appeared as a featured legal commentator on ABC's "Good Morning America." In 2022, Mr. Lipinsky received the Consumer Attorneys of the Inland Empire's William M. Shernoff Trial Lawyer of the Year Award and the Western San Bernardino County Bar Association's Jennifer Brooks Attorney of the Year Award.

CHRISTINA LOPOPOLO, Shernoff Bidart Echeverria LLP

Christina Lopopolo is a legal secretary at the law firm of Shernoff Bidart Echeverria. For the past four years, she has supported two partners based out of the Beverly Hills office and also provided task-based support for two associate attorneys and two paralegals. Prior to her time at Shernoff, Christina spent nearly three years at a securities arbitration and litigation firm based in Beverly Hills.

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NEDA LOTFI, Jeff Anderson & Associates PA

Neda Lotfi is an attorney at the Los Angeles office of Jeff Anderson & Associates. Neda has represented and currently represents hundreds of survivors of sexual abuse against institutional defendants including public schools, private schools, religious organizations, youth organizations, sports organizations and medical facilities. Her mission is to help victims of childhood sexual abuse reclaim their power and hold institutions accountable for allowing those abuses to occur, and she is dedicated to making the world a safer place for kids. She has served on the Board of Directors for Consumer Attorneys of California since 2021.

JOSEPH LOW, The Law Firm of Joseph H. Low IV

Mr. Joseph H. Low IV is a trial attorney originally from Portsmouth, Virginia. Mr. Low joined the United States Marine Corps in 1984, where he served for eight years. After getting out of the Marines, Mr. Low went on to earn his Bachelor and Master of Science Degree in Bio-Physical Chemistry from the University of California, where he won a research grant for his work designing drugs to treat cancer. He continued his education when he attended McGeorge School of Law, and in 2000 he began teaching with Gerry Spence. Mr. Low is now Director of Staff and Curriculum and Chief Instructor of the Gerry Spence Method at Thunderhead Ranch in Dubois, Wyoming. Mr. Low's trials include civil, criminal, state, federal and military Courts-Martials that have been conducted all over the world, including Iraq, Germany, Japan and Kuwait. He has been noted for his work representing servicemen accused of combat crimes. Currently, Mr. Low represents plaintiffs in high-profile high-dollar personal injury litigation, specifically where victims have suffered severely disabling injuries, including TBI and PTSD.

CLARE LUCICH, Bentley & More LLP

Clare Lucich is a partner with Bentley & More LLP in Newport Beach. Ms. Lucich's current practice includes personal injury, products liability and governmental claims. Since 2013, she has worked on several high-profile cases and trials for plaintiffs throughout California. Currently, Ms. Lucich serves as the 2nd Vice President of the Orange County Trial Lawyers Association. She received her Juris Doctor, magna cum laude, from Pepperdine University School of Law in 2012. In 2023, she was awarded the Young Gun Trial Lawyer of the Year. From 2016-2022 she was named a Rising Star, and in 2023 she was named as a Super Lawyer by Super Lawyers Magazine. She co-tried one of the top 100 personal injury verdicts in California in 2018.

ADRIANA MACIAS, Bentley & More LLP

Adriana is a Paralegal at Bentley & More, where she works directly with the firm's partners on its catastrophic injury cases. Her experience includes government tort cases, product liability, vehicle/trucking accidents, premises liability and negligence. Adriana received a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism with an emphasis in Broadcast Journalism from the Walter Cronkite School at Arizona State University in 2008, where she graduated with honors. Adriana received her Juris Doctor from the University of San Diego School of Law in 2012, where she served as a Lead Editor on the San Diego Law Review and graduated with honors. Adriana's unique background and experience has provided her with a valuable skill set she utilizes in her current role. Adriana has been instrumental in securing high value settlements for severely injured clients. She often faces tough liability issues but enjoys the challenge, usually tackling governmental immunities and Privette. She enjoys expanding her knowledge and learning about the subject matter of cases in depth, which has proven valuable in refining plaintiff's arguments and defeating defense arguments.

LOURDES MALAM, Mardirossian Akaragian LLP

Lourdes Malam is a paralegal with over 30 years of experience in the legal field. Lourdes started with the law firm of Mardirossian & Associates, Inc. as a part-time legal secretary in 1991 while completing her undergraduate studies at UCLA. By the time she left the firm in 2001, she had worked on many cases, assisting and working closely with the attorneys in the litigation and trial of product liability, police brutality and other personal injury matters. From 2001 to 2007, Lourdes worked in the employment law department of the international law firm of Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker LLP in Los Angeles. She returned to Mardirossian & Associates, Inc. (now Mardirossian Akaragian LLP) in 2007, where she continues to assist the attorneys in the litigation and trial of complex product liability and personal injury cases, representing plaintiffs who have suffered catastrophic injuries and wrongful death, which have resulted in significant verdicts and settlements as well as published opinions. Lourdes received her bachelor's degree in economics from UCLA and her paralegal certificate from UCLA Extension.

ROBERT H. MARCEREAU, Marcereau Law Group

Rob Marcereau started off his career at a big law firm representing Fortune 500 companies in business disputes. But he got bored with that, so he started his own firm focusing on personal injury. Since then, Rob has been part of some of the craziest cases that have ever been inside the courtroom: he represented a school teacher who was framed by millionaire parents who planted drugs in her car; he fought for an elderly man who fell down a trash chute inside the most dangerous senior home in America; he exposed a mortuary that was conducting mass cremations and giving out random ashes to families; he brought down an IVF clinic that was implanting the wrong sperm in patients; he's currently litigating a case against a major league baseball team that allowed a souvenir baseball to be thrown so hard into the stands that it BLINDED a spectator...and the list goes on... Rob runs a boutique law firm located in Orange County with his wife Inga, who is a children's rights lawyer.

MICHELE MARKUS, Rizio Lipinsky

Michele Markus is the Senior Paralegal at Rizio Lipinsky, a personal injury and employment firm with offices throughout California. In her capacity as Senior Paralegal, she works closely with the firm's trial lawyers, writing motions, demand letters, discovery and pleadings. Her contributions in these areas have contributed greatly to the firm's success. Michele holds a B.A. degree from Cal State Long Beach and a Paralegal Certificate from the ABA-accredited paralegal program at UC Irvine.

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AMY MARTEL, Law Office of Amy Martel

Amy Martel started her own firm, Law Office of Amy Martel, in 2022. She has been practicing civil litigation since 2003. She completed her bachelor's degree at the University of Washington, in 1999, where she was the captain of the track and field team. She received her law degree from University of San Diego in 2003. Currently she is a member of the California State Bar, Nevada State Bar, Consumer Attorneys of San Diego, and Consumer Attorneys of California. She is currently on the Board of Directors of CAOC, San Diego Inn of Court, and is a Master in the Wallace Inn of Court. She served on the Board of Directors for CASD from 2014-2021 and was President in 2020. While serving as the President of CASD, she co-founded Resolve Law San Diego, a short-term program created during the COVID crisis that provided free mediation services to litigants during the court's closure. She was recently named the CASD 2022 Trial Lawyer of the Year.

LOUANNE MASRY, Masry Law Firm

Louanne Masry is a trial attorney and founder of Masry Law Firm. Louanne's area of focus is litigating cases of sexual abuse, bullying, stalking, elder neglect, sexual harassment and other personal injury matters. Louanne has been nominated as Woman Trial Lawyer of the Year by the Consumer Attorneys of California Women's Caucus and was a finalist for CAOC's Consumer Attorney of the Year. Louanne has been regularly named in Super Lawyers' lists of the Top 50 Women Lawyers in Southern California and the Top 100 Lawyers in Southern California, including in its most recent lists. Louanne is a Board Member of CAALA and was honored with the 2019 CAALA President's Award for her contributions to the organization. Masry@MasryLaw.com www.MasryLaw.com

PAUL MATIASIC, The Matiasic Firm, P.C.

Paul is the principal shareholder of The Matiasic Firm, P.C., with offices located in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Sacramento. His practice is devoted to representing clients in the areas of sexual abuse, catastrophic injury and wrongful death. Paul's groundbreaking work on behalf of his clients has been featured across a wide array of publications and news agencies, including Rolling Stone, The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, Variety, Billboard, Bloomberg, NBC News, East Bay Times, Fresno Bee, The Mercury News, Marin Independent Journal, San Francisco Chronicle, and scores of additional television, radio stations, outlets, and podcasts. He has been at the forefront of expanding survivors' abilities to prosecute cases of childhood sexual abuse and sex trafficking against those perpetrators and institutions that enabled the same to occur, procuring several landmark awards and decisions in these areas. Paul has been named a SuperLawyer every year for the last decade and for the three years prior thereto was named to the Rising Star list.

