



SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL WOMEN OF INFLUENCE IN LAW 2021



ALICIA AQUINO

Trial Presentation Specialist
Aquino Trial Services

Alicia Aquino is well-versed in trial preparation, graphics and trial technology presentation. Aquino provides expertise in litigation support from start to finish. She holds a credential as an NCR Trial Presentation Professional and is a founding advisory board member of the Online Courtroom Project. She received her bachelor's degree from Columbia College and her paralegal certificate from U.C. Davis. She also is a past president of the San Diego Paralegal Association. Contact: alicia@aquinotrial.com.



MICAELA BANACH

Partner
Noonan Lance Boyer & Banach

Micaela P. Banach is a founding partner of Noonan Lance Boyer & Banach. She has skillfully represented both plaintiffs and defendants in practice areas that include real estate, employment, products liability, professional liability and business disputes. For seven years, Banach served on the board of directors of the San Diego Bar Foundation, serving as president in 2017, supporting underprivileged communities in the region by providing access to legal services. She received the President Award in 2019.



JENNIFER BARRY

Partner; Deputy Office Managing Partner,
San Diego
Latham & Watkins

Jennifer Barry has developed a vibrant litigation practice with broad reach and impact in southern California and nationally, and she continually demonstrates her leadership abilities in her current roles as Deputy Office Managing Partner of Latham's San Diego office and as Global Vice Chair of the firm's Intellectual Property Litigation Practice. Recent examples of her client work include representation of Peloton, in an action in front of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.



JENNIFER BAUMANN

Executive Vice President and General
Counsel
Alliant Insurance Services

Jennifer Baumann has provided executive leadership through a period of tremendous growth, including nearly 1,800 new hires across all of the company's business groups. She leads a San Diego-based legal team which nearly 90% of the attorneys are female. Most recently she collaborated with Alliant's executive management and operations teams to facilitate an enterprise-wide transition to remote work during the global pandemic, a period in which she and her team supported a revenue growth of more than 10 percent.



MARGARET BELL

Partner
Lagasse Branch Bell + Kinhead LLP

Margaret "Margi" C. Bell is a founding member of her firm. She has specialized in all aspects of employment law for over 25 years, providing representation for employers who are sued for harassment, discrimination, retaliation, wrongful termination and related issues. Bell has spent an increasing part of her practice serving as an independent workplace investigator for private and public sector employers, and is an Association of Workplace Investigators certificate holder.



CALLIE BJURSTROM

Partner
Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman

Intellectual Property partner Callie Bjurstrom is widely recognized as a top litigator and she has practiced in San Diego for 33 years. Currently, Bjurstrom represents healthcare companies MicroVention and IQVIA. She previously represented San Diego Comic Convention in its landmark trademark dispute over the "Comic-Con" mark. Additionally, she was recently re-elected to her second term on Pillsbury's Board of Directors and currently serves as its Lead Director.



MELISSA BLACKBURN-JONIAUX

Attorney
Law Office of William P. Fennell-Of
Counsel

Melissa Blackburn-Joniaux is a pillar in the community. She is a member of the board of directors of St. Paul's Senior Homes and Services, Class of 2000 LEAD San Diego, Inc., a past president of the Downtown Breakfast Rotary Club, and a member of the Women's Resource Fair Task Force. She has received multiple awards for service including being a multiple recipient of the Wiley W. Manuel Award for pro bono legal services from the California State Bar Association.



KRISTI BLACKWELL

Branch Managing Partner - San Diego
Tyson & Mendes LLP

As one of the most successful and winningest litigators at Tyson & Mendes, Kristi Blackwell is a powerhouse trial attorney who represents some of the nation's biggest names in the retail, restaurant and hospitality space. Her practice focuses primarily on general liability, professional liability, personal injury, premises liability, coverage and complex litigation. She is also an active member of the San Diego Defense Lawyers. Blackwell earned her Juris Doctor cum laude from California Western School of Law.



KARIE BOYD

CEO, Owner and Lead Trial Attorney
Boyd Law APC

After graduating from law school in 2008, Karie Boyd was sworn into the California Bar holding her infant, the now oldest of her two daughters. From that point on, she set out to prove that women can be successful mothers and businesswomen — she has carved her own path as a litigation attorney. Additionally, Boyd has volunteered at Laura's House, a local domestic violence shelter, coaching and providing free legal assistance to women who have been the victims of domestic violence. Contact: kb@boydlawapc.com (619) 232-1206



JENNIFER BRANCH

Partner
Lagasse Branch Bell + Kinhead LLP

Jennifer Branch, one of the firm's founding partners, has specialized in employment law for over 20 years. She defends employers in lawsuits involving a variety of legal claims, including wrongful termination, harassment, discrimination, retaliation, wage and hour violations, breach of contract, unfair competition, and other workplace misconduct. She also defends academic institutions. In addition, she consults with companies of all sizes, nonprofits and educational institutions on avoiding litigation.



FATIMA BRIZUELA

Associate Attorney
Hartley LLP

Fatima Brizuela represents classes of individuals and businesses harmed by anti-competitive conduct. She manages complex antitrust, unfair competition, and consumer protection class actions, including preparing for and taking high-level executive depositions, working with economic experts, and drafting case-dispositive and discovery briefs. Additionally, she is passionate about pro bono work, and aids refugees seeking asylum in the United States as an active volunteer with Casa Cornelia. Contact: brizuela@hartleyllp.com (619) 400-5822



DR. LIZ BUI

Vice President, Intellectual Property
Counsel & Diversity & Inclusion Officer
ViaCyte

Dr. Liz Bui earned a Ph.D. in neurobiology, anatomy and cell biology from UCLA, and a J.D. from Pepperdine University. Her expertise in science and law found her filling important roles in the intersection of both, particularly in patent law. In her current position, Bui has executed an ingenious IP strategy consisting of over 575 patents and 400 applications worldwide. Additionally, she leads all diversity and inclusion initiatives at ViaCyte. Contact: lbui@viacyte.com (858) 336-5499



CONGRATULATIONS

We celebrate our Shareholders
and all the talented honorees in San Diego Business Journal's
Women of Influence in Law 2021



Jennifer N. Lutz, Esq.



Shannon R. Finley, Esq.



Janice Y. Walshok, Esq.

