

Best of the Bar 2016

“The good lawyer is not the man who has an eye to every side and angle of contingency, and qualifies all his qualifications, but who throws himself on your part so heartily, that he can get you out of a scrape.”

— *Ralph Waldo Emerson (American Essayist, Lecturer and Poet)*

Ralph Waldo Emerson’s snapshot of a good lawyer is as true today as it was in his 19th century world. Following in that tradition San Diego’s legal community comprises a diverse and distinct group of professionals who are committed to representing clients that vary from global corporations to struggling families; but are all in need of an experienced advocate. In our third annual Best of the Bar issue, we honor 293 local attorneys who were chosen by their peers as the most outstanding in their field.

The final list of attorneys represents an extensive range of specialties from intellectual property, mergers and acquisitions, to immigration and criminal defense. Many of these professionals bring a wide array of backgrounds that complement their legal training. Former teachers, engineers, military veterans, and stock brokers are utilizing their past expertise to focus in practice areas that demand a unique perspective.

An impressive 2,023 votes were cast in a field of 813 attorneys affiliated with 578 firms and solo practices throughout the area. Legal professionals throughout the metro area cast votes and were urged to consider colleagues inside and outside of their respective firms. No one made the list based solely on votes from others at the same firm.

Not only is this section a showcase for the area’s top attorneys, but it is a comprehensive resource for anyone needing legal services.

Congratulations to all the worthy honorees.



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Best of the Bar 2016



Michael Abramson
Firm: Solomon Ward Seidenwurm & Smith LLP
Website: www.SWSSlaw.com

Areas of Practice: Business Law
Best Phrase: Nothing can take the place of persistence and determination.
Little Known Fact: I am a voracious reader of business books.



Ben Aguilar
Firm: Law Offices of Ben Aguilar
Website: www.BenAguilarLaw.com

Areas of Practice: Family Law, Immigration Law
Best Phrase: It's a good thing to have all the props pulled out from under us occasionally. It gives us some sense of what is rock under our feet, and what is sand.
Little Known Fact: My favorite holiday is Halloween.



Kimberly Ahrens
Firm: The Ahrens Law Office
Website: www.ahrenslawoffice.com

Areas of Practice: Employment Law, Civil Litigation
Best Phrase: "Differences challenge assumptions," Anne Wilson Schaefer.
Little Known Fact: Employment law is my passion. However, like most worthwhile journeys, my path to

becoming a lawyer was not a straight shot. I initially set out to become a journalist and along the way learned the value of helping those without a voice.



Amanda Allen
Firm: Aguirre Allen Law, APC
Website: www.aguirreallen.com

Areas of Practice: Business, Real Estate
Best Phrase: Live a damn good life.
Little Known Fact: I won two NCAA Division 1 softball championships at UCLA.



Olga Alvarez
Firm: Heisner Alvarez
Website: www.heisneralvarez.com

Areas of Practice: Estate Planning, Trust & Probate Law
Best Phrase: To whom much is given, much is expected.
Little Known Fact: I grew up on a ranch along the San Antonio River.



John F. Anderson
Firm: Law Offices of John F. Anderson
Website: carmelvalleyattorney.com

Areas of Practice: Family Law
Best Phrase: Being right is a lonely business.
Little Known Fact: I walked the frozen Arctic Ocean unloading for the Alaska Pipeline.



Alfred Atallah
Firm: The Atallah Group APC
Website: www.atallahgroup.com

Areas of Practice: Business Transactions & Entities, Contracts, Real Estate
Best Phrase: People don't buy what you do; they buy WHY you do it.
Little Known Fact: Working in my family's retail business throughout my youth helped shaped my entire career.



Martin Bader
Firm: Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton
Website: www.sheppardmullin.com

Areas of Practice: Intellectual Property, Patent Litigation
Best Phrase: Leave it all on the field.
Little Known Fact: Calculus was my favorite class in high school.



Judy Bae
Firm: Miller Monson
Website: www.mmpph.com

Areas of Practice: Estate, Trust, Probate Litigation
Best Phrase: It is what it is.
Little Known Fact: I attended medical school prior to pursuing my legal career.



Jeffrey Baird
Firm: Finch, Thornton & Baird, LLP
Website: www.ftblaw.com

Areas of Practice: Construction Law, Government & Regulatory, Federal Procurement & Claims, Business & Commercial Litigation, Business & Commercial Transactions, Labor & Employment, Insurance Coverage
Best Phrase: I want you to be nice until it's time to not be nice.
Little Known Fact: I swam from Alcatraz.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEAR'S WINNERS

Led by Cate Edwards in San Diego, Edwards Kirby is excited to join this area's outstanding community of legal professionals.

Together, we can raise the bar.



PRACTICE AREAS

- ✓ Personal injury
- ✓ Product safety
- ✓ Whistleblower and qui tam actions
- ✓ Civil rights
- ✓ Consumer fraud



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Mary Bajo
Firm: Estey & Bomberger
Website: www.ebtrialattorneys.com
Areas of Practice:

Personal Injury
Best Phrase: "In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing, the next best thing is the wrong thing, and the worst thing you can do is nothing," Theodore Roosevelt.
Little Known Fact: I don't like sweets.



Edward Barbat
Firm: Law Offices of Edward F. Barbat
Website: www.barbat.net
Areas of Practice:

Hospitality, Business, Corporate, Real Estate
Best Phrase: Ideas are free; they come and go, so let's do something about it.
Little Known Fact: I hope to never retire from doing what I love.

My favorite TV show is "SportsCenter," even after Kenny Mayne left.



Su Barry
Firm: Barry APC
Website: www.BarryApc.com
Areas of Practice:

Business Litigation, Bad Faith Insurance, Personal Injury, Employment Litigation
Best Phrase: Do one thing every day that makes you happy.
Little Known Fact: My favorite TV show is "SportsCenter," even after Kenny Mayne left.



Teresa Beck
Firm: Lincoln Gustafson & Cercos
Website: www.lgclawoffice.com

Areas of Practice: Civil law advice and litigation defense in many areas including employment, construction.
Best Phrase: "I never look forward to Friday or dread Monday because my work is not a thing I suffer. My work is not merely my source of income. It's a source of meaning and joy," Ann Marie Houghtailing, Millionaire Girls' Movement.
Little Known Fact: My father was a Navy Chaplain who served in Vietnam and received the Bronze Star.



Wendy Behan
Firm: Casey Gerry Schenk Francavilla Blatt & Penfield, LLP
Website: www.caseygerry.com

Areas of Practice: Plaintiffs' Personal Injury, Class Actions
Best Phrase: You can have it all — just not all at once.
Little Known Fact: I play on a coed indoor soccer team every week with my husband.



Jeff Bennion
Firm: Law Office of Jeff Bennion
Website: www.jbennionlaw.com

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury
Best Phrase: Luck is for the unprepared.
Little Known Fact: I am an amateur chef.



Michael Berg
Firm: Law Offices of Michael S. Berg
Website: sandiego.criminallaw.com

Areas of Practice: Criminal Defense, both Federal and State Courts
Little Known Fact: I was born and raised in South Dakota.



Harvey Berger
Firm: Pope, Berger, Williams & Reynolds, LLP
Website: www.Popeberger.com

Areas of Practice: Litigation, Employment Law, Class actions
Little Known Fact: I do Crossfit - LOVE to beat the 25 year olds!



Samin Beringer
Firm: Beringer Law Firm
Website: www.beringerlaw.com
Areas of Practice:

Family Law
Best Phrase: It is what it is. We can't change the past, but we can make better choices in the future.
Little Known Fact: As a young child, I aspired to be a dentist because I thought that they all drove white Corvettes.



Andrew Berman
Firm: Massie-Berman
Website: www.massieberman.com
Areas of Practice:

Construction Defect, Business Litigation
Best Phrase: Take pride in what you do every day.
Little Known Fact: After 26 years of practice, I still enjoy the practice of law.

I worked as a California State lifeguard on San Diego beaches for seven years.



Christina Bernstein
Firm: Pettit Kohn Ingrassia & Lutz
Website: www.pettitkohn.com

Areas of Practice: Commercial Litigation, Personal Injury, Premises Liability, Professional Liability
Best Phrase: "Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can," Arthur Ashe.
Little Known Fact: I worked as a California State lifeguard on San Diego beaches for seven years.



Matthew Bernstein
Firm: Perkins Coie
Website: www.perkinscoie.com
Areas of Practice: Patent

Litigation, IP Litigation, IP Counseling
Best Phrase: "Those who stand for nothing fall for anything," Alexander Hamilton.
Little Known Fact: I make some mean pulled pork, dumplings, and empanadas.



Shana Black
Firm: Law Offices of Shana J. Black
Website: www.shanablack.com

Areas of Practice: Family Law
Best Phrase: It's all gonna be ok.
Little Known Fact: I have a twin brother and we both practice law in San Diego.



Isaac Blumberg
Firm: Law Office of Isaac Blumberg
Website: www.isaacblumberg.com

Areas of Practice: Criminal Defense
Little Known Fact: I'm a native Spanish speaker and graduated law school at the age of 32.

My husband and I own and operate a bowling alley and bar.



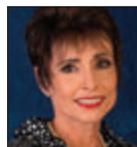
Lori Bolander
Firm: Kimball, Tirey & St. John, LLP
Website: www.kts-law.com
Areas of Practice: Trust

& Estates, Adoption
Best Phrase: "Most of the things worth doing in the world had been declared impossible before they were done," Louis D. Brandeis.
Little Known Fact: My husband and I own and operate a bowling alley and bar.



Joshua Bonnici
Firm: Bonnici Law Group, APC
Website: www.bonniciawgroup.com

Areas of Practice: Injury, Disability
Little Known Fact: Bonnici Law Group donates a portion of their attorneys' fees to a charity or nonprofit of their clients' choice on every case.



Laura Bright
Firm: White and Bright, LLP
Website: www.whiteandbright.com

Areas of Practice: Estate Planning, Probate, Trust Administration, Transactions
Best Phrase: Integrity, experience, caring!



David Brisco
Firm: Cozen O'Connor
Website: www.cozen.com
Areas of Practice:

Litigation, Subrogation, Product Liability
Best Phrase: My first thought in receiving an award for professional achievement is the great deal of appreciation I have for everyone who mentored me and put me in a position to succeed. My second thought is to be sure to pay that kindness forward.
Little Known Fact: I was a neighborhood holiday light contest award winner for three straight years.

I have surfed above the Arctic Circle.



Steven Bronson
Firm: The Bronson Firm APC
Website: www.thebronsonfirm.com

Areas of Practice: Plaintiff Personal Injury
Best Phrase: "...the founders of our nation considered the right of trial by jury in civil cases an important bulwark against tyranny and corruption, a safeguard too precious to be left to the whim of the sovereign....," Chief Justice William Rehnquist, 1979.
Little Known Fact: I have surfed above the Arctic Circle.



Samuel Brotman
Firm: Brotman Law
Website: www.sambrotman.com
Areas of Practice: Tax

Litigation
Best Phrase: "To know and not to do is really not to know," Stephen Covey.
Little Known Fact: I have spent more than two years living outside of the United States.



Janice Brown
Firm: Brown Law Group
Website: www.brownlawgroup.com
Areas of Practice:

Employment
Best Phrase: "Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure," Marianne Williamson.
Little Known Fact: I was a USO singer during college, traveling to Guam, Korea, the Philippines and Okinawa, entertaining the troops.



Michele Brown
Firm: Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP
Website: www.procopio.com

Areas of Practice: Family Law
Best Phrase: Every child deserves to love both his/her parents and not be made to feel bad about it.

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Congratulations to San Diego's Best of the Bar

Abacus Data Systems recognizes the outstanding Best of the Bar attorneys throughout San Diego County, and we join the legal community in celebrating your achievements.

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Little Known Fact: I have bungee jumped off the Kalawari Bridge in New Zealand.