KATIE MCBAIN, Casey Gerry Schenk Francavilla Blatt & Penfield, LLP

Katie is a mass tort, class action and sexual abuse attorney at CaseyGerry. She has been on the complex litigation team since she started there in 2020. Prior to joining CaseyGerry, Katie litigated trust, estate and financial elder abuse matters. She also has had her own practice counseling the San Diego County Retirement Association and handling business disputes. Not unlike many other CAOC members, Katie got her start on the opposite side of the "v," working as a medical malpractice defense attorney. When not working, Katie can be found running along the beach, teaching her cats tricks, singing, attending live shows or doing yoga. Katie is a board member of Lawyers Club and is involved in many other local San Diego organizations. She prides herself on giving a voice to the voiceless and is dedicated to helping others. Katie received her J.D. from California Western School of Law and her undergraduate B.S. degree from Cornell University.

VALERIE MCGINTY, Law Office of Valerie T. McGinty

Valerie T. McGinty is a certified appellate specialist who represents plaintiffs exclusively. She has affirmed jury verdicts on appeal without defeat. She also handles appeals from summary judgments, obtaining reversals at almost triple the average rate. Valerie was Consumer Attorneys of California's 2016 Marvin E. Lewis Award recipient and a finalist for CAOC's 2015 Consumer Attorney of the Year. In 2014, she received CAOC's Street Fighter of the Year award for her work as lead appellate counsel in *Young v. Horizon West*, (2013) 220 Cal.App.4th 1122. Valerie is a Super Lawyer and is rated AV Preeminent by Martindale Hubbell. Her passion is female participation and leadership in our democracy; to learn more about Fund Her (the PAC she founded in 2017 that has helped elect 79 women in six states) go to www.fundher.org, or to learn about Register Her (the 501c3 charitable voter registration organization she co-founded), go to www.registerher.org.

ANDJE MEDINA, Altair Law

Andje M. Medina is a partner and trial attorney at Altair Law® in San Francisco. She focuses on catastrophic personal injury cases that cause death or life changing consequences. Her clients include victims of traumatic brain injury, spinal cord trauma, nerve damage, fractures, psychological injuries and severe orthopedic injuries arising from construction accidents, industrial accidents, dangerous premises, motorcycle accidents, bicycle accidents, car accidents, wrongful death, sexual assaults, governmental or public entity liability, and product liability. Andje is well respected by her peers and adversaries and has a reputation for meticulously working up cases for trial. She has received many honors for her courtroom successes, including being named Trial Lawyer of the Year by the San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association after securing a wrongful death verdict that was twenty times higher than the last settlement offer. In 2022, Andje was named Lawyer of the Year for Product Liability Litigation Plaintiffs in San Francisco by Best Lawyers in America. Her results display a consistent track record of achieving outstanding results for her clients.

EDIE MERMELSTEIN, FEM Law Group, P.C.

Ms. Mermelstein is a civil litigator with a special interest in appellate advocacy, financial elder abuse, trust and estate litigation, intellectual property and women's issues, including civil remedies for victims of sexual assault. After graduating from USC's Marshall School of Business, Mermelstein obtained her Juris Doctorate and has been a member of the California State Bar since 2007. Mermelstein was

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a 2014 CAOC Street Fighter of the Year finalist. In 2015, Mermelstein appeared before the United States Supreme Court on behalf of California consumers. She has been recognized by Super Lawyers 2016-2024. Mermelstein is a Co-President and sits on the executive board of the California Women's Law Center. She is the President of the Auschwitz Study Foundation, which is a non-profit educational organization dedicated to teaching students about the Holocaust to promote peace and compassion. Mermelstein also founded a pro bono program as part of the Breast Cancer Angels, which provides legal services to women in treatment. Mermelstein is the founding attorney of FEM Law Group, P.C. located in Los Angeles and Orange County.

JONATHAN MICHAELS, MLG Attorneys at Law

Jonathan Michaels has distinguished himself as a preeminent trial attorney since embarking on his legal journey in 1995. Michaels has developed a unique practice in the automotive industry, litigating cases against nearly every major automotive manufacturer in the world and helping to define the vehicle product liability industry. He has filed some of the nation's largest and most significant automotive class action cases, leading to notable settlements, vehicle recalls and enhanced governmental oversight. Michaels has taken on almost every significant automotive manufacturer, including GM, Audi, Ford and Tesla, among others. Esteemed publications and networks, including The New York Times, Fortune, CBS Evening News and ABC Evening News, have highlighted his accomplishments and insights. Michaels penned "Automotive 101: The Car Industry Exposed" and holds the record for the most articles written for the Los Angeles Daily Journal. His work on the GM ignition switch recall earned a Pulitzer Prize nomination.

JOHN MICHAEL MONTEVIDEO, Montevideo Law, PC dba Dog Bite Law Group

John Michael Montevideo became a trial attorney to help people. He dedicates his practice to sharing his clients' stories and bringing them justice for the wrongs committed against them. He is the Founder and Senior Trial Attorney of Montevideo Law, PC dba Dog Bite Law Group. John Michael's practice is focused on protecting the rights of those who have suffered harm as a result of a dog bite or attack. Prior to founding the Dog Bite Law Group, John Michael honed his legal skills as a graduate of Gerry Spence's Trial Lawyers College and in a variety of practices, including the largest business and litigation firm in South Carolina, Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A.; two prominent Los Angeles, San Diego and Orange County plaintiff trial firms; and public service in the government sector with the Department of Justice in their Environmental and Natural Resources Division Environmental Enforcement Section in Washington, D.C. John Michael earned his Juris Doctorate near the top of his class from Howard University School of Law in Washington, D.C.

ANNE MARIE MURPHY, Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy

Anne Marie Murphy is a partner at Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy, where she specializes in consumer class actions, commercial and elder abuse litigation. This past year she served as CAOC's Treasurer. She served for many years as a Commissioner on the California Commission on Access to Justice (as the CAOC appointee) and was the 2014 Chair of the Women's Caucus. She is President of CANHR's Board of Directors. She is a member of Consumer Attorneys of California, American Association for Justice, San Mateo County Bar Association, San Mateo County Trial Lawyers Association and is a lifetime member of California Women Lawyers. Ms. Murphy has been recognized by the Daily Journal and other organizations for her work with plaintiffs. Ms. Murphy provides frequent commentary on consumer rights issues and has regularly appeared on local as well as national news broadcasts. Ms. Murphy received her J.D. from Georgetown.

SARAH MUSUMECI, Iredale and Yoo, APC

Originally from Portsmouth, U.K., Sarah received her J.D., cum laude, from California Western School of Law. Prior to law school, Sarah worked for the Innocence Network UK, a nonprofit organization devoted to addressing the limitations of the British criminal appeals system and the Criminal Cases Review Commission. INUK provided legal representation to those convicted of crimes they did not commit. While at the project, Sarah investigated claims of innocence and conducted research into the causes of wrongful convictions, including post-arson investigation techniques and the reliability of child witness testimony. Sarah's passion for wrongful convictions eventually led her to San Diego, where she worked with the California Innocence Project. CIP provides pro bono legal assistance to inmates who are factually innocent of the crime for which they have been convicted. In 2021, Sarah joined the law firm Iredale and Yoo in San Diego. There, she litigates on behalf of clients whose Constitutional rights have been violated in custodial settings by wrongful arrest, excessive force and wrongful death.

