



BERG HILL GREENLEAF RUSCITTI_{LLP}

WWW.BHGR_{LAW}.COM | INFO@BHGR_{LAW}.COM | 303.402.1600

WE ARE PROUD TO
SPONSOR AND CONGRATULATE



SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS TO AZAR KHAZIAN

Senior Associate, Berg Hill Greenleaf Ruscitti LLP

on being named one of
San Diego Business Journal's
2023 TOP 100 LEADERS IN LAW.

This is a testament to your hard work and dedication to advocacy and the San Diego business community - an absolute honor and well deserved.



COLEMAN ALGUIRE
Garcia Hong Law

MAZDA ANTIA
Cooley LLP

ANTHONY ARNOLD
Barnes and Thornburg

MICHAEL ATTANASIO
Cooley LLP

KELLY BAGLA
Bagla Law Firm

JENNIFER L. BARRY
Latham & Watkins LLP

TERESA BECK
Klinedinst PC

KIMBERLEY BEST ROBIDOUX
WR Immigration

ERIC BESTE
Barnes & Thornburg LLP

KRISTI BLACKWELL
Tyson & Mendes LLP

JOSHUA BONNICI
Bonnici Law Group, APC

ROSE BOWLUS
Rose Bowlus Law, APC

KARIE BOYD
Boyd Law, APC

REXFORD BRABSON
T&Rex Law, P.C.

NICHOLAS BRAUNS
Higgs Fletcher & Mack

SAMUEL BROTMAN
Brotman Law

STEVEN COOPERSMITH
The Coopersmith Law Firm, LLP

THOMAS CROSBIE
CGS3

JAMES (JIM) CROSBY
James Crosby, Attorney at Law

JANE DAI
Knobbe Martens

MICHAEL DALLO
Dallo Law Group

KAREN DESCHAIINE
Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati

ROBERT DIXON
Sanders Roberts LLP

DEBORAH DIXON
The Dixon Firm

STEPHANIE DOWNER
Buchalter

WILLIAM EIGNER
Procopio

STACY FODE
Nukk-Freeman & Cerra

PAUL FRAIDENBURGH
Pillsbury Winthrop

JEREMY GLASER
Mintz

ALEXIS GUTIERREZ
Higgs Fletcher & Mack

STEFFI HAFEN
Snell & Wilmer

JENNIFER HANSEN
Hooper, Lundy & Bookman, P.C.

JASON HARTLEY
Hartley LLP

RODNEY HATLEY
Hatley Law Group, A.P.C.

JIM HILL
Sullivan Hill Rez & Engel

EMILY HOWE
Law Offices of Emily E. Howe

JAMES HUBER
Global Legal Law Firm

PAUL HUNTER
Foley & Lardner LLP

MICHELLE JACKO
Jacko Law Group, PC

MELISSA JOHNSON
Johnson and Heeder

AZAR M. KHAZIAN
Berg Hill Greenleaf Ruscitti

HUBERT (HUGH) KIM
Wilson Turner Kosmo

CARY KINKEAD
Lagasse Branch Bell + Kinkead LLP

ANDREW KOHN
Pettit Kohn Ingrassia Lutz & Dolin



SHAY KULKARNI
Sullivan Hill

DANIELA LAGUNAS AMBRIZ
Schwartz Semerdjian

THOMAS LANDERS
Solomon Ward Seidenwurm & Smith LLP

JOSEPH LEVENTHAL
Dinsmore & Shohl LLP

JING LIU
Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP

BRENDA LOPEZ
PLBK

NATE LUMAN
Knobbe Martens

JENNIFER N. LUTZ
Pettit Kohn Ingrassia Lutz & Dolin

CAYCE LYNCH
Tyson and Mendes LLP

DAVID MAJCHRZAK
Klinedinst PC

GREG MARKOW
Crosbie Gliner Schiffman Southard & Swanson LLP (CGS3)

JOSH MAXWELL
Hone Maxwell LLP

BARDIA MOAYEDI
Snell & Wilmer

DANIELLE MOORE
Fisher Phillips

JEFFREY MORTON
Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP

ZACHARY MYERS
Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati

SARA NEVA
Procopio

SUSAN OLIVER
Tyson & Mendes LLP

AARON OLSEN
Fisher Phillips

STEVEN OTTO
Crosbie Gliner Schiffman Southard & Swanson LLP (CGS3)

RAMA PADMANABHAN
Cooley LLP

DEREK PARADIS
Higgs Fletcher & Mack

GRANT PULEO
Duane Morris LLP

T. OWEN RASSMAN
Opelon LLP

SALLY REDDY
Dallo Law Group, APC

KRISTIN REYNA DEHART
Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP

YANA RIDGE
Gatzke Dillon & Ballance LLP

KEN ROLLINS
Cooley LLP

HEATHER ROSING
Klinedinst PC

LAUREN ROSS
Fragomen Del Rey Bernsen & Loewy LLP

BRANDON SAXON
Gordon & Rees, LLP

SARAH SCHAFFER
Schaffer Family Law Group

GEORGIA SCHNEIDER
G10 Law, APLC

BRETT SCHREIBER
Singleton Schreiber

DINA SEGAL
Gusto, Inc.

RONSON J SHAMOUN
RJS LAW

DAVID SHAPIRO
Law Office of David P. Shapiro, APLC

SARAH SHEKHTER
Seltzer Caplan McMahon Vitek

JOY SIDHWA
MoginRubin LLP

GERALD SINGLETON
Singleton Schreiber

ADAM SLOUSTCHER
Fisher Phillips

SCOTT STANTON
Mintz

MARESA TALBERT
Talbert Law Office, APC

ELIZABETH THOMPSON
Allen Matkins

MARTIN TOGNI
Allen Matkins

ELIZABETH TRESP
Tresp Law, APC and Tresp, Day & Associates, inc.

JENNIFER TROWBRIDGE
Procopio Cory Hargreaves & Savitch, LLP

JANICE Y. WALSHOK
Pettit Kohn Ingrassia Lutz & Dolin

DANIEL WATTS
G10 Law, APLC

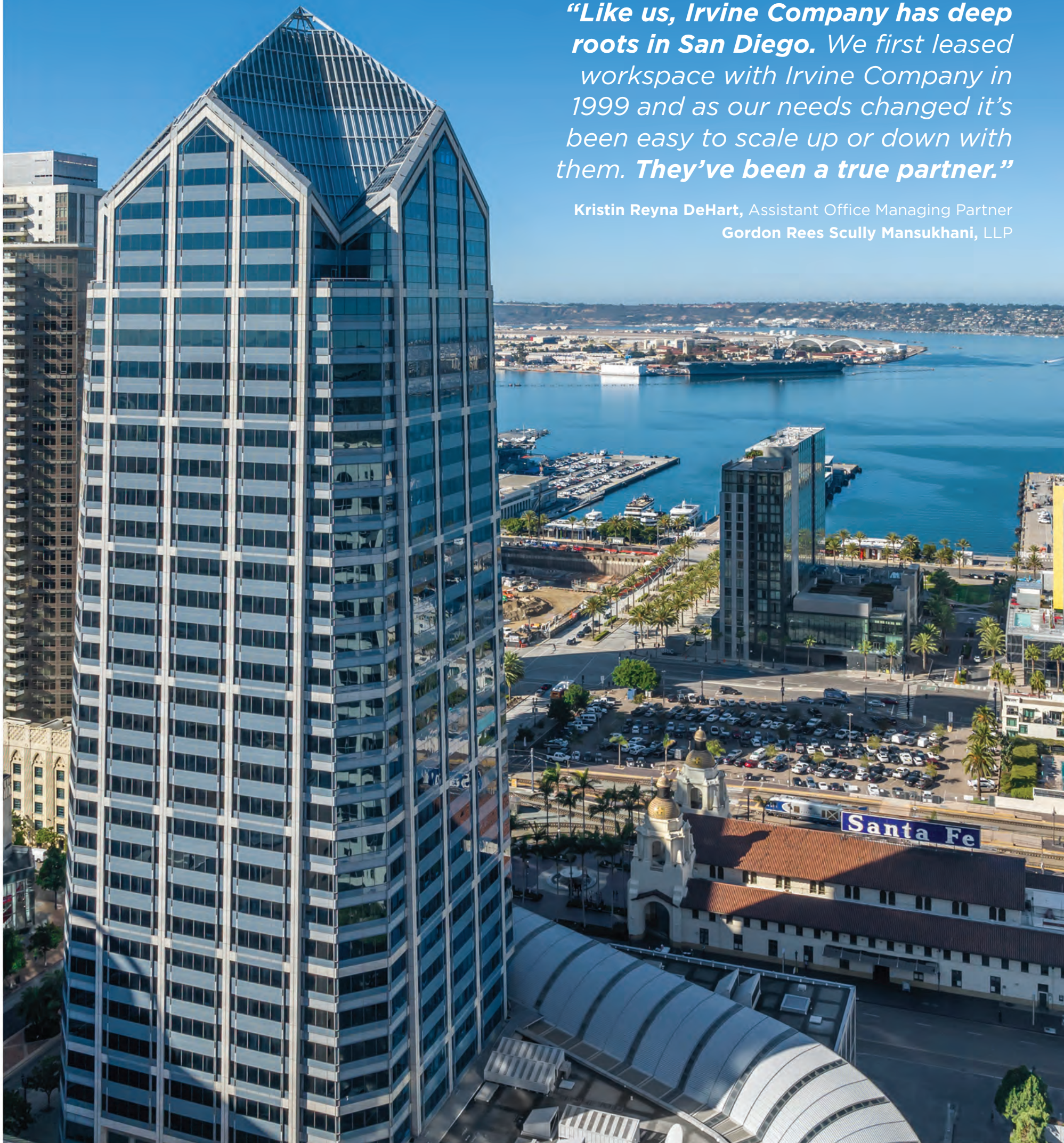
GABE P. WRIGHT
Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP

JOHN WYNNE
Ducker Metzger Wynne, APLC

DEBORAH YATES
Solomon Ward Seidenwurm & Smith LLP

“Like us, Irvine Company has deep roots in San Diego. We first leased workspace with Irvine Company in 1999 and as our needs changed it’s been easy to scale up or down with them. They’ve been a true partner.”

Kristin Reyna DeHart, Assistant Office Managing Partner
Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP



**WHERE
DOWNTOWN
SAN DIEGO**

Works Better



Six exceptional locations,
find yours at
workbetterdtsd.com

 **IRVINE COMPANY**

All properties for lease by Irvine Management Company, a licensed real estate broker, DRE LIC. #02041810. Product and amenities are subject to availability. Images may not be to scale. Not all features available in all communities. Not a representation or warranty. © 2023 Irvine Management Company. All Rights Reserved. The Sunwave, Irvine Company, and Success Works Here are registered trademarks of Irvine Management Company.

SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL
TOP 100
 LEADERS IN LAW
 AWARDS 2023
 IN-HOUSE COUNSEL and LAW FIRMS



COLEMAN ALGUIRE
 Associate Attorney
 Garcia Hong Law

Coleman Alguire is an Associate Attorney at Garcia Hong Law. He focuses on general business litigation, real estate litigation and professional liability. He has successfully tried cases to verdict or judgment in state court and OAH hearings. Alguire is also a licensed real estate salesperson. Prior to joining Garcia Hong Law, Alguire served as in-house counsel for a distribution company of cannabidiol (CBD) products. In this role, Alguire developed a wide variety of skills in business law, corporate compliance, contracts, pre-litigation management and risk analysis, intellectual property, real estate transactions and law, employment law, state and federal hemp compliance, labeling and quality control compliance, and administrative law. Alguire now uses his legal skills to bring an organized and pragmatic perspective to advocating for his clients. As a business owner himself, Alguire understands how litigation affects the bottom line.