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JERALIN CARDOSO

Partner, Practice Group Leader of Sheppard Mullin's Corporate and Securities Practice Group Sheppard Mullin

Jeralin Cardoso has a deep understanding of the business and strategic needs of medical groups, physician organizations and healthcare-focused private equity funds. She skillfully represents all her clients, while working collaboratively to structure mutually beneficial transactions and has an innate ability to explain these complex regulated transactions in a manner that is practical for clients to understand. Additionally, she is a board member for the Association for Corporate Growth, San Diego. Contact: JCardoso@sheppardmullin.com (858) 720-7431

SheppardMullin



CANDACE CARROLL

Of Counsel
Sullivan Hill Rez & Engel

Candace M. Carroll has more than 40 years of experience handling appeals in the federal, state, and bankruptcy appellate courts. Her cases have encompassed a wide range of subjects, including contract disputes, insurance and indemnity issues, to name a few. She also has engaged in the practice of civil litigation handling a variety of civil matters, both locally and elsewhere, in the federal district and appellate courts, the state superior and appellate courts, and in the bankruptcy and bankruptcy appellate courts.

SullivanHill



KRISTEN CAVERLY

Partner
Henderson, Caverly, Pum & Trytten, LLP

Kristen Caverly has practiced law in San Diego County for 25 years and is a founding partner of her firm. She is a Fellow in the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel and is certified as a Specialist in Estate Planning, Trust and Probate Law by the State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization. Caverly is a member of the Trial Law Institute and Diversity Law Institute.

**Henderson Caverly
Pum Trytten LLP**



JULIE MARIE K. CEPEDA

Associate Attorney
The Law Offices of Jon D. Rigney, A.P.C.

With strong experience in both private mediation and contested litigation, Julie Marie K. Cepeda takes a resolution-focused approach to family law. Since 2013 she has handled many cases with her firm, including simple paternity matters, complex divorce matters, highly litigious custody and visitation matters, international premarital agreements, and high asset estate planning. Hailing from the island of Guam, Cepeda is a 2013 graduate of California Western School of Law.

**LAW OFFICES OF
JON D. RIGNEY**
PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION



MEGAN A. CHACON

Principal
Fish & Richardson P.C.

Megan A. Chacon, a principal at intellectual property specialist Fish & Richardson P.C., is a leader in the legal community. She leverages an undergraduate degree in chemical engineering to focus her practice on complex patent litigation across a wide range of technologies. She is committed to mentoring junior attorneys — especially women and people of color — and encouraging young people in STEM fields and the law. Contact: chacon@fr.com (858) 678-4318

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JENNIFER WOLFE

Senior Partner
Hecht Solberg Robinson Goldberg & Bagley LLP

Jennifer Chang Wolfe joined the firm in 2017 and from the outset demonstrated the ability to engender confidence in existing clients of the firm, as well as to establish relationships with new clients of regional significance. As an equity partner, she mentors the firm's associates on substantive matters and on lawyering skills, including developing and maintaining client relationships and navigating the path to successful practice. Contact: jwolfe@hechtsolberg.com (619) 239-3444

HechtSolberg



KELLIN CHATFIELD

General Counsel- OUS; Litigation
Dexcom

Kellin Chatfield leads all legal operations with respect to Dexcom's business in Europe, Asia-Pacific and Latin America. She also leads all material litigation strategy for Dexcom. Chatfield has quickly established herself as a trusted advisor to the Dexcom executive team and she has been instrumental in setting the foundation for Dexcom's expansion into new geographies and markets. Her strategic thought has also enabled Dexcom to successfully defend or resolve IP, Commercial and HR litigation matters.

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ALARA T. CHILTON

Attorney / Owner
Law Office of Alara T. Chilton

Alara T. Chilton is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of consumer fraud and sexual assault. Chilton represents clients in both state and federal court. She is active in the legal community and is a past president and current board member of the San Diego La Raza Lawyers Association. Chilton promotes education and since 2012 has organized and implemented Project LEAD, a 10-week program for fifth graders teaching resisting peer pressure and avoiding bullies. Contact: Alarachilton@gmail.com 619-672-7201.



JODI CLEESATTLE

Supervising Deputy Attorney General
California Department of Justice

Jodi Cleesattle serves as a Supervising Deputy Attorney General for the DOJ's Employment & Administrative Mandate Section, where she represents the State in employment litigation and, in the past year, has been busy representing the State in challenges to the COVID-19 pandemic public health orders. She serves on the board of California Women Lawyers, chairs its amicus committee, and she serves on the board of the Tom Homann LGBTQ Law Association, co-chairing the CLE and Community Service Committee.



AMANDA COOK

Senior Associate Attorney
Brotman Law

Amanda Cook brings a unique perspective to the tax controversy practice. Her experience includes working in government, private practice and the legal department of the world's largest tax preparation company. She truly takes a bird's eye view of tax matters, anticipating potential challenges before they happen. She attended Michigan State University College of Law with a full scholarship and earned her Juris Doctorate, magna cum laude. Contact: acook@sambrotman.com (619) 819-9296

BROTMAN LAW



DANNA COTMAN

President & Founder
ARC IP Law, PC

Danna Cotman owns ARC IP Law, PC, a boutique intellectual property law firm representing high tech, medical device, fashion and consumer products companies. Cotman helps clients develop strategy regarding their patent, trademark, copyright and trade secret portfolio development, monetization, monitoring and enforcement. She received her J.D. from Thomas Jefferson School of Law with honors. Alumni recognized her with their 2019 Outstanding Service to the Community Award. Contact: Danna@arciplaw.com (619) 980-8911

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CRYSTAL L. CULHANE, PH.D.

Associate
Fish & Richardson P.C.

With a doctorate in chemistry from Johns Hopkins University and a J.D. from California Western School of Law, Dr. Crystal Culhane, Ph.D., is one of the most sought-after patent attorneys at Fish & Richardson. Her work entails counseling on patent prosecution, due diligence, and patent-ability and freedom-to-operate matters. She is involved in several programs introducing young people — including underrepresented and at-risk students — to STEM fields, law, literacy and running. Contact: culhane@fr.com (858) 678-5635

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Congratulations to Barbara Savaglio for being recognized as a Women of Influence in Law 2021! Thank you for valiantly representing members of the San Diego community in their personal injury matters.