Mike Brown
Firm: Stradling
Website: www.sycr.com
Areas of Practice: Corporate

Best Phrase: "The only way to do great work is to love what you do," Steve Jobs.

Little Known Fact: I saved my future client's life while at lunch discussing business.



Robert J. Brown
Firm: Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP
Website: www.procopio.com

Areas of Practice: Corporate and Securities, Real Estate and Tax

Best Phrase: Go heavy or go home.

Little Known Fact: I still own the car I drove to high school on my 16th birthday — a 1969 Camaro convertible.



Paula Oliveira Brunoro
Firm: Brunoro Law
Website: www.brunorolaw.com
Areas of Practice: Tax, Business Law

Best Phrase: "You can do anything you set your mind to," Benjamin Franklin.

Little Known Fact: I am a sports fanatic!



Tara Burd
Firm: T. Burd Law Group
Website: www.tburdlawgroup.com
Areas of Practice: Civil Litigation

Little Known Fact: I love fun socks! They don't even have to match perfectly. A black cat sock and a white cat sock are "matching" enough for me!



Joanne Buser
Firm: Paul, Plevin, Sullivan & Connaughton LLP
Website: www.paulplevin.com

Areas of Practice: Labor & Employment

Best Phrase: "All grown-ups were once children...but only few of them remember it," Antoine de Saint-Exupéry.

Little Known Fact: I went skydiving in the Alps.

My guilty pleasure is reading and includes a variety of fantasy and science fiction novels.



William Caldarelli
Firm: Caldarelli Hejmanowski Page & Leer LLP
Website: www.chpllaw.com

Areas of Practice: Business, Real Estate, Intellectual Property Litigation
Best Phrase: "We know truth not only by reason, but also by the heart," Blaise Pascal.

Little Known Fact: My guilty pleasure is reading and includes a variety of fantasy and science fiction novels.



Patrick Calhoon
Firm: Law Offices of Craig A. Miller
Website: www.craigmillerlaw.com

Areas of Practice: Insurance Bad Faith, Elder Abuse, Business Disputes, Personal Injury

Best Phrase: "Courage is grace under pressure," Ernest Hemingway.

Little Known Fact: When I was a kid I wanted to grow up to be either an airline pilot or a lawyer. Each requires natural skill, years of training, and carries enormous responsibilities. I chose the law because I figured nobody would die if I ever made a mistake. So far, so good.

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.



Elizabeth Call
Firm: Kriger Law Firm
Website: www.krigerlawfirm.com
Areas of Practice: Litigation, Real Property, Homeowners Association, Corporate

Best Phrase: The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.



Kurt Campbell
Firm: Klinedinst PC
Website: www.klinedinstlaw.com
Areas of Practice: Real Estate, Construction, Land Use

Best Phrase: Be kind to everyone you meet, most of all those who can do nothing for you in return.

Little Known Fact: I grew up in Germany and German is my first language.



Tyler Campbell
Firm: Foldenauer Law Group
Website: www.foldenauerlaw.com

Areas of Practice: Serious Personal Injury

Best Phrase: Discretion is the better part of valor.

Little Known Fact: I'm an open book.



Brigid Campo
Firm: Law & Mediation Firm of Klueck & Hoppes, APC
Website: www.familylawsandiego.com

Areas of Practice: Family

Best Phrase: "Fight for the things that you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you," Justice Ruth B. Ginsburg.

Little Known Fact: I spent a life-changing semester of high school in Australia and a lot of my heart remains

there today.



Cole Casey
Firm: Law Offices of G. Cole Casey
Website: www.duisandiego.com

Areas of Practice: DUI, Criminal
Best Phrase: "Always assume that your opponent is going to be bigger, stronger and faster than you; so that you learn to rely on technique, timing and leverage, rather than brute strength," Helio Gracie.
Little Known Fact: I am an avid practitioner of Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, Judo and Yoga; the combination of all three makes me a more confident and more balanced lawyer.



Jennifer Chang
Firm: Gresham Savage Nolan & Tilden, PC
Website: www.greshamsavage.com

Areas of Practice: Corporate, Real Estate Transactions

Best Phrase: Bloom where you are planted.

Little Known Fact: My mother and grandmother were both groundbreaking women in their respective professional fields.



Alara Chilton
Firm: Law Office of Alara T. Chilton
Website: lawofficeofalarachilton.com

Areas of Practice: Criminal Defense, Consumer Rights Litigation

Best Phrase: "There may be times when we are powerless to prevent injustice, but there must never be a time when we fail to protest," Elie Wiesel.

Little Known Fact: I learned to ski only a few years ago and greatly enjoy it.



Caroline Choi
Firm: Solomon Ward Seidenwurm & Smith, LLP
Website: www.swsslw.com

Areas of Practice: Family Law

Best Phrase: Kindness is never wasted.

Little Known Fact: I'm from Canada and yes I love hockey!

I was a personal assistant to writer William S. Burroughs.



John Cleary
Firm: Procopio Cory Hargreaves & Savitch LLP
Website: www.procopio.com

Areas of Practice: Corporate, Securities, Mergers & Acquisitions

Best Phrase: Progress, not perfection.

Little Known Fact: I was a personal assistant to writer William S. Burroughs.

I lived in Moscow, Russia from 1989 to 1994.



Matthew Clendenin
Firm: Law Office of Matthew Clendenin APC
Website: www.clendeninlaw.com

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury

Best Phrase: Listen to your clients. Understand their story.

Little Known Fact: I lived in Moscow, Russia from 1989 to 1994.



Keith Cochran
Firm: Fitzgerald Knaier LLP
Website: www.fitzgeraldknaier.com

Areas of Practice: Business Litigation

Best Phrase: "If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything," Mark Twain.

Little Known Fact: I have a full grown eight pound miniature dachshund named Dill.



William Concidine
Firm: My Traffic Guys
Website: www.mytrafficguys.com
Areas of Practice: Traffic Tickets, DUI, Criminal Defense

Best Phrase: Success is having what you want, but happiness is wanting what you have.

Little Known Fact: I love to re-purpose things, repair old stuff like vintage fridges, and build stuff in the garage.



Gerissa Conforti
Firm: Higgs, Fletcher & Mack LLP
Website: www.higgslaw.com

Areas of Practice: Family Law and Criminal Defense

Best Phrase: "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere," Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Little Known Fact: I love fried chicken. In fact, I can probably eat fried chicken every day.



Jason Conforti
Firm: Law Office of Jason T. Conforti
Website: www.jasonconforti.com

Areas of Practice: Criminal Defense, Federal Criminal Defense

Best Phrase: "The time is always right to do the right thing," Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Little Known Fact: I attended the same high school as Tom Brady, Barry Bonds and Lynn Swann.

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I was a professional radio announcer between college and law school.



Andy Cook

Firm: Law Offices of Andy Cook

Website:

www.divorcesd.com

Areas of Practice: Family Law

Best Phrase: I break up marriages.

Little Known Fact: I was a professional radio announcer between college and law school.



Steven T. Coopersmith

Firm: The Coopersmith Law Firm

Website:

stevencoopersmithlaw.com

Areas of Practice: Business/

Corporate Litigation, Executive-Level Employment, Financial Fraud, Fine Art Disputes, Public Process

Little Known Fact: I served as a U.S. Army JAG, a military prosecutor. But my first Army assignment was to run the post's tax center. I managed a dozen soldiers and we processed 10,000 soldiers' tax returns through our office.



Julie Corbo Ridley

Firm: Hurst & Hurst

Website:

www.facebook.com/juliecorboridley

Areas of Practice: Class Actions, Complex Litigation

Best Phrase: Pressure makes diamonds.

Little Known Fact: I used to be a stockbroker.



Elvira Cortez

Firm: Sullivan Hill Lewin Rez & Engel

Website:

www.Sullivanhill.com

Areas of Practice: Construction Defect, Insurance Defense, General Civil Litigation

Best Phrase: "Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible," St. Francis of Assisi.

Little Known Fact: I grew up on a farm in Oxnard, California.



Jill Cremeans

Firm: Law Offices of Jill Cremeans

Website:

www.attorneyjill.com

Areas of Practice: Criminal Defense

Best Phrase: You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view.

Little Known Fact: I grew up on a farm.



Thomas Crosbie

Firm: CGS3 (Crosbie Gliner Schiffman Southard & Swanson LLP)

Website: www.cgs3.com

Areas of Practice:

Commercial Real Estate

Best Phrase: Think big, be big, my friend.

Little Known Fact: I was a bartender at Club Med.

I was a marine biologist before becoming an attorney.



James Crosby

Firm: Henderson, Caverly, Pum & Charney LLP

Website: www.hcesq.com, www.trialcall.net

Areas of Practice: Complex and General Business, Commercial Litigation

Best Phrase: Winning is better than losing.

Little Known Fact: I was a marine biologist before becoming an attorney.



Emily Crowley

Firm: Crowley Law Group, APC

Website:

crowleylawgroup.com

Areas of Practice: State and Federal Criminal Defense; Trial and Appellate

Best Phrase: "The operational word in every competent defense is attack. If you're explaining and defending, you're losing," Gerry Spence.



Michael Dallo

Firm: Dallo Law Group | Tax Law Firm

Website:

www.dallolawgroup.com

Areas of Practice: Tax Law

Best Phrase: "You can never cross the ocean until you have the courage to lose sight of the shore," Christopher Columbus.

Little Known Fact: I have lived, studied and worked all over the world — Barcelona, Madrid, Rio de Janeiro, Paris, Hong Kong, and Washington D.C.



Jeremy Danney

Firm: White & Bright, LLP

Website:

www.whiteandbright.com

Areas of Practice: Real Estate, Business Litigation

Best Phrase: "Things turn out best for the people who make the best of the way things turn out," John Wooden.

Little Known Fact: I once hit a free throw in front of 18,000 fans at a University of Illinois basketball game to win a prize of \$500.



Matt Deen

Firm: Black + Deen, LLP

Website:

www.blackdeenlaw.com

Areas of Practice: Business Law, Estate Planning

Best Phrase: No one looks back on their life and remembers the nights they got plenty of sleep.

Little Known Fact: I am constantly planning my next outdoor adventure.



Arthur D'Egidio

Firm: D'Egidio Licari & Townsend, APC

Website: www.deltlaw.com

Areas of Practice:

Personal Injury

Best Phrase: "No man is above the law and no man below it," Theodore Roosevelt.

Little Known Fact: I enjoy spending time with my wife and two dogs, surfing, tennis, and basketball.



Melissa Deleon

Firm: Casey Gerry Schenk Francavilla Blatt & Penfield LLP

Website:

www.caseygerry.com

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury

Best Phrase: "First they ignore you, then they laugh at you, then they fight you, then you win," Mahatma Gandhi.

Little Known Fact: I am a true native San Diegan — raised here and never left!



David Demian

Firm: Finch, Thornton & Baird, LLP

Website: www.ftblaw.com

Areas of Practice:

Business & Commercial Transactions, Construction Law, Federal Procurement & Claims, Government & Regulatory, Real Estate, Trusts & Estate Planning

Best Phrase: To dare is to do.

Little Known Fact: I am a season ticket holder with the L.A. Galaxy.

I love to travel and have visited six of the seven continents. I also lived in Africa for a time as a child.



Matt Dente

Firm: Dente Richard LLP

Website:

www.denterichard.com

Areas of Practice:

Employment Litigation, Counseling

Best Phrase: Don't sweat the small stuff (except, of course, in fulfilling your duties to your clients).

Little Known Fact: I love to travel and have visited six of the seven continents. I also lived in Africa for a time as a child.



Quinn Disparte

Firm: RJS Law

Website:

www.rjlawfirm.com

Areas of Practice:

Tax Controversy

Best Phrase: Make the most of every opportunity.

Little Known Fact: I have lived in Heidelberg, Germany.