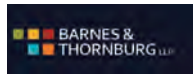
MAZDA ANTIA
 Partner
 Cooley LLP

Mazda Antia is a Partner at Cooley LLP. Antia is the head of the Southern California business litigation department. The group consists of 50+ lawyers and staff and spans three offices San Diego, Santa Monica and Downtown Los Angeles. His nationwide practice focuses on complex litigation, licensing and contractual disputes, defense of class actions and internal investigations. He has represented technology, social media, retail, communications, healthcare, investment, manufacturing, pharmaceutical, biotechnology and other companies in consumer class actions across the country. These cases have included claims for false advertising, unfair competition, consumer privacy statutes, violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, RICO and other state and federal consumer protection laws. He has defeated class certification and has negotiated complex nationwide settlements. He is on the board of the ABA's Immigration Justice Project.



ANTHONY ARNOLD
 Partner
 Barnes and Thornburg

Anthony Arnold is a Partner at Barnes & Thornburg. He is responsive and practical in his approach to helping clients solve problems and execute complex transactions from start to finish. He provides more than a decade of experience advising clients on corporate, finance, strategic and investment matters and a balanced perspective from working as in-house counsel at one of the world's largest private equity funds. Arnold advises U.S. and foreign investors and companies across a variety of industries, including software and hardware technology, biotechnology, aerospace and defense, industrials and manufacturing, financial and professional services, real estate, and sports, media and entertainment. Clients value his input and appreciate his strong business sense and innovative thinking. Prior to joining Barnes & Thornburg, Arnold practiced at top-tier law firms in Southern California. He received his J.D. from Harvard Law School.



MICHAEL ATTANASIO
 Partner and Litigation Chair
 Cooley LLP

Michael Attanasio is a Partner and Litigation Chair at Cooley LLP. He oversees the business litigation, white collar, intellectual property and employment groups. He also leads the department's lateral recruiting efforts and growth strategy. With more than 30 years of first-chair trial experience, he's been recognized dozens of times for his representation of clients in commercial litigation, antitrust and white collar matters. A fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers, he was named one of the Top 100 Lawyers in California by the Daily Journal, a Game Changer by The Recorder and a White Collar MVP by Law360. Beyond courtroom advocacy, he serves on the firm's Compensation Committee. He is also the Chair of the Standing Committee on Attorney Discipline for the Southern District of California, a position to which he was appointed by the District Court.



KELLY BAGLA
 CEO
 Bagla Law Firm

Kelly Bagla is the CEO of Bagla Law Firm. She is a highly experienced attorney with nearly two decades of accomplishments and experience. She has always been very gifted with crucial legal insight and an innate ambition to succeed. Through this, her first job out of law school was with Baker and McKenzie, which at the time was one of the top international law firms. She created Bagla law firm in 2009 with the intention to not only help clients succeed, but to also watch their lives flourish. Whether it is help with contracts, trademarks or routine asset protection, she is the first person to call for any business-related legal matters. For more than 10 years, she has volunteered for the sustainable Surplus Exchange where she has also served as a board member.



JENNIFER L. BARRY
 Global Chair of Latham's
 Intellectual Property Litigation Practice
 Latham & Watkins LLP

Jennifer L. Barry is the Global Chair of Latham's Intellectual Property Litigation Practice at Latham & Watkins LLP. She represents clients in all aspects of general commercial litigation with a particular focus on intellectual property. She guides top technology clients through complex IP laws and ever-evolving internet policies, and she manages the global trademark portfolios of market-leading technology brands. She has successfully litigated before numerous federal and state courts as well as the Patent and Trademark Office's Trademark Trial and Appeal Board. Barry leads a team of more than 100 IP litigators worldwide that brings trial-tested experience to matters ranging from cutting-edge pharmaceutical and technology patent disputes to the copyright, trademark and trade secrets cases that reshape industries. The team includes trial lawyers such as Barry who draw on deep technical knowledge, industry insight and experience litigating across venues.



TERESA BECK
 Managing Shareholder of Arizona and Nevada, DEIB Committee Co-Chair
 Klinedinst PC

Teresa Beck is Managing Shareholder of Arizona and Nevada, DEIB Committee Co-Chair at Klinedinst PC. Her practice includes representation of employers in employment-related litigation, personal injury defense, construction matters, contracts and civil litigation of all types. She is passionate about the advancement of women in the workforce, work/life management and DEI causes. Beck served as president of National Conference of Women's Bar Associations (NCWBA) in 2023. She co-created the nationally known GOOD Guys program – cutting-edge curriculum designed to engage male leadership in DEI to ensure businesses are benefiting from all the financial and motivational rewards of DEI. In her role as a co-chair of the Book Subcommittee of the Woman Advocate Committee of the American Bar Association's Litigation Section, she and co-chairs co-edited a collection of stories about women lawyers across America.



KIMBERLEY BEST ROBIDOUX
 Partner
 WR Immigration

Kimberley Best Robidoux is a Partner at WR Immigration. She thrives on working with companies and individuals to strategically develop the right solutions to address their immigration concerns and their journey forward with their immigration process. Her practice also focuses on assisting companies with their onboarding and retention of the best and the brightest from around the world, as well as with the implementation of immigration policies and procedures. Her expertise and skills have been recognized by her peers and clients as evidenced by her listing in Who's Who Legal: Corporate Immigration, The Best Lawyers in America (including Best Immigration Lawyer in San Diego 2020), Southern California Super Lawyers, San Diego Business Journal's Best of the Bar, The International Who's Who of Corporate Immigration Lawyers and 2023 Lawdragon 100 Leading Immigration Lawyers.



ERIC BESTE
 Partner
 Barnes & Thornburg LLP

Eric Beste is a Partner at Barnes & Thornburg LLP. Beste focuses his practice on white collar criminal defense, internal investigations and compliance matters and complex business litigation. Leveraging his proven track record of supervising and litigating high-profile matters as a federal prosecutor, he provides experienced counsel to clients seeking to mitigate the risks inherent in the modern business world. Among the litigation matters in which he can provide the most value are those involving securities fraud, corporate malfeasance, domestic and foreign corruption, tax crimes, defense procurement fraud, government contracting offenses, campaign finance fraud, Bank Secrecy Act/Anti-Money Laundering violations, financial institution crimes and healthcare fraud. Over the course of his career with the U.S. Department of Justice, he fostered collaborative relationships with law enforcement officials, fellow prosecutors and senior officials in the United States and abroad.



KRISTI BLACKWELL
 California Regional Managing Partner
 Tyson & Mendes LLP

Kristi Blackwell is the California Regional Managing Partner at Tyson & Mendes LLP. She is a powerhouse trial attorney who leads the firm's Retail, Restaurant and Hospitality practice group, representing the largest chain retailers and hotel companies in the country. She focuses her practice on general liability, personal injury, premises liability and complex litigation. Blackwell has wide-ranging litigation experience representing a diverse group of individuals and businesses in state and federal district courts. She is particularly adept at prevailing in high-stakes and high-profile cases against top-notch plaintiffs' attorneys. In the face of skyrocketing jury verdicts and settlements across the country, Blackwell's efforts have saved clients hundreds of millions of dollars in indemnity throughout her career – resulting in her elevation to equity partner in 2021 and then stepping into the role of branch managing partner in 2023.



JOSHUA BONNICI
 Managing Attorney
 Bonnici Law Group, APC

Joshua Bonnici is Managing Attorney at Bonnici Law Group, APC. The law firm represents injured individuals and oversees appeals of denied disability benefits. On top of running his law firm, he teaches at Thomas Jefferson Law School and is the incoming chair of the Solo/Small Firm section for California Lawyer's Association. He was the first member of his family to attend college. Bonnici has been heavily involved with donating to and sponsoring several San Diego nonprofit cycling organizations (San Diego Bicycle Club, Sky-Flash Racing, San Diego Velodrome Association, San Diego Mountain Bike Association) and has sat on the board of directors with the San Diego Mountain Biking Association for several years. In his spare time, he loves racing his bicycle all over the country and spending time with his high school sweetheart, Julia.



ROSE BOWLUS
 Corporate Securities, Commodities
 and Financial Services Attorney
 Rose Bowlus Law, APC

Rose Bowlus is a Corporate Securities, Commodities and Financial Services Attorney at Rose Bowlus Law, APC. She provides strategic legal guidance to businesses of all sizes and sophistications, ranging from early-stage startups to Fortune 500s. She also serves as outside general counsel for an emerging SaaS platform in the energy tech and renewables space. Before establishing her own law firm, she was in-house counsel for several of the nation's largest financial institutions and energy companies, including Wells Fargo, PNC and Sempra Energy. For the past 20 years, she has advised C-suite clients on legal strategy and managed matters ranging from federal and state rule and regulation compliance and multi-party commercial transaction negotiations to new venture formations and capital raising programs through debt and equity. She frequently speaks at industry events covering cutting-edge corporate, legal and ethics issues.





SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL



TOP 100

Barnes & Thornburg congratulates its own Anthony Arnold and Eric Beste for being named to San Diego Business Journal's Top 100 Leaders in Law list. Your leadership and dedication to our clients and the community set the standard for our industry.



Anthony Arnold



Eric Beste



ATLANTA BOSTON CALIFORNIA CHICAGO
DELAWARE INDIANA MICHIGAN MINNEAPOLIS
NASHVILLE NEW JERSEY NEW YORK OHIO
PHILADELPHIA RALEIGH SALT LAKE CITY
SOUTH FLORIDA TEXAS WASHINGTON, D.C.

BTLAW.COM

SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL
TOP 100
 LEADERS IN LAW
 AWARDS 2023
 IN-HOUSE COUNSEL and LAW FIRMS



KARIE BOYD
 CEO, ESQ
 Boyd Law, APC

Karie Boyd is the Lead Trial Attorney and CEO of Boyd Law. The National Association of Distinguished Counsel recently ranked her in the top 1% of attorneys in the nation. Boyd delivers case-winning results for her clients in trial as well as positions her clients for attractive out-of-court settlements. She represents clients in both state and federal court. Her civil litigation experience includes jury and bench trials. Having strong litigation and negotiation skills allows Boyd to handle the integrated areas of business litigation including partnership disputes and unfair business practices as well as representing clients in divorce matters involving businesses. Boyd is a certified family law specialist and the National Academy of Family Law Attorneys ranked her among the Top 10 Divorce Attorneys. Boyd is a published author and contributor to "Inside the Minds: Strategies for Family Law in California."



REXFORD BRABSON
 Founder/Partner
 T-Rex Law, P.C.

Rexford Brabson is the Founder and a Partner at T-Rex Law, P.C. He has more than 10 years of experience working in the intellectual property law space. He set out in 2019 to create a law firm that operates 100% on flat fees, allowing business owners to be able to retain a lawyer and be able to plan for the costs within budget. Since the founding of T-Rex Law, his team has helped hundreds of clients nationwide to build and protect their intellectual property profile. He works with clients in all different industries, from health and wellness to clothing and apparel. Since 2020, he has become the No. 1 most active Trademark Trial and Appeal Board attorney in the nation, often competing against much larger firms. His hard working, tenacious, humble personality makes him a trusted partner.



NICHOLAS BRAUNS
 Partner
 Higgs Fletcher & Mack

Nicholas Brauns is a Partner at Higgs Fletcher & Mack. He is a skilled trial attorney with a successful practice focused on litigating complex commercial disputes and defending companies against catastrophic tort claims. His practice includes assisting with the investigation and defense of industrial accidents, personal injuries or other catastrophic losses for various companies in the transportation and app-based service industry including trucking, auto and vertical transportation manufacturers (escalators and elevators) and ride-share facilitators. He represents clients in commercial litigation including contract-related claims, real estate disputes, landlord/tenant issues, breach of fiduciary duty claims, fraud and misrepresentation claims, unjust enrichment claims and partnership disputes. As one of the leaders of the firm's Transportation Law Practice Group, he is available to clients 24 hours a day, seven days a week, as part of the firm's Rapid Response team.



SAMUEL BROTMAN
 Owner and Managing Attorney
 Brotman Law

Samuel Brotman, the Owner and Managing Attorney for Brotman Law, founded the firm with the objective to provide the best, most comprehensive tax law services to businesses throughout San Diego. In 10 years, he has grown the firm to represent clients not only in Southern California, but throughout the country. Brotman receives accolades from clients on a daily basis because of his empathetic approach that pairs extensive knowledge of the nuances of tax law with compassion for the individual behind the business. It is this approach that has led the firm to continual growth and success, with tax strategies that not only defend clients in advocacy matters but save them a considerable amount through proactive tax optimization. Brotman graduated with highest honors from St. Catherine's College at Oxford University and received his J.D. and LL.M. from the University of San Diego.