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Law Offices of Barbara B. Savaglio

Email: savagliolaw@cox.net

Phone: 619-696-9111



HAHN LOESER CONGRATULATES PARTNER

DANIELLE C. HUMPHRIES

on being selected as one of San Diego's most Influential Women in Law. Danielle's commitment and dedication to her clients and community make her truly deserving of this honor. She is a champion and mentor for many women, an advocate for change and inspiration for others to get involved in their communities.



HAHN LOESER & PARKS LLP | 619.810.4300 | 600 WEST BROADWAY | SUITE 1500 | SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101

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M. KATHARINE DAVIDSON

Partner
Henderson, Caverly, Pum & Trytten, LLP

Katharine Davidson is chair of her firm's International Private Client Practice and a member of its Estate Planning and Taxation Groups. She has extensive experience representing high-net-worth individuals and their closely held business interests and real property holdings in connection with income, estate and gift tax planning, wealth and business succession planning and international wealth transfer planning. She received her degree from Loyola Law School, Los Angeles.



ANA DE SANTIAGO

Assistant Chief
San Diego County District Attorney's Office

Deputy District Attorney, Ana De Santiago has been a licensed attorney for 19 years and a DDA since 2004. She currently serves as the Assistant Chief of the Collaborative Justice Division. While in the District Attorney's Office, she has served her community in numerous assignments including Juvenile, Central Pre-trial, East County, Superior Court, Economic Crimes, Sex Crimes and Human Trafficking and Collaborative Justice. Contact: Ana.DeSantiago@sdcda.org (619) 531-4380



MELISSA DEVITA

Vice President, Division Counsel
Qualcomm

Melissa DeVita has over 23 years of experience in corporate intellectual property matters, beginning her career at a large international law firm, and spending the last 20 years as in-house corporate counsel. Currently at Qualcomm she is the lead attorney for the company's global research and development engineering teams. Prior to her current role, DeVita served as legal counsel for the global commercialization of new technology, products and services. Contact: mdevita@qti.qualcomm.com



CHANDARA DIEP

Of Counsel
RJS LAW

Chandara Diep started as a paralegal and quickly evolved into her current position as Of Counsel for RJS LAW. She is also a professor at the USD School of Business. Diep has worked for the firm for 16 years, prior to receiving her law degree and she advises the CEO in all cases. She handles collection cases with the IRS, FTB, California Department of Tax and Fee Administration and the Employment Development Department. Contact: Cdiep@RJSLawFirm.com (619) 595-1655



YASMINE DJAWADIAN

Founder
Law Offices of Yasmine Djawadian APC;
dba YD Injury Law

Yasmine Djawadian is the founder of YD Injury Law where she leads her professional staff by example with a persistent approach to achieving the justice, she believes her clients deserve. With this determination and passion for what is best for her clients, she has recovered more than \$45 million in settlements and verdicts. She has also served as a legal writing professor at Thomas Jefferson School of Law. Contact: ydjawadian@gmail.com (858) 449-7154



KELLY DUFORD WILLIAMS

Founder and Managing Partner
Slate Law Group

Kelly DuFord Williams helped lead and grow her first San Diego-based law firm, DuFord Law, up until early 2020. After separating from her husband in late 2019, she retrenched and expanded the firm's focus, adding tax, HR, estate planning and bankruptcy services, and rebranded to become Slate Law Group in February 2020. After just one year in business, she doubled Slate Law Group's revenue to over \$2.5 million and grew her team by nearly 50 percent.



CHERYL DUNN SOTO

Partner
Franklin | Soto LLP

Cheryl Dunn Soto is a seasoned attorney with a sophisticated insurance coverage/bad faith practice focused on representing corporate policyholders in disputes with their insurers. In addition to litigating insurance coverage disputes, she often analyzes and assists in resolving coverage issues pre-suit, including complex matters involving multiple policies. Additionally, Dunn Soto is an active member of the San Diego County Bar Association, the Lawyers Club of San Diego and the Federal Bar Association-San Diego Chapter.



ALEXANDRA EAKER PEREZ

Attorney
Eaker Perez Law

Alexandra Eaker Pérez is the founder of Eaker Pérez Law, a tax controversy law firm, a published author, and an award-winning tax trial lawyer. She has successfully litigated against government tax agencies in over 30 docketed tax cases in U.S. District Court, U.S. Tax Court and state courts and has spoken before six congressional committees on tax law changes. She sits on the board of the First United Methodist Church. Contact: eakerperzcasa@gmail.com (619) 940-5166



RACHEL EDWARDS

Attorney
Jacko Law Group, PC

Rachel C. Edwards, Esq. serves as an Attorney at Jacko Law Group, PC where she supports the needs of the firm's corporate clientele. Her invaluable experience supports their ability to provide advice in connection with a wide range of transactional needs and corporate objectives. Within her expertise, Edwards has a focus in technology and software-based corporate transactions, including SaaS and similar third-party agreements, intellectual property, e-commerce, and data privacy matters.



HILDY F. FENTIN

Partner
Henderson, Caverly, Pum & Trytten, LLP

Hildy L. Fentin has built a reputation for excellence, integrity and professionalism, with over 35 years of experience handling complex family law matters. She graduated from Rutgers School of Law and then gained admittance to the bars of Massachusetts, Connecticut and California. A former Legal Aid attorney in the San Francisco area, Fentin has focused exclusively on family law since 1983. She specializes in creative problem solving to reach peaceful resolutions.



SHANNON R. FINLEY

Shareholder - Employment Attorney
Pettit Kohn Ingrassia Lutz & Dolin

With seven years of experience, Shannon Finley has established herself as a leader in the field of employment law and has litigated extensively in both state and federal courts. She represents California employers in disputes ranging from single plaintiff wrongful termination cases to complex class actions. She is an active speaker and author on issues including best hiring practices, wage and hour law, discrimination, leaves of absence and social media. Contact: sfinley@pettitkohn.com (858) 509-5676



DANIELLE FONTANESI

CEO/Founder/Managing Partner
Fontanesi Law Firm/Advisory

As a seasoned Silicon Valley attorney, Dani Fontanesi is redefining the legal industry across the tech world. Her innovative approach to navigating legal risk allows her clients to move fast and break things while protecting their interests and minimizing exposure. Fontanesi's portfolio of clients includes early stage and rapid growth companies backed by some of the top investors in the world. Contact: danielle@fontanesilaw.com 858-900-7668.