Deborah Dixon

Firm: Gomez Trial Attorneys

Website:

www.thegomezfirm.com

Areas of Practice: Class Action

Best Phrase: Be the leader you would want to follow.

Little Known Fact: I am the middle child of five sisters and love it!

In shareholder litigation last year, I deposed Mark Zuckerberg. And no, it was not at all like the movie!



Jenny Dixon

Firm: Robbins Arroyo LLP

Website:

www.robbinsarroyo.com

Areas of Practice:

Shareholder Derivative Actions,

Securities Class Actions

Best Phrase: "Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future," John F. Kennedy.

Little Known Fact: In shareholder litigation last year, I deposed Mark Zuckerberg. And no, it was not at all like the movie!



Rommel Dizon

Firm: Law Office of Rommel Dizon

Website: www.avvo.com

Areas of Practice: Labor

& Employment/Criminal Defense

Best Phrase: No matter what, provide the best service possible.

Little Known Fact: I am an avid surfer.



Amber Eck

Firm: Zeldes Haeggquist & Eck, LLP

Website: www.zhlaw.com

Areas of Practice:

Employment, Consumer, Securities, Class Actions

Best Phrase: "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere...Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly," Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Cate Edwards

Firm: Edwards Kirby, LLP, San Diego Office

Website:

www.edwardskirby.com

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Product Safety, Whistleblower and Qui Tam Actions, Civil Rights, Consumer Fraud

Little Known Fact: In 2011, I launched the Elizabeth Edwards Foundation.

The nonprofit honors the memory of my mother by providing opportunities to students with limited resources and support.

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William Eigner
Firm: Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP
Website: www.procopio.com

Areas of Practice: Corporate, M&A, Business Transactions
Little Known Fact: I interned at the U.S. Supreme Court.



Jason Eliaser
Firm: Law Office of Jason Eliaser
Website: www.eliaser.com
Areas of Practice:

Real Estate
Best Phrase: It's all fun and games until somebody calls a lawyer.
Little Known Fact: I have a cat named Ruth Bader Ginspurr.



John Engel
Firm: Sullivan Hill
Website: www.sullivanhill.com
Areas of Practice:

Business/Corporate Law, Real Estate Law, Labor/Employment Law
Little Known Fact: I graduated from Bucknell University followed by New York University School of Law.



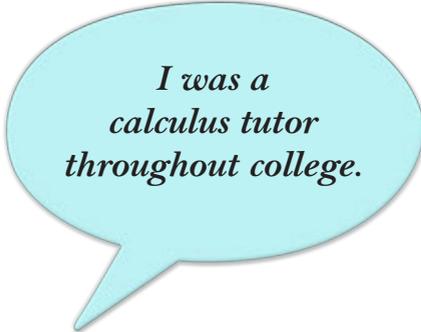
Melissa Engle
Firm: White and Bright, LLP
Website: www.whiteandbright.com

Areas of Practice: Employment, Business/Real Property Litigation
Best Phrase: "The two most important days in your life are the day you are born and the day you find out why," Mark Twain.
Little Known Fact: I am the first in my family to go to college.



Jon Epsten
Firm: Epsten Grinnell & Howell, APC
Website: www.epsten.com
Areas of Practice:

Community Association Law
Best Phrase: Nothing good happens after midnight.
Little Known Fact: I am a strong proponent of recycling.



Karolina Ericsson
Firm: Gresham Savage Nolan & Tilden PC
Website: www.greshamsavage.com

Areas of Practice: Real Estate Transactional
Best Phrase: "Be the change you want to see in the world," Mahatma Gandhi.
Little Known Fact: I was a calculus tutor throughout college.



Jeremy Evans
Firm: California Sports Lawyer
Website: www.csllegal.com

Areas of Practice: Sports, Entertainment, and Business
Best Phrase: Genuine relationships lead to genuine success.
Little Known Fact: I once visited 19 countries and 29 cities in three months for a study abroad program and vacation.



Sarah Evans
Firm: Schwartz Semerdjian
Website: schwartzsemerdjian.com
Areas of Practice:

Employment
Best Phrase: If you want something done, ask a busy person to do it.
Little Known Fact: When I was 16, I spent a year as a foreign exchange student in the former East Germany, just months after the Berlin Wall fell.



Jillian Fairchild
Firm: Tyson & Mendes
Website: www.tysonmendes.com
Areas of Practice:

Personal Injury, Professional Liability
Best Phrase: "Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and most of all, love of what you are doing," Pele.
Little Known Fact: I participated in the Court Appointed Special Advocate Program with Voices for Children to advocate on behalf of a foster child.



P. Randolph Finch Jr.
Firm: Finch, Thornton & Baird, LLP
Website: www.ftblaw.com
Areas of Practice:

Construction
Best Phrase: Get it done.
Little Known Fact: I play competitive ice hockey weekly.



Brian Findley
Firm: Mulligan, Banham & Findley
Website: www.janmulligan.com

Areas of Practice: Medical Malpractice, Personal Injury
Best Phrase: "An injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere," My seven-year-old whenever he wants a new toy.
Little Known Fact: I am an avid runner, hiker and mountain biker.



Amie Flynn
Firm: Law Office of Amie J. Flynn
Website: www.flynnlaw.biz

Areas of Practice: Construction, Real Estate, Civil Litigation
Best Phrase: "When we unleash the dogs of war, we must go where they take us," Dowager Countess of Grantham, "Downton Abbey," PBS.



Loren Freestone
Firm: Higgs Fletcher & Mack
Website: www.higgslaw.com

Areas of Practice: Employment; Civil Litigation

Best Phrase: "Don't give up on your dreams, or your dreams will give up on you," John Wooden.
Little Known Fact: I grew up on a farm, but became a surfer.



Matthew Friedrichs
Firm: Winship & Friedrichs, APC
Website: www.winshiplaw.com

Areas of Practice: Administrative Law
Best Phrase: Treat others as you want to be treated
Little Known Fact: I am a romantic.



Daniel Fulkerson
Firm: King Aminpour & Associates
Website: www.yourlawoffice.com

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury
Best Phrase: Blessed to do what I love.
Little Known Fact: I also have my MBA in business.



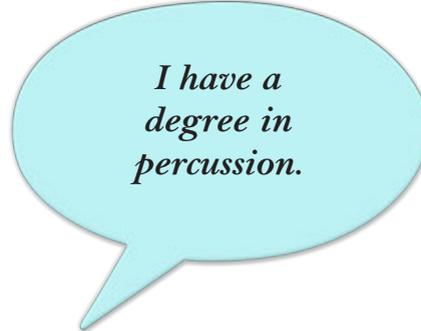
Renee Galente
Firm: Galente Law, APC
Website: www.GalenteLaw.com
Areas of Practice:

Plaintiff Personal Injury, Felony Criminal Defense, Military Defense
Best Phrase: How other people treat you is their Karma. How you respond is yours.
Little Known Fact: I can't pass up an animal that needs a home. As a result, I have four cats and three dogs right now.



Daniel Gamez
Firm: Gamez Law Firm, PC
Website: www.gamezlawfirm.com

Areas of Practice: Debt Settlement
Best Phrase: Don't tell me I can't do something.
Little Known Fact: I served as a juvenile probation officer prior to law school.



Eric Ganci
Firm: Ganci, Esq., APC
Website: www.GanciEsq.com
Areas of Practice: DUI

Defense
Best Phrase: Knowledge is power.
Little Known Fact: I have a degree in percussion.



Greg Garbacz
Firm: Klindedinst PC
Website: www.KlindedinstLaw.com
Areas of Practice:

Employment
Best Phrase: "Always turn a negative situation into a positive situation," Michael Jordan.
Little Known Fact: My collie's name is Blue.



Valerie Garcia-Hong
Firm: Pettit Kohn Ingrassia & Lutz PC
Website: www.pettitkohn.com

Areas of Practice: Business Litigation, Professional Liability, Personal Injury, Real Estate, and Community Association Litigation
Best Phrase: "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give," Winston Churchill.
Little Known Fact: I'm trying to change the world of golf and convince everyone that the higher the score, the better.



Jennifer Gerstenzang
Firm: Gerstenzang Law
Website: www.gerstenzanglaw.com
Areas of Practice:

Criminal Defense
Best Phrase: Prosecutors often say they represent the People of the State of California. Well, so do I. I just have the honor of doing it one person at a time.
Little Known Fact: In my second year of law school, the California Innocence Project selected me as one of their student members.



Cameron Gharabiklou
Firm: Justice Law Group
Website: www.justice-lawgroup.com

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Employment
Best Phrase: It says trial lawyer on my business card, not settlement lawyer.
Little Known Fact: I'm handy and would rather fix/build something myself than hire someone else.



David Gibbs
Firm: CGP Law Group, APC
Website: www.cgplawgroup.com

Areas of Practice: Business/Corporate, Estate Planning
Best Phrase: Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did do.
Little Known Fact: I am planning a ski trip to Antarctica.



Daniel Gilleon
Firm: Gilleon Law Firm
Website: www.Gilleonlawfirm.com
Areas of Practice:

Personal Injury
Best Phrase: Character is how you behave when nobody's looking.
Little Known Fact: My dad is a famous artist.



Congratulations to our 2016 Best of the Bar



Douglas Pettit
Professional Liability
Business Litigation



Christina Bernstein
Professional Liability



Valerie Garcia-Hong
Business Litigation
Professional Liability



Jenna Leyton-Jones
Employment & Labor



Arie Spangler
Professional Liability



Conor Hulburt
Professional Liability
Personal Injury



Derek Wilson
Personal Injury

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Noam Glick
Firm: Glick Law Group, P.C.
Website: www.glicklawgroup.com

Areas of Practice: Employment Law, General Litigation

Best Phrase: A good lawyer knows the law. A better lawyer knows the judge. But the best lawyer knows the judge's mistress.

Little Known Fact: I was in a rock band in high school which never made it big, though we did play the Whiskey in LA.

My first job was as a busboy at Marie Callender's in El Cajon.



John Gomez
Firm: Gomez Trial Attorneys
Website: gomeztrialattorneys.com

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Business Litigation, Mass Torts, Class Actions, Environmental Litigation, Children's Rights

Best Phrase: "It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena... who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat," Theodore Roosevelt.

Little Known Fact: My first job was as a busboy at Marie Callender's in El Cajon.



Susan Gorman
Firm: Gorman IP Law, APC
Website: www.gormaniplaw.com

Areas of Practice: Patent/Trademark Prosecution

Best Phrase: Protecting clients' ideas turned into innovations.

Little Known Fact: I once lived in Turkey.



David Greeley
Firm: Seltzer Caplan McMahon Vitek
Website: www.scmv.com

Areas of Practice: Business Litigation, Franchise Law

Best Phrase: "Happiness does not depend on outward things, but on the way we see them," Leo Tolstoy.

Little Known Fact: I am a member of the San Diego Outrigger Canoe Club.

I used to be a blues singer in several clubs in New York.



Sabrina Green
Firm: Stratton & Green, ALC
Website: www.sglawcorp.com

Areas of Practice: Employment, Business & Construction Litigation

Best Phrase: "Justice is open to everyone in the same way as the Ritz Hotel," Judge Sturgess.

Little Known Fact: I used to be a blues singer at several clubs in New York.



Daniel Greene
Firm: The Law Offices of Kerry L. Armstrong, APLC
Website: www.sandiegodefenselawfirm.com

Areas of Practice: Criminal Law

Best Phrase: I'm your Huckleberry.

Little Known Fact: In college I minored in both French and Theatre Arts.



Samantha Greene
Firm: Sevens Legal, APC
Website: www.sevenslegal.com

Areas of Practice: Criminal

Little Known Fact: I'm scared of heights.



Roger Haerr
Firm: Law Office of Roger C. Haerr
Website: www.haerrlaw.com

Areas of Practice: Commercial, Real Estate & Construction Disputes, Contract Negotiations

Best Phrase: Never better.