STEVEN COOPERSMITH
 Managing Attorney
 The Coopersmith Law Firm, LLP

Steven Coopersmith is Managing Attorney at The Coopersmith Law Firm, LLP. He is a dynamic lawyer and has been recognized by numerous peers and publications in his field as one of the leading business and corporate litigators in San Diego. He is "trial-tested" as a former captain in the U.S. Army JAG Corps where he served as a military prosecutor and advised senior commanders and tried felony cases to courts-martial. He founded his firm 15 years ago which currently represents clients throughout Southern California in a wide range of business litigation matters, including those stemming from corporate and partnership dissolutions, securities and financial fraud violations, trade secret violations, bet-the-company litigation, executive-level employment disputes and fine art law disputes. His firm also handles select matters of public significance, including planning and development disputes.



THOMAS CROSBIE
 Partner
 CGS3

Thomas Crosbie is Partner at Crosbie Gliner Schiffman Southard & Swanson LLP (CGS3). He has extensive experience in a broad variety of commercial real estate areas, including acquisitions and dispositions, financing, leasing and construction in connection with commercial, residential, industrial, retail and mixed-use projects for local, regional and national real estate developers and investors. Crosbie has negotiated the purchase and sale of numerous commercial properties throughout the United States. On the development front, he has vast expertise in all aspects of ground-up development and redevelopment projects, including drafting and negotiating development agreements, CC&Rs, REAs, construction contracts and design contracts for commercial, industrial, multifamily residential and mixed-use projects. Crosbie is a regular participant in seminars hosted by NAIOP San Diego, teaching fledgling attorneys the foundation of a successful real estate practice. He received his law degree from Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law.



JAMES (JIM) CROSBY
 Attorney
 James Crosby, Attorney at Law

James (Jim) Crosby is an Attorney at James Crosby, Attorney at Law. Crosby is a trial attorney, working with clients on both the plaintiff and defense side of complex disputes. Over his 40+ year career, he has represented clients in general business, commercial, contract, intellectual property, unfair competition, securities, real property and business tort litigation. He, along with two other San Diego attorneys, successfully represented the San Diego NAACP and San Diego Tenants Union in a long-fought battle with the San Diego Housing Commission over the value of Section 8 housing vouchers. The attorneys performed this work on a pro bono basis, and the result has a significant impact for minority families by providing them with greater housing options. In 2022, he was named the San Diego County Bar Association's Attorney of the Year.



JANE DAI
 Partner
 Knobbe Martens

Dr. Jane Dai, Ph.D. is a Partner at Knobbe Martens. She is a leading San-Diego based patent attorney and serves as a single point of contact for all IP-related matters for her clients. She is a trusted adviser to both emerging and established life sciences companies. She utilizes her doctorate in organic chemistry to advise both emerging and established companies in the life sciences space, with a particular focus on small molecule pharmaceuticals – a unique skill set that her clients value. She has a deep understanding of the entire life cycle of drug development and aids her clients, including many life science companies throughout California, in protecting innovations from the initial discovery to later stage drug development, including protection for specific formulations and platform technologies. She is also well-versed in next-generation DNA sequencing technologies.



MICHAEL DALLO
 Founder & Principal Attorney
 Dallo Law Group

Michael Dallo, CPA, J.D., LL.M., the founder of Dallo Law Group in San Diego, is both a tax attorney and certified public accountant (CPA). Unlike most tax attorneys who usually only have a J.D., the basic law degree, he also holds a Master of Law degree (LL.M.) in tax, is a Certified Tax Law Specialist, and is an adjunct professor of taxation in the Masters of Tax program at the University of San Diego. His dual background in law and accounting, his dedication to the tax profession, his passion to educate in tax, and his persistence in the face of difficult challenges give Dallo a winning, strategic advantage that enables him to represent clients far better before the IRS and state tax agencies than the vast majority of tax attorneys.



KAREN DESCHAINÉ
 Partner
 Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati

Karen Deschaine is a Partner in the San Diego office of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, with a main practice in mergers and acquisitions. Deschaine has successfully represented biotechnology and therapeutics clients throughout their life cycles, from formation to exit as public companies. Deschaine has a 15-year track record of cultivating deep relationships with founders and venture funds. In the past year, Deschaine has helped form more than a dozen early-stage biotech companies and has advised these companies in successful raises of tens of millions of dollars in a challenging funding environment. Before law school, Deschaine served as a U.S. Army captain. Her credibility with women and veteran lawyers helped her make a singular impact in attracting and retaining talent at her prior law firm, Cooley. She expects to spend a portion of her time helping women and veterans succeed at Wilson Sonsini.



ROBERT DIXON
 Partner
 Sanders Roberts LLP

Robert K. Dixon, a Partner at Sanders Roberts LLP, is an experienced trial attorney who specializes in defending high-profile corporate clients in product liability, personal injury and consumer litigation in state and federal courts throughout California. He represents clients from a variety of industries, including automotive, pharmaceutical, construction and retail. The cases he litigates run the spectrum from single-plaintiff/defendant cases to multiple-party complex matters. He is experienced in managing matters from inception through trial as well as navigating matters through the arbitration process. He is a former in-house counsel where he was tasked with, among other things, managing hundreds of toxic tort cases concurrently. Dixon devotes a considerable amount of his practice to representing automotive companies in state and federal courts throughout California. He has been recognized as a Rising Star by Super Lawyers from 2015-2023.



DEBORAH DIXON
 Partner/Founder
 The Dixon Firm

Deborah Dixon is the founding partner of The Dixon Firm. Her practice focuses on class and mass actions relating to defective products and fraud. She also represents workers in cases involving gender discrimination, pay inequity and harassment. Dixon also serves as General Counsel for the L.A. Chargers and frequently advises employers on best practices to avoid lawsuits and presents on the importance of inclusivity in the workplace. In the past 12 months, Dixon has obtained nearly \$36 million in awards for her clients. Dixon is not only an advocate in the courtroom, but she is also a dedicated member of her community. She is President of the San Diego County Bar Foundation, the charitable arm of the county's legal community whose mission is "Providing Access to Justice for the Underserved in San Diego."





Congratulations to
Mazda Antia,
Michael Attanasio,
Rama Padmanabhan
and **Ken Rollins** for
being recognized on
the San Diego Business
Journal's 2023 Top 100
Leaders in Law list.

Cooley

TOP 100
LEADERS IN LAW
AWARDS 2023
IN-HOUSE COUNSEL and LAW FIRMS



STEPHANIE DOWNER
Shareholder
Buchalter

Stephanie S. Downer is a Shareholder in Buchalter's San Diego office and a member of the Tax, Benefits & Estate Planning practice group. She primarily focuses her practice in the areas of estate planning, wealth transfer planning, transfer tax minimization, trust administration, and probate law. Downer regularly advises professionals, families and business owners in all aspects of estate planning including revocable living trust plans, gift and estate tax planning with irrevocable trusts, charitable gift planning, property tax planning and trust administration. Downer is a certified specialist in Estate Planning, Trust & Probate Law by the State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization. Approximately only 5% of California's attorneys are certified as specialists by the State Bar of California. Downer further holds an LL.M. in Taxation from the University of San Diego School of Law.



WILLIAM EIGNER
Partner
Procopio

Listed in The Best Lawyers in America, Bill Eigner is one of California's top mergers and acquisitions and financing attorneys, based in the San Diego office of Procopio, one of California's largest law firms, with offices in Palo Alto, Irvine, Del Mar, San Diego, Las Vegas, Scottsdale and Washington, D.C. Eigner is often called "the go to guy" for M&A and emerging companies. He is also an authority on forming, utilizing, showcasing and providing compensation for boards of advisers. He is on the board of advisers for Cross Oceans Ventures Fund, Athletiverse, Sokyhealth, Acenda and Greenbutts LLC. He is a trustee emeritus of the San Diego Police Foundation and began his career as a U.S. Supreme Court Judicial Intern. Eigner is a partner at Procopio and a graduate of Stanford University and the University of Virginia School of Law.



STACY FODE
Managing Partner, West Coast
Nukk-Freeman & Cerra

Stacy L. Fode is a Labor and Employment attorney and Managing Partner of Nukk-Freeman & Cerra's San Diego office. For more than 25 years, she has had an active litigation practice, where she represents and counsels large national employers in all areas of employment law. Her work includes defending major Fortune 100/500 companies in high stakes employment litigation on both coasts. Her work also helps clients mitigate risk and prevent lawsuits through counseling and guidance. Fode serves as General Counsel for the National Association of Minority and Women-Owned Law Firms and is the first-ever chair of the Association of Defense Trial Attorneys Women of ADTA Committee. She also served on the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Bar Association and she is a part of various organizations involving her two children and her Point Loma community.



PAUL FRAIDENBURGH
Partner
Pillsbury Winthrop

Paul Fraidenburg is an accomplished trial lawyer who focuses his practice on representing clients in commercial litigation, arbitration and regulatory compliance matters. As lead counsel, he has tried to conclusion numerous high-stakes business disputes. He has prevailed on behalf of clients in the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and at the state Supreme Court level. Fraidenburg represents clients ranging from government agencies to Fortune 100 companies across a wide range of industries, including technology, aviation, real estate, energy, sports and entertainment. In May 2023, Fraidenburg moved his commercial litigation practice and his team from Buchalter to Pillsbury's San Diego office. In July 2023, he obtained a complete victory in an arbitration on behalf of a real estate developer client in one of the largest specific performance cases ever tried in Southern California.



JEREMY GLASER
Member, Co-Chair of Venture Capital and Emerging Companies Practice
Mintz

Mintz Member Jeremy Glaser has three decades of experience guiding life sciences and technology companies in their growth and financing strategies. He assists his clients in public offerings, angel and venture capital financings, mergers and acquisitions, and SEC compliance. His experiences as an executive at a technology company and an investment fund facilitates his ability to provide practical business and legal advice. Glaser is a key contributor to MintzEdge, an online resource for entrepreneurs that includes useful tools and information for starting and growing a company. In the last year, he has co-authored articles such as "Benefits and Legal Risks of Embracing Generative AI Applications" and "Extending for Success: The Rising Trend of Extension Rounds and the Importance of Due Diligence." Glaser is a past president of and currently serves on the Board of Directors of Connect San Diego.



ALEXIS GUTIERREZ
Partner
Higgs Fletcher & Mack

HFM Partner Alexis Gutierrez is a tenacious trial attorney and a trusted adviser, working side by side companies locally, nationally and internationally to both resolve disputes and mitigate risk. He is the head of HFM's Labor and Employment practice, and previously chaired the firm's Litigation Department. Gutierrez is known for his business and employment law savviness, his trial expertise and his ability to successfully guide companies by serving in the outside General Counsel role. Gutierrez has a long history of serving the community in a variety of leadership roles. He has served on the Board of Directors for United Way of San Diego and the San Diego North Economic Development Council. He previously served as Chairman of the American Red Cross for San Diego and Imperial counties as well as serving a six-year term on the board.



ALREEN HAEGGQUIST
Managing Partner
Haeggquist & Eck, LLP

Alreen Haeggquist, Managing Partner of Haeggquist & Eck, LLP, started her own firm in 2008 which has grown to 16 employees, including seven attorneys. She has served on several nonprofit boards and founded the HAE Law Foundation to give a percentage of her law firm's profits to charities annually. In 2023, Haeggquist published her book "Fired Up: Fueling Triumph from Trauma," which pays homage to her clients while inspiring others to take back their power. Haeggquist is a founding board member and current advisory board member of Think Dignity. She is a current board member of The Innocence Center and serves on the Friends Committee of the National Association of Women Judges. Recently, she founded the HAE Law Foundation to give a percentage of the Haeggquist & Eck law firm's profits to charities.