GRETCHEN NELSON, Nelson & Fraenkel LLP

A graduate of Georgetown University Law School with a B.A. from Smith College, Gretchen is a Past President of the Los Angeles County Bar Association and a past Chair of the Litigation Section of that association. She is currently serving a third term on the Judicial Council of California. She is an emeritus member of the Board of Governors of the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles and served three years as a Trustee on the State Bar of California. She previously served on the Board of Consumer Attorneys of California and served a three-year term on the Board of the Association of Business Trial Lawyers. She is a member of the Litigation Counsel of America. She and Stuart Fraenkel opened the firm of Nelson & Fraenkel LLP in 2015, where they practice in a variety of areas, including complex class actions, insurance bad faith, personal injury/wrongful death claims arising from aviation, motor vehicle and maritime claims. Minh Nguyen,

NANCI NISHIMURA, Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy, LLP

Nanci E. Nishimura is a partner at Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy. She serves in a leadership role in complex litigation involving business and antitrust, including Google AT, Google RTB Privacy, LIBOR Antitrust Litigation, and has appeared before the United States Supreme Court in a precedent-setting privacy case. She represents dozens of public entities in state and federal courts, handles mediation and arbitration, and community-based pro bono work. In 2019, Governor Newsom appointed her to the California Commission on Uniform State Laws, where she is now Vice Chair, to develop uniformity in state laws nationwide. From 2011 to 2020, she was the Governor's appointee to the California Commission on Judicial Performance, mandated by the constitution to protect the public from judicial ethical

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misconduct, where she served two terms as the first woman non-judge to be elected Chair. Ms. Nishimura is the Co-Chair and Founding Member of Leaders Forum, formed from the White House Initiative on Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders to promote diversity at the highest levels of public and private enterprise and philanthropy.

MINH T. NGUYEN, Nguyen Theam Lawyers, LLP

Minh T. Nguyen is a Trial Lawyer for People. He is a partner at Nguyen Theam Lawyers, LLP, a boutique six-lawyer litigation firm that primarily represents serious to catastrophically injured clients in personal injury lawsuits. He handles difficult cases that are often referred or rejected by other law firms. Minh currently serves as CAALA's 2023 President. He is also a Board of Director of the Consumer Attorneys of California, CAOC President's Club member, and a former trustee for UC Hastings, College of the Law.

LAKSHMI ODEDRA, Nguyen Theam Lawyers, LLP

Ms. Odedra is the Senior Litigation Associate at Nguyen Theam Lawyers, LLP. She specializes in litigating catastrophic injury and wrongful death cases, primarily involving crashes which involve trucks, vehicles, motorcycles, bicycles, pedestrians and defective products. Ms. Odedra represents clients throughout California. She serves as a Vice Chair of the Diversity and Equity Committee of the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles and is a Board Member of Orange County Trial Lawyers Charities.

OKORIE OKOROCHA, ToxicologyLawGY.com

Okorie Okorocha is a trial attorney who has first-chaired over 80 jury trials to verdict and is frequently retained by trial attorneys to cross-examine medical and scientific experts at deposition and at trial. Okorie has a second role as a forensic toxicology expert witness who has qualified as an expert in federal, state and military courts in 53 California counties, 23 U.S. states and internationally in Germany and Japan.

ESE OMOFOMA, Omofoma Law

Personal injury trial lawyer at Omofoma Law.

BRIAN PANISH, Panish | Shea | Boyle | Rapvipudi

Brian J. Panish has obtained some of the most significant jury verdicts in U.S. history on behalf of plaintiffs. He consistently serves in a leadership role in the largest personal injury cases in California and the country. He currently serves as Plaintiffs Co-Lead Counsel in the Woolsey Fire litigation, Plaintiffs Co-Lead Counsel in the Southern California Fire Cases litigation arising from the 2017 Thomas Fire and subsequent debris flows in Montecito, as well as serving as Co-Lead Trial Counsel in the Porter Ranch/Aliso Canyon Gas Well Blowout litigation. Mr. Panish received his law degree, with honors, from Southwestern Law School, as well as an Honorary Doctor of Law degree in 2011. In 2017, Mr. Panish was honored to join his alma mater in establishing the Panish Civil Justice Program, with a goal of providing top litigation training to students, creating a crossroads for judicial bench and bar, strengthening the foundations of the American civil justice system.

GARY PARTAMIAN, Kabateck LLP

Gary Partamian is a third-year Associate at Kabateck LLP, specializing in sexual abuse, mass tort, insurance bad faith and catastrophic injury cases. Mr. Partamian previously worked as a law clerk for KBK, conducting legal research, drafting motions, mediation briefs, complaints, meet and confer letters, and discovery. Before joining the firm, he served as a law clerk for the Los Angeles County District Attorney's office, drafting motions, preparing cases for filing, reviewing and preparing jury instructions, transcribing incidents in the field for use at trial and obtaining police reports. He also worked at The Cochran Firm, assisting on personal injury cases. Additionally, he worked at the U.S. Bankruptcy Court as a judicial extern to the Honorable Robert H. Kwan.

CRAIG PETERS, Altair Law

Craig M. Peters has been a trial attorney for over 25 years and loves fighting for the underdog. His current practice focuses primarily on cases involving wrongful death or catastrophic life- or career-changing injuries. However, Craig loves a good challenge and has been asked to handle trials including consumer protections, civil rights, landlord-tenant, divorce, mold contamination, and employment wage & hour and discrimination cases. Craig has been recognized for his trial skills with invitations to membership in the American Board of Trial Attorneys, the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, the American College of Trial Lawyers and the International Society of Barristers. He has been awarded CAOC's California Consumer Attorney of the Year Award. Craig's law career started as a criminal defense attorney, where he tried nearly every type of case. His transition to civil work began with representing victims of asbestos exposure at trial throughout the state of California. Craig is a past President of Consumer Attorneys of California and his favorite superhero is Underdog.

SARA PETERS, Walkup, Melodia, Kelly & Schoenberger

Sara Peters is a shareholder at Walkup, Melodia, Kelly & Schoenberger in San Francisco. She litigates and tries catastrophic personal injury, medical malpractice, toxic tort, product liability, trucking, elder abuse, civil rights and gig economy cases. In particular, she has extensive trial and arbitration experience in complex, sometimes no-offer medical malpractice cases. Sara is also Co-Director of the Trial Advocacy Workshop at Stanford Law School (where she received her J.D. in 2008). She is a contributing editor responsible for the medical malpractice practice guide in The Rutter Group Claims & Defenses series. She is listed as a Northern California Super Lawyer, in the U.S. News Best Lawyers in America list, and in the Lawdragon Top 500 Consumer Attorneys list. Her original research and legal analysis regarding the burden of proving causation in complex cases has been published in the international peer-reviewed academic journal, Journal of Tort Law. In her spare time, Sara can be found traveling, mountain biking, back-country snowboarding and surfing with her husband and three little boys.

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NANCY PEVERINI, Consumer Attorneys Of California

Nancy, originally from Soledad, California, attended Santa Clara University, where she received a Bachelor of Arts, followed by a Juris Doctorate at the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law. She has lobbied for Consumer Attorneys for over 20 years, specializing in consumer legal rights, and is CAOC's Legislative Director. She is also a Past-President of Women Lawyers of Sacramento and a current board member of the Consumer Federation of California, where she received its 2010 Consumer Champion Award.

GARY PRAGLIN, Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy, LLP

Gary A. Praglin is a partner at Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy, LLP, where he handles complex personal injury cases, including mass tort actions involving environmental contamination of air, water and soil. These cases often involve thousands of injured victims at a time, like Gary's PG&E case, which became the subject of the hit movie Erin Brockovich. Gary has also served in leadership on Steering Committees, past and present. Notable Plaintiffs' Steering Committees have been the Yamaha Rhino Litigation and the SoCalGas Aliso Canyon Litigation, which arises out of the largest release of methane into the environment in history. He and CPM serve as Lead Counsel for the plaintiffs on the Carson Dominguez Channel Pollution case. Gary also handles pro bono litigation to improve the lives of others. Gary is currently representing multiple parties against online puppy traffickers who have harmed defenseless animals and devastated innocent families. Gary received his Bachelor of Arts from UCLA. He received his J.D. from Southwestern University School of Law.

TAMARAH PREVOST, Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy, LLP

Tamarah Prevost is a partner at Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy, LLP, practicing in a wide range of civil litigation areas including employment law, consumer rights, and personal injury cases. Tamarah has represented employees in a wide variety of employment disputes in state and federal court, arbitration proceedings, and federal EEO matters. Her employment cases have included those involving stock options and start-up companies, whistleblowing, discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual assault, and racial profiling, and other civil rights matters. Tamarah was named a 2023 Daily Journal's Top 100 Women Lawyers in California, a Top 40 Under 40 Lawyer in California by the Daily Journal, and has been selected as a Northern California "Rising Star" in Employment Litigation by SuperLawyers in 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023. She is a regular panelist speaker on employment litigation, is a regularly published contributor to the Daily Journal legal newspaper, and has been published in the San Francisco Chronicle. She is also on the Board of Governors as a delegate of California for the national plaintiffs' legal organization American Association for Justice (AAJ).