Little Known Fact: I am a native.



John Hammerstrand
Firm: Chihak & Martel
Website: www.chihaklaw.com

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Medical Malpractice, Aviation Law

Best Phrase: If you don't have time to do it right, how are you going to have time to do it again.

Little Known Fact: I hold an Airline Transport Pilot certificate issued by the FAA and also work as a First Officer for SkyWest Airlines out of LAX.



Robert Hamparyan
Firm: The law offices of Robert Hamparyan
Website: Hamparyanlawfirm.com

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Insurance Bad Faith, Wrongful Death, Brain Injuries, Catastrophic Injuries

Best Phrase: "All the great things are simple, and many can be expressed in a single word: freedom, justice, honor, duty, mercy, hope," Winston Churchill.

Little Known Fact: I enjoy Brazilian Jiu Jitsu.



Ramin Hariri
Firm: Hariri Law Group
Website: www.haririlaw.com

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury

Best Phrase: "Nobody made a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could only do a little," Edmund Burke.

I was certified as a sommelier when I was 23.



Jordan Harlan
Firm: Harlan Law, P.C.
Website: www.harlanpc.com

Areas of Practice: Employment, Business Litigation

Little Known Fact: I was certified as a sommelier when I was 23.



Henry Harmeling
Firm: The Kindley Firm, APC
Website: www.kindleylawyers.com

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Nursing Home Abuse/Neglect

Best Phrase: Know who you are, be true to yourself.

Little Known Fact: Until I started practicing law, I was known as "DJ Harmeling" my whole life.



William Hartsock
Firm: William D Hartsock, Tax Attorney, Inc.
Website: www.TheTaxLawyer.com

Areas of Practice: Taxation-Audits, Appeals and Civil & Criminal Tax Litigation

Best Phrase: Never stop learning.

Little Known Fact: I've raced Porsche's and hunted black bear & grizzlies with a bow.



Elaine Harwell
Firm: Selman Breitman LLP
Website: www.selmanlaw.com

Areas of Practice: Civil Litigation

Best Phrase: "Whatever you do in life, surround yourself with smart people who'll argue with you," John Wooden.

Little Known Fact: I went to high school in London, England.

I once performed at a Clippers halftime show.



Sarah Havens
Firm: Phillips & Pelly
Website: www.sdinjury.com

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury

Best Phrase: "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere," Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Little Known Fact: I once performed at a Clippers halftime show.



Ryan Hawkins
Firm: Perkins Coie
Website: www.perkinscoie.com

Areas of Practice: Intellectual Property Litigation

Best Phrase: "Ray, when someone asks you if you're a god, you say YES," Winston Zeddemore, "Ghostbusters."

Little Known Fact: I lived in Great Britain for five years.

I volunteer at HiCaliber Horse Rescue every week helping to save hundreds of horses from slaughter.



Nicole Heeder
Firm: Law & [M]ocean
Website: CaliforniaWorkplaceRights.com

Areas of Practice: Employment

Best Phrase: The cure for anything is salt water — sweat, tears, or the sea.

Little Known Fact: I volunteer at HiCaliber Horse Rescue every week helping to save hundreds of horses from slaughter.



John Heisner
Firm: Heisner Alvarez, APC
Website: www.heisneralvarez.com

Areas of Practice: Complex Business, Trust Litigation

Little Known Fact: I have 10 grandchildren.



James Hill
Firm: Sullivan Hill
Website: www.sullivanhill.com

Areas of Practice: Insolvency & Commercial Bankruptcy, Commercial & Business Litigation

Best Phrase: Upwards and Onwards.

Little Known Fact: I am an instrument-rated private pilot and the president of San Diego's longest standing not-for-profit



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Best of the Bar 2016

flying club, the San Diego Flying Club.



Robert Hill

Firm: Law Offices of Robert L. Hill
Website: www.rlhfirm.com

Areas of Practice: Business Litigation, Corporate Law

Best Phrase: "The two most important days in your life are the day you are born and the day you find out why," Mark Twain.

Little Known Fact: There were only 35 kids in my high school graduating class in Kenmare, North Dakota.



Matt Holder

Firm: Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP
Website: www.sheppardmullin.com

Areas of Practice: Business Litigation, Labor & Employment Litigation

Best Phrase: "We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act but a habit," Aristotle.

Little Known Fact: I have an identical twin.



Lincoln Horton

Firm: Horton Village Law Group, APC
Website: www.hortonvillagelaw.com

Areas of Practice: Corporate, Business
Best Phrase: A reasoned approach is a winning approach.

Little Known Fact: In college, I was the singer in a band that headlined the Sunset Strip.

I was a hostess for a kids' TV show in Taiwan for a year.



Amy Hsiao

Firm: Hsiao Law, PC
Website: www.HsiaoLaw.com

Areas of Practice: Trust & Estate

Little Known Fact: I was a hostess for a kids' TV show in Taiwan for a year.



Lawrence Huerta

Firm: Huerta Mediation
Website: HuertaMediation.com

Areas of Practice: Mediation, Arbitration, Alternative Dispute Resolution

Best Phrase: Always darkest before dawn.

Little Known Fact: I mediated more than 25 matters around the country in a Smith Barney sexual discrimination and harassment class action.



Conor Hulburt

Firm: Pettit Kohn Ingrassia & Lutz PC
Website: www.pettitkohn.com

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Professional Liability

Best Phrase: "How alive am I willing to be?" Anne Lamott.

Little Known Fact: I make a killer hot salsa.



Leslie Hulburt

Firm: Cozen O'Connor
Website: www.cozen.com

Areas of Practice: Civil Litigation

Best Phrase: The grass is greener where you water it.

Little Known Fact: Prior to law school, I worked at the washingtonpost.com



Byron Husted

Firm: Morris Law Firm, APC
Website: Morrislawfirmapc.com

Areas of Practice: Civil Litigation, Trust, Estate, Probate Litigation

Little Known Fact: I love traveling the world to scuba dive with my wife in exotic places.

I was born in Tehran, Iran and English was not my first language.



Arezoo Jamshidi

Firm: Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP
Website: www.lewisbrisbois.com

Areas of Practice: Civil Appellate Law, Civil Litigation

Best Phrase: Know your audience.

Little Known Fact: I was born in Tehran, Iran and English was not my first language.



Marisa Janine-Page

Firm: Caldarelli Hejmanowski Page & Leer
Website: www.chpllaw.com

Areas of Practice: Civil Litigation

Little Known Fact: I love helping people.



Kenneth Jenkins

Firm: Mintz Levin Cohn Ferris Glovsky and Popeo PC
Website: www.mintz.vom

Areas of Practice: Life Science Patent Prosecution

Best Phrase: "The patent system added the fuel of interest to the fire of genius," Abraham Lincoln.

Little Known Fact: I was a varsity baseball player.



I am an assistant high school rugby coach.



Knut Johnson

Firm: Law Office of Knut S. Johnson
Website: www.knutjohnson.com

Areas of Practice: Criminal Defense, White Collar

Best Phrase: Prior preparation prevents poor performance.

Little Known Fact: I am an assistant high school rugby coach.



Tim Johnson

Firm: Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C.
Website: www.ogletreedeakins.com

Areas of Practice: Employment, Class Action Litigation

Little Known Fact: I have had five shoulder operations.



Dustin Jones

Firm: Finch, Thornton & Baird, LLP
Website: www.ftblaw.com

Areas of Practice: Construction

Best Phrase: "Individual commitment to a group effort — that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work," Vince Lombardi.

Little Known Fact: I will become a "Cheesehead" if the Chargers leave.



Paul Jonna

Firm: Law Offices of Charles S. LiMandri, APC
Website: www.limandri.com

Areas of Practice: Complex Business Litigation, Serious Personal Injury

Best Phrase: On becoming a good lawyer. "Give me six hours to chop down a tree, and I will spend the first four sharpening the axe," Abraham Lincoln.
Little Known Fact: My practice also regularly handles high profile religious liberty cases.



Deepalie Milie Joshi

Firm: Joshi Law Group
Website: www.joshilawgroup.com

Areas of Practice: Business Law, Bankruptcy Law, Personal Injury

Best Phrase: "If you can't explain it simply, you don't understand it well enough," Albert Einstein.

Little Known Fact: When I tell people that my parents are in the restaurant business, they usually assume that the restaurants are Indian food. But actually, I grew up in rural Tennessee and they are fried chicken restaurants.



Lee Jurewitz

Firm: Jurewitz Law Group
Website: www.jurewitz.com

Areas of Practice: Social Security Disability, Personal Injury

Best Phrase: "Every experience, no matter how bad it seems, holds within it a blessing of some kind. The goal is to find it," Buddha.

Little Known Fact: I love musical theater but can't sing (at all).



Ross Jurewitz

Firm: Jurewitz Law Group
Website: www.jurewitz.com

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury - Plaintiff

Best Phrase: "If worms had pistols, birds wouldn't eat 'em," Darrel K. Royal.

Little Known Fact: I survived a Copa Libertadores futbol match in Buenos Aires and saw the Texas Longhorns defeat the USC Trojans on January 4, 2006 in the greatest college football game ever played.



Daniel Kaplan

Firm: Law Offices of Daniel A. Kaplan
Website: www.danielkaplanlaw.com

Areas of Practice: Business Litigation, General Litigation, Business Counseling

Best Phrase: "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give," Winston Churchill.

Little Known Fact: My parents were lawyers. My mother went to law school after having four kids. Her perseverance inspired me when I attended law school and took the bar exam.



Randall Kay

Firm: Jones Day
Website: www.jonesday.com

Areas of Practice: Intellectual Property Litigation

Best Phrase: Figure out your case theme and package the evidence so that your audience interprets the facts to support your theme.

Little Known Fact: I enjoy head standing.

My first job after college was a clown, in Scotland.



Ashley Kerins

Firm: Sullivan Hill
Website: www.sullivanhill.com

Areas of Practice: Business & Corporate Transactions, Tax & Estate Planning, Real Estate Law

Best Phrase: "Life is like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're gonna get," Forrest Gump.

Little Known Fact: My first job after college was a clown, in Scotland.

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Best of the Bar 2016



Pejman Kharrazian
Firm: Epsten Grinnell & Howell, APC
Website: www.epsten.com

Areas of Practice: Civil Litigation, Real Estate, Construction
Best Phrase: Earning trust and respect are key to a successful practice, so I am honored to be nominated by my peers in the legal community.



John Kim
Firm: IPLA, LLP
Website: www.ipla.com
Areas of Practice: Trademark, Copyright

Law
Best Phrase: Every action has an equal and positive reaction.
Little Known Fact: I have three dogs and they all have human names.



George Kindley
Firm: The Kindley Firm, APC
Website: www.kindleylawyers.com

Areas of Practice: Plaintiff's Personal Injury Litigation/Nursing Home Neglect
Best Phrase: "Justice denied anywhere diminishes justice everywhere," Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Little Known Fact: I grew up in a small town on the beach and enjoy all watersports.

I played high school football with Lawrence Phillips.



Fernando Kish
Firm: White, Amundson, Kish & Sweeney, APC
Website: www.whiteamundson.com

Areas of Practice: Business Litigation, Professional Liability, Complex Civil Litigation
Best Phrase: The law is not always just but some lawyers do it justice.
Little Known Fact: I played high school football with Lawrence Phillips.



Elisa Kisselburg
Firm: Basie & Fritz
Website: www.basieandfritz.com

Areas of Practice: Family Law
Best Phrase: Never, never, never give up!
Little Known Fact: I am a professional musician.



Garrison "Bud" Klueck
Firm: Law & Mediation Firm of Klueck & Hoppes
Website: FamilyLawSanDiego.com

Areas of Practice: Family Law
Little Known Fact: I am a published essay writer under the pen name "Citizen Bud."