STEFFI HAFEN
Partner
Snell & Wilmer

Steffi Hafen has a thriving legal practice as the managing partner of the San Diego office of Snell & Wilmer, a full-service business law firm with more than 500 attorneys practicing in 16 locations throughout the United States and in Mexico, including three offices in California. She is a Certified Specialist in Estate Planning, Trust and Probate Law, California Board of Legal Specialization. Hafen's family emigrated to the United States from Cuba when her father was a child. She grew up with the same lesson constantly espoused - that the only thing people cannot take away from you is your education. As the first generation in her family born in the United States, Hafen navigated the law school, law firms and her legal career, all with an eye towards reaching a position where she could eventually make a difference.



JENNIFER HANSEN
Shareholder
Hooper, Lundy & Bookman, P.C.

Jennifer Hansen is co-chair of the Medical Staff Practice Group at Hooper, Lundy & Bookman, the largest law firm in the country dedicated solely to the representation of healthcare providers and suppliers. She has more than 20 years of experience representing hospitals, medical staffs and post-acute providers in a wide range of litigation, including state and federal court trials, administrative hearings, arbitrations and mediations throughout the state. Hansen has been at the forefront of the firm's diversity, equity and inclusion efforts. More than a decade ago, she spearheaded the launch of HLB's Diversity Initiative task force, which is now a formal DEI committee within the firm. With her leadership, the firm has made significant, meaningful strides in increasing the number of partners and associates from underrepresented groups.



JASON HARTLEY
Founder
Hartley LLP

On the local, statewide and national level, Jason Hartley, Founder of Hartley LLP, has earned a reputation for skillfully representing plaintiffs, including Fortune 500 companies, in commercial contingency matters asserting breach of contract, intellectual property, class action, antitrust and unfair competition claims. Since 2018, he has grown Hartley LLP to 12 attorneys, and the firm continues to garner visibility for its work on a national level. Hartley has recovered billions of dollars on behalf of victims and has been appointed lead class counsel by courts and served in senior litigation roles in dozens of cases that resulted in large antitrust settlements. He serves as co-lead counsel in a price fixing case against the country's largest beef producers and already obtained a settlement with one defendant of more than \$53 million, which was approved by the court in 2022.



RODNEY HATLEY
Attorney
Hatley Law Group, A P.C.

Rodney J. Hatley, Esq., LL.M. is Founder & Principal of Hatley Law Group, A P.C. Before founding Hatley Law Group, Hatley was a criminal defense counsel in the U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps. He founded Hatley Law Group after dealing with a multi-year probate process over his father's will. Hatley views estate planning through the lens of asset protection. His firm partners with clients to protect everything they love and everything they own. In addition to foundational estate planning, the planning Hatley does for clients may include advanced strategies to eliminate, or greatly mitigate, estate, generation-skipping transfer (GST), and gift taxes as well as domestic or offshore asset protection trusts, depending on their needs and goals. Hatley is the author of "Spousal Lifetime Access Trust" and "Estate Planning Strategies: Collective Wisdom, Proven Techniques, Second Edition."



JIM HILL
Shareholder
Sullivan Hill Rez & Engel

Jim Hill is a Shareholder and Founding Member of Sullivan Hill, member of its Executive Committee and chair of the Insolvency and Commercial Bankruptcy practice group. He practices primarily in the areas of bankruptcy, insolvency and commercial law. His bankruptcy experience includes representation of creditors, bankruptcy trustees and select bankruptcy debtors in Chapter 11 business reorganization cases, and he has served as a court-appointed examiner and mediator. Hill also works regularly with clients on asset sales and acquisitions, on state and federal court receivership cases, and on business workouts, restructuring and dissolution matters, among other commercial law matters. Hill played key roles in the CLA, chaired its Business Law Section, and was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award. He's been consistently recognized in Best Lawyers and received the Lawyer of the Year title multiple times.





Recognizing Success

Foley is proud to congratulate our colleague, Paul Hunter on being honored for the *San Diego Business Journal's* Top 100 Leaders in Law.



For more information about Foley, please contact:
 Krista Cabrera | San Diego | kcabrera@foley.com

[FOLEY.COM](https://www.foley.com)



AUSTIN | BOSTON | BRUSSELS | CHICAGO | DALLAS | DENVER | DETROIT | HOUSTON | JACKSONVILLE
 LOS ANGELES | MADISON | MEXICO CITY | MIAMI | MILWAUKEE | NEW YORK | ORLANDO | SACRAMENTO
 SALT LAKE CITY | SAN DIEGO | SAN FRANCISCO | SILICON VALLEY | TALLAHASSEE | TAMPA | TOKYO | WASHINGTON, D.C.



SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL
TOP 100
 LEADERS IN LAW
 AWARDS 2023
 IN-HOUSE COUNSEL and LAW FIRMS



EMILY HOWE
Principal | Founder
 Law Offices of Emily E. Howe

Emily Howe, Esq. is an attorney and counselor of law based in San Diego and La Jolla. She has spearheaded efforts at the forefront for authentic diversity, equity and inclusion, balancing the scales, and access to justice. Her law firm advises, counsels and aims to protect individuals, families, startups and nonprofits. Her career has focused on trusts-estates, wrongful death-catastrophic injuries, civil rights and general legal services, including counseling on laws, resources and compliance. She serves on the Board of Trustees of the San Diego County Law Library Foundation, the Board of Directors of the La Jolla Bar Association and community leader in San Diego. She is a member of legal and community organizations such as the Honorable William B. Enright American Inn of Courts, San Diego County Bar Association's inaugural leadership academy and Returned Peace Corps Associations.



JAMES HUBER
Partner
 Global Legal Law Firm

James C. Huber, Partner at Global Legal Law Firm, is an expert payments litigator, cryptocurrency consultant and a nationally recognized expert in the compliance field. He has spent the last 15 years in the payments litigation space at the head of his brainchild Global Legal Law Firm. An early entrant to the payments environment, Huber has adapted with the times to lead Global Legal to major wins against giants in the field such as Bank of America, PayPal, Intuit, American Express and Chase Bank. Huber is well-versed in mergers and acquisitions, compliance, contract review, internal operations, regulatory defense including FTC, CFPB, DOJ, AG, class actions and all legal aspects that affect a business. Huber received his bachelor's degree from Montana State University and his J.D. from Cal Western School of Law.



PAUL HUNTER
Office Managing Partner San Diego/ Partner
 Foley & Lardner LLP

Paul Hunter, Office Managing Partner San Diego/Partner at Foley & Lardner LLP, is an intellectual property lawyer regularly handling legal and business issues relating to electronics, computer hardware and software, artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), semiconductor, memory and other fields. His work in AI and ML helps companies identify and protect technologies through both patents and trade secrets. He is the managing partner for the firm's San Diego office, and he chairs the firm's Electronics Practice. In addition to client service, Hunter supports a variety of organizations that promote the greater good, including Helen Woodward Animal Center, Casa Cornelia Law Center, San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program, Support the Enlisted Project, StandUp for Kids, Free to Thrive, Couture for a Cause, Voices for Children and Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater San Diego.



MICHELLE JACKO
Managing Partner/CEO
 Jacko Law Group, PC

Michelle L. Jacko, Esq., is the managing partner and CEO of Jacko Law Group, PC and founder and CEO of Core Compliance & Legal Services, Inc. A recognized leader in compliance law, Jacko frequently speaks at national conferences and contributes to industry publications. Jacko's dedication has earned her numerous accolades, including the San Diego Business Journal's Women of Influence in Law (2018-2023), CEO of the Year Finalist (2019-2023), Businesswoman of the Year (2020-2022) and SD500 (2020-2022). Jacko is committed to serving clients, industry and our community and regularly dedicates time, effort and resources to a handful of charitable organizations and community outreach projects. They include The Autism Tree Project Foundation, The Salvation Army, Adoptapatoon, Boys to Men Mentoring Network, and Feeding San Diego.



MELISSA JOHNSON
President of the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Bar Association
 Johnson Heeder LLP

Melissa Johnson is president of the board of directors of the San Diego County Bar Association and is a partner and litigator at Johnson Heeder LLP. Johnson represents and advises clients in a range of employment law matters. Prior to joining Johnson Heeder LLP, Johnson was a partner at a general business firm where she handled a variety of business-related matters, employment litigation, and wage and hour litigation. A United States Air Force Veteran, Johnson serves on the Executive Board of the California Employment Lawyers Association, and travels to Sacramento every year to meet with California legislators and staff to advocate for changes in the law that will provide working Californians with stronger legal protection. Active in the San Diego legal community, Johnson lectures on numerous litigation topics.



ROSS JUREWITZ
Founder & CEO
 Jurewitz Law Group | Injury & Accident Lawyers

Ross Jurewitz is Founder & CEO of Jurewitz Law Group | Injury & Accident Lawyers. He is a nationally recognized personal injury attorney representing injured victims against careless people and their insurance companies in California, Florida and throughout the United States. He has tried or arbitrated numerous cases and has successfully recovered million-dollar judgments against negligent defendants on behalf of his clients. He started the law firm in 2007, going from humble beginnings to showcasing the perseverance and tenacity required to build a successful law firm from the ground up. He has become a nationally recognized personal injury attorney representing injured victims against careless people and their insurance companies in California, Florida, and throughout the United States, recognized in publications such as Time, Newsweek and San Diego Magazine as a leader in the field of litigation and personal injury law.



AZAR M. KHAZIAN
Associate
 Berg Hill Greenleaf Ruscitti

Azar M. Khazian is an Associate with Berg Hill Greenleaf Ruscitti, working out of the firm's California office. She focuses her practice on construction litigation and employment law. Khazian also has experience in the areas of business and real estate litigation, as well as personal injury litigation. She has represented plaintiffs and defendants in various stages of civil litigation, from inception to final resolution. Her clients have included small and large entities, and individuals; and she has represented them in a variety of arenas, including state and federal courts, as well as before administrative bodies. Prior to joining the firm, Khazian served as Of Counsel for a litigation firm in San Diego County. She spent her early years practicing as an associate at a civil litigation firm in San Diego. She obtained her Juris Doctor from UCLA School of Law.



HUBERT (HUGH) KIM
Senior Counsel
 Wilson Turner Kosmo

Hubert (Hugh) Kim is Senior Counsel in Wilson Turner Kosmo LLP's Business Litigation, Class Actions and Trade Secret Litigation practice groups. He represents clients in complex disputes in state and federal courts. He's a long-standing member and former President of the Federal Bar Association's San Diego Chapter. With one of the most diverse legal practices at WTK, he represents individuals and organizations of all sizes and industries in complex disputes in state and federal courts. Kim is a unicorn in the firm's vast business-litigation practice arena. He's not only among the firm's longest-tenured attorneys who prides himself in knowing each team member on the firm's ever-expanding team, he's also one of the most flexible, able to work across teams and practice areas to deliver favorable results to industry-leading individuals and organizations time and again.



CARY KINKEAD
Managing Partner
 Lagasse Branch Bell + Kinkead LLP

Cary Kinkead serves as the Managing Partner at Lagasse Branch Bell + Kinkead, where he directs his legal practice toward employment litigation and counseling, professional liability defense, personal injury defense, and business litigation and counseling. He also regularly counsels employers regarding numerous issues. In his capacity as Managing Partner, Kinkead assumes responsibility for the firm's operational oversight, managing its three offices situated across California, and maintains an active presence in the San Diego office on a daily basis. His supervisory role extends to all attorneys and administrative personnel, characterized by his approachability and unwavering commitment to each member of the firm's workforce. Kinkead's adept leadership ensures the seamless navigation of the organization and fosters a welcoming and considerate working environment for all employees at LBBK.



ANDREW KOHN
Chief Executive Officer and Founding Shareholder
 Pettit Kohn Ingrassia Lutz & Dolin

Andrew Kohn is a founding shareholder and CEO of Pettit Kohn Ingrassia Lutz & Dolin. He has a wide range of civil litigation and trial experience, primarily in the fields of personal injury (defense), business litigation and products liability. With a litigation career spanning three decades, Kohn has developed a strong reputation as one of San Diego's premier trial attorneys. He is an accomplished trial attorney, litigator, strategic problem solver and mediator with an extraordinary record of favorable outcomes and successes in a variety of cases in state and federal courts. Kohn's achievements have garnered him many awards and recognitions in the legal community. He is also a co-founder and mediator with Torrey Mediation. His dedication and commitment have earned him the respect of clients, colleagues and peers throughout the San Diego community.