DANTE PRIDE, The Pride Law Firm

Dante T. Pride is the founding partner of The Pride Law Firm in San Diego. Mr. Pride attended Morehouse College in Atlanta, Ga., where he received a full academic scholarship and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology. Having a passion for advocacy, Mr. Pride then attended the University of San Diego School of Law. Upon graduating from law school, Mr. Pride accepted a position at a prestigious San Diego law firm, where he practiced employment and labor litigation. Armed with this experience, Mr. Pride knew that his true calling was to defend the rights of individuals. Harkening his fellow Morehouse alumnus, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Mr. Pride decided to blaze his own trail and start The Pride Law Firm based on the idea that Injustice anywhere, is a threat to justice everywhere. Focusing on Criminal Defense, Personal Injury, and Employment Law, Mr. Pride employs meticulous attention to detail and zealous advocacy, to protect his clients' rights and eradicate injustice in both state and federal courts.

IVAN PUCHALT, Greene Broillet & Wheeler, LLP

Ivan Puchalt is an attorney at Greene Broillet & Wheeler LLP whose practice focuses on catastrophic personal injury and whistleblower retaliation. By aggressively championing consumer rights, Ivan has won multiple high-profile cases, earning him the nomination for Consumer Attorney of the Year from Consumer Attorneys of California in 2013, 2014 and 2018. He has obtained three plaintiff's verdicts in three trials so far in 2023, including both the largest ever whistleblower retaliation verdict against the UC Regents as well as the highest ever non-lethal dog bite verdict in the country. Ivan earned a B.A. degree in History from the University of California at Berkeley and received his J.D. degree from Loyola Law School. Ivan has served as an at-large board member with Consumer Attorneys of California, where he has been committed to working on legislation to assist consumers and injury victims.

CHRISTA RAMEY, ACTS Law

Christa Ramey is an experienced trial attorney who has exclusively represented plaintiffs throughout her career. Ms. Ramey represents claims involving children who have suffered catastrophic injuries due to sexual abuse or school negligence. She believes that achieving justice for those injured due to the negligence or intentional wrongs of another is her true calling. Ms. Ramey has also represented children who have been subjected to school bullying. Currently, she sits on the Executive Committee of the Los Angeles Chapter of ABOTA. Ms. Ramey is currently on the Executive Committee of CAALA and will serve as President of CAALA in 2027. Ms. Ramey is also a member of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee for Consumer Attorneys of California. Ms. Ramey has been ranked a Super Lawyer every year since 2013. Since 2021, Ms. Ramey has been selected by Super Lawyers' Top 50 Women in Southern California List. She is also Best Lawyers in America since 2018. Ms. Ramey was selected Top Plaintiffs' Attorney for 2020 by the Los Angeles & San Francisco Daily Journal.

KENNY RAMIREZ, Law Office of Kenny S. Ramirez

Kenny S. Ramirez is the founder and principal trial attorney of the Law Office of Kenny S. Ramirez, a top catastrophic personal injury and wrongful death practice based out of the Inland Empire. Kenny has recovered over \$25 million for his clients, earning various awards and accolades, including being named a 2022 and 2023 Southern California Super Lawyers Rising Star, as well as Top 40 Under 40 and National Latino Trial Lawyers Association Top 10 by the prestigious National Trial Lawyers organization. Kenny serves as an officer and board member on various bar associations, including CAOIE, and is the chair of the advisory board of the Loyola Immigrant Justice Clinic, an organization that is close to his heart as he is a DACA recipient himself. Kenny is also an adjunct professor at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles, where he teaches a course titled "Civil Litigation Practice." Kenny is fluent in Spanish, something that allows him to connect to his Spanish-speaking clients in a way that is both unique and powerful for the clients.

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SHARON RAMIREZ, Law Office of Kenny S. Ramirez

Sharon P. Ramirez is an attorney at the Law Office of Kenny S. Ramirez, based out of the Inland Empire. Her areas of practice include personal injury, wrongful death, catastrophic injury, sexual assault of minors, premises liability, government entity liability, products liability and medical malpractice litigation, all on behalf of plaintiffs. Prior to working at the Law Office of Kenny S. Ramirez, Sharon studied law in Los Angeles and gained legal experience working at a nationally renowned plaintiffs law firm in downtown Los Angeles. Shortly after graduating from law school, Sharon was able to begin her legal career in the Inland Empire, where she grew up. Sharon enjoys being part of her community and currently serves as a board member for CAOIE, RCBA Barristers and HBAIE.

CIOFFI REMMER, Dolan Law Firm, PC

A Senior Trial Attorney practicing in all areas of civil litigation with an emphasis on vehicle accidents, catastrophic injuries, wrongful death, premises liability, government liability, construction accidents, products liability, mass torts and insurance bad faith, Mr. Remmer is a recognized trial lawyer with significant success in obtaining settlements, verdicts and arbitration awards for his clients. Mr. Remmer has been recognized most recently by The Best Lawyers Top 100 2023, Super Lawyers 2022, a Super Lawyers Rising Star for several consecutive years, and has been named National Trial Lawyer's Top 40 Under 40 and Top 100 Lawyer.

SANDRA RIBERA SPEED, Ribera Law Firm

Sandra Ribera Speed is the founder of Ribera Law Firm in San Francisco, where she advocates for people in sexual assault, personal injury and racial discrimination cases. In addition to a number of high-profile cases Ms. Speed has worked on throughout her career, including the wrongful death cases of both The Notorious B.I.G. and Michael Jackson, Ms. Speed has achieved successful results for clients in some of the most challenging of cases. This year, Ms. Speed obtained a significant settlement in a stray voltage injury case against PG&E where her client was a paraplegic. She also recently obtained a substantial result against a contractor and AC Transit in a case where Ms. Speed's client was a little boy who suffered a concussion and PTSD when he was injured by a hit-and-run driver in a crosswalk. Ms. Speed has been co-chair of the San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association's Implicit Bias Task Force since its inception in 2020.

JOHN RICE, The Lien Project

John is the principle in The Lien Project, a practice focused on helping plaintiffs attorneys and their clients resolve medical liens and reimbursement issues in their personal injury cases. John is also an active trial lawyer representing plaintiffs in personal injury matters. He often associates with other plaintiffs counsels in cases to address medical special damage issues. He has a special interest in representing disabled Californians in disability rights actions. John is a graduate of the University of Redlands (1986, B.A., Political Science/History) and California Western School of Law (1992, Magna Cum Laude). A member of the California Bar since 1992, he is a lifetime member of Consumer Attorneys of San Diego and a member of the Board of Directors from 2001 to 2018. John has presented at more than 150 continuing legal education seminars for plaintiffs attorneys throughout the state of California. He has chaired the annual CASD Lien Update Seminar since its inception in 2002. In 2010, John received the Consumer Advocate of the Year award from Consumer Attorneys of San Diego.

GREGORY RIZIO, Rizio Lipinsky Law Firm

Greg Rizio specializes in catastrophic personal injury cases and wrongful death matters. He is the 2023 CAOC President and 2024 CAL-ABOTA President. He has received numerous Trial Lawyer of the Year awards as recognized by his peers including the 2020 Best Lawyers® Lawyer of the Year award for the Inland Empire, the 2015 state of California Consumer Attorney of the Year award, the Consumer Attorneys of the Inland Empire's Trial Lawyer of the Year award, the Orange County Trial Lawyers Association's Top Gun award and the Western San Bernardino County Trial Lawyer of the Year award. In addition, the Leo Deegan Inns of Court voted him Most Outstanding Lawyer in Riverside County. He has also received recognition as a top five finalist for the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles Trial Lawyer of the Year Award. In 2014, he obtained a plaintiff's jury verdict that was the largest PI verdict in California, the second largest PI verdict nationally, and the largest PI verdict in Riverside County history.

MARK ROBINSON, JR., Robinson Calcagnie

Mark P. Robinson, Jr. is the founder and sole shareholder of Robinson Calcagnie, Inc., based in Newport Beach. Mr. Robinson has established a prominent legal practice devoted to consumer safety and has worked on thousands of products liability cases, including the landmark Ford Pinto case, Grimshaw v. Ford Motor Company, where the jury awarded record breaking compensatory and punitive damages. The verdict was recognized by the Association of Trial Lawyers of America as one of the ten most significant civil trials of the past millennium. Mr. Robinson's verdicts, settlements and the mass torts where he has held leadership positions include the following notable verdicts and settlements: Echeverria v. Johnson & Johnson; Barnett v. Merck; Solorio v. Nissan; LA County Tobacco settlement; Toyota Unintended Acceleration settlement; Anderson v. General Motors (with Brian Panish, Chris Spagnoli, Jeoff Robinson, etc.).