Márcia Loeffelholz



600 W Broadway, Suite 800, San Diego, CA 92101
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**Jennifer and Márcia – Kudos and
congratulations on your selection as
Women of Influence in Law for 2021!**

Know that in our eyes, you are more than influential. You are inspirational
catalysts – for clients' objectives and for the legal profession in San Diego.
We are proud beyond words you are among our partners!

Jennifer Wolfe



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**CONGRATULATIONS TO
OUR PARTNER SUSAN HACK
ON HER SELECTION AS ONE OF 2021'S
WOMEN OF INFLUENCE IN LAW!**

Susan - Thank you for all of your
contributions to HFM and to our community.
Your leadership, integrity, selflessness and
generosity have set a high bar for future
generations of HFM attorneys.



2021 WOMEN OF INFLUENCE IN LAW

SUSAN M. HACK

-  @higgslaw
-  @higgsfletcher
-  @Higgs-Fletcher-&-Mack
-  www.higgslaw.com

401 West A Street, Suite 2600
San Diego, CA 92101
Phone: (619) 236-1551
Fax: (619) 696-1410

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AMBER GARDINA-QUINTANILLA
Senior Employment Counsel
Eastridge Workforce Solutions

Amber Gardina-Quintanilla is in-house employment counsel for Eastridge Workforce Solutions. Prior to transitioning to her in-house role, she worked as an employment litigator and advisor at prominent firms in San Diego. A Southern California native, she received her undergraduate degree in Women's Studies from UCLA, and her law degree from the University of San Diego School of Law. She is on the Development Board for the California Innocence Project and spends much of her free time volunteering with Frost-ed Faces Foundation.



JANET GERTZ
Partner
Barnes & Thornburg LLP

After decades of practice, Janet Gertz is fluent in many areas of the law and can quickly analyze multifaceted debt instruments, intercreditor agreements and complex transaction documents. This lets her identify key issues and advise clients of optimal strategies through an insolvency event at any stage. Clients and colleagues value her analytical skills, attention to detail, knowledge of the law and clear, succinct, convincing writing and communication style.



NICOLE GREENE
General Counsel- North America,
Corporate Governance
Dexcom, Inc.

Nicole Greene oversees all of Dexcom's legal operations for North America as well as all of Dexcom's corporate governance matters. She is a pragmatic, strategic and collaborative leader who has helped Dexcom manage hyper growth in an extremely regulated and competitive environment. Greene has built a diverse team and through her communication skills and structure of accountability has helped her team members reach the next steps in their own legal careers.



HAYLEY GRUNVALD
Partner
Sheppard Mullin

Hayley Grunvald's practice encompasses all aspects of labor and employment law. She has handled a wide range of litigation matters including wage and hour class actions, single plaintiff actions and State and Federal administrative actions. She also regularly provides counseling to her clients on a wide range of wage and hour issues including drafting policies and procedures, employment agreements, conducting employee trainings and running large scale investigations. Contact: hgrunvald@sheppardmullin.com (619) 347-5000



SUSAN HACK
Partner
Higgs Fletcher & Mack LLP

Business litigator, Susan Hack is dedicated to not only meeting the needs of her clients, but also raising the standard of practice within her law firm and the broader legal community. She leads HFM's diversity initiative and oversees education offered through the Firm's Professional Development Committee. Additionally, Hack is an Adjunct Professor at the University of San Diego School of Law and has taught Negotiations since 2018. Contact: hack@higgslaw.com (619) 236-1551



ALREEN HAEGGQUIST
Managing Partner
Haeggquist & Eck LLP

Over the past 17 years, Alreen Haeggquist has recovered millions of dollars for clients in cases involving wrongful termination, sexual harassment, discrimination, retaliation and wage theft. She founded Haeggquist & Eck in 2008. The majority of her clients are women who have suffered wrongs at the hands of their employers. Her commitment to equality, respect and giving a voice to all drives her to do her best for each client.



NANCY G. HENDERSON
Partner
Henderson, Caverly, Pum & Trytten, LLP

Nancy G. Henderson is a fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel, where she has served on the Program Committee. She is a Certified Specialist in Estate Planning, Probate and Trust Law (California State Bar Board of Legal Specialization), and served a three-year term on the California State Bar Estate Planning Law Advisory Commission, which wrote and graded the legal specialist exam in Estate Planning, Probate and Trust Law.



SARAH HIBBARD
Associate
Snell & Wilmer

San Diego native, Sarah Hibbard is an experienced corporate attorney with a focus on the intersection of law, science and business. She has experience positioning companies for growth, serving as a strategic advisor to her clients. Before joining Snell & Wilmer, she served as General Counsel for a San Diego-based biotech company. Hibbard recognizes the importance of being actively involved with her community and organizations focused on supporting the advancement of women in the legal and STEM professions.



EMILY HOWE
Founding Attorney/Bar Leader
Law Offices of Emily E. Howe

Emily Howe assists socially conscious individuals, startups and nonprofits in navigating the legal world. She works with nationally renowned attorneys on wrongful death/catastrophic, civil rights and personal injury claims. She served in the U.S. Peace Corps, leading community health programs in West Africa. She is active in several legal organizations, including the Pan Asian Lawyers of San Diego. Her bar admissions include California, Massachusetts and District of Columbia. Contact: info@howelaws.com (619) 800-6605



DANIELLE C. HUMPHRIES
Partner
Hahn Loeser and Park

Danielle C. Humphries serves as General Counsel for families, managing the multitude of issues that arise as a partner at Hahn Loeser and Parks. She has developed a reputation as a trusted advisor with the experience, insight and sophistication to help navigate complex issues both from a legal and business perspective. Additionally, she was elected to the equity partnership of the firm. Humphries also serves as a Board Member at Promises2Kids, as well as Secretary and Chair of the Philanthropic Strategy Committee.