SHAY KULKARNI
Shareholder
 Sullivan Hill

Shailendra "Shay" Kulkarni is a Shareholder at Sullivan, Hill, Lewin, Rez & Engel, APLC, a full-service San Diego business law firm. He focuses his practice on construction and real estate litigation. Since joining the firm in 2015, Kulkarni has obtained numerous favorable outcomes for his contractor and real estate developer clients in complex litigation matters. He has tried cases before civil courts and arbitration panels. His greatest value to his clients is perhaps as an "outside general counsel," where he utilizes his skills as a trusted adviser to steer his clients away from legal issues and to resolve minor disputes before they become major disputes. He is actively involved in organizations that serve the underserved, such as the Monarch School and Humanity Showers. Since 2017, Kulkarni has also served as Co-Chair of the Crawford Academy of Law's Mentorship Program.



DANIELA LAGUNAS AMBRIZ
attorney
 Schwartz Semerdjian

Daniela Lagunas Ambriz is an attorney at Schwartz Semerdjian, shining as a successful attorney and role model for others. She handles complicated litigation matters on her own, strategizing and then executing on plans to maximize the benefit to her clients. She has great insight for smartly managing her clients' litigation matters. Not only does Lagunas Ambriz have great legal expertise, she also has strong people skills, and she utilizes these skills when interacting with witnesses, clients, experts, opposing parties and opposing counsel in a powerful way. She is an at-large director for San Diego La Raza Lawyers Association and a frequent contributor to the San Diego County Bar's "For the Record" publication. Furthermore, she shares her wellness passion with others via social media, demonstrating great leadership in many different aspects of her career.



Pillsbury congratulates
Paul Fraidenburgh
for being selected as a
2023 Leader in Law
by *San Diego Business Journal*.



Paul Fraidenburgh

Partner, San Diego

paul.fraidenburgh@pillsburylaw.com
1.858.847.4106



SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL



Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP
11682 El Camino Real | San Diego, CA 92130
+1.858.509.4000 | pillsburylaw.com



THOMAS LANDERS
Partner
Solomon Ward Seidenwurm & Smith LLP

Thomas Landers is a Partner at Solomon Ward Seidenwurm & Smith LLP. Landers is a skilled business litigator with more than 20 years of experience. He is the head of the firm's consumer rights practice group and specializes in handling complex business litigation matters on behalf of corporate entities and individuals. A trusted counselor to, and advocate for, creditors, debt buyers, debt servicers, landlords and law firms, Landers represents these clients against claims under the state and federal Fair Debt Collection Practices Acts and the federal Telephone Consumer Protection Act. He also has significant experience with other niche areas of the law including cases involving California's anti-SLAPP statute. He is experienced in representing clients in cases involving California's new and recently amended data privacy laws, The California Consumer Privacy Act and California Privacy Rights Act.



JOSEPH LEVENTHAL
San Diego Office Managing Partner
Dinsmore & Shohl LLP

Joseph Leventhal is San Diego Office Managing Partner at Dinsmore & Shohl LLP. Leventhal has built an impressive resume of accomplishments during his law career. Named among "Top Lawyers" by San Diego Magazine and awarded the Wile W. Manual Pro Bono Award many times, Leventhal has a passion for being a leader in the legal community. Leventhal's work to give back has been recognized with the Federal Bar Association's Elaine R. "Boots" Fisher Award for community, public and charitable service. In addition to his successes for his clients, he serves as the de facto head of California litigation for Dinsmore & Shohl. During the last year, he created a training program for the San Diego litigation associates to improve their practice skills. He also serves on the firm's Finance, Diversity and Systems committees.



JING LIU
Ph.D., Partner
Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP

Jing Liu, Ph.D., is a Partner at Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP. Liu is a nationally recognized life sciences IP attorney specializing in patent prosecution and counseling. She is a partner in Sheppard Mullin's Del Mar office. Liu earned her Ph.D. in Biology from the University of Kansas Medical Center for work related to computational genomics and evolutionary classification of viruses of bacteria and archaea. Liu helps her clients protect innovations in a wide range of technological areas, including biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, genomics and nanotechnology. She utilizes successful IP strategies to support the underlying business objectives of her clients, whether they are academic institutions, startups or multinational corporations. Her legal expertise, combined with her background in life sciences, provides her with a deep understanding of how to best protect her clients' interests and their valuable intellectual property.



BRENDA LOPEZ
Attorney
PLBK

Brenda Lopez is a Founding Partner at Patterson, Lopez, Banaños, Khiterman, LLP. Lopez is a Certified Family Law Specialist who has represented family law clients in a variety of cases in several counties. She has successfully litigated many complex family law cases, touching upon myriad issues. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for the San Diego County Bar, after previously serving as Chair, Vice-Chair and Member at Large of the Family Law Section. She also serves on the Board of Directors for the San Diego La Raza Lawyers Association Scholarship Fund and serves as Co-Chair of the Community Services Committee of Lawyers Club of San Diego. Following admission to the California State Bar in 2012, Lopez opened her own law practice and provided pro bono legal assistance for the San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program's domestic violence clinic.



NATE LUMAN
Partner
Knobbe Martens

Nate Luman, Ph.D., is a litigator at Knobbe Martens, representing leading chemical and pharmaceutical companies in intellectual property matters. Luman has achieved groundbreaking results in inter partes review proceedings before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board and for pharmaceutical companies delivering life-saving treatments. Luman is a past president and member of the San Diego Intellectual Property Law Association. A leading San Diego patent litigator, he has also litigated cases under the Hatch-Waxman Act, counseling generic pharmaceutical companies with respect to the Abbreviated New Drug Application process. Luman also serves on Knobbe Martens' Publication Committee, volunteering his time proofing and editing articles by his peers. Luman has extensive experience developing strategic patent portfolios for innovative life science and healthcare companies. His expertise includes strategic patent procurement, analyzing third-party patents, conducting due diligence studies and preparing opinions on patent validity and freedom-to-operate issues.



JENNIFER N. LUTZ
Founding Shareholder
Pettit Kohn Ingrassia Lutz & Dolin

Jennifer N. Lutz is a founding shareholder and co-chair at Pettit Kohn Ingrassia Lutz & Dolin. Lutz's litigation career spans more than two decades and in that time she has developed a strong reputation as one of San Diego's premier and go-to employment law attorneys for both counseling and employment litigation. She represents employers in a broad spectrum of prominent companies, defending and advising on their most complex and important cases. She has an extraordinary record of favorable outcomes and successes in a variety of cases in state and federal courts and administrative agencies. Lutz is a widely sought author and speaker, frequently invited to provide employment practices and employee management training and guidance for private firms, other attorneys and professional organizations throughout California. She is also an employment law instructor for UC San Diego's Division of Extended Studies.



CAYCE LYNCH
Administrative Partner
Tyson and Mendes LLP

Cayce Lynch is Administrative Partner at Tyson & Mendes, where she has led the firm through unprecedented growth and innovation. Lynch has developed a series of initiatives that have doubled the firm's size and raised its profile to attract and retain the best attorneys and staff: among them the Women's Initiative, Young Professionals Group, Diversity & Inclusion Committee, T&M Giving, TM University and TM Trial Academy. She oversees all aspects of Tyson & Mendes' staffing and human resources, marketing, finance and accounting, facilities management and IT functions. She is also strategic planner for the firm. She shapes Tyson & Mendes to not only meet the needs of the firm's insurance and insured clients, but also the firm's employees. As seen in the multiple programs Lynch implemented, Lynch is focused on cultivating an innovative firm culture.



DAVID MAJCHRZAK
Shareholder and Deputy General Counsel
Klinedinst PC

David Majchrzak is Shareholder and Deputy General Counsel at Klinedinst PC and is a seasoned ethicist, civil litigator, and certified specialist by the State Bar of California in legal malpractice law. He serves as the firm's Deputy General Counsel, and chairs the firm's writing committee and attorney training college. Majchrzak represents clients in matters involving attorney and law firm risk management, discipline defense and legal malpractice claims. He has also served as an expert on legal ethics issues. Majchrzak devotes a substantial portion of his career to counseling his clients on how to achieve their professional goals in an ethical way. For lawyers and firms with or without general counsel, he helps navigate the often-complex ethical waters of the legal profession. Majchrzak performs law office risk management assessments, trains law firm staff in ethics requirements and advises on various topics.



GREG MARKOW
Partner
Crosbie Gliner Schiffman Southard & Swanson LLP (CGS3)

Greg Markow is a Partner at Crosbie Gliner Schiffman Southard & Swanson LLP (CGS3) where he takes a bottom-line and sensible approach to resolving real estate disputes. Before embarking on costly and lengthy litigation, he examines all options to identify strategies to achieve clients' goals. Markow's perspective is that when litigation is the only option, decisions on how to proceed should be based on a thorough cost-benefit analysis that is sensitive to the specific situation and mindful of a potential settlement. He represents real estate investors, owners and property management companies looking to minimize risks that lead to litigation and defending them forcefully when disputes cannot be avoided. He has served on, chaired and provided pro-bono legal advice to several not-for-profit boards of directors and is a former chair of the Real Property Section of the California Lawyers Association.



JOSH MAXWELL
Managing Partner
Hone Maxwell LLP

Josh Maxwell is Managing Partner at Hone Maxwell LLP, a San Diego-based international law firm. Maxwell uses his experience as a CPA and tax attorney to bridge the gap between accounting and law — especially for international investors and entities. Maxwell represents clients, including those living and working abroad, in legal defenses to limit or prevent inappropriate audit assessments. Under his leadership, the firm has seen tremendous growth, including opening offices in Tijuana (2022) and in 2024, Singapore. For more than 10 years, Maxwell has successfully guided foreign clients from afar by making frequent trips overseas and south of the border — not to mention via a plethora of conference calls. Under Maxwell's leadership, the firm has been opening international offices, a massive undertaking. For a boutique firm like HMLLP, it takes scrappy dedication to realize and seize opportunities to build on and expand cross-border relationships.



BARDIA MOAYEDI
Partner
Snell & Wilmer

Bardia Moayed is a Partner at Snell & Wilmer, a full-service business law firm with more than 500 attorneys practicing in 16 locations throughout the U.S. and Mexico. He is chair of the firm's Technology Industry Group, with a primary emphasis on advising emerging growth and public companies throughout their life cycles, particularly in the life sciences, high-technology, financial technology, food and beverage, and clean-technology industries. He is also co-chair of the firm's Life Sciences Industry Group. Moayed has significant experience representing companies and financial firms in a broad range of general corporate governance and transactional matters, including venture capital financings, mergers and acquisitions, debt offerings, spin-offs/divestitures, joint ventures, IPOs, follow-on offerings and tender offers. He is a trusted adviser, often serving as the go-to outside counsel or lead counsel to his clients.



DANIELLE MOORE
Partner
Fisher Phillips

Danielle Moore is a Partner at Fisher Phillips, where she is a well-known, recognized and respected employment defense attorney who represents employers in a variety of industries facing discrimination claims, wage and hour class action lawsuits, and PAGA claims. Moore has two primary objectives when counseling employers on labor and employment concerns: limiting financial impact on their business and getting ahead of litigation as early as possible. Whether defending accusations of employment discrimination, wrongful termination, harassment or retaliation or analyzing a complex workplace issue, Moore works to understand her clients' goals and reach the best possible outcome. She guides employment handbook and personnel policy preparation and provides preventive counsel for hiring, discipline and termination best practices. She conducts management training, lectures on emerging employment topics throughout the nation and has taught employment law at the university level.