ALAN ROMERO, Romero Law, APC

Alan Romero, a 2020 CAALA Trial Lawyer of the Year Finalist, is the principal and lead trial attorney at Romero Law. Mr. Romero is an experienced and well-regarded litigator who has served as a staff instructor at both the CAALA and CELA trial colleges. Mr. Romero has been rated AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell, having been ranked at the highest level of professional excellence for his legal expertise, communication skills and ethical standards by his peers, and has been recognized as one of the Top 500 Leading Plaintiff Employment Lawyers in the United States by Lawdragon.com. Prior to law school, Mr. Romero interned for the Consul for Legal Affairs of the Consulate of Mexico in Los Angeles. Mr. Romero received his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from California State University in Los Angeles, where he was accepted into the Early Entrance Program at the age of fifteen. Mr. Romero then went on to obtain his Juris Doctor from Southwestern Law School in the accelerated two-year SCALE program.

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JASON R. SANCHEZ, The Simon Law Group

Jason has developed a passion for trying personal injury and wrongful death cases all over California. He's recently obtained verdicts in Alameda, Riverside, Los Angeles, San Bernardino and San Joaquin Counties. In 2023 he was presented with the Consumer Attorneys of Inland Empire's Trial Attorney of the Year Award. Jason is an active member of the Board of Directors for Consumer Attorneys of California, a past president of Consumer Attorneys of the Inland Empire and Orange County Trial Lawyers Association.

ELISE SANGUINETTI, Arias Sanguinetti

Elise Sanguinetti is a founding partner of Arias Sanguinetti. Her main areas of expertise are serious injury, wrongful death, sexual assault and products liability cases. She exclusively represents plaintiffs in civil litigation, holds an AV rating with Martindale-Hubbell and has been named a California Super Lawyer every year since becoming eligible. She's been named one of the Daily Journal's Top 100 Attorneys in California, Top Women Lawyers in California and Top Plaintiff Lawyers in California. Elise graduated from the University of San Francisco School of Law where she earned her J.D. She is a frequent speaker at seminars and writes articles that are featured in various legal publications. Her copious amount of work has been recognized with numerous awards and honors, including the prestigious Joe Tonahill Award from the American Association of Justice and the Marvin E. Lewis Award from Consumer Attorneys of California. Elise is a past president of the Alameda-Contra Costa County Trial Lawyers Association, a past president of Consumer Attorneys of California and a past president of the American Association for Justice.

CYNTHIA SANTIAGO, CynthiaSantiagoLaw.com

Attorney Cynthia Santiago (Abogada Santiago) is the daughter of immigrant parents from Oaxaca, Mexico and Guatemala. Her family experienced injustice with the criminal justice system, resulting in her brother's wrongful incarceration. From that point, the seed was formed that developed her passion to defend the rights of her community. As a teen, Abogada Santiago thrived as a community activist, raising awareness to social justice issues. She also helped establish two teen centers focused on at-risk youth and volunteered on various political campaigns. Abogada Santiago obtained a full scholarship to Wesleyan University in Connecticut, where she graduated with Honors in the College of Social Studies, a multidisciplinary major focusing on History, Government, Political and Social Theory, and Economics. In 2011, she graduated from Southwestern Law School in Los Angeles. In 2012, she formed her solo law firm, focusing on immigration and criminal defense. She has vast experience in complex immigration cases. Abogada Santiago has recently branched out into the personal injury and worker rights legal arena to further assist underserved communities in knowing their rights.

BRETT SCHREIBER, Singleton Schreiber, LLP

Brett Schreiber has spent his entire career representing people who have been harmed by the wrongful conduct of others. After 16 years at a prominent plaintiffs firm in San Diego, in 2020 Brett co-founded Singleton Schreiber, a plaintiffs civil litigation super firm with over 250 attorneys and staff who pride themselves on bringing Big Law to the Little Guy. While Brett's trophy cabinet is stocked with super-duper lawyer awards and accolades for his verdicts and settlements, his proudest title is best Dad ever, according to his four kids.

ALLISON SCHULMAN, Law Offices of Allison M. Schulman, APC

Allison Schulman is the principal of the Law Offices of Allison M. Schulman, APC in Los Angeles. Her practice focuses on litigating single-plaintiff employment cases, including discrimination, harassment, retaliation, wrongful termination, sexual assault and wage-and-hour. Allison has been named a Top 100 Southern California Super Lawyers Rising Star and Top 50 Women Southern California Super Lawyers Rising Star from 2019-2022, a Super Lawyers Rising Star from 2017-2022, and a Super Lawyer from 2023-2024. Allison serves on the CAALA Board of Governors and the CAOC Board of Directors. She is a member of CELA, AAJ, LACBA and the Cowboy Lawyers Association.

IBIERE SECK, Seck Law, P.C.

Ibiere Seck is the Founder of Seck Law, P.C., where she serves as the Principal Trial Lawyer. Her legal practice is primarily focused on complex cases involving catastrophic injuries, wrongful death, traumatic brain injuries, civil rights violations and cases of sexual abuse of minors. In her role, Ibiere exclusively represents plaintiffs, driven by a deep commitment to seeking justice on behalf of those who have been wronged, harmed or injured. She has been recognized as a Southern California Super Lawyers Rising Star and Super Lawyers honoree since 2010, featured as one of the Daily Journal's Top 40 Under 40 and recipient of several awards for her advocacy including the Consumer Attorneys of California's Street Fighter of the Year award, the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles's Rising Star award, and the National Bar Association's Nation's Best Advocates award. In 2024, Ibiere will assume the role of President of the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles, the largest and most influential plaintiff trial bar in the nation.

LAURA SEDRISH, Jacoby & Meyers

Laura F. Sedrish is a Partner at Jacoby & Meyers and one of the most accomplished plaintiff personal injury attorneys in California. She is an effective and tireless advocate for her clients, securing millions of dollars in settlements and verdicts on behalf of the injured. Ms. Sedrish is rated a "Super Lawyer" and is consistently named a "Top 50 Women" Super Lawyer in Southern California. She is a sought-after speaker and also an avid writer, and has published numerous articles in the largest regional markets in the United States. Ms. Sedrish is a Board Member of CAOC and is the immediate past Chair of Women's Caucus. She also serves on the Board of Governors of CAALA and is a member of AAJ. Ms. Sedrish is licensed to practice law in California and Nevada, and obtained her J.D. from U.C.L.A. Law School after obtaining her B.S. degree from Duke University. She also recently obtained an LLM in Alternative Dispute Resolution from Pepperdine Caruso School of Law.

DANIEL SELARZ, Selarz Law

Daniel Selarz is the founder and managing attorney of Selarz Law, a personal injury firm based in Los Angeles. Although, during the fall, you can find Professor Selarz at Southwestern Law School, teaching Civil Pretrial Practice, where he is honored to have witnessed more

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than 250 former students continue on to become promising members of the legal community. Daniel was a finalist for the 2022 CAOC Street Fighter of the Year Award for his work on *Summer J. v. United States Baseball Federation*, challenging the century-old “Baseball Rule,” previously shielding stadiums from liability arising from foul-ball injuries. In 2018, he was selected as a nominee for the CAALA Rising Star Award. Daniel enjoys spending his free time with family, friends, and most importantly his English Bulldog, Otis, who has easily become the most beloved member of the firm.

JACQUIE SERNA, Consumer Attorneys Of California

Jacquie Serna, CAOC’s Deputy Legislative Director, joined CAOC in 2011. Jacquie has worked to ban secret settlements in sexual harassment cases, enact crucial consumer protections for elder abuse victims, require that doctors check the state-wide database before prescribing dangerous opioid drugs, and ensure fair and just compensation for injured undocumented immigrants. Jacquie specializes in employment and consumer protections and has spent the past 12 years at CAOC fighting the harmful effects of forced arbitration. Born and raised in Boyle Heights, Los Angeles, Jacquie is a proud “Double Bruin,” receiving her bachelor’s and law degree from UCLA.