JACQUELINE ISAAC
International Humanitarian & Attorney
The Law Offices of Jacqueline Isaac

Jacqueline Isaac is an international lawyer, speaker and vice president of Roads of Success (ROS), a humanitarian NGO which provides aid, medical assistance, education and advocacy for women and persecuted minorities. Isaac has testified at US Congress, appeared before the UN Human Rights Council and has spoken at the UN headquarters, UK Parliament and European Union as to her experiences on the front-lines and with girls who survived ISIS captivity. Contact: jacqueline.isaac.law@gmail.com (626) 536-7685



MICHELLE L. JACKO
Managing Partner
Jacko Law Group, PC

Michelle L. Jacko, Esq. is the Managing Partner and CEO of Jacko Law Group, PC, which offers securities, corporate, real estate and employment law counsel to broker-dealers, investment advisers, investment companies, hedge/private funds and financial industry professionals. In addition, Jacko is the Founder and CEO of Core Compliance & Legal Services, Inc., a compliance consultation firm. She received her J.D. from St. Mary's University School of Law and B.A., International Relations, from the University of San Diego.



A WINNING TEAM



Congratulations to Managing Partner **Michelle Jacko, Jr.** Partner **Jennifer Trowbridge**, and Attorney **Rachel Edwards** for their recognition as Women of Influence in Law.



JACKO LAW GROUP, PC

Jackolg.com



Congratulations to our trailblazer Miranda Watkins and all the Women of Influence in Law.

We applaud your accomplishments and thank you for your dedication to the San Diego business community.



Miranda Watkins, Associate | mwatkins@fisherphillips.com

Fisher Phillips is a national law firm committed to providing practical business solutions for employers' workplace legal problems.

fisherphillips.com

4747 Executive Drive, Suite 1000 | San Diego, CA 92121

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ALLY KEEGAN
Associate Attorney
Law Office of David P. Shapiro

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



TRACI S. LAGASSE
Partner
Lagasse Branch Bell + Kinkead LLP

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



MONIQUE LASHBROOK
Partner
Snell & Wilmer

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



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

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



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

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



MELISSA H. LUM
Senior Attorney
The Dean Law Group, APLC

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



CAYCE LYNCH
Administrative Partner
Tyson & Mendes LLP

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



JENNIFER M. M. OLIVER
partner
MoginRubin LLP

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



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

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



MERYL MANEKER
Partner
Wilson Turner Kosmo

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



LISA MARTENS
Partner
Sheppard Mullin

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



JENNIFER MARTINEZ
Attorney at Law
Martinez & Schill, LLP

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





STARK & D'AMBROSIO, LLP

Civil Litigation • Family Law • Personal Injury

Congratulations to **Anna M. Romanskaya** of Stark & D'Ambrosio for her selection as Women of Influence in Law 2021 by the San Diego Business Journal! We are very proud of our lead Family Law partner for her dedication and hard work.

Stark & D'Ambrosio, LLP is a San Diego based law firm practicing in the areas of Family Law, Civil Litigation & Personal Injury.



Stark & D'Ambrosio, LLP
501 W. Broadway, Ste. 960
San Diego, CA 92101

Tel: (619) 338-9500
aromanskaya@starkllp.com
www.starkdambrosio.com

TYSON & MENDES

Tyson & Mendes is honored to be listed as one of the Top Law Firms in San Diego, and we are exceptionally proud of our partners **Cayce Lynch** and **Kristi Blackwell** for being named Women of Influence in Law 2021!



Cayce Lynch



Kristi Blackwell

Tyson & Mendes is one of San Diego's fastest growing private companies. Nobody wins more cases and advances more partners than we do. We are looking for talented civil defense lawyers and staff to join our team.

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ERMILA A. MARTINEZ, ESQ.
Attorney/Owner
MARTINEZ LAW

Ermila A. Martinez was born in the migrant farm fields of Oregon to a single mother. She was the first in her family to graduate high school, attend university and law school. She practices family law, criminal defense and employment law. She fights for those who don't have a voice and feel alone in the judicial system. 100% self made, Martinez states she created all she is through hard work, nurturing great professional relationships and discipline.



ERIN MEDINA
Chief Legal Officer
Eastridge Workforce Solutions

In 2016, Erin Medina moved to San Diego to join Eastridge Workforce Solutions as their first Chief Legal Officer. During her tenure, she restructured the legal department to focus on building strong relationships with internal and external clients while decreasing costs and increasing internal resources. Medina works with company leaders to create a culture of compliance. She and her team have updated, created, and reviewed virtually every client and employee-facing document, policy and process.



KRISTIN MIHELIC
Trial Attorney
U.S. Department of Justice, Office of the U.S. Trustee

Kristin Mihelic is a veteran insolvency attorney who serves as a federal government Trial Attorney and Adjunct Professor at the University of San Diego School of Law. Mihelic serves as board member and committee chair of several professional and charitable organizations. She regularly participates in continuing legal education panels and has published in insolvency and commercial law. She previously practiced with two large law firms. Mihelic is a graduate of Northwestern University and Boston University School of Law.



KIMBERLY MILLER
Partner
Knobbe Martens

Kim Miller, Ph.D. is a leading San Diego patent attorney and her clients include individual inventors, venture funded start-ups, university spin-offs and publicly traded companies. Her practice spans a variety of technical disciplines, including chemistry, pharmaceuticals, polymers and biotechnology. She serves as a single point of contact for all IP-related matters her clients face. Miller has conducted patent prosecution in more than 45 jurisdictions throughout the world.