Elizabeth Koumas
Firm: Koumas Law Group
Website: www.koumaslaw.com

Areas of Practice: Employment Law
Best Phrase: Carpe Diem — seize the day.
Little Known Fact: I am a single mother by choice.



Kate Kowalewski
Firm: Kowalewski Law
Website: www.klcsd.com
Areas of Practice: Business, Corporate

Best Phrase: "My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor, and some style," Maya Angelou.
Little Known Fact: I was six years old when I decided that I wanted to be a lawyer when I grew up.



Andrew Kubik
Firm: Eppsteiner Law, APC
Website: www.eppsteiner.com

Areas of Practice: Class Actions
Best Phrase: Never trust a skinny chef.
Little Known Fact: I worked as a tour guide in Alaska during summers in college.



James Lance
Firm: Kirby Noonan Lance & Hoge
Website: www.knlh.com
Areas of Practice: Commercial Litigation, Real Estate, Personal Injury

Best Phrase: "Pray as though everything depended on God. Work as though everything depended on you," St. Augustine.
Little Known Fact: I have coached youth baseball and football for more than 15 years.



John Landay
Firm: Landay Roberts LLP
Website: www.landayroberts.com

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Class Action
Best Phrase: Work hard, get far.
Little Known Fact: I played in Lacrosse All America.

I am fluent in three languages — English, Spanish, and Korean.



Erin Lee
Firm: Law Offices of Erin J. Lee
Website: www.erinjlee.com

Areas of Practice: Immigration, Personal Injury
Little Known Fact: I am fluent in three languages — English, Spanish, and Korean.

Before I became an attorney, I had a career as a physicist.



Michael Leonard
Firm: San Diego Corporate Law, A Professional Law Corporation
Website: www.sdcorporatelaw.com

Areas of Practice: Corporate Transactions
Best Phrase: Starting a business is a lot like jumping out of an airplane and assembling the parachute on the way down.
Little Known Fact: Before I became an attorney, I had a career as a physicist.



Ramon Lewis
Firm: Law Offices of Ramon E. Lewis
Website: ElderProtectionCenter.com

Areas of Practice: Elder Neglect, Abuse
Little Known Fact: I participated in three WESTPAC deployments on three different Navy ships.



Jenna Leyton-Jones
Firm: Pettit Kohn Ingrassia & Lutz PC
Website: www.pettitkohn.com

Areas of Practice: Employment Litigation/Counseling, Civil Appeals
Best Phrase: "If your ship doesn't come in, swim out to meet it," Jonathan Winters.
Little Known Fact: I used to be a competitive ice skater.



Michael Licari
Firm: D'Egidio Licari & Townsend APC
Website: www.deltlaw.com

Areas of Practice: Business, Real Estate Litigation
Best Phrase: 50 percent of life is just showing up.
Little Known Fact: I enjoy watching the U.S. Women's National Soccer Team way more than the men's team.



David Lichtenstein
Firm: Caldarelli Hejmanowski Page & Leer LLP
Website: www.chpllaw.com

Areas of Practice: Business Litigation, Real Estate Litigation
Best Phrase: Do. Or do not. There is no try.
Little Known Fact: "The Walking Dead" is my favorite T.V. show.



Matthew Liedle
Firm: Liedle Larson Lidl & Vail LLP
Website: www.liedlelaw.com

Areas of Practice: Construction, Professional, Product, Government Liability

Best Phrase: Work hard and treat people with respect.
Little Known Fact: I play the guitar, mandolin, banjo and harmonica in an Americana band with other lawyers in San Diego on the weekend.



Charles S. LiMandri
Firm: Law Offices of Charles S. LiMandri, APC
Website: www.limandri.com

Areas of Practice: Civil Litigation, Business & Contract Litigation, Personal Injury, Insurance Coverage
Little Known Fact: I operate a nonprofit, "Freedom of Conscience Defense Fund."

I won a rap competition in Taiwan.



Rick Liu
Firm: Perkins Coie
Website: www.perkinscoie.com

Areas of Practice: White Collar & Investigations, Securities Litigation
Best Phrase: It is an honor to be selected by my peers for this list. I have had the privilege of working with brilliant colleagues who I can also count as my friends.
Little Known Fact: I won a rap competition in Taiwan.



Patrick Long
Firm: Law Office of Patrick B Long
Website: www.patblonglaw.com

Areas of Practice: Social Security Disability, Family Law, Cannabis Regulatory Compliance
Best Phrase: It's an honor and a privilege to be selected and nominated by my peers. I am fortunate to find a career that allows me time to give back to my fellow veterans.
Little Known Fact: I've had a few careers before becoming a lawyer, including a U.S. Navy corpsman.



Marty Lorenzo
Firm: Mintz Levin
Website: www.mintzlevin.com

Areas of Practice: Corporate
Best Phrase: He who dares wins.
Little Known Fact: I believe that the best investment of time is in our relationships with others and service to something greater than ourselves.



Douglas Lytle
Firm: Henderson Caverly Pum & Charney LLP
Website: www.hcesq.com

Areas of Practice: Business, Intellectual Property Litigation
Best Phrase: The harder I work, the



Congratulations to Wendy Behan and Melissa Deleon for being recognized as "Best of the Bar." Your dedication and commitment to providing justice for your clients is exemplary and we are proud to have you both on our team.

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Best of the Bar 2016

more luck I seem to have.

Little Known Fact: I have volunteered as a mentor to at-risk youth, and both of my mentees graduated from four-year universities.



Matt Mahoney

Firm: Witham Mahoney & Abbott
Website:

www.wmalawfirm.com

Areas of Practice: Business Litigation
Best Phrase: I can explain it to you, but I can't understand it for you.

Little Known Fact: I was electrocuted twice in the San Diego Tough Mudder Race.



Antonio Maldonado

Firm: Maldonado Law Group PC
Website:

maldonado-law-group.com

Areas of Practice: International Law

Best Phrase: To win you need to prepare, prepare and prepare.

Little Known Fact: I invest in commercial real estate.



Robert Marasco

Firm: Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP
Website:

www.procopio.com

Areas of Practice: White Collar Criminal Defense

Best Phrase: Diligence is the mother of good luck.

Little Known Fact: I was a Zamboni driver.

I competed in my first horse show at age five.



Amy Martel

Firm: Chihak & Martel
Website:

www.chihaklaw.com

Areas of Practice: Plaintiffs Personal Injury, Medical Malpractice

Best Phrase: "You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose," Dr. Seuss.

Little Known Fact: I competed in my first horse show at age five.



Steven Martin

Firm: Bonnici Law Group, APC
Website:

www.bonniciawgroup.com

Areas of Practice: Civil Litigation, Personal Injury, Social Security Disability, Workers Compensation

Best Phrase: "Try not to take life too seriously, you'll never get out alive," "National Lampoon's Van Wilder."

Little Known Fact: I always have to be doing something and challenging myself to something new.



Jennifer Martinez

Firm: Martinez & Schill LLP
Website:

www.martinezschill.com

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury

Best Phrase: "When you reach the end of your rope, tie a knot in it and hang on," Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Little Known Fact: I am honored to be included in this list of distinguished lawyers. I would not be where I am today without the love and support of my amazing husband and two beautiful children.



Jonathan Massie

Firm: Massie Berman APC
Website:

www.massieberman.com

Areas of Practice: Representation of Common Interest Developments

Best Phrase: Keep your nose to the grindstone.

Little Known Fact: I am the eighth of nine children.



Lawrence Maxham

Firm: The Maxham Firm
Website:

www.maxhamfirm.com

Areas of Practice: Patents, Trademarks, Copyrights (Intellectual Property)

Best Phrase: "Good enough" is not good enough.

Little Known Fact: I grew up on a small Vermont dairy farm near the Canadian border.



Josh Maxwell

Firm: Hone Maxwell LLP
Website:

www.honemaxwell.com

Areas of Practice: Tax Controversy, International Tax

Best Phrase: Time to make the donuts.

Little Known Fact: My wife and I got married eight days after we first met.



Gayle Mayfield-Venieris

Firm: Mayfield Bustarde, LLP
Website:

MayfieldBustarde.com

Areas of Practice: Business, Employment Transactions & Litigation

Best Phrase: Strive for excellence.

Little Known Fact: I have lived in three states in the U.S. — Illinois, Texas and California.

I owned a burrito shop during law school.



Peter Mazza

Firm: Jones Day
Website:

www.jonesday.com

Areas of Practice: Commercial litigation, Investigations, White Collar Defense

Best Phrase: You gotta want the ball

with the game on the line.

Little Known Fact: I owned a burrito shop during law school.



David McCuaig

Firm: McCuaig Law Firm
Website:

www.mccuaiglaw.com

Areas of Practice: Business Transactions, Litigation

Little Known Fact: I am an amateur history buff.



James McFaul

Firm: Butz Dunn & DeSantis, APC
Website:

www.butzdunn.com

Areas of Practice: Professional Liability, Employment, Class Action Defense; Business/Commercial Litigation, Risk Management Counseling

Best Phrase: Have fun stormin' the castle!

Little Known Fact: I actually do have an inside voice (sometimes).



Paul McGuire

Firm: Law Office of Paul D. McGuire
Website:

www.paul-mcguire.com

Areas of Practice: Family Law

Little Known Fact: I also write a blog on craft beer at www.sdhopaddict.com



Kevan McLaughlin

Firm: McLaughlin Legal
Website:

www.McLaughlinLegal.com

Areas of Practice: Tax
Best Phrase: We must strive for a path between apathy and hubris, which are closer connected than one may think.

Little Known Fact: Given the choice, I'd rather be skiing with my family than anything else.

I have traveled to more than 25 countries.



Lindsey Mercer

Firm: Law Office of Lindsey B. Mercer
Website:

www.lindseylegal.com

Areas of Practice: Federal/State Criminal Defense

Best Phrase: My purpose as an attorney is to provide compassion in a time of crisis.

Little Known Fact: I have traveled to more than 25 countries.



Brett Middleton

Firm: Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann LLP
Website:

www.blbgllaw.com

Areas of Practice: Securities Fraud, Corporate Governance Litigation

Best Phrase: Never mistake activity for achievement.

Little Known Fact: I regularly surf Cardiff Reef.



George Miller

Firm: Shustak Reynolds & Partners, P.C.
Website:

www.shufirm.com

Areas of Practice: Securities/Business Litigation

Best Phrase: "I can't imagine a person becoming a success who doesn't give this game of life everything he's got," Walter Cronkite.

Little Known Fact: I can recite the preamble to the U.S. constitution after a glass of red wine.

I was a nationally ranked junior tennis player.



Elizabeth Molea

Firm: Beringer Law Firm
Website:

www.beringerlaw.com

Areas of Practice: Family Law

Best Phrase: "If we desire respect for the law, we must first make the law respectable." Justice Louis D. Brandeis.

Little Known Fact: I was a nationally ranked junior tennis player.

English is my second language as I was born and raised in Italy.



Stefano Molea

Firm: The Law Offices of Kerry L. Armstrong, APLC
Website:

www.sandiegodefenselawfirm.com

Areas of Practice: Criminal Defense

Best Phrase: "Men born to freedom are naturally alert to rebel against the tyrant and his minions to loosen of their liberty by evil minded rulers. The greatest danger to liberty lurk in insidious encroachment by men of zeal, well-meaning but without understanding," Justice Louis D. Brandeis.

Little Known Fact: English is my second language as I was born and raised in Italy.



Vikram Monder

Firm: Monder Law Group, PC
Website:

www.monderlaw.com

Areas of Practice: Criminal Defense

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Best of the Bar 2016



Thomas Monson
Firm: Miller, Monson, Peshel, Polacek & Hoshaw
Website: www.mmpph.com

Areas of Practice: Estate/Trust Litigation, ERISA Benefits Litigation
Best Phrase: What goes around comes around.
Little Known Fact: I love to golf.