SARAH SHAHATTO, McCune Law Group

Sarah Shahatto is an Associate Attorney at McCune Law Group in Ontario, California. Sarah specializes in Product Liability, Personal Injury, and Medical Devices and Pharmaceuticals litigation. She represents plaintiffs seeking compensation and justice for their injuries, and she is passionate about holding large corporations accountable. Sarah represents clients in state and federal court matters, particularly in mass torts litigation.

BRIAN SHAPIRO, Law Offices of William D. Shapiro

Brian Shapiro handles serious injury and wrongful death matters with the Law Offices of William D. Shapiro. He currently serves as CAOC New Lawyers Division Chair, a member of the CAOIE board and a regular volunteer at the Legal Aid Society of San Bernardino. Brian was co-nominated CAOC Consumer Attorney of the Year in 2022 for *Yaeger v. Regents*, which involved a young lawyer who suffered debilitating brain injuries due to malpractice following a series of complex brain surgeries. He’s also a 2023 Super Lawyers Rising Star. As always, he gives a shout out to his wife Lauren and daughter Paige.

WILLIAM SHAPIRO, William D. Shapiro Law, Inc.

William Shapiro has handled catastrophic injury/wrongful death actions for over four decades, obtaining numerous seven- and eight-figure verdicts and settlements. Honors include: 2022, 2016 and 2013 Top Gun Trial Lawyer of the Year, Orange County Trial Lawyers Association; 2022 Consumer Attorney of the Year Finalist; Consumer Attorneys of California; 2022 Trial Lawyer of the Year Top 5 Finalist, Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles; 2016 Lawyer of the Year, Western San Bernardino County Bar Association; 2015 Trial Lawyer of the Year, CAL-ABOTA; 2014 Trial Lawyer of the Year, Consumer Attorneys of the Inland Empire; 2021 and 2017 Best Lawyers, Lawyer of the Year, Personal Injury; 2018 Lifetime Achievement Award, Western State College of Law, 2016; 2011 Hall of Fame, Western State College of Law; Fellow, American College of Trial Lawyers; Fellow, International Academy of Trial Lawyers; Fellow, International Society of Barristers; Diplomat, American Board of Trial Advocates, 2023 ABOTA National Vice President, 2016 ABOTA National Secretary; Trustee, ABOTA Foundation; 2021 ABOTA Arthur Kelly Civility Award, Board Certified Trial Advocacy Specialist, National Board of Trial Advocacy; Elected 2024 National ABOTA Vice President, National President in 2026.

ADAM SHEA, Panish Shea Boyle Ravipudi LLP

Panish Shea Boyle Ravipudi LLP founding partner Adam Shea is a trial lawyer with extensive experience and success representing individuals and families in personal injury and wrongful death cases. Adam’s practice focuses on cases involving commercial truck crashes, trash truck crashes, various product defects including vehicles, tires, and consumer products, airplane crashes, helicopter crashes, train disasters and governmental liability for dangerous condition of public property. Adam has been named among the 2021 Plaintiffs’ Lawyer Trailblazers by the National Law Journal, among the 2021 Top Plaintiff Lawyers in California by Daily Journal and among the Lawdragon 500 Leading Plaintiff Consumer Lawyers. He is a member of the Los Angeles chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates, a 2011 Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles Trial Lawyer of the Year finalist and has been selected by his peers for inclusion in Best Lawyers of America, National Trial Lawyers: The Top 100 Trial Lawyers, and Super Lawyers. He has been recognized by the prestigious Martindale-Hubbell peer review ratings with an AV Preeminent rating, the highest possible rating.

CAROLIN SHINING, Shining Law Firm

A proven warrior for the rights of consumers, Carolin Shining has represented victims of toxic materials, financial and physical elder abuse, personal injury and consumer fraud. She is an active Court Appointed Counsel for conservatorships in Los Angeles County and believes strongly in giving back to the community through pro bono work. In recognition of her tireless advocacy, she has earned numerous awards from the California legal community. In 2021 and 2022, she was awarded the CAOC Presidential Award. In 2021, she was awarded the CAALA Presidential Award. In 2022, she was nominated for the CAALA Ted Horn Lifetime Achievement Award. In 2023, she was recently awarded the Charles English Spirit Award for her role as the Chair of the Los Angeles County Bar Association’s Delegation to the California Conference of Bar Delegates. For this work, she was recently appointed as a Trustee to the LACBA Board of Trustees for the 2023-24 term. Currently, she serves on the CAOC Board of Directors. She is a member of the CAOC Legislative Committee.

BOBBY SHUKLA, Shukla Law, P.C.

P. Bobby Shukla is the principal at Shukla Law, P.C. She is an experienced trial lawyer who exclusively practices employment law on behalf of employees, specializing in cases involving discrimination, harassment, retaliation, whistleblowing and pay equity. Since 2022, Ms. Shukla has been selected as one of the Top 100 Northern California Lawyers, as well as one of Top 50 Women Lawyers in Northern California by Super Lawyers. Ms. Shukla had previously been selected as a Super Lawyer or Super Lawyer Rising Star every year since

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2009. In 2020, Ms. Shukla was a finalist for the San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association's Trial Lawyer of the Year Award. She is a recipient of the Wiley W. Manuel Award for Pro Bono Legal Services. Ms. Shukla currently serves on the Executive Committee of the San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association and is the former Editor of its publication, *The Trial Lawyer*. She also currently serves as the Vice President of the Bay Area Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild, and on the Board of the National Lawyers Guild Foundation.

DOUG SILVERSTEIN, Kesluk, Silverstein, Jacob & Morrison, P.C.

Doug Silverstein is an employment attorney and worked at all the big defense firms before he saw the light and founded Kesluk, Silverstein, Jacob & Morrison. He's won 19 of his last 20 trials and recovered punitive damages in his last six trials. He's been appointed lead class counsel in dozens of wage and hour class and PAGA actions. He has argued cases in the California Courts of Appeal, Second, Ninth and D.C. federal circuits, and has numerous published opinions establishing law on issues of first impression, including the seminal California case recognizing FEHA associational discrimination. Doug has been honored as one of the Top Labor & Employment Attorneys in California by *The Daily Journal* 9 out of the past 11 years, including 2023. Doug is the Immediate Past President of CAALA and a Past Chair of CAALA Vegas. He is a CAOC Board member, a long-time CAOC President's Club member, and has been a committee leader in opposing the State Bar's attempts to allow non-lawyer ownership of law firms and paraprofessionals to practice law.

BENJAMIN SIMINOU, Singleton Schreiber, LLP

Ben is a Certified Appellate Specialist by the California State Bar Board of Legal Specialization and a partner at Singleton Schreiber, LLP, a national plaintiff's firm. He does motions, writs and appeals in high-value or complex cases throughout the United States. In 2018, the National Civil Justice Institute in Washington, D.C., gave Ben its Appellate Advocacy Award for *T.H. v. Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corp.*, a landmark California Supreme Court decision for victims of dangerous drugs. In 2021, the California Innocence Project gave Ben its XONR8R Award for *Larsen v. California Victim Compensation Board*, a decision that allowed wrongfully incarcerated persons to receive compensation for their time in prison. In 2023, Consumers Attorney of San Diego gave Ben its Appellate Case of the Year award for *Ross v. Superior Court*, a decision that secures a litigant's right to discover and present evidence the opposing party has tampered with evidence in the case. Before private practice, Ben clerked for Chief Justice Heavican of the Nebraska Supreme Court.

DONALD SLAVIK, Slavik Law Firm, LLC

Don lives with Cindy, his wife of over 40 years, in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, and is principal of the Slavik Law Firm, LLC, working with clients and firms around the country on products liability cases, class actions, antitrust, and other complex litigation. He was Senior Counsel to Robinson Calcagnie, Inc. of Newport Beach, California, from January 2011 through May 2015 and is still Of Counsel to the firm. Prior to that he was a Senior Partner at the Milwaukee, Wisconsin, firm of Habush, Habush & Rottier, S.C. where he practiced for thirty years. He is licensed to practice law in the states of Colorado, Texas, Washington, and Wisconsin, as well as in Federal Courts in those and other states, and in the Fifth and Sixth Federal Circuit Courts of Appeal. He has been admitted pro hac vice in more than twenty-five other states. He is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin with a B.S. with honors in Nuclear Engineering and a J.D. He was a licensed Professional Engineer (Ret.) in Wisconsin for thirty years and has held a private pilot's license with an instrument rating for most of his career.

