



SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL
WOMEN OF INFLUENCE IN LAW 2021



ALLY KEEGAN
Associate Attorney
Law Office of David P. Shapiro

Ally F. Keegan has practiced criminal defense on both the state and federal level and has practiced in San Diego County for five years. Keegan is an active member of the Lawyers Club of San Diego, San Diego Criminal Defense Bar Association and National Association for Public Defense. She earned her BA from Villanova University and her JD from the University of San Diego School of Law.



TRACI S. LAGASSE
Partner
Lagasse Branch Bell + Kinkead LLP

Traci Lagasse is one of four founding partners at her firm and oversees its professional liability and tort liability practice groups. She covers the entire spectrum of personal injury litigation and represents a wide range of professionals, with an emphasis on the defense of architects and engineers in construction defect and delay claims. Since 2007, her firm has grown to 30 lawyers and three offices. It maintains outstanding diversity and inclusion statistics.



MONIQUE LASHBROOK
Partner
Snell & Wilmer

Monique Lashbrook focuses her practice on real estate, corporate and commercial finance-related matters and transactions. She has extensive experience handling real estate acquisitions and dispositions, joint ventures and commercial mortgage financing to name a few specialties. Lashbrook also has experience in connection with mergers and acquisitions and corporate governance to name a few. Additionally, she is a member of the Chicano Federation's Board of Directors and Finance Committee as well as the Hispanic National Bar Association.



JENNA LEYTON-JONES, ESQ.
Founder/Employment Law Attorney
Leyton Jones Law

Jenna H. Leyton-Jones is an experienced employment law attorney and trusted business advisor who helps companies in all industries. Through employment counseling, training, and impartial workplace investigations, she provides employers with the tools and information they need to create a thriving workforce. Previously, she was a partner at another Southern California law firm, where she spent over a decade providing employment law advice and litigation defense to large and small companies. Contact: jenna@leytonjoneslaw.com (858) 208-3550



MÁRCIA YAFUSO LOEFFELHOLZ
Senior Partner
Hecht Solberg Robinson Goldberg & Bagley LLP

Márcia Yafuso Loeffelholz started practicing law in Brazil and was admitted to practice in California in 2010. She rejoined Hecht Solberg Robinson Goldberg & Bagley LLP in 2018 and has since become an equity partner. She advises clients on real estate and business transactions, including structuring entities to maximize profit and minimize risk, and most recently she has grown a practice advising non-profit organizations on bond financing. Contact: mloeffelholz@hechtsolberg.com (619) 239-3444



MELISSA H. LUM
Senior Attorney
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Melissa Lum is a tenured litigator who was recruited by her current firm to serve as the next generation of leadership and to assist in the firm's rebranding and growth efforts. Within the legal community, Lum advocates for education, professional civility, and women's equality as a member of numerous local industry organizations. Additionally, she is a member of the Junior League of San Diego's Diversity Equity and Inclusion committee.



CAYCE LYNCH
Administrative Partner
Tyson & Mendes LLP

Cayce Lynch joined Tyson & Mendes in 2013 as an associate attorney. After taking a one-year leave, Lynch was re-hired in 2015 to lead the firm's Client Relations Department. She has received four promotions since, including to partner in 2017, and equity partner in January 2020. Today, Lynch oversees all administrative, accounting, finance, IT, marketing and branch office operations for the firm - including developing a series of internal initiatives that have doubled the size of the firm.



JENNIFER M. M. OLIVER
partner
MoginRubin LLP

Within two years of joining MoginRubin LLP, Jennifer Oliver was promoted to partner and co-founded MoginRubin's Antitrust Counseling practice. She advises on competition issues related to mergers and other transactions, providing ad hoc antitrust diligence and Hart-Scott-Rodino counseling to parties and firms needing dedicated antitrust counsel. Oliver was recently elected as an officer of the California Lawyers Association's Privacy Section. Contact: joliver@moginrubin.com (619) 798-5361



JERRILYN MALANA
Chief Deputy District Attorney
San Diego County District Attorney's Office

Jerrilyn Malana has impacted the San Diego County region for over 20 years. When in private practice for Littler Mendelson, she assisted employers in a wide range of workplace matters. In addition to her current work with the San Diego County District Attorney's Office, Malana serves as Chair of the California Lawyers Association's Civic Engagement & Outreach Committee. Also, she was the first Asian American attorney to serve as President of the San Diego County Bar Association in its 110-year history.



MERYL MANEKER
Partner
Wilson Turner Kosmo

Meryl Maneker represents employers of all sizes, and industries, in wage and hour class actions in state and federal courts, as well as representative actions brought under the Private Attorneys General Act and collective actions brought under the federal Fair Labor Standards Act. As PAGA filings against California employers have risen, her advocacy has helped limit risk to extreme penalties as well as the costs and time it takes to defend against such claims. Contact: mmaneker@wilsonturnerkosmo.com



LISA MARTENS
Partner
Sheppard Mullin

Lisa Martens is a Partner in the Southern California offices of Sheppard Mullin and her practice emphasizes trademark and copyright litigation, counseling and prosecution. Her practice focuses on the protection and enforcement of brands for clients ranging from startups and emerging companies to Fortune 500 corporations. Martens counsels clients on a variety of trademark issues, including the development of U.S. and foreign trademark portfolios, global brand strategy and licensing.