JENNIFER N. LUTZ
Shareholder - Employment Law Attorney
Pettit Kohn Ingrassia Lutz & Dolin

Jennifer Lutz is a founding shareholder and co-chair of the firm's Employment and Labor Department. Her litigation career spans over two decades, developing a strong reputation as one of SD's premier and go-to employment law attorneys in both employment litigation and counseling. She represents a broad spectrum of clients and prominent companies defending and advising on their most complex and important cases. Additionally, she's an employment law instructor for UCSD Extension. Contact: jlutz@pettitkohn.com (858) 345-8514



CARREE NAHAMA
Owner, Nahama Law
Nahama Law

Looking to be more present in her professional life and the lives of her children, Carree Nahama started her own firm six years ago. It has worked out well. She has more control over the type of work she spends time on and the clients she represents. For Nahama, being an "influencer" is about breaking the mold — expectations placed on female attorneys, working moms and female business owners. Contact: cnahama@cknlaw.com (619) 230-1434



SARA NEVA
Attorney
Procopio

Sara Neva practices law in the areas of real estate, finance and general business transactions. To help clients best cope with the impact of COVID-19 on their businesses, she stays ahead of the rapidly changing legal and legislative landscape by keeping herself and clients apprised of both proposed and enacted ordinances, orders, regulations and laws. In addition, Neva analyzes how these new rules work together, and what challenges they may pose in the long run. Contact: sara.neva@procopio.com (612) 418-4139



ADRIANA OCHOA
Partner and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee Leader
Procopio

At a time when our society amplified its attention on issues of racial equity, Procopio has been well-served with Adriana Ochoa leading its Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee. A dynamic and talented attorney who successfully represents public agencies in governance, operational, and litigation matters, Ochoa has spent this past year working directly with Procopio's Management Committee spearheading initiatives that have increased attorney diversity. Contact: adriana.ochoa@procopio.com (619) 525-3861



STACEY O'NEILL
Managing Partner
Jurewitz Law Group

As Managing Partner, Stacey O'Neill is currently responsible for managing a portion of the firm's personal injury caseload. O'Neill takes an active role with her legal team and takes the extra step to communicate and provide exemplary legal service to help clients. Additionally, O'Neill has shown that she is committed to furthering the interests of justice in our society by getting involved in the Louis M. Welsh American Inn of Court. Contact: sro@jurewitz.com (619) 233-5020



ERICA OSTBERG
Chief Compliance Officer & General Counsel
TargetCW

Erica Ostberg has been an integral part of TargetCW since the day she started. She has been able to provide positive change management across the company while increasing the company's profitability and success. Ostberg stepped in when the operations team was in need of a temporary leader to move the team forward. She is well versed in employment law and has the drive and patience to improve both the company and its employees.



WENDY L. PATRICK, J.D.
San Diego County Deputy District Attorney Office of San Diego County District Attorney

With more than 25 years of legal service, Wendy L. Patrick, J.D. has spent the last 17 years as a San Diego County Deputy District Attorney where she heads up the Sex Crimes and Human Trafficking Division. Patrick has completed more than 165 trials ranging from hate crimes, to first-degree murder. In addition to her work as a deputy district attorney, she is an educator, an expert on legal ethics and serves on several local and statewide committees.



ANDREA L. PETRAY
Partner
Finch, Thornton & Baird, LLP

In California's highly charged and litigious construction law sector, Andrea L. Petray is a name to remember and a force to be reckoned with. She is a pragmatic, results-oriented litigator and business advisor. Her litigation experience includes public and private works collections; delay, extra work, disruption and impact claims; surety bond claims; course-of-performance strategies; and contracts review and negotiation. Her community work includes serving as board chair of San Diego Habitat for Humanity.





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Congratulations to our attorney Stacey Tyree!

Stacey's talent and acumen is a testament to CGS3's best-in-class reputation among commercial real estate law firms. She is well deserving of recognition as one the *San Diego Business Journal's* Women of Influence in Law.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO DANI FONTANESI FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS IN TRANSACTIONAL LAW AND ADVISORY FOR RAPID-GROWTH STARTUPS.

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CONGRATULATIONS ANN WIECZOREK!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR IMPACTFUL WORK AS FATHER JOE'S VILLAGES' GENERAL COUNSEL.

Congratulations to all of the winners and finalists of the San Diego Business Journal's Influential Women in Law awards.

Father Joe's Villages

Congratulations to CHERYL DUNN SOTO on being named to San Diego Business Journal's Women of Influence in Law 2021 list!



Cheryl Dunn Soto is a seasoned attorney with more than 25 years of experience. For the last 12 years, her practice has focused on insurance coverage and bad faith litigation on behalf of commercial policyholders, including contractors, attorneys, real estate professionals, medical groups, broker-dealers, accountants, homeowners associations, non-profit organizations, auto dealers, and other companies of all sizes located throughout California and other parts of the country.

FRANKLIN
SOTO LLP

444 West C Street, Ste 300
San Diego, California 92101
619.872.2522
FranklinSoto.Law



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JUSTINE M. PHILLIPS

Cyber & Employment Attorney
Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP

Justine Phillips is a national leader and highly respected attorney in the field of cyber law. She is a partner in the Data Privacy and Security, and Labor and Employment Practice Groups at the law firm of Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton. Additionally, she serves as vice president of InfraGard San Diego. During the pandemic, Phillips provided the private sector, government and academia with guidance and resources to navigate the legal and cyber challenges of a remote workforce. Contact: JPhillips@sheppardmullin.com (619) 338-6619

SheppardMullin



MARIA K. PUM

Partner
Henderson, Caverly, Pum & Trytten, LLP

A partner at White & Case LLP until 2007, Maria K. Pum represents financial institutions, Fortune 100 companies, high net-worth individuals, creditors, trustees, receivers, lenders, borrowers, landlords, real estate developers, technology companies, venture capital companies and private equity funds in many contexts. She represented the committee of municipalities located outside Orange County in the county's highly publicized Chapter 9 case. Pum received her law degree from Boalt Hall at UC Berkeley.

**Henderson Caverly
Pum Trytten LLP**



JENNIFER R. TROWBRIDGE

Junior Partner
Jacko Law Group PC

Jennifer Trowbridge, Esq. serves as Jr. Partner at Jacko Law Group, PC where she provides corporate and regulatory counsel to clients with diverse business models and various backgrounds. Within her practice, Trowbridge focuses on corporate securities, corporate finance, corporate transactions as well as general corporate governance for both private and publicly traded companies. She received her J.D. from Thomas Jefferson School of Law. She also teaches at the University of San Diego's School of Law's Paralegal Program.