Nicholas Moore
Firm: The Law Offices of Nicholas J. Moore
Website: www.njmoorelaw.com

Areas of Practice: Criminal Defense
Best Phrase: Never underestimate the power of a kind word, a listening ear, or the smallest act of kindness to turn somebody's life around.
Little Known Fact: I am an above average pool player.



Cynthia Morgan-Reed
Firm: Morgan Reed Law
Website: www.morganreedlaw.com

Areas of Practice: Land Use, Real Estate, Advocacy
Best Phrase: Life is short. Eat dessert first.
Little Known Fact: I love popcorn.



Shawn Morris
Firm: Morris, Sullivan & Lemkul LLP
Website: morrissullivanlaw.com

Areas of Practice: Complex Civil Litigation
Best Phrase: Pigs get fat, hogs get slaughtered.
Little Known Fact: I have four sisters.



Caroline Morrison
Firm: Palecek, Morrison & Associates LLP
Website: www.pma-legal.com

Areas of Practice: Corporate, Estate Planning, Probate/Trust Administration
Little Known Fact: I live in Encinitas and love spending time with my family.

I've had dinner in Edinburgh Castle. And yes, haggis was one of the courses.



Rebecca Morrison
Firm: Blain Morrison Law Corporation
Website: www.blainmorrison.com

Areas of Practice: Plaintiff Civil Litigation, Business Losses, Property Losses, Personal Injuries
Best Phrase: "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice," Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Little Known Fact: I've had dinner in Edinburgh Castle. And yes, haggis was one of the courses.



Kevin Murphy
Firm: Murphy Jones APC
Website: www.murphyjoneslaw.com

Areas of Practice: Administrative License Defense
Best Phrase: "A good settlement leaves all parties dissatisfied," Me.
Little Known Fact: I am a big wave surfer.



Antony Nash
Firm: Mintz Levin
Website: www.mintz.com

Areas of Practice: Real Estate Litigation
Best Phrase: "To give anything less than your best is to sacrifice the gift," Steve Prefontaine.
Little Known Fact: I was born and raised in the United Kingdom.



Omar Nassar
Firm: The Nassar Firm
Website: www.TheNassarFirm.com

Areas of Practice: Real Estate, Business
Best Phrase: "If you're going through hell, keep going," Winston Churchill.
Little Known Fact: I enjoy a good game of poker or chess.



Saman Nasser
Firm: Nasser Legal
Website: www.NasserLegal.com

Areas of Practice: Criminal Defense
Little Known Fact: I can speak four languages.

I am a long suffering Chicago Cubs' fan.



Todd Neal
Firm: Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch, LLP
Website: www.procopio.com

Areas of Practice: Prosecution/Defense Corporate/Commercial Litigation; Serious Injury/ Wrongful Death, Government Investigations/ Enforcement Actions
Best Phrase: As a young lawyer I worked with a senior partner who liked to say "your future is on your desk." That taught me that the best marketing we ever do is doing great work and getting great results.
Little Known Fact: I am a long suffering Chicago Cubs' fan.



Craig Nicholas
Firm: Nicholas & Tomasevic LLP
Website: www.nicholaslaw.org

Areas of Practice: Business Litigation, Class Actions
Best Phrase: Commit to winning.
Little Known Fact: I grew up in a family of five lawyers.



Roxanne Nurse
Firm: Kegel, Tobin & Truce, APC
Website: www.kttlaw.us

Areas of Practice: Workers' Compensation
Best Phrase: "In the end you should always do the right thing, even if it is hard," Nicholas Sparks, "The Last Song."
Little Known Fact: My favorite past-time is to paint.

My first name, "Bethsaida," is an ancient town in Israel mentioned in the New Testament of the Bible.



Bethsaida Obra-Whit
Firm: Dummit, Buchholz & Trapp
Website: www.dummitlaw.net

Areas of Practice: Medical Malpractice Defense, Premises Liability, Business Litigation
Best Phrase: "Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't be trapped by dogma - which is living with the results of other people's thinking. Don't let the noise of others' opinions drown out your own inner voice. And most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition," Steve Jobs.
Little Known Fact: My first name, "Bethsaida," is an ancient town in Israel mentioned in the New Testament of the Bible.

F. Scott Fitzgerald is my favorite writer.



Casey O'Connell
Firm: The Law Offices of Casey O'Connell
Website: FamilyTrustPlanner.com

Areas of Practice: Estate Planning, Business Formations, Succession Planning
Best Phrase: Take the time to achieve peace of mind. Plan your estate to protect your family and life's work.
Little Known Fact: F. Scott Fitzgerald is my favorite writer.



Matthew Odgers
Firm: Odgers Law Group
Website: www.odgerslawgroup.com

Areas of Practice: Dental Law, Health Care Law, Corporate law, Partnerships & Commercial Leasing
Little Known Fact: I have three wiener dogs and a Great Dane.



Timothy O'Leary
Firm: Skilling O'Leary, PC
Website: www.skolegal.com

Areas of Practice: Employment
Best Phrase: Living the dream.
Little Known Fact: I've completed two Ironman triathlons.



Stacey O'Neill
Firm: Jurewitz Law Group
Website: www.jurewitz.com

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury
Best Phrase: "Life is a journey, not a destination," Ralph Waldo Emerson.
Little Known Fact: My name was going to be Katie, but after being born my family decided I looked like a "Stacey" and renamed me.



Alex Ozols
Firm: Ozols Law Firm
Website: TheSanDiegoCriminalLawyer.com

Areas of Practice: Criminal Defense, DUI Defense
Best Phrase: "Not Guilty."
Little Known Fact: I love to travel.

My bucket list includes hiking at least 100 miles of the Pacific Crest Trail in one trip.



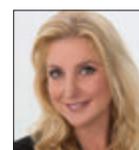
Jeffrey Padilla
Firm: O'Mara & Padilla
Website: www.oplawfirm.com

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury
Best Phrase: "Never be afraid to raise your voice for honesty and truth and compassion against injustice and lying and greed," William Faulkner.
Little Known Fact: My bucket list includes hiking at least 100 miles of the Pacific Crest Trail in one trip.



Brad Paladini
Firm: RJS LAW
Website: www.rjslawfirm.com

Areas of Practice: Tax Controversy
Best Phrase: "Go confidently in the direction of your dreams! Live the life you have imagined. As you simplify your life, the laws of the universe will be simpler," Henry David Thoreau.
Little Known Fact: I'm a Chicago Bears fan.



Genna Palecek
Firm: Palecek Morrison & Associates LLP
Website: www.pma-legal.com

Areas of Practice: Estate Planning, Probate, Trust Administration, Corporate Transactional

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Best Phrase: Live each day with courage.
Little Known Fact: I have two standard Poodles.

I am a member of the USD Lacrosse Hall of Fame.



Thomas Palecek
Firm: Williams | Palecek Law Group, LLP
Website: www.wplgattorneys.com

Areas of Practice: Transactional, Litigation Matters relating to Business, Corporate, Real Estate, Hospitality, Construction, Employment
Best Phrase: Vision to see beyond problems and create solutions.
Little Known Fact: I am a member of the USD Lacrosse Hall of Fame.



Maria Palmieri
Firm: Palmieri Law, APLC
Website: www.palmierilawfirm.com

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury
Little Known Fact: I earned a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering.



Patrick Dodger Paschall
Firm: Paschall Law
Website: www.paschalllaw.com

Areas of Practice: Civil Litigation: Employment & Labor Law; Business Law; Construction Law; Personal Injury; Landlord Tenant
Best Phrase: Equity favors the vigilant.
Little Known Fact: I was named after my great grandfather's favorite baseball team, the Brooklyn Dodgers.

I went to Bhutan to interview the drafters of its first constitution and the first chief justice of its supreme court.



Shanna Pearce
Firm: Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP
Website: www.linkedin.com/in/shannapearce

Areas of Practice: Business Litigation, Arbitration, Appeals
Best Phrase: To cut down a tree in five minutes, spend the first three sharpening the axe.
Little Known Fact: I went to Bhutan to interview the drafters of its first constitution and the first chief justice of its supreme court.



Vanessa Pena
Firm: Pena Law
Website: www.penalaw.net
Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Criminal

Defense
Best Phrase: A good life is when you smile often, dream big, laugh a lot, and realize how blessed you are for what you have!
Little Known Fact: I am a mom to three adorable little boys, Lucas (age 5), Jack (age 3) and Zane (age 7 months).



Charles Pernicka
Firm: The Opus Law Firm
Website: www.opus.attorney

Areas of Practice: Real Estate Litigation, Business Litigation
Best Phrase: Do not put off until tomorrow what you can do today.
Little Known Fact: I once spent a summer leading Jet Ski tours and working at a bar in Key West, Florida.



David M. Peters
Firm: Peters & Freedman, L.L.P.
Website: www.hoalaw.com

Areas of Practice: Construction Defect Litigation, Community Association Law
Best Phrase: I will not live long enough to pay my debts to a lot of good people. This debt cannot be repaid to those who gave it, it can only be repaid to the next generation. Great success without social conscious is devoid of substance.
Little Known Fact: I am a past rugby referee for the U.S. and short story writer.

I was in Life Magazine when I was five, helping my grandfather put up a Justice of the Peace election sign.



Doug Pettit
Firm: Pettit Kohn Ingrassia & Lutz
Website: www.pettitkohn.com

Areas of Practice: Professional Liability, Business Litigation
Best Phrase: "It's not about how hard you can hit. It's about how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward," Rocky.
Little Known Fact: I was in Life Magazine when I was five, helping my grandfather put up a Justice of the Peace election sign.



Lukas Pick
Firm: Pick Law
Website: www.picklaw.com

Areas of Practice: Elder Abuse/Neglect, Personal Injury
Best Phrase: Pride comes before a fall.
Little Known Fact: I have traveled to Antarctica.



S. Christian Platt
Firm: Jones Day
Website: www.jonesday.com
Areas of Practice:

Intellectual Property, Patent Litigation
Best Phrase: Si vis pacem, para bellum (If you want peace, prepare for war).
Little Known Fact: In two patent jury trials, I have referenced Texas Longhorns football, including one trial where I showed a video of Vince Young scoring the go ahead touchdown against USC to win the 2005 National Championship. Our clients won both cases. Hook'em!



Stephanie Poli
Firm: Tatro & Zamoyski
Website: www.tatrozamoyski.com

Areas of Practice: Business Litigation, Personal Injury, Class Action
Best Phrase: "To handle yourself, use your head; to handle others, use your heart," Eleanor Roosevelt.
Little Known Fact: Prior to law school I taught ballet, jazz, tap, and lyrical to children ages two to 13.

My little kids recently gave me the much coveted "Tickle Monster of Year" award.



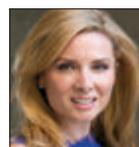
Sean Ponist
Firm: Law Offices of Sean Ponist, P.C.
Website: www.ponistlaw.com

Areas of Practice: Real Estate, Construction, Business Litigation
Best Phrase: "I am a great believer in luck, and I find the harder I work, the more I have of it," Thomas Jefferson.
Little Known Fact: My little kids recently gave me the much coveted "Tickle Monster of Year" award.



Jeffrey Pratt
Firm: Jeffrey R. Pratt, Attorney at Law
Website: www.jprattlaw.com

Areas of Practice: Civil Litigation, Trials
Best Phrase: Whatever you can do, or dream you can do, begin it. Boldness has genius, power and magic in it.
Little Known Fact: I'm an adventure motorcyclist, who loves fast travel on twisty roads.



Jessica Pride
Firm: The Pride Law Firm
Website: www.pridelawfirm.com; www.victimlawyer.com

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Sexual Assault Litigation
Best Phrase: "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere," Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Little Known Fact: I am a spin class enthusiast and I speak Spanish.