CHRISTINE SPAGNOLI, Greene Broillet & Wheeler

Christine is a formidable force in the courtroom, with unparalleled capabilities trying product liability cases. Her expertise in fighting the world's biggest automotive and tire companies has put her at the forefront of the nation's most high profile court battles over dangerous vehicles. One of her career-defining victories involved suing General Motors over defective fuel tanks, for which she obtained a landmark verdict. She won the largest personal injury verdict in California on behalf of a man severely burned by a defective O-ring. She also secured a substantial verdict against Ford Motor Company, earning her the CAALA Trial Lawyer of the Year in 2012. She also has received three nominations for Consumer Attorney of the Year from CAOC. Christine served as president of CAOC in 2009 and as president of CAALA in 2002. She was elected as a fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers in 2007 and is also a member of ABOTA.

KATHRYN STEBNER, Stebner Gertler Guadagni & Kawamoto

Kathryn Stebner has been advocating for the rights of elders in California for over 30 years. She works tirelessly as a civil litigator representing elders and their families in individual and class action cases against long term care facilities and financial institutions, and as an advocate for legislative progress to increase legal protections for senior citizens and disabled adults. Kathryn has been on the Board of Directors of Consumer Attorneys of California for over ten years and is currently its President-Elect. She is a Past-President of the San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association. She has tried in excess of 20 trials and arbitrations. Among numerous other publications, she is the author of two chapters on Elder Abuse for the Continuing Education of the Bar, as well as the book "Elder Law Litigation Strategies: Leading Lawyers on Understanding the Changing Landscape of Elder Law Litigation and Its Effect on Client Needs."

FRANCHESKA STONE, Kesluk, Silverstein, Jacob & Morrison, P.C.

Francheska Stone, with over eight years in the field as a litigation paralegal, currently serves at the law office of Kesluk, Silverstein, Jacob & Morrison, P.C., specializing in employment law and workplace rights. Throughout her career, she has managed complex case files and collaborated closely with attorneys on trial preparations. Francheska is also a recognized voice in the legal sphere, having spoken at the CAALA Las Vegas Conference and CAOC Convention. This year, she's set to address the pertinent topic of "Mental Health & Trial," passing on her extensive professional experience and insights. Outside the confines of the office, Francheska is a devoted mom who finds joy in the simple pleasures of life, such as cooking and baking. When she isn't immersed in legal work or sharing her culinary delights with loved ones, she's actively involved in community outreach in New Jersey. Education: Bachelor's Degree in International Relations from Florida International University. Degree Honors: Cum Laude.

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SAVEENA TAKHAR, Consumer Attorneys Of California

Saveena Takhar joined the CAOC legislative team in 2013 and is now Senior Legislative Counsel. She specializes in consumer protection, civil procedure and privacy rights. She worked to enact first in the nation consumer protections for data breaches within the landmark California Consumer Privacy Act. Other key legislation includes ensuring equal damages regardless of race and a variety of civil procedure efficiencies. She has a dual M.B.A. from CSU, Sacramento and law degree from McGeorge School of Law. She is a volunteer advocate for the Sikh Coalition and participated in a Sikh civil rights policy briefing at the White House.

JILL TELFER, Telfer Law

Jill P. Telfer has been a trial employment lawyer representing plaintiffs for over 30 years. She was the first woman to be awarded CCTLA's Advocate of the Year in 2004 and the Mort Friedman Humanitarian Award in 2010. Since 2008, Ms. Telfer has been a member of the Anthony M. Kennedy Inns of Court, where in 2016 she was the recipient of the Voice of Conscience Award. She was a finalist for CAOC's Street Fighter of the Year and selected Trial Lawyer of the Year by CAOC Women's Caucus in 2010. Since 2014, Ms. Telfer has been named Top 100 Trial Lawyers and has been honored Top 10 Attorneys for Women's Rights and Civil Rights in the Country since 2021. She is a National Board Member of the American Board of Trial Advocates. She also represents animal rescues, dangerous dog prosecutions and animal abuse cases on a pro bono basis. In 2013, Ms. Telfer was named as one of America's top 10 animal defenders by ALDF for her pro bono animal rights cases.

COURTNEY THOM, Manly, Stewart & Finaldi

Courtney Thom is an attorney with Manly, Stewart & Finaldi. As a career sex crimes prosecutor, her practice is focused on representing survivors of sexual abuse, assault, and harassment. Before joining Manly, Stewart & Finaldi, Ms. Thom served as an Orange County Deputy District Attorney for more than a decade. There, she represented the People of California in the prosecution of criminal cases, including sexual assault, rape, child molestation, child pornography and kidnapping, among others. She conducted over 50 criminal trials during her career in the Orange County District Attorney's Office. Starting in 2016, Ms. Thom worked in the District Attorney's Sexual Assault Unit, where she exclusively prosecuted felony sexual assaults, including child molestation and forcible sex crimes. At Manly, Stewart & Finaldi, Ms. Thom has assisted in numerous recoveries on behalf of clients in litigation and trial. Currently, Ms. Thom is serving as liaison counsel in a significant sexual abuse action in Los Angeles involving thousands of victims of childhood sexual abuse.

BOBBY THOMPSON, TLO LAW, PC

Bobby Thompson is the founder of TLO LAW, P.C., specializing in personal injury, wrongful death, products liability, and sexual abuse and assault liability. Bobby is the Past President of the San Mateo County Trial Lawyers Association, a Board Member of Consumer Attorneys of California, and one of only two State Delegates of the American Association of Justice for the state of California. Bobby was a finalist for the 2021 CAOC Consumer Attorney of the Year Award and the 2023 SMCTLA Trial Lawyer of the Year Award. Bobby solely represents individuals harmed by the irresponsible and careless conduct of others. His philosophy is to do everything his firm can to obtain justice leaving nothing to chance in developing the facts to prove the wrongdoer's liability and proving every component of his client's damages. In his time away from the courtroom and office, Bobby volunteers, giving back to his kids' schools and organizations helping those in need in San Mateo County.

DEREK T. TRAN, The Tran Firm, APLC

Derek T. Tran is the founder and lead trial attorney at The Tran Firm, APLC. Derek serves as a Board Member for the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles and Consumer Attorneys of California. He serves on several committees for both organizations and is the current Co-Vice Chair for CAALA's Education Committee. He is a graduate of CAOC's Leadership Academy and CAALA's Plaintiff Trial Academy. Derek has been featured in the Daily Journal's California top 100 jury verdict list. He has been on NBC News and was has been a Super Lawyer Rising Star from 2019-2023. In 2022 and 2023, Derek made Super Lawyers Rising Star Top 100 and Top 25 in Orange County. He was awarded the 2018 CAALA Presidential Award and the 2019 CAOC Presidential Award of Merit. Derek is a decorated Veteran and served during Operation Enduring Freedom in 2003. Derek is a fierce litigator and trial lawyer. He handles all matters related to personal injury, including wrongful death and catastrophic injury. Derek also practices employment law matters.

LEA-ANN TRATTEN, Consumer Attorneys Of California

As CAOC's Political Director, Lea-Ann guides CAOC's political operations, including research and support of candidates and statewide causes favoring consumer legal rights. She helped defeat three initiatives and kept five anti-consumer measures off the ballot. As a legislative advocate, she specializes in environmental and insurance law, civil procedure and health care, including landmark legislation holding HMOs accountable for injuries to patients. She has a law degree from McGeorge School of Law.

BORIS TREYZON, ACTS law

KIMBERLY VALENTINE, Valentine Law Group, APC

Kimberly Valentine advocates for the vulnerable, elderly, injured and the infirm. Her clients' ages span from newborn children to elderly as old as 104. She practices predominantly in the areas of elder abuse and medical malpractice. Ms. Valentine is an Associate with the American Board of Trial Advocates. She has received the Orange County Trial Lawyers Association's Top Gun award as an exceptional Elder Abuse litigator multiple times. She was also named a Super Lawyer each year since 2014.

TIEGA-NOEL VARLACK, Varlack Legal Services

Hayward lawyer Tiega-Noel Varlack is the owner and manager of Varlack Legal Services. Tiega is a professional attorney with many years of experience practicing law in the San Francisco Bay Area. She is licensed to practice in the State of California, and has appeared in Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco, and San Jose. She can also provide legal services in additional jurisdictions.