J L G JACKO LAW GROUP, PC



SALLY REDDY

Senior Attorney
Dallo Law Group

Sally Reddy, Esq. is a senior attorney with Dallo Law Group, a boutique law firm in San Diego specializing in tax dispute resolutions, complex tax planning, estate planning, probate, and trusts. She has been practicing law in San Diego since 2014. Reddy is passionate about tax law and enjoys working with her clients — predominantly small business owners in San Diego County — to resolve their tax issues. Contact: sreddy@dallolawgroup.com (901) 828-5163

**D DALLO LAW GROUP,
TAX LAW FIRM**



HEATHER RILEY

Partner
Allen Matkins

Over the past few years, Heather Riley has worked on some of the most significant land use legal matters in San Diego. She has shepherded controversial projects through the entitlement process and then defended those developments against litigation. Riley is at the forefront of the housing crisis dialogue, working with the Building Industry Association of San Diego and the City of San Diego to develop solutions that are practical and defensible. Contact: hriley@allenmatkins.com (619) 235-1564

Allen Matkins



KRISTEN G. ROBERTS

Founder / Managing Attorney
Trestle Law, APC

As the leader of Trestle Law, APC, Kristen G. Roberts is devoted to creating a business built on care, inclusion and accessibility. She develops and implements brand licensing and certification programs resulting in millions of dollars of revenue for her clients. Her decade of expertise and knowledge relating to identifying, prioritizing, and monetizing company and personal brands make her the go-to attorney for all businesses looking to leverage their brands into tangible revenue.

TRESTLELAW



ANNA M. ROMANSKAYA

Attorney / Partner
Stark & D'Ambrosio, LLP

Anna Romanskaya manages her firm's family law division and represents clients in all aspects of family law. She is an activist and public speaker on victim advocacy and youth issues, particularly in the areas of domestic and sexual violence and healthy relationships. She uses her background in crisis intervention and negotiation to offer her clients passionate and empathetic representation. Contact: aromanskaya@starkllp.com (619) 338-9500

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STARK & D'AMBROSIO**



LISA B. ROPER

Partner
Henderson, Caverly, Pum & Trytten, LLP

Lisa B. Roper is a partner in the Litigation Group at her firm, advising clients in estate and trust controversies, estate and trust administrations, guardianships and conservatorships. She received her law degree in 2011 and her LL.M. in Taxation in 2015 from the University of San Diego School of Law. Prior to joining the firm in 2013, Roper was in-house counsel at a federal savings bank in San Diego.

**Henderson Caverly
Pum Trytten LLP**



HEATHER ROSING

President and CEO
Klinedinst PC

Heather Rosing has spent her 25-year career empowering generations of lawyers and judges through leadership, training, education and mentorship. She is a dynamo in local, state and national legal circles. A long-time shareholder at Klinedinst, Rosing served as vice president of the State Bar of California and was the first president of the newly formed California Lawyers Association. In 2021, she became the first female president and CEO of Klinedinst PC. Contact: hrosing@klinedinstlaw.com (619) 239-8131

**Klinedinst
ATTORNEYS**



JENNIFER B. RUBIN

Member
Mintz

Jen Rubin draws on over 30 years of crafting legal solutions to employment-related problems for clients ranging from small businesses to Fortune 50 companies across industries including technology, financial services, and health care, as well as prominent executives. She has an active trial practice and provides regulatory and other employment-related advice. In her role as Co-Chair of Mintz's Environmental, Social, and Corporate Governance (ESG) Practice, Rubin advises boards of directors on diversity and equity issues as they pertain to corporate governance.

**M
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BARBARA SAVAGLIO

Attorney at Law
Law Offices of Barbara B. Savaglio

Barbara B. Savaglio has been a member of the legal community in San Diego since 1991, having begun her career with the San Diego County District Attorney's office. The Law Offices of Barbara B. Savaglio were founded in October of 1995. Her practice focuses on representing victims of personal injury matters with an emphasis on automobile related accidents. In addition to her service in law, she supports several charitable organizations including St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

BBS



SARAH SCHAFFER, CFLS, LL.M.

Managing Partner
Schaffer Family Law Group

Sarah T. Schaffer has been an advocate for families across San Diego for more than two decades. She is a family law specialist and represents clients in challenging high-conflict family law matters. In addition, Schaffer has an LL.M. in taxation and prior to becoming an attorney, worked as a tax consultant. Earlier in her career, Schaffer also served in the Marine Corps and continues to serve as a Colonel in the Marine Corps Reserve.

**Schaffer
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JOHANNA SCHIAVONI
Appellate Attorney
California Appellate Law Group LLP

Johanna Schiavoni has nearly 20 years of experience litigating appeals and writes in the Ninth Circuit, California Courts of Appeal and other appellate courts. She has argued more than 30 cases in state and federal appellate courts, and has been the principal brief-writer in at least 80. Since December she has been chairwoman of the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority board. In 2020 she was president of the San Diego County Bar Association.



SHERRY SCHNELL
Chief Compliance Officer
Neurocrine Biosciences

Sherry Schnell has been the Chief Compliance Officer at Neurocrine Biosciences for the last four years after joining the company as Associate General Counsel in 2016. She has over 15 years of experience practicing law within the pharmaceutical industry in San Diego. Since joining Neurocrine Biosciences, Schnell has played a critical role providing legal support through two FDA approvals and commercializing these products. In addition to helping launch these commercial products, she continues to provide exceptional compliance counsel and leadership.



DINA SEGAL
Assistant General Counsel
Intuit, Inc.

As Assistant General Counsel at Intuit Inc., Dina Segal is a legal partner to Intuit's business teams working to power prosperity around the world by helping customers prepare their taxes, gain access to capital, manage their ecommerce experience and support small businesses through even the most unprecedented times. As part of her role, she provides end-to-end product legal advice, helps ensure regulatory compliance and enables third party strategic partnerships through data and privacy advice and strategic agreement negotiation.



JOY SIDHWA
Senior Counsel
MoginRubin LLP

Joy Sidhwa concentrates on antitrust and other complex litigation, and leads the document discovery team for MoginRubin. She is involved in many facets of litigation, including creative discovery strategy and expert and trial preparation. Leadership often calls on her to manage large discovery teams made up of several firms' best attorneys. Based on her expertise and results, Sidhwa has held many positions on reputable legal and community organizations. Contact: jsidhwa@moginrubin.com (619) 687-6611



SHAUNA SINNOTT
Partner
Lagasse Branch Bell + Kinkead LLP

Shauna Sinnott represents employers and organizations in a wide range of employment issues — including discrimination, harassment, retaliation, wrongful termination and employee classification issues — in the courtroom as well as before governmental agencies. She advises employers on issues of hiring, discipline, termination, leaves of absence, overtime compensation, and policies and procedures. She has the distinction of being an Association of Workplace Investigators certificate holder.