JEFFREY MORTON

Partner
Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP

Jeffrey Morton is a Partner at Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP, where he leads the firm's Life Sciences Practice and co-leads the Licensing and Technology Transactions Practice. Clients depend on him for strategic intellectual property advice and related transactional support, with a particular focus on life sciences and medical technologies. A Ph.D. immunologist, Morton has extensive patent experience in technologies including genomics, immunology and gene editing technologies, and advises on complex freedom-to-operate life sciences issues. Morton also maintains an active trademark practice and provides cross-border legal advice with Canadian clients, being admitted in both the U.S. and Canada. He has been recognized by the World Intellectual Property Review as a U.S. Patent Leader and Trademark Leader and as an IAM Strategy 300 world-leading IP strategist.



ZACHARY MYERS

Partner
Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati

Zachary Myers is a Partner with Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, P.C. He is a "go to" attorney for Southern California's private and public companies in the technology and life sciences sectors – especially biotechnology and medical device companies – in complex, high-value transactions. Myers' practice allows him to work with companies ranging from startups to large public clients. He represents private companies in venture capital financings, helping companies raise millions of dollars needed to fund, grow and expand their businesses. He has assisted numerous clients that have gone public, listing on the New York Stock Exchange and NASDAQ markets. He often represents clients in the purchase or sale of their businesses, engaging in multiple sophisticated M&A transactions. As a former CPA, Myers appreciates clients' business cycles and interacts seamlessly with their management teams and boards.



SARA NEVA

Partner
Procopio

A partner at Procopio, Sara Neva counsels clients on real estate, finance and general business transactions. Her practice involves real estate property purchase and sale, commercial leases and easements, joint venture formation and other equity investments, financing, land use and entitlements. Clients include developers, lenders, borrowers and commercial real estate investors.

Neva is a Downtown Planning & Public Policy Committee member of the Downtown San Diego Partnership and a former court appointed special advocate with Voices for Children Inc. She also works with the San Diego Real Estate and Land Use Society Mentorship Program, the San Diego Building Industry Association, and is pro bono legal counsel for the San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program. She earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Santa Clara University and a law degree from the University of Minnesota Law School.



SUSAN OLIVER

Partner
Tyson & Mendes LLP

Susan Oliver has saved her clients hundreds of millions of dollars over her 20-plus year career. As a partner in Tyson & Mendes' San Diego office, Oliver leads a multi-attorney team focusing on defending clients against catastrophic personal injury, employment practices and medical malpractice cases. She chairs the firm's Sexual Abuse and Molestation practice, leading a team that handles the most sensitive, high-profile litigations involving sexual abuse, assault and/or molestation. Her clients include schools, sports leagues, nonprofit organizations, youth serving organizations, public entities and more. Oliver has defended more than 250 cases. Oliver is particularly adept at devising novel legal arguments to defuse juror anger and minimize her client's exposure. She earned a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Iowa and a law degree from the University of Iowa College of Law.



AARON OLSEN

Partner
Fisher Phillips

A partner in the San Diego office of Fisher Phillips, Aaron Olsen is an employment defense attorney and counsels and defends employers of all sizes on the full spectrum of employment issues including wage-hour class action, PAGA cases, wrongful termination, misappropriated trade secrets, harassment and discrimination. He regularly lectures on employment law issues and has taught an employment law course at San Diego State University. Prior to joining the firm, Olsen worked at national law firms in San Diego and Los Angeles. He is a member of the San Diego Civil Service Commission and is active in the Boy Scouts of America, where he was a scoutmaster for many years. Olsen earned a bachelor's degree in political science with a minor in conservation biology from Brigham Young University and a law degree from Harvard Law School.



STEVEN OTTO

Partner
Crosbie Gliner Schiffman Southard & Swanson LLP (CGS3)

A partner with CGS3 (Crosbie Gliner Schiffman Southard & Swanson LLP), Steven Otto's expertise with major projects spans the acquisition, development, leasing, licensing and sale of office, industrial and retail portfolios, power plants (both traditional and renewable energy sources) and mixed-use office/retail projects. In addition, he has negotiated master developer and merchant builder agreements as well as private party development agreements for retail shopping complexes and residential developments. Otto is a member of NAIOP San Diego, Lambda Alpha International, the University of California San Diego Rady Network Alumni Association, and the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association. He earned a bachelor's degree in engineering from the U.S. Naval Academy, a master's degree in business administration from the University of California San Diego Rady School of Management, and a law degree from The George Washington University School of Law.



Buchalter

congratulates

Stephanie Downer

NAMED A SAN DIEGO 2023 LEADER OF INFLUENCE IN LAW

SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL



Stephanie Downer
SHAREHOLDER

SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL
TOP 100
 LEADERS IN LAW
 AWARDS 2023
 IN-HOUSE COUNSEL and LAW FIRMS



RAMA PADMANABHAN
 Partner
 Cooley LLP

A partner at Cooley LLP, Rama Padmanabhan focuses on all types of public and private mergers and acquisitions and cross-border transactions, with an emphasis on Asia. She has extensive experience with merger and acquisition transactions, reverse mergers, representation of financial buyers and sellers, joint ventures, navigating IPO/merger and acquisition dual-track processes, and other complex transactions. She is a market leader in life sciences, biotech and medical device transactions. Padmanabhan mentors and champions women lawyers and creates networking opportunities for diverse San Diego lawyers. She chairs Cooley's diversity committee, and as a member of the DEI Advisory Council, Women's Initiative strategic committee, and partnership nominating committee. She earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics and economics from Mount Holyoke College, a master's degree in public policy from Harvard Kennedy School, and a law degree from Harvard Law School.



DEREK PARADIS
 Partner
 Higgs Fletcher & Mack

An employment litigation partner at Higgs Fletcher & Mack, Derek Paradis represents clients in complex business disputes, wage and hour class actions, and employment discrimination cases. He is known for coming up with creative solutions to get cases resolved. He is a trusted counselor for his clients, providing compliance advice and counsel on all aspects of the employer-employee relationship. As part of his practice, Paradis also regularly conducts required training for employers. Paradis serves on the San Diego County Lodging Association's Board of Directors. He is a former board member of the San Diego Bar Foundation, and holds leadership positions in Alfa International, a global network of law firms. He earned a bachelor's degree in hotel administration from the University of Nevada Las Vegas and a law degree from Thomas Jefferson School of Law.



DOUGLAS A. PETTIT
 Founding Shareholder
 Pettit Kohn Ingrassia Lutz & Dolin

A partner at Pettit Kohn Ingrassia Lutz & Dolin, Douglas Pettit has extensive trial and litigation experience in the areas of civil litigation, business litigation and professional liability. His record of favorable outcomes and exemplary client service has resulted in recognition by his peers over the years. He was inducted into the American Board of Trial Advocates in 2007 as the youngest member of the San Diego Chapter and has achieved Martindale-Hubbell's highest rating for legal ability and ethical standards. Pettit is also a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation, an honor limited to one third of one percent of the lawyers in America. He is also a lecturer at the University of San Diego, where he teaches a course in Experiential Advocacy. Pettit earned a bachelor's degree in economics and English from Bethany College and a law degree from Washington and Lee University.



GRANT PULEO
 Partner
 Duane Morris LLP

A partner in the San Diego office of Duane Morris and an adjunct professor at California Western School of Law, Grant Puleo focuses on a wide variety of real estate, finance and business transactions, and leads the firm's Multifamily and Student Housing group. His finance experience includes borrower and lender representation in the origination and workout of complicated debt and equity transactions. Puleo has provided pro bono legal services to Rescued Cards and The Convivio Center, a center that engages in community building and provides a variety of arts, culture and heritage programming. He is a member of the American Bar Association Advisory Panel and a charitable adviser at the Jewish Community Foundation of San Diego. He earned a law degree from the University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law.



T. OWEN RASSMAN
 Managing Attorney
 Opelon LLP

T. Owen Rassman is Managing Partner with Opelon LLP, a trust, estate and probate law firm. With a strong educational background and a passion for estate planning and probate law, Rassman has garnered numerous accomplishments and professional achievements throughout his career. He has established a client-focused approach with Opelon LLP that prioritizes accessibility, responsiveness and attention to detail. By offering flat fee-based estate planning services, encouraging questions and providing quality service at reasonable rates, Rassman has created a practice that prioritizes client satisfaction and generates referrals from happy clients. He received his master of laws in taxation (LL.M.) from the University of San Diego School of Law and his juris doctor (J.D.) from Pepperdine University School of Law in addition to receiving his MBA from Pepperdine's Graziadio School of Business. He was recognized as a Super Lawyer in 2023.



SALLY REDDY
 Managing Attorney
 Dallo Law Group, APC

As managing attorney with Dallo Law Group, Sally Reddy is responsible for maintaining a cohesive and supportive team culture. She personally recruited and trained more than two-thirds of the current law firm staff. Her clients – predominantly women- or minority-owned businesses in San Diego County – appreciate her zealous advocacy as well as her kindness and patience while helping them navigate difficult tax problems. As an active-duty military spouse, Reddy has overcome significant obstacles to establish and grow her legal practice. Reddy is a former volunteer with the San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program and the Legal Aid Society of San Diego. She earned a bachelor's degree in English from Albion College, a master's degree in taxation law from New York University School of Law, and a law degree from the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law.



Congratulations to our partners Thomas Crosbie, Gregory Markow and Steven Otto for their recognition as Leaders in Law!

As practice group leaders among our growing team of best-in-class real estate lawyers, each has years of expertise in successfully structuring and negotiating complex transactional real estate matters and dispute avoidance and resolution. Their unwavering commitment to professional excellence and devotion to our clients defines the CGS3 client experience. We are proud of each of these professionals and their recognition by the San Diego Business Journal.

Visit us at cgs3.com to learn more.



CGS3
 LAW

858.367.7676 | WWW.CGS3.COM

SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL
TOP 100
 LEADERS IN LAW
 AWARDS 2023
 IN-HOUSE COUNSEL and LAW FIRMS



KRISTIN REYNA DEHART
 Partner and Assistant Managing Partner of the San Diego office of Gordon & Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP

Kristin Reyna DeHart is an environmental attorney who has practiced in the San Diego office of Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP for the last 23 years. She primarily handles environmental and toxic tort matters, as well as general tort litigation matters. She was elected to national partnership in 2007 and became the assistant managing partner of the San Diego office in 2017, supervising more than 125 attorneys and more than 200 employees. DeHart also sits on the Steering Committee of the firm-wide Environmental and Toxic Tort practice group. She volunteers with the North Park American Youth Soccer Organization, Trinity United Methodist Church, and the St. Augustine High School's Austin Parents Association. DeHart earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Pepperdine University and a law degree from Tulane University Law School.



YANA RIDGE
 Associate
 Gatzke Dillon & Ballance LLP

An associate attorney at Gatzke Dillon & Ballance since 2019, Yana Ridge provides advisory and litigation services to private and public sector clients on matters involving entitlement processes, environmental compliance, municipal law and real property. Her prior work experience includes assisting clients in both transactional and litigation contexts with land acquisition and development, preparation of CEQA-compliant documents, property title issues, property disputes, corporate law and initiative rights. She assists with various land use and environmental issues in airport and university settings. Ridge has represented such diverse clients as wireless companies, city governments and airports. They included the city of Marina, the city of Monterey, Riverside County, and the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority. Ridge earned a bachelor's degree in sociology from the University of California Riverside and a law degree from the University of San Diego.



KEN ROLLINS
 Partner-in-Charge
 Cooley LLP

Ken Rollins, partner at Cooley LLP, represents emerging and late-stage private companies and public companies in a wide range of corporate and securities matters, including private financings, public offerings, M&A, tender offers, strategic collaborations, commercial agreements, corporate governance matters, and employment and compensation arrangements. He represents companies and venture funds in diverse industries, with a focus in life sciences, medical technology, and technology. His clients range from startups to public companies with hundreds of millions of dollars in annual revenue. Rollins has served on the nonprofit board of EvoNexus and is a board member of Clarity Foundation, and a board member of Biocom California. Rollins earned an associate degree in accounting from Dixie State University, a bachelor's degree in accounting from Southern Utah University, and a law degree from the University of Virginia School of Law.