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STEVE VARTAZARIAN, The Vartazarian Law Firm

Steve Vartazarian specializes in the trial of catastrophic injury cases and has secured multiple eight-figure verdicts and settlements, including a nine-figure verdict recognized as being the largest non-economic damages award in California history. In 2019, Steve won the CAALA Trial Lawyer of the Year award, which is the most prestigious and competitive trial attorney award in California. Steve has tried over 50 cases to verdict and has been a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates since 2015. Steve was also the 2022 President of Los Angeles Trial Lawyers' Charities and serves on the Board of the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles and the Brain Society of California.

LAUREN M. VOGT, Rizio Lipinsky Law Firm

Lauren Vogt is an attorney with Rizio Lipinsky Law Firm. She was raised in the Inland Empire and graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Law Verne College of Law. Her practice focuses on catastrophic personal injury, with an emphasis in government liability cases and CRPS injuries. She is an active board member of Riverside County Bar Association, Riverside County Bar Foundation, Consumer Attorneys of California, Consumer Attorneys of Inland Empire, Riverside County Deegan Inns of Court, Western San Bernardino County Bar Association, and is a past president of Riverside County Bar Association Barrister's Board. She additionally serves on a number of committees throughout these communities, focused on providing legal aid services to underprivileged communities. She has been recognized by the Million Dollar Advocate Forum and Multi Million Dollar Advocate forum for exceptional recoveries she has acquired for her clients, as well as Best Lawyer Ones to Watch since 2022 and Super Lawyers Rising Stars since 2023.

KELLY WEIL, Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy LLP

Kelly Weil is a partner at Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy's Santa Monica office, where she litigates on behalf of consumers, municipalities, whistleblowers and injured individuals. Kelly handles a wide variety of complex cases in state and federal courts, including environmental, qui tam, elder abuse, catastrophic injury, wrongful death, fraud and consumer class actions through settlement, arbitration and trial. Kelly is passionate about preserving natural resources for future generations and actively handles environmental cases relating to contaminated air, water and soil. Throughout her career, Kelly has represented thousands of clients in mass tort cases against pharmaceutical companies, public utilities, energy companies and automotive manufacturers. Recently, she played an active role on the multi-firm trial team in the Southern California Gas Leak cases, for which she was selected as a finalist for last year's CAOC's Consumer Attorney of the Year. Kelly serves on the CAOC Board.

GEOFFREY WELLS, Greene Broillet & Wheeler, LLP

Geoffrey Wells is a partner in the firm of Greene Broillet & Wheeler, LLP, and joined the firm in 1992. Since that time, he has been involved in over 350 multi-million-dollar trials and settlements, including the Santa Monica Farmer's Market cases, the Carson tank collapse cases, Fen-Phen cases, Cedars-Sinai over-radiation cases, and was liaison counsel in the FedEx bus crash cases. Mr. Wells was President of the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles in 2014. He is an elected member of the American Board of Trial Advocates, and in 2019 he received the LA-ABOTA Lee Wenzel Civility Award. He is an elected member of the Executive Board for Consumer Attorneys of California (2023 First Vice President). He is also a member of AAJ. He is a graduate of the University of Washington (B.A. 1981), where he was a pitcher for the college baseball team. He received his law degree from Pepperdine University School of Law (1985).

MICHELLE M. WEST, Robinson Calcagnie, Inc.

Michelle Marie West is a partner with the law firm of Robinson Calcagnie in Newport Beach, California. Her law practice is devoted to obtaining recovery for individuals who are catastrophically injured due to defective products including vehicles, tires, skylights, machinery, medical devices and pharmaceuticals. She also handles dangerous condition cases, trucking accidents and premises liability matters on behalf of injured victims. She serves as Plaintiffs' Liaison Counsel in mass casualty incidents/lawsuits. Ms. West has been nominated a Top 100 Southern California Superlawyers, Top 50 Orange County Superlawyer and Top 50 Women Southern California Superlawyers as well as being recognized by Best Lawyers. She is the current President of the Western Trial Lawyers Association, President of the Orange County Trial Lawyers Charities, and a Board Member Emeritus of Los Angeles Trial Lawyers Charities. In her free time, Ms. West enjoys marathons, ultra-distance running events, spinning, weight-training and triathlons, having completed over 10 full Ironman® triathlons. She competes in the Badwater® Ultramarathon running event to raise money for charity and has finished this 135 mile road race 5 times.

TWILA WHITE, Law Office of Twila S. White

Twila S. White, Principal Attorney of the Law Office of Twila S. White, specializes in labor and employment law and has achieved verdicts and settlements in the six and seven figures. Her practice includes wrongful termination, discrimination, harassment and whistleblower cases. She also handles wage and hour violation cases on behalf of employees. Many of Ms. White's clients are low wage earners and well deserving clients who, without someone believing in their cases, would otherwise not receive justice and legal representation. In the seminal Johnson v. United Cerebral Palsy case, 173 Cal.App.4th 740 (2009), she was able to establish as a matter of law the admissibility of me-too evidence, or other victims of discrimination evidence, in proving employment discrimination cases. Ms. White has been recognized for her work by the Los Angeles Daily Journal and named as a Top Labor and Employment Lawyer and Top Women Lawyer. She is on the Board of Governors of the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles, Consumer Attorneys of California, and Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles.

DANIEL WILCOXEN, Wilcoxen Callahan, LLP

Daniel E. Wilcoxen received his J.D., cum laude, from UOP McGeorge School of Law in 1972 and was admitted to the California State Bar in 1972. Mr. Wilcoxen practiced with the defense firm of Rust & Armenis for the first seven years of his law career before leaving to open his own practice in 1979, where he began his emphasis in representing injured plaintiffs. He is the founding and senior partner in

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the law firm of Wilcoxon Callahan, LLP. The firm handles many types of cases: all types of personal injury cases, product liability, medical malpractice, business cases, discrimination and wrongful termination employment cases. Mr. Wilcoxon also handles the day-to-day management of the firm's 10 lawyers and 17 staff members. Over the years, Mr. Wilcoxon has obtained over 80 multi-million-dollar verdicts and settlements. Mr. Wilcoxon has been a member of ABOTA since 1993 and currently holds the rank of Advocate. He was President of the Sacramento Valley Chapter in 2008, was the Trial Lawyer of the Year in 2010.

DAVID WINNETT, Liuzzi, Murphy, Solomon, Churton, Hale & Winnett, LLP

David L. Winnett is a decorated trial attorney who has tried dozens of civil and criminal cases to verdict. He was CAOC's 2018 Consumer Attorney of the Year, a two-time finalist for SFTLA's Trial Lawyer of the Year and a past finalist for MTLA's Trial Lawyer of the Year. SFTLA's Women's Caucus recently recognized him as its 2021 Ally of the Year. He is a member of CAOC's Board of Directors and numerous community boards. After beginning his career as a prosecutor, Mr. Winnett spent 14 years at an Am Law 200 firm, defending the types of cases he now proudly prosecutes on behalf of injured people and their families.

KIMBERLY WONG, Coopers LLP

Kimberly Wong is a Partner and Litigation Manager at Coopers LLP in San Francisco, where she litigates and manages personal injury cases involving negligence, premises liability, wrongful death, products liability and industrial injuries. Kimberly is a frequent lecturer and the author of published articles on various topics related to personal injury litigation. She has been selected by her peers to the Northern California Super Lawyers Rising Star list each year from 2012 to 2017 and the Northern California Super Lawyer list from 2018 to the present. She is a graduate of CAOC's Leadership Academy. She has had several settlements featured in The Recorder's annual report of "California's Million-Dollar Settlements." Kimberly has served in various leadership roles within Consumer Attorneys of California, including as an officer, a board member, Chair of the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee and Chair of the Women's Caucus.

WENDY YORK, Law Offices of Wendy York

Ms. York's practice focuses on elder abuse, wrongful death and mass torts/class cases. This year, California Advocates for Nursing Home Abuse, a statewide non-profit advocacy organization, honored Ms. York with the Elder Abuse Advocate of the Year Award. She has prosecuted elder abuse cases on behalf of victims and families for over 25 years. She has served as co-lead counsel in multiple Class Actions, as well as a member of Plaintiffs' Executive Committee in Mass Torts Litigation, with substantial settlements and verdicts. She is a past recipient of CCTLA Trial Lawyer of the Year and twice a finalist for CAOC's Trial Lawyer of the Year. Ms. York is a former President of the Capital City Trial Lawyers Association, and a former Governing Board Member of CAOC. A fun fact about Ms. York – she and her three daughters are avid Swifties.