Grant Puleo
Firm: Duane Morris LLP
Website: www.duanemorris.com
Areas of Practice:

Real Estate, Finance
Best Phrase: "Excellence is not a gift, but a skill that takes Practice. We do not act rightly because we are excellent, in fact we achieve excellence by acting rightly," Plato.
Little Known Fact: I enjoy scuba diving shipwrecks.



Michael Quade
Firm: Quade & Associates, a PLC
Website: www.quadelaw.com

Areas of Practice: General Business Litigation
Best Phrase: Family first.
Little Known Fact: I am a vegan.



Jamie Quient
Firm: Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP
Website: www.procopio.com

Areas of Practice: Insurance Coverage, Intellectual Property, Licensed Child Care
Best Phrase: Imagine the world you want to live in and then work to make it happen.
Little Known Fact: I went to undergraduate school in Canada.

My downtime is spent with a guitar or piano.



John Reynard III
Firm: Anderson Reynard LLP
Website: www.arlawplanners.com

Areas of Practice: Business, Estates
Little Known Fact: My downtime is spent with a guitar or piano.



Stephanie Reynolds
Firm: Pope, Berger, Williams & Reynolds, LLP
Website: www.popeberger.com

Areas of Practice: Employment Litigation
Best Phrase: "Motivation is what gets you started. Habit is what keeps you going," Jim Ryun.
Little Known Fact: I received a full-athletic scholarship to play soccer at a top 10 Division I program.



Jane Rheinheimer
Firm: Rheinheimer, Smigliani + Drake, APC
Website: www.rsdapc.com

Areas of Practice: Professional Liability, Defense, Employment Litigation
Best Phrase: "You miss 100 percent of the shots you don't take," Wayne Gretsky.



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Little Known Fact: It's a little-known fact for a reason.



Brian Robbins
Firm: Robbins Arroyo LLP
Website: www.robbinsarroyo.com
Areas of Practice:

Securities, Consumer, Antitrust, Employment/ERISA Litigation
Best Phrase: How can I help you?
Little Known Fact: I'm also your guy if you're looking for tips on local BBQ restaurants.



Kia Roberts
Firm: Gresham Savage Nolan & Tilden
Website: www.greshamsavage.com

Areas of Practice: Real Estate
Best Phrase: Attract what you expect, reflect what you desire, become what you respect, mirror what you admire.
Little Known Fact: I'm currently training to run my fifth half marathon.

I can sing classical arias in French, German, and Italian.



Kristen Roberts
Firm: Trestle Law, APC
Website: www.trestlelaw.com
Areas of Practice:

Intellectual Property
Best Phrase: A woman's place is in the House and the Senate.
Little Known Fact: I can sing classical arias in French, German, and Italian.



Malcolm Roberts
Firm: Landay Roberts LLP
Website: www.landayroberts.com
Areas of Practice: Civil

Litigation
Best Phrase: Always work hard.
Little Known Fact: I have a love/hate relationship with running marathons.



Robert Robinson
Firm: Hickman & Robinson LLP
Website: www.HickmanRobinsonLaw.com

Areas of Practice: Real Estate, Business/Corporate
Best Phrase: Never give up...don't ever give up.
Little Known Fact: I am an avid Aztec Basketball supporter.



Anna Romanskaya
Firm: Stark & D'Ambrosio, LLP
Website: www.starkdambrosio.com

Areas of Practice: Family Law
Best Phrase: Run like a girl.
Little Known Fact: I was born in the former Soviet Union and immigrated to the U.S. as a refugee in 1989.



Parisima Roshanzamir
Firm: The Roshanzamir Law Firm
Website: www.roshanzamirlaw.com

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury
Best Phrase: Get up and try again.
Little Known Fact: I love to dance.



Heather Rosing
Firm: Klinedinst PC
Website: www.klinedinstlaw.com

Areas of Practice: Legal Malpractice, Ethics, Attorney Conduct
Best Phrase: "Life is either a great adventure or nothing," Helen Keller.
Little Known Fact: I have beautiful twin two-year-old daughters.

I worked for FOX Sports at the Sydney Olympic Games.



Andrea Russell
Firm: Kirby Noonan Lance & Hoge, LLP
Website: www.knlh.com
Areas of Practice:

General Civil, Business & Commercial Litigation
Best Phrase: "In summing up, it's the constitution, it's Mabo, it's justice, it's law, it's the vibe, and...no that's it...it's the vibe. I rest my case," Dennis Denuto, "The Castle."
Little Known Fact: I worked for FOX Sports at the Sydney Olympic Games.

In college, I was a contestant on "The Price is Right."



Puja Sachdev
Firm: Sachdev Legal Group, APC
Website: SachdevFamilyLaw.com

Areas of Practice: Family Law Litigation, Mediation
Best Phrase: When nothing goes right...go left.
Little Known Fact: In college, I was a contestant on "The Price is Right."



Dean Sage
Firm: Sage Law Firm
Website: www.deansage.com
Areas of Practice:

Tax Law, Business Consulting
Little Known Fact: I earned a Master of Entrepreneurship degree from the University of Otago, New Zealand.



Scott Salmu
Firm: Salmu Law Firm, APLC
Website: www.Salmulaw.com

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Criminal Defense
Little Known Fact: My parents emigrated from Iraq to raise children in the U.S. for a better life. I am fluent in Arabic and Aramaic languages.



Ryan Sargent
Firm: The Sargent Firm Injury Lawyers
Website: www.sgtfirm.com

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Auto, Motorcycle, Bicycle Accidents
Best Phrase: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me," Philippians 4:13.
Little Known Fact: I love surfing. If I'm not in the office, check the lineup at the Oceanside Pier.

I was in Moscow for work in August 1991 during the Soviet coup d'état attempt.



Matthew Schenck
Firm: Paul, Plevin, Sullivan & Connaughton LLP
Website: www.paulplevin.com

Areas of Practice: Employment Law, Health Care Litigation
Best Phrase: Persevere.
Little Known Fact: I was in Moscow for work in August 1991 during the Soviet coup d'état attempt.



Johanna Schiavoni
Firm: Law Office of Johanna S. Schiavoni
Website: www.schiavoni-law.com

Areas of Practice: Appellate Litigation, Strategic Counseling
Best Phrase: "It's the little details that are vital. Little things make big things happen," UCLA Basketball Coach John Wooden.
Little Known Fact: I love to travel and thrive on new adventures and experiences.



Renee Schor
Firm: Schor & Freeland, LLP
Website: www.schorfreeland.com

Areas of Practice: Employment
Best Phrase: "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel," Maya Angelou.
Little Known Fact: I once was invited to train as a "wicken" or white witch, but I decided that it might not be something my then law firm would smile upon if discovered, so I declined the invite.



Ian Schuler
Firm: Bowman and Brooke LLP
Website: bowmanandbrooke.com

Areas of Practice: Civil Litigation, Product Liability, General Liability Defense
Best Phrase: Nothing ventured, nothing gained.
Little Known Fact: I've played guitar for 20 years.



Peter Schulz
Firm: Greco Traficante Schulz & Brick
Website: www.gtllaw.cc
Areas of Practice:

Insurance Law, Litigation
Little Known Fact: I am a season ticket holder and shareholder in the Green Bay Packers.



Angelica Sciencio
Firm: Law Office of Angelica Sciencio
Website: www.scienciolaw.com

Areas of Practice: Immigration, Family
Best Phrase: "Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there," Will Rogers.
Little Known Fact: Before law school, I had a very short career as a flight attendant. On my first day on the job, I spilled orange juice on a first class passenger.

I was born on July 4th, 1976, which is the 200 year anniversary of our country.



Ronson Shamoun
Firm: RJS LAW
Website: www.rjlawfirm.com
Areas of Practice: Tax

Law, Criminal Defense
Best Phrase: Being on time is being late.
Little Known Fact: I was born on July 4th, 1976, which is the 200 year anniversary of our country.



David Shapiro
Firm: The Law Office of David P. Shapiro, APLC
Website: davidpshapiro.com

Areas of Practice: Criminal Defense
Best Phrase: "Tell it like it is," Aaron Neville.
Little Known Fact: I sleep well at night in spite of being a criminal defense attorney.



Philip Shapiro
Firm: Law Office of Philip A. Shapiro
Website: www.pshapl.com

Areas of Practice: Criminal Defense, Personal Injury
Best Phrase: We are in this together.
Little Known Fact: I have an identical twin brother.

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Jason Sheinberg
Firm: Sheinberg Law Group
Website: sheinberglawgroup.com

Areas of Practice: Trust/Estates, Estate Planning
Best Phrase: "You should always go to other people's funerals, otherwise, they won't come to yours," Yogi Berra.
Little Known Fact: I love to cook.



Sam Sherman
Firm: TencerSherman, LLP
Website: www.tencersherman.com

Areas of Practice: Employment Advice, Defense
Best Phrase: If you want something done, ask the busy person to do it. The more you do the more you can do.
Little Known Fact: I'm obsessed with Ramen.



Christopher R. Sillari
Firm: Finch, Thornton & Baird, LLP
Website: www.ftblaw.com

Areas of Practice: Construction Law, Business/Commercial Litigation, Federal Procurement / Claims, Business/Commercial Transaction
Best Phrase: Go Pats.
Little Known Fact: I co-founded a high school Lacrosse program in Arizona after moving there from Connecticut.



Jaclyn Simi
Firm: Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C.
Website: www.ogletreedeaikins.com

Areas of Practice: Employment Litigation
Best Phrase: Be fearless when it comes to life and careless when it comes to what others say and think about you.
Little Known Fact: I was named after one of the original Charlie's Angels.

I was a Junior Pillsbury Bake-Off finalist.



Sara Simmons
Firm: Lepine Law Group
Website: www.lepinelaw.com

Areas of Practice: Civil Rights, Financial Elder Abuse, Oral Contracts, Family
Best Phrase: "As long as the world shall last there will be wrongs, and if no man objected and if no man rebelled, those wrongs would last forever," Clarence Darrow.
Little Known Fact: I was a Junior Pillsbury Bake-Off finalist.



Jayme Simpson
Firm: Simpson Law Group
Website: SimpsonLawGroup.com
Areas of Practice:

Personal Injury
Best Phrase: If you want something done, ask a busy person.
Little Known Fact: I love to play soccer.

My ancestors had a castle which still stands in Aberdeen, Scotland.



Spencer Skeen
Firm: Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C.
Website: www.ogletreedeaikins.com

Areas of Practice: Employment Litigation, Class Action Defense
Best Phrase: Don't be in a hurry to make a mistake, because you will.
Little Known Fact: My ancestors had a castle which still stands in Aberdeen, Scotland.



David Skilling
Firm: Skilling O'Leary, PC
Website: www.skolegal.com

Areas of Practice: Employment, Insurance Bad Faith Litigation
Best Phrase: Anything in Latin.
Little Known Fact: I also practice in Colorado and have an office in Denver.



John Smaha
Firm: Smaha Law Group
Website: www.smaha.com

Areas of Practice: Business Litigation, Trust Litigation, Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Practice
Best Phrase: Live each day for what it is and don't look back. Enjoy your friendships, family and even your times alone. Be true to yourself and those that care about you. And foremost never stop praying and believing.
Little Known Fact: I've been a koi keeper for almost 20 years.

Prior to going to law school, I worked as a reporter for a newspaper.



Will Small
Firm: Small & Schena LLP
Website: www.smallschena.com

Areas of Practice: Business Litigation
Best Phrase: "You should never be proud of doing what's right. You should just do what's right," Dean Smith.

Little Known Fact: Prior to going to law school, I worked as a reporter for a newspaper.



Allison Soares
Firm: RJS LAW
Website: www.rjslawfirm.com

Areas of Practice: Tax, Business
Best Phrase: It is nice to be important but it is more important to be nice.
Little Known Fact: I graduated from high school in the Virgin Islands.

I joined the Navy with the aim of becoming a blimp pilot.