HEATHER ROSING
 CEO and President
 Klinedinst PC

Heather Rosing is CEO and president of Klinedinst PC. A frequent speaker and author, Rosing is respected for her experience in the areas of complex litigation, malpractice and fraud, directors and officers (D&O) claims, and management liability. Known for her strong advocacy and her leadership in local, California and national legal organizations, Rosing also represents professionals before disciplinary agencies, including the State Bar of California, and represents judges and commissioners in matters before the Commission on Judicial Performance.

She mentors new attorneys, is a past president of the San Diego County Bar Association and has previously served on the Board of San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program and the Tom Homann Law Association Foundation. She earned a bachelor's degree in broadcast journalism from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and a law degree from Northwestern University.



LAUREN ROSS
 Senior Associate
 Fragomen Del Rey Bernsen & Loewy LLP

Lauren Ross is a senior associate at Fragomen, where she serves as corporate immigration counsel to a wide range of clients, from small domestic entities to large multinational corporations in varying industries. Ross manages a growing legal team of attorneys and paralegals that provide immigration solutions to corporate clients and counsels them on all matters related to U.S. immigration and nationality law, regulation, policy and compliance. Ross has practiced exclusively in the field of U.S. corporate immigration and nationality law for more than 13 years. Fluent in English and Spanish, she serves on the Male Allyship Committee for Athena, which promotes women in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) and offers pro bono services to Pathways to Citizenship. Ross earned a bachelor's degree in anthropology, chemistry and political science from Wake Forest University and a law degree from Brooklyn Law School.



BRANDON SAXON
 Partner
 Gordon & Rees, LLP

As assistant managing partner in the San Diego office of Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, Brandon Saxon chairs the office's employment practice group. He also serves as the assistant chair of the firm's national employment group. He focuses his practice on civil litigation matters, including the defense of companies and employers in employment and commercial-related actions, and has experience in various heavily regulated practice areas. His volunteer work includes participation with the San Diego County Bar Association, California State Bar, Labor & Employment Section. He is an active youth sports coach, and he has volunteered for the past 14 years as a San Diego area High School Mock Trial Team coach. Saxon earned a bachelor's degree in economics from Boston College and a law degree from the University of Denver Sturm College of Law.



CONGRATULATIONS TO
MICHAEL C. DALLO, CPA, JD, LL.M.
AND SALLY REDDY, ESQ
 FOR RECOGNITION AS SDBJ'S TOP 100 LEADERS IN LAW

• TAX AUDITS • TAX SETTLEMENTS • TAX APPEALS • CRIMINAL TAX

TRUST A TRUE TAX EXPERT
 TO SOLVE YOUR TAX PROBLEMS

DALLO LAW GROUP
 TAX LAW FIRM

www.dalloylawgroup.com
 619.795.8000

mdallo@dallolawgroup.com
 sreddy@dallolawgroup.com



SARAH SCHAFFER
CLS-F, LL.M.
Schaffer Family Law Group

Sarah T. Schaffer, founder of Schaffer Family Law Group, has been an advocate for families across San Diego for more than two decades. She is a family law specialist, certified by the State Bar of California, and represents clients in challenging high-conflict family matters. Prior to becoming an attorney, Schaffer was a tax consultant. A former Marine, Schaffer is deputy director, Reserve Legal Support, Headquarters Marine Corps, Judge Advocate Division, Washington D.C. She is actively involved with Casa Cornelia Law Center and Kids Turn, a nonprofit organization supporting children and parents experiencing family separations or military transitions. Schaffer formed Schaffer Family Law Group in 2011 after practicing law for four years at Higgs Fletcher & Mack LLP, one of San Diego's largest law firms. She earned a law degree from the University of San Diego School of Law.



TANYA SCHIERLING
Managing Partner
Solomon Ward Seidenwurm & Smith LLP

Tanya Schierling is managing partner of Solomon Ward Seidenwurm & Smith, a respected San Diego leader in law for more than 40 years. A skilled business litigator, she advises and represents corporations, startups and individuals in complex legal matters, including distribution and franchise litigation, intra-company and founder disputes, employment conflicts and real property and lease disputes. Schierling is a former U.S. Army captain and member of the California Lawyers Association, Maryland State Bar Association, San Diego County Bar Association and U.S. Supreme Court Bar Association. Schierling is passionate about supporting scholars in their pursuit of studies in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields. She served as vice president of finance for ARCS (Achievement Rewards for College Scientists). Schierling earned a bachelor's degree from Dartmouth College and a law degree from The George Washington University Law School.



GEORGIA SCHNEIDER
Shareholder/Head of
Litigation
G10 Law, APLC

Georgia Schneider is a shareholder and head of litigation at G10 Law in Carlsbad. She brings more than 15 years of legal experience to the firm. Her ability to deliver results that exceed clients' expectations has earned her a reputation as a trusted and highly effective legal practitioner. In addition to her legal experience, Schneider is a licensed California real estate broker, providing her with unique insights and understanding of the intricacies involved in real estate litigation. She is a member of the North County Bar Association, the American Bar Association, a volunteer at Girl Scouts San Marcos Service Unit 650, and a volunteer and former board member of Double Peak School Parent Teacher Organization. Schneider earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of California Los Angeles and a law degree from Southwestern Law School.



BRETT SCHREIBER
Partner
Singleton Schreiber

Brett Schreiber is Partner at Singleton Schreiber. Despite having received numerous million and multimillion dollar verdicts and settlements, as well as regularly being honored with awards and accolades, Schreiber's proudest moments are often found outside of the courtroom or an award ceremony. Whether lecturing student groups on the personal rewards of the legal profession, doing teach-ins in low-income schools, or handling pro bono claims for wrongfully convicted denied compensation after their release from prison, he is guided by the Hebrew principle of tikkun olam meaning "to heal the world." Schreiber brings diverse knowledge and experience to his practice, having clerked with a boutique South Florida law firm, interned with the San Diego Public Defender's office and clerked with a small appellate practice. Schreiber feels at home with a balance of serious injury, medical malpractice and complex litigation.



DINA SEGAL
Chief Legal Officer
Gusto, Inc.

Dina Segal is Chief Legal Officer at Gusto. She leads the Legal, Compliance and Policy teams. As a seasoned lawyer, Segal is a strategic adviser and company builder with extensive experience in end-to-end product counseling, regulatory analysis and complex commercial transactions in high-growth tech, regulatory and fintech sectors. Segal is also co-president and board member of SunLaw Group, a nonprofit, dynamic community that supports, educates, advances, connects and inspires women in-house counsel to maximize their fullest potential and lead. Before joining Gusto, Segal was assistant general counsel at Intuit Inc., where she was a legal partner to Intuit's business teams working to power customer prosperity around the world. Through this journey, Segal's diversity of thought, collaborative attitude and deep business acumen has allowed her to solve complex legal challenges and inspire others to grow and lead.



RONSON J SHAMOUN
CEO and Principal Attorney
RJS LAW

Ronson Shamoun is the founder and CEO of RJS LAW, A Tax Law Firm. Shamoun is a proud three-time graduate of the University of San Diego where he received his Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in accountancy, his Juris Doctor (J.D.) and his Master of Laws in Taxation (LL.M.) degree. He is a native San Diegan and has more than 20 years of experience advocating for small and large tax resolution matters. His practice involves federal and state taxation, with an emphasis on criminal tax defense, tax controversy, international tax and estate planning. He has extensive experience representing individuals and businesses before the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), the Franchise Tax Board (FTB) and the Employment Development Department (EDD), among others. In 2016, Shamoun co-founded the University of San Diego School of Law - RJS LAW Tax Controversy Institute.



HIGGS | FLETCHER | MACK

SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL'S
2023 LEADERS IN LAW HONOREES

Thank you for your leadership and for all that you do for the legal profession and our community. Your diligence and your dedication to HFM, our clients, and our community set the standard for our firm. Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition from the San Diego Business Journal.



NICHOLAS D. BRAUNS



ALEXIS S. GUTIERREZ



DEREK W. PARADIS

SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL





DAVID SHAPIRO
Owner & Managing Partner
Law Office of David P. Shapiro, APLC

David Shapiro is Managing Partner of the Law Office of David P. Shapiro. He has been exclusively practicing criminal defense in San Diego since 2007 and has built his own firm into one of San Diego's most respected criminal defense firms since opening its doors in 2010. Shapiro's office was recognized as the 2022 Winner of the BBB Torch Award for Ethics in San Diego. Shapiro has received the Martindale Hubbell AV-Preeminent rating (2019-present). Shapiro received his law degree from Tulane University where he was the president of The Criminal Law Society. He has been a member of the San Diego Criminal Defense Bar Association since 2007 and board member since 2016. He is also frequently featured on news networks, including NBC, Fox News, The Washington Post and Los Angeles Times for his legal expertise.



SARAH SHEKHTER
Shareholder
Seltzer Caplan McMahon Vitek

Sarah M. Shekhter, a shareholder at Seltzer Caplan McMahon Vitek, is a litigator representing businesses and individuals in all manner of disputes. Shekhter has a robust white collar criminal defense practice and litigates other complex business and real estate matters on behalf of individuals and corporations. She has successfully tried nearly 45 cases to jury verdict and resolved about 2,000 cases before trial. A State Bar of California certified Criminal Law Specialist, Shekhter is committed to helping clients with their most challenging and sensitive legal disputes. Before joining SCMV in 2019, she worked at the San Diego County Office of the Primary Public Defender for six years. Her passion for advocacy is mirrored in the organizations she chooses to contribute her time to, including the Jewish Federation of San Diego board of directors and Kindness Initiative.



JOY SIDHWA
Senior Counsel
MoginRubin LLP

Joy Sidhwa, Senior Counsel at MoginRubin LLP, leads the discovery team in national class actions involving antitrust and unfair competition. Her work assists businesses, trade groups and consumers in challenging anticompetitive practices. She has been pivotal in major litigation against technology and pharmaceutical giants, securing settlements worth hundreds of millions of dollars. As a case manager in multi-district litigation class actions, she possesses exceptional organizational skills, project management abilities, leadership qualities and a collaborative spirit. Her involvement in these cases has made her the top billing attorney at her firm. Beyond her legal career, Sidhwa is active in her community, serving on the boards of organizations such as the Filipino-American Lawyers of San Diego, Women of Color in Law of San Diego, and the University of Michigan Alumni of San Diego, while also contributing to the Lawyers Club.



GERALD SINGLETON
Managing Partner
Singleton Schreiber

Gerald Singleton is Managing Partner of Singleton Schreiber. He began his legal career as a trial attorney at Federal Defenders of San Diego, where he represented federal criminal defendants. In 2003 he started his own practice, which has grown from a sole proprietorship to a national firm with more than 100 employees. Singleton focuses on complex civil litigation and catastrophic personal injury/wrongful death cases and is a nationally recognized expert in utility-caused fires. Over the past two decades, Singleton and his team have represented more victims of utility-caused fires than any other California firm, and he is one of the state's leading experts on utility-fire litigation. He has represented more than 12,000 victims of utility fires in California and Oregon. Singleton has also maintained a substantial pro bono and civil rights practice.



ADAM SLOUSTCHER
Partner
Fisher Phillips

Adam Sloustcher is a Partner at Fisher Phillips in the San Diego and San Francisco offices. He is also Co-Chair of the firm's Sports Team, a diverse group of former collegiate and professional athletes dedicated to advising sports employers regarding compliance with laws that impact their workplace. He has become a go-to source for employers looking for guidance on managing controversies, as well as defending them before governmental, regulatory and administrative agencies and, when necessary, in litigation. Sloustcher represents local, regional and national employers in a broad range of employment disputes. He focuses a large portion of his practice on defending employers in wage-and-hour class action lawsuits, as well as those brought under California's Private Attorneys General Act (PAGA). In 2022, Sloustcher was selected by the San Diego Business Journal as a Leader in Law in addition to San Diego Super Lawyers as a Rising Star (2020-2022).