JENNIFER MARTINEZ
Attorney at Law
Martinez & Schill, LLP

As a founding partner of Martinez & Schill LLP, Jennifer Martinez heads the firm's personal injury practice. Her experience includes handling cases of wrongful death, severe personal injury actions including traumatic brain injury and paraplegic injuries, premises liability, automobile and motorcycle accidents, construction site injuries and general negligence cases. She is a member of San Diego County Bar Association, Consumer Attorneys of San Diego and Consumer Attorneys of California. Contact: jmartinez@martinezschill.com (619) 246-6835



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RACHEL THOMPSON
Partner
Smith & Scatizzi, LLP

Rachel Thompson is a founding partner of an all-female San Diego law firm, Smith & Scatizzi, LLP. She is certified as a specialist by the California Bar Association, licensed to practice in three states and is an experienced community volunteer. In addition to a growing law practice in adoption and assisted reproductive technology, Thompson regularly assists clients with mediated settlement agreements, negotiation of pre-marital and post-marital agreements and drafting and review of parentage agreements, to name a few specialties.



JONAH A. TOLENO
Partner
Shustak Reynolds & Partners, P.C.

Jonah A. Toleno's practice is focused on financial services law, securities arbitration and litigation, business litigation, and alternative dispute resolution. She is licensed to practice in California and Arizona. With almost two decades of experience, Toleno represents a variety of individual and commercial clients in business disputes, complex securities litigations and commercial transactions to name a few. Additionally, she is active with the San Diego County Bar Association. Contact: jtolen@shufirm.com (619) 750-2134



ELIZABETH A. TRESP
Principal Attorney
Tresp Law, APC

Role model, mentor, and community leader, Elizabeth Tresp is principal attorney of the estate planning and trust litigation law firm Tresp Law, APC, and principal attorney of Tresp, Day & Associates, Inc., which specializes in asset protection. Her peers describe her as thoughtful, proactive, highly competent and very responsive. Her volunteer work includes serving on the board of the North Coast Repertory Theatre. Contact: elizabeth@tresplaw.com (858) 248-2779



ANNE-MARIE TUBAO
Sole Practitioner
Anne-Marie Tubao

During more than 20 years in the Law Offices of William A. Bramley, Tubao handled a significant caseload. Often these cases involved several million dollars. Tubao has performed extensive pro bono work for nonprofit corporations and individuals, including veterans. Peers and clients praise her work, as well as her easy manner in making clients comfortable and up to date on their cases. Contact: amtubao@yahoo.com (619) 208-2028



VICKIE TURNER
Partner
Wilson, Turner, Kosmo

Vickie Turner has a 38-year career in complex litigation matters filed against corporations, with extensive emphasis in the areas of product liability, class actions, general business litigation and warranty. She joined Wilson Turner Kosmo as a partner in 1998 and is an active philanthropist in the community. Turner is also an adjunct professor at California Western School of Law and the University of San Diego School of Law.



STACEY TYREE
Attorney
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Stacey Tyree handles the acquisition, disposition, development and leasing of commercial property for clients of all sizes. Her peers praise her ability to focus on details without losing sight of the big picture. She recently represented parties in transactions involving Liberty Station and a downtown life sciences project. Tyree holds a J.D. from University of San Diego School of Law, magna cum laude, and has held faculty posts there.



REBECCA VAN LOON
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Rebecca Van Loon's practice focuses in the areas of estate planning, trust and probate administration and taxation law. She assists families and individuals with all aspects of their estate planning needs, including wills, trusts, advance health care directives and financial powers of attorney, as well as business succession, transfer tax, property tax and charitable gift planning. She is a member of the State Bar of California and San Diego County Bar Association. Contact: rvanloon@swsslaw.com (619) 238-4837



JANICE Y. WALSHOK
Shareholder - Trial Attorney
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With a litigation career spanning over a decade, Janice 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. Contact: jwalshok@pettitkohn.com (858) 509-5680



MIRANDA WATKINS
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Miranda Watkins represents national, regional, and local employers in a range of industries, including construction, assisted living facilities, car dealerships, retail, hospitality, education, fitness, staffing companies, railroad and transportation, and aerospace and defense manufacturing. She litigates various employment claims, including discrimination, pay equity and harassment to name a few. Her passion for employer-focused employment law stems from her family owning businesses in Bakersfield.



KANDACE WATSON
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Kandace Watson excels at designing executable strategies, leading companies to create cutting-edge initiatives and navigating strategic operations where no road map exists. She has extensive experience serving as a valuable resource to C-suite and other executives, boards and special committees to develop customized solutions from a blank slate for commercial, corporate, financing, governance, legal, regulatory and social matters affecting companies. Contact: KWatson@sheppardmullin.com (858) 356-7460



BHASHINI WEERASINGHE
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Bhashini Weerasinghe is a distinguished and experienced attorney who focuses on estate planning, assisting small businesses and drafting premarital agreements. She earned her Juris Doctorate at New England School of Law in Boston. Prior to starting her own practice, she served on staff at the San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program, working on its HIV/AIDS Legal Services Project. She is deeply committed to community service and increasing diversity in the legal field. Contact: bw@bhashinilaw.com (619) 352-0519



ANN WICZOREK
General Counsel & Assistant
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Ann Wiczorek is General Counsel at Father Joe's Villages, San Diego's largest homeless service provider. Prior to joining Father Joe's Villages, she was in private practice for over 10 years where she specialized in corporate law, counseled clients on numerous legal issues, as well as prepared and negotiated a broad range of contracts and agreements. Wiczorek has also worked extensively in intellectual property law at a bio-pharmaceutical start-up.



CHARITY WILLIAMS
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Charity Williams represents both public and privately held companies in general corporate matters as well as a wide range of transactions, including venture capital financings, licensing and commercial agreements, and mergers and acquisitions. She also has experience representing issuers and underwriters in public offerings and advising companies on SEC reporting obligations. In this biotech funding frenzy of 2020 and 2021, Williams has helped to close and advise on many important deals. Contact: crwilliams@cooley.com (858) 550-6143