Sean Southard
Firm: CGS3 (Crosbie Gliner Schiffman Southard & Swanson LLP)
Website: www.cgs3.com

Areas of Practice: Commercial Real Estate
Best Phrase: It's not our experiences that make our life - it's what we do with them.
Little Known Fact: I joined the Navy with the aim of becoming a blimp pilot.



Arie Spangler
Firm: Pettit Kohn Ingrassia & Lutz
Website: www.pettitkohn.com

Areas of Practice: Professional Liability, Civil Litigation
Best Phrase: "Believe you can and you're halfway there," Theodore Roosevelt.
Little Known Fact: In college, I was the editor of the student newspaper.



Matthew Sperdelozzi
Firm: The Law Office of Matthew J. Sperdelozzi
Website: www.lawofficemjs.com

Areas of Practice: Criminal Defense
Best Phrase: Injustice is a force that is both infuriating and motivating.
Little Known Fact: I am also licensed in Massachusetts.



Victoria Stairs
Firm: Dummit Buchholz & Trapp
Website: www.dummitlaw.net

Areas of Practice: Professional Liability, Health Care, Employment
Best Phrase: "Character cannot be developed in ease and quiet. Only through experience of trial and suffering can the soul be strengthened, ambition inspired, and success achieved," Helen Keller.
Little Known Fact: I was the youngest and first racially diverse president of the San Diego Defense Lawyers.

I wrote a children's book, "The Original Poi Cats on O'ahu," which was a bestseller in Hawaii for a year.



Genevieve Suzuki
Firm: Law Office of Genevieve A. Suzuki
Website: www.sdlawyersuzuki.com

Areas of Practice: Family Law, Civil, General
Best Phrase: Family court is just a temporary phase on the way to a permanent resolution.
Little Known Fact: I wrote a children's book, "The Original Poi Cats on O'ahu," which was a bestseller in Hawaii for a year.



Susan Swan
Firm: Swan Employment Law
Website: swanemploymentlaw.com

Areas of Practice: Employee Rights, Sexual Harassment, Discrimination, Wrongful Termination, Whistleblowers, Retaliation, Wage Theft
Best Phrase: "Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life," Poet Mary Oliver.
Little Known Fact: I am a sixth generation California native.



Ashley Teague
Firm: Teague Law
Website: sandiegowilltrust.com

Areas of Practice: Estate Planning, Estate Administration, Probate
Best Phrase: Plan. Dig the well before you are thirsty.
Little Known Fact: I play the piano to relax.



Grachielle Tenorio
Firm: Law Office of Grachielle Tenorio
Website: www.tenoriolaw.com

Areas of Practice: Immigration
Best Phrase: Be kinder than necessary because every person you meet is fighting some kind of battle.



Anthony Thompson
Firm: Thompson | Wedeking
Website: ThompsonWedeking.com

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Environmental Litigation
Best Phrase: "Once you have started seeing the beauty of life, ugliness starts disappearing. If you start looking at life with joy, sadness starts disappearing. You cannot have heaven and hell together, you can have only one. It is your choice," Osho.
Little Known Fact: I played Division I golf at Vanderbilt University and thought about turning professional until my putter left me.

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Best of the Bar 2016



James Thompson
Firm: Law Office of James R. Thompson
Website: www.jrthompsonlaw.com

Areas of Practice: Business Litigation; Real Estate

Best Phrase: "Life is what happens to you while you're busy making other plans," John Lennon.

Little Known Fact: Before law school, I played bass in a punk rock band that toured the West Coast and played with some of the bands that defined the hardcore sound in the 90's, including the Deftones, Korn and 311.



John Tishler
Firm: Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP
Website: www.sheppardmullin.com

Areas of Practice: Corporate Transactional

Little Known Fact: I earned a black belt in Tae Kwon Do in 2014.

My middle name is America. That's an even more fun conversation starter than my first name.



Jonah A. Toleno
Firm: Shustak Reynolds & Partners, P.C.
Website: www.shufirm.com

Areas of Practice: Securities Litigation/Arbitration; Financial Services Law; Corporate Law; Civil Litigation

Best Phrase: You never know.

Little Known Fact: My middle name is America. That's an even more fun conversation starter than my first name.



Alex Tomasevic
Firm: Nicholas & Tomasevic
Website: www.nicholaslaw.org

Areas of Practice: Complex Civil Litigation

Best Phrase: Never let 'em see you sweat.

Little Known Fact: I love hot sauce.



Eric Townsend
Firm: D'Egidio Licari & Townsend APC
Website: www.deltlaw.com

Areas of Practice: Real Property Law

Best Phrase: Get the job done!

Little Known Fact: I am a Marine.



Daniel Towson
Firm: Simpson Delmore Greene LLP
Website: www.sdgllp.com

Areas of Practice: Civil Litigation

Best Phrase: "Life is 10 percent what happens to you and ninety percent how you respond to it," Lou Holtz.

Little Known Fact: I replace my own car brakes and rotors.

Upon returning to the United States, I worked in a group home for severely abused and neglected children.



Elizabeth Tresp
Firm: Elizabeth A. Tresp, Attorney at Law
Website: www.trespaw.com

Areas of Practice: Estate Planning, Probate, Trust Litigation, Trust Administration, Tax Controversy

Best Phrase: "Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out," Robert Collier.

Little Known Fact: Upon returning to the United States, I worked in a group home for severely abused and neglected children.



David Vogel
Firm: Hecht Solberg Robinson Goldberg & Bagley LLP
Website: www.hechtsolberg.com

Areas of Practice: Real Estate, Common Interest Developments

Best Phrase: "Now you must cast aside your laziness . . . for he who rests on down or under covers cannot come to fame . . . Therefore, get up; defeat your breathlessness with spirit that can win all battles if the body's heaviness does not deter it. . . if you have understood, now profit from it. Then I arose and showed myself far better equipped with breath than I had been before; Go on, for I am strong and confident," Dante, "Inferno Canto XXIV."

I play bass clarinet and tenor sax.



Sandra Wagner
Firm: Law Offices of Sandra M Wagner
Website: wagnerimmigrationlaw.com

Area of Practice: Immigration

Best Phrase: There is heart in what I do and the results are life-changing for my clients.

Little Known Fact: I play bass clarinet and tenor sax.



Colin Walshok
Firm: Wingert Grebing Brubaker & Juskie LLP
Website: www.wingertlaw.com

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Business Litigation, Legal Malpractice Defense

Best Phrase: "It's not what you look at that matters, it's what you see," Henry David Thoreau.

Little Known Fact: I try to make as much time as possible for my two kids, Marco and Ara.



Janice Walshok
Firm: Tyson & Mendes
Website: www.tysonmendes.com

Areas of Practice:

Personal Injury, Insurance Bad Faith

Best Phrase: "It's not the will to win that matters — everyone has that. It's the will to prepare to win that matters," Paul "Bear" Bryant.

Little Known Fact: I don't know why, but people always seem surprised to learn I was born in Oklahoma.



Christopher Walton
Firm: Walton Law, APC
Website: www.waltonlawapc.com

Areas of Practice:

Personal Injury, Nursing Home Neglect

Best Phrase: The details matter.

Little Known Fact: I really enjoy cooking.



Bethany Ward
Firm: Law Office of Bethany M. Ward
Website: familylawsandiego.com

Areas of Practice: Family, Guardianships, Adoption

Best Phrase: Always consider cost versus benefit.

Little Known Fact: I have the pleasure of working with a group of wonderful, smart and dedicated family law attorneys.

I have ridden a bull.



Steve Wedeking
Firm: Thompson | Wedeking
Website: bestsandiegoeviction.com

Areas of Practice: Landlord Tenant - Landlord Representation in Evictions

Best Phrase: "Discipline is the bridge between goals and accomplishment," Jim Rohn.

Little Known Fact: I have ridden a bull.

I am a huge Kansas basketball fan. Rock Chalk!



Parisa Weiss
Firm: Seltzer Caplan McMahon Vitek
Website: www.scmv.com

Areas of Practice: Estate Planning, Trust Administration, Probate

Best Phrase: "If you can dream it, you can do it," Walt Disney.

Little Known Fact: I am a huge Kansas basketball fan. Rock Chalk!



Tamera Weisser
Firm: Jones Day
Website: www.jonesday.com

Areas of Practice:

Intellectual Property, Patent Law, Life Sciences

Best Phrase: "We don't accomplish anything in this world alone," Hon. Sandra Day O'Connor.

Little Known Fact: My first concert was Elvis Presley on April 27, 1977. I was age five.



Christina White
Firm: Law Office of Christina Krywucki White
Website: www.ckwhitelaw.com

Areas of Practice: Estate Planning, Trust/Probate Administration

Best Phrase: Everything happens for a reason. Only time will tell the reason.

Little Known Fact: I have my private pilot's license.



Justin White
Firm: The Opus Law Firm
Website: www.opus.attorney

Areas of Practice: Real Estate Transactions

Best Phrase: Apparently there is nothing that cannot happen today.

Little Known Fact: I can't turn left.



Jason Williams
Firm: Williams | Palecek Law Group
Website: www.wplgattorneys.com

Areas of Practice: Civil/Business Litigation, Personal Injury, Subrogation, Insurance Defense, Construction Defect, Employment, Contracts, Business/Corporate Transactional

Best Phrase: "If there were no bad people, there would be no good lawyers," Charles Dickens.

I'm also admitted to practice in Arizona but have never actually practiced law there.



Joseph Willmore
Firm: Willmore Law Firm
Website: www.willmorelawfirm.com

Areas of Practice:

Divorce/Family Law

Best Phrase: Don't be afraid to start over. It's a chance to rebuild what you want.

Little Known Fact: I'm also admitted to practice in Arizona but have never actually practiced law there.

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Best of the Bar 2016



Derek Wilson
Firm: Pettit Kohn
 Ingrassia & Lutz PC
Website:
www.pettitkohn.com

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Trials
Best Phrase: "It ain't over till it's over," Yogi Berra.
Little Known Fact: I was twelve when I had my first job, and it involved a shovel and horse stables.

While in college, I provided private tours of the U.S. Capitol Building in Washington D.C.



Charles Witham
Firm: Witham Mahoney & Abbott, LLP
Website:
www.wmalawfirm.com

Areas of Practice: Business, Corporate Law
Best Phrase: Always strive to be fair, firm and consistent.
Little Known Fact: While in college, I provided private tours of the U.S. Capitol Building in Washington D.C.



Christine Wu
Firm: The Wu Firm
Website:
www.wufirm.com
Areas of Practice:

Business Transactions/Formation, Business Immigration, Global Migration
Best Phrase: "All our dreams can come true if we have the courage to pursue them," Walt Disney.
Little Known Fact: I once stood in line for five hours, starting at 4 a.m. and outside in the dead of winter, to eat sushi for breakfast at Tsukiji Fish Market in Tokyo and it was one of the best things I have ever done.



Arlene Yang
Firm: Brown Law Group
Website:
www.brownlawgroup.com
Areas of Practice:

Employment, Litigation
Best Phrase: "Surely, in the light of history, it is more intelligent to hope rather than to fear, to try rather than not to try. For one thing we know beyond all doubt: Nothing has ever been achieved by the person who says, 'It can't be done,'" Eleanor Roosevelt.
Little Known Fact: I love the performing arts and spent many years as a board member and development professional.



Anna Yum
Firm: Law Offices of Anna R. Yum
Website:
www.annayumlaw.com

Areas of Practice: Criminal Defense, Personal Injury
Best Phrase: Let your faith be bigger than your fears.
Little Known Fact: I am a runner and Pilates enthusiast.

I take foosball very seriously.



Lisa Yun
Firm: Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP
Website:
www.sheppardmullin.com

Areas of Practice: Business Litigation, Bankruptcy
Best Phrase: Let's eat!
Little Known Fact: I take foosball very seriously.

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