SCOTT STANTON
Member
Mintz

Scott Stanton is a Member with Mintz. Based out of the firm's San Diego office, Stanton is a corporate M&A attorney with 30 years' experience helping his clients reach their business goals. He handles public company mergers, tender offers, hostile takeovers and many other types of strategic acquisitions and divestitures. His capital markets capabilities include representing issuers and underwriters in public and private offerings of debt and equity securities. His experience includes serving as outside counsel to public and private companies, and advising clients on SEC compliance. He represents companies and boards of directors in many industries, including software, medical devices, life sciences, semiconductors, manufacturing, consumer products and financial services. A lover of the theatre, he currently serves as treasurer on the board of trustees for La Jolla Playhouse. He is also on the executive committee of the Corporate Directors Forum.



HLB HOOPER LUNDY BOOKMAN

Congratulations to

Jennifer Hansen

**on being named a
2023 Leader in Law
by the
San Diego Business Journal**



Health law from every angle

Boston | Denver | Los Angeles | San Diego | San Francisco | Washington, D.C.

www.hooperlundy.com



HEATHER STONE
Partner
Lagasse Branch Bell + Kinkead LLP

Heather Stone is a partner at Lagasse Branch Bell + Kinkead with the firm's labor and employment practice group. Stone regularly defends employers and individuals accused of wrongdoing in the workplace, including defense of claims of discrimination, retaliation, harassment and wrongful termination. She also has extensive experience defending wage and hour class actions, including PAGA claims. In addition, Stone provides employers with advice, counseling and training to help them lower the frequency and severity of employment practice claims. She is an active member in the San Diego community, serving as a member of the Board of Directors and Governance Committee Chair of Kids Included Together. She is an active member of ZLAC Women's Rowing Club, and served her community for nearly 10 years in MADCAPS (Mothers and Daughters Club Assisting Philanthropies). She is the leader and adviser for LBBK's paralegal group.



MARESA TALBERT
Founding Attorney & CEO
Talbert Law Office, APC

Maresa Talbert is Founding Attorney and CEO of Talbert Law Office, a business and intellectual property law practice that supports businesses, nonprofits and individuals by providing premier legal services and culturally relevant legal education. Talbert Law Office has gained recognition among the San Diego community through its commitment to community service, an elevated client experience, and sheer hard work and perseverance. Clients quickly learn that Talbert Law Office does not merely exchange goods and services; rather, it curates a client journey in which successes are celebrated and frequent, needs are anticipated and exceedingly met, and peace of mind overflows at every juncture. Maresa Talbert also serves in the Navy Reserves as a surface warfare officer, co-chair of San Diegans for Justice and co-founder and CEO of The Justice Workshop. She received her J.D. from California Western School of Law.



ELIZABETH THOMPSON
Partner
Allen Matkins

Elizabeth Thompson is a Partner with Allen Matkins who advises investors, developers and other clients on complex real estate joint ventures and related transactions. With a deep passion for education, she enjoys working on pro bono matters with schools and nonprofit groups, serving as a mentor to students and volunteering in her community. In 2023, Thompson was recognized as a Super Lawyers Rising Star and as a Women of Influence in the Law by the San Diego Business Journal.



MARTIN TOGNI
Partner
Allen Matkins

Martin Togni is a Partner in the San Diego office of Allen Matkins. He is one of the top leasing lawyers in the country and is one of the leaders in the firm's leasing practice. Togni has represented a variety of landlords and tenants in the development and leasing of life science projects. He has successfully completed major leasing transactions totaling more than 40 million square feet in California, the Midwest and East Coast over the past 25 years, representing some of the nation's leading real estate and end user companies.

Togni gives back by mentoring young lawyers from junior associate to partner. He is a member of NAIOP, Urban Land Institute and the International Council of Shopping Centers. Togni received his bachelor's degree, magna cum laude, from Fresno State and his J.D. from the University of Notre Dame Law School.



ELIZABETH TRESP
Principal Attorney
Tresp Law, APC and Tresp, Day & Associates, inc.

Elizabeth A. Tresp, J.D., LL.M. is the principal attorney of the estate planning and trust litigation firm Tresp Law, APC, which she founded; and the principal attorney of Tresp, Day & Associates, Inc., the nationally recognized asset protection law firm founded in 1992. Tresp has grown these multimillion-dollar practices while raising children and volunteering in the community. After injury forced her retirement from dancing professionally, Tresp discovered her passion for the law while working as a litigation examiner for a major insurance carrier. She then put herself through the rigorous program at the University of San Diego School of Law, attending at night while working full time. Upon graduation from law school, she hung her own shingle, growing her own law practice, eventually partnering with the renowned attorney and author Kevin Day.



JENNIFER TROWBRIDGE
Senior Counsel
Procopio Cory Hargreaves & Savitch, LLP

Jennifer Trowbridge, Senior Counsel, Procopio Cory Hargreaves & Savitch, LLP focuses on assisting private and publicly traded companies navigate federal and state securities law, corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions, going public and ongoing SEC reporting and compliance. She also represents both private and public clients in various capital-raising transactions such as registered offerings, PIPEs, private offerings, debt and venture capital transactions and SPAC transactions. She helps investment advisers and broker dealers navigate the complex web of state and federal compliance and helps them through various transactions and reporting obligations. She has been named Super Lawyers Rising Stars, Securities & Corporate Finance in 2022 and 2023 and most recently 2023 Top 50 Leaders of Influence LGBTQ+ in the San Diego Business Journal. Trowbridge's volunteerism includes work on the San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program's domestic violence clinic.



Allen Matkins

Allen Matkins



CONGRATULATIONS

2023 Top 100 Leaders in Law Honorees



Douglas A. Pettit, Esq.
Professional Liability
Business Litigation



Andrew N. Kohn, Esq.
Business Litigation
Personal Injury - Defendants



Jennifer N. Lutz, Esq.
Employment Law Litigation
Employment Law Management



Janice Y. Walshok, Esq.
Transportation
Personal Injury - Defendants

SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL



PETTIT KOHN
PETTIT KOHN INGRASSIA LUTZ & DOLIN

California | Arizona | www.pettitkohn.com





JANICE Y. WALSHOK
Shareholder
Pettit Kohn Ingrassia Lutz & Dolin

Janice Walshok is a Shareholder in Pettit Kohn Ingrassia Lutz & Dolin's San Diego office and a leader in the firm's Transportation and Retail practice groups. She is co-chair of the firm's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion committee. Walshok is an accomplished trial attorney and has represented a broad spectrum of clients and nationally prominent companies defending and advising them on their most complex cases. She focuses her practice on personal injury defense and transportation including wrongful death, product liability and insurance bad faith. Walshok has successfully tried several jury trials and has argued before the Second District Court of Appeal. Walshok has been recognized by Best Lawyers in America 2024 for her work in Personal Injury – Defendants and Product Liability – Defendants. She has been recognized as a Rising Star by San Diego Super Lawyers each year since 2015.



DANIEL WATTS
Shareholder
G10 Law, APLC

Daniel Watts is a Shareholder with G10 Law APLC and a certified appellate specialist.

He built the firm's appellate practice group from scratch, becoming the firm's first California Certified Specialist in Appellate Law – a designation earned by only .016% of California attorneys. Before joining this firm, Watts practiced civil litigation in state and federal court at both the trial and appellate level, resulting in several published court decisions. His past cases have included civil rights and business disputes, employment and labor violations, landlord-tenant issues, tort claims and administrative trials. He is particularly skilled in anti-SLAPP litigation. Additionally, he donates time to local theaters as an actor, playwright and legal advisor to Inns of Court and the North County Bar Association. Watts graduated from UC Davis School of Law in 2011, where he was an editor on the UC Davis Law Review.



GABE P. WRIGHT
Partner/Director
Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP

Gabe P. Wright, Partner with Hahn Loeser and Parks LLP, is a zealous advocate for his clients. When litigating, he can be both amiable and appropriately aggressive in addressing clients' legal challenges. Wright's litigation and trial practice, specifically real estate, class-action and business and commercial litigation, involves complex and often high-stakes matters. Wright serves on Hahn Loeser's Board of Directors, along with the Firm's Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee and is the Chair of Hahn Loeser's San Diego Litigation Practice Group. Wright's practice always involves something new, which keeps the practice of law interesting to him. A versatile attorney and proven business adviser, Wright enjoys new challenges and the opportunity to represent and guide clients throughout the life of their legal matters. In addition to participating in legal organizations, Wright is a volunteer for Promises2Kids.



JOHN WYNNE
Shareholder
Duckor Metzger Wynne, APLC

John C. Wynne is a Shareholder at Duckor Metzger Wynne, APLC. As head of DMW's Employment Law Department and a longstanding member of its Executive Board, he serves as a trusted mentor. During his 45-year litigation career, Wynne has represented businesses and individuals in a variety of cases. Whether it's representing a San Diego Chargers cornerback in a personal injury lawsuit, a San Diego homeowner in a real estate quarrel, a patent holder enforcing rights, a dispute regarding the overhaul of a Navy destroyer or an employer in a workplace dispute, Wynne is the litigator clients repeatedly choose to fight for them. Wynne provides pro bono work to Santee-based Rise Up Industries and its participants, all previously incarcerated individuals. For 20 years, Wynne and his family volunteered building houses for the poor in Mexico through the non-denominational Amor Ministries.



DEBORAH YATES
Partner
Solomon Ward Seidenwurm & Smith LLP

Deborah Yates is a Partner in Solomon Ward Seidenwurm & Smith LLP's Business Litigation and Family Law practice groups. She represents a wide range of business clients involved in contract disputes in both state and federal courts. Yates also represents clients in the resolution of complex family law matters. She joined Solomon Ward after several years practicing in "Big Law" in Washington, D.C. and is a member of the San Diego Family Law Bar Association. Yates is a formidable litigator and conciliatory negotiator whose work, in and out of the courtroom, positively impacts her clients, the firm and her selected areas of law. She was elevated to partner in 2023; in this role she enthusiastically serves to mentor colleagues, create a positive work environment and drive the firm's strategic goals.



Fisher Phillips

Fisher Phillips is proud of our trailblazer winners and

Congratulates all the 2023 Leaders in Law



Danielle Moore
Partner
San Diego
858.597.9600
dmoore@fisherphillips.com



Adam Sloustcher
Partner
San Diego/San Francisco
858.597.9620
asloustcher@fisherphillips.com



Aaron Olsen
Partner
San Diego
858.597.9637
aolsen@fisherphillips.com

..... fisherphillips.com

Congratulations to Daniel Watts and Georgia Schneider

for being selected as 2023 Leaders in Law.




Voted San Diego's Top Attorneys for Real Estate, Business & Banking, G10 Law delivers innovative, practical, and value-driven legal services to meet our clients' needs.




760-431-4575 • www.g10law.com

LATHAM & WATKINS LLP



Leadership.
Experience.
Commitment.

Latham & Watkins congratulates our Partner and
Global IP Litigation Chair

Jennifer Barry

and all the Top 100 Lawyers honorees.

Jennifer embodies the talent and culture of Latham. We commend her for the many accomplishments that have earned her this recognition.

LW.com



CONGRATULATIONS

SARAH T. SCHAFFER, CLS-F

FOR YOUR RECOGNITION
AS A TOP LEADER IN LAW

SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL



Fighting for the Future AND YOUR FAMILY'S BEST INTERESTS

Family matters are never simple. When you want to move forward quickly, having a trusted, aggressive yet empathetic attorney to guide you can make all the difference. Our skilled and experienced attorneys will stand by your side to achieve the best results for your family's future.

Solutions for transitioning families® (858) 509-7907 | schafferfamilylaw.com

health inside. Welcome in.
truecare™



Meet Reihaneh and Monireh:

A mother-daughter duo inseparable
through life's journey.

Reihaneh lovingly cares for her mother, who battles bladder cancer. They've made TrueCare their one-stop health care home for all their medical and dental needs. "TrueCare feels like family," Reihaneh beams.

Do you believe health care is a right for everyone? Your support enables us to touch the lives of more people like Reihaneh and Monireh. **Join us in our mission!**

#healthforall

Your **generosity** supports programs and services that impact lives every day.

Give today. Change tomorrow.

(760) 330-5902 / truecare.org/giving