COLLEEN SMITH
Partner
Latham & Watkins

Colleen Smith, an experienced trial lawyer and Local Chair of the San Diego Litigation & Trial Department, represents emerging and Fortune 500 companies and their officers and directors in high-stakes complex litigation. Her clients include an impressive range of local and national companies, often in multi-billion dollar matters. Smith serves on the Board of the San Diego Chapter of the Federal Bar Association and the Corporate Directors' Forum. Contact: colleen.smith@lw.com (858) 523-3985



RENEE STACKHOUSE
Owner/Trial Lawyer
Stackhouse, APC

Renee Stackhouse is a trial lawyer who runs a successful solo practice focusing on plaintiff's personal injury and military defense. Additionally, she dedicates her time to leading local and state-wide organizations, including serving as the first Latina President of California Women Lawyers, the current President of the San Diego County Bar Association and as a Co-Chair of the National Association of Women Judges' Mothers in Court Committee. Contact: renee@stackhouseapc.com (760) 224-5226



NANCY STAGG
Partner
Kilpatrick Townsend

Nancy Stagg's practice focuses on the defense of consumer class actions and she heads the Class Actions team in California. She also handles a variety of complex commercial, employment and intellectual property litigation, including trade secret theft. Stagg advises clients on compliance and litigation matter involving California's Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act. Her clients come from all over the world and range from family-owned businesses to some of the world's largest publicly traded companies. Contact: nstagg@kilpatricktownsend.com 859-248-2779.



LILIYA STANIK
Director, Labor & Employment Litigation
NuVasive

Liliya Stanik has dedicated her career to employment law and practiced for more than 10 years in San Diego after earning her Juris Doctor degree at USD. Stanik has a broad range of experience working for both national law firms and in-house counsel. At NuVasive, she manages litigation disputes and provides strategic advice and counsel on a variety of issues, both domestically and internationally. Stanik also serves on the board of directors for SunLaw.



SUMMER STEPHAN
District Attorney
San Diego County

District Attorney Summer Stephan is the top law enforcement official in San Diego County and leads the second largest DA's office in the state. Stephan is the first elected DA in the county's history to rise through the ranks as a prosecutor. She is dedicated to protecting the most vulnerable, including children and the elderly and fighting human trafficking. She has used data to make informed decisions that initiated several reforms.



SARAH SUPER
Senior Vice President, Chief Legal and Risk Officer, Corporate Secretary
Jack in the Box Inc.

Sarah Super is responsible for the oversight of the company's legal team and risk-related functions, including Food Safety and Regulatory Compliance, Internal Audit, Risk Management and Asset Protection. As Corporate Secretary, she also acts as the liaison between the Management Team and the Board of Directors, overseeing the company's governance and SEC compliance programs. Additionally, she created the Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) steering committee, and sits on the board of the Jack Foundation.



SHANNON SWEENEY
Shareholder
Sullivan Hill Rez & Engel

Sweeney is a lifelong feminist and has tried to imbue the values of equality, parity, competency and resilience in her professional and personal lives. She has focused her commercial litigation practice on helping women-led and women-owned businesses, and is committed to the promotion, celebration, mentorship and advancement of women. In addition to her work, she teaches trial and deposition skills to other lawyers and serves as board president of Moxie Theatre.



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RACHEL THOMPSON
Partner
Smith & Scatizzi, LLP

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



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

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



ELIZABETH A. TRESP
Principal Attorney
Tresp Law, APC

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



ANNE-MARIE TUBAO
Sole Practitioner
Anne-Marie Tubao

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



VICKIE TURNER
Partner
Wilson, Turner, Kosmo

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



STACEY TYREE
Attorney
Crosbie Gliner Schiffman Southard & Swanson LLP (CGS3)

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



REBECCA VAN LOON
Partner
Solomon Ward Seidenwurm Smith, LLP

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



JANICE Y. WALSHOK
Shareholder - Trial Attorney
Pettit Kohn Ingrassia Lutz & Dolin

With a litigation career spanning over a decade, Janice Walshok is an accomplished trial attorney and has represented a broad spectrum of clients and nationally prominent companies defending and advising them on their most complex cases. She focuses her practice on personal injury-defense and transportation including wrongful death, product liability, and insurance bad faith. Walshok has successfully tried several jury trials and has argued before the Second District Court of Appeal. Contact: jwalshok@pettitkohn.com (858) 509-5680



MIRANDA WATKINS
Attorney
Fisher Phillips

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



KANDACE WATSON
Partner
Sheppard Mullin

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



BHASHINI WEERASINGHE
Owner
Law Office of Bhashini Weerasinghe

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



ANN WICZOREK
General Counsel & Assistant
Corporate Secretary
Father Joe's Villages

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



CHARITY WILLIAMS
Partner
Cooley LLP

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



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Margaret Bell, Shauna Sinnott, Jennifer Branch, Traci Lagasse
Congratulations to the recipients and to all the incredible women at LBBK for their positive influence in the law and in our community.



Leyton Jones Law

Leyton Jones Law, APC congratulates all of the 2021 Women of Influence in Law!



Jenna Leyton-Jones is an accomplished employment law attorney and trusted business advisor who helps clients in all industries manage employees, mitigate risk, and maximize their ability to achieve their business goals. Through practical, cost-effective employment law advice, training, and independent workplace investigations, Jenna inspires confidence in employers that their employees are their biggest assets.

www.leytonjoneslaw.com • Phone: (858) 208-3550
Email: jenna@leytonjoneslaw.com



NoonanLance proudly congratulates partner

Micaela P. Banach

*“Women of Influence in Law 2021”
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Award-winning representation by some of San Diego’s most experienced trial attorneys is the cornerstone of NoonanLance.

NoonanLance

Noonan Lance Boyer & Banach LLP

To learn more, visit noonanlance.com
or call 619-780-0880.



Named one of San Diego Business Journal’s Most Influential Women in Law

Congratulations, Liliya Stanik!

On behalf of the more than 2,700 NuVasive global employees—thank you for your hard work, dedication, and commitment to our values as we work towards our vision to change a patient’s life every minute.



Liliya Stanik
Director, Labor and Employment Litigation

