

LEADERS OF INFLUENCE WOMEN IN LAW

CUSTOM CONTENT • August 22, 2022



2022 WOMEN IN LAW PROFILES

**KAY ANDERLE**

KELLER/ANDERLE LLP

Kay Anderle is a seasoned trial attorney having tried over 100 jury trials to verdict. She represents both plaintiffs and defendants in a broad range of high-stakes commercial litigation and white-collar cases.

Chambers USA ranks her among the top commercial litigators in California, quoting sources who describe Anderle as "having great instincts and clients listen breathlessly when she speaks." "She is exceptionally smart and hard-working." Anderle is a Senior Fellow of the invitation-only Litigation Counsel of America. The Legal 500, among the most prestigious international legal directories, recommends Anderle as one of the top 500 "leading trial lawyers" in the United States.

Over her career, Anderle has worked on a wide variety of high-stakes trials including a business fraud trial in which the jury awarded \$350 million, the retrial of the epic doll battle *Mattel v. MGA* where the jury rejected all of Mattel's claims of copyright infringement and trade secret misappropriation and awarded \$85,000,000 in damages to MGA Entertainment; the judge added another \$85 million in punitive damages and \$139 million in attorneys' fees, and a white collar criminal case alleging bribery of public officials by a developer that then-Attorney Jerry Brown called "the largest corruption case in the history of San Bernardino County, and possibly California." After a nine-month jury trial the defendant was acquitted of all charges.

Anderle is also managing partner of the firm.

**ALLINA AMUCHIE**

RUTAN & TUCKER

Allina Amuchie represents entities and individuals in a wide range of civil litigation matters, including disputes involving contracts, construction, real property, fraud, negligence, class actions, business and intentional torts,

and bankruptcy in both state and federal court. Ms. Amuchie counsels clients through the litigation process, including dispositive motion practice, depositions, mediations, arbitrations, trials, and appeals. Her dedication to professional excellence led to Best Lawyers in America recognizing her as one of the "Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch" for 2021, 2022, and 2023.

Ms. Amuchie's commitment to pro bono work has led to her receiving the Excellence in Pro Bono Service Award from Rutan, Spirit of Volunteerism Award from OneOC, and the Wiley W. Manuel certificate from the State Bar of California.

**ANTOINETTE BALTA**

VETERANS LEGAL INSTITUTE

Antoinette Balta is the executive director and co-founder of the Veterans Legal Institute (VLI), a 501(c)(3) legal aid that provides free legal services to local Veterans, active service members and reservists that are homeless and low income. VLI has served over 9,000 low-income Veterans to date, free of charge.

Balta was an officer with the California State Guard for over six years serving in the rank of Major both as a Marketing Officer assigned to Strategic Communications as well as a reserve JAG Officer assigned to Legal Support Command. She presently serves on the board of the California State Guard Foundation.

Balta is a graduate of the 2018 Presidential Leadership Scholars Class, a prestigious program that serves as a catalyst for a diverse network of leaders brought together to collaborate and make a difference in the world as they learn about leadership through the lens of the presidential experiences of George W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George H.W. Bush, and Lyndon B. Johnson.

Balta is a director at large with the Orange County Bar Association and the Orange County Women Lawyers Association. She was named as the 2022 Attorney of the Year by the Orange County Women Lawyer's Association.

She holds a degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Marketing and Management from Chapman University School of Business as well as a Juris Doctor with a special certificate in Alternative Dispute Resolution and an LLM emphasized in Business and Economics from Chapman University Fowler School of Law.

**CHRISTINE BARAN**

FISHER & PHILLIPS LLP

Christine Baran is a partner in the firm's Irvine and Los Angeles offices where her practice is devoted to litigating employment related disputes. Baran's diverse practice includes litigating cases involving discrimination, sexual

harassment, wage and hour claims (both individual and collective actions), unfair business practices, whistleblower claims, workplace violence and wrongful discharge. She represents employers in both state and federal court as well as before state and federal agencies, such as the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing, and the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement (DLSE).

Along with her litigation work, Baran counsels clients regarding appropriate handling of disciplinary matters, employee terminations, internal investigations, the development of preventive policies and procedures, compliance with state and federal laws relating to wages, leaves of absences, harassment and discrimination. In addition, she regularly conducts compliance and management training and frequently lectures on employment issues for trade groups and associations as well as private employers.

In addition to employment litigation, Baran represents commercial property owners and property management companies in the defense of housing discrimination claims under the Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA), the Unruh Act, and the federal Fair Housing Act as well as disability discrimination claims under Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Baran is actively involved with the California Fuels & Convenience Alliance (CFCA), and the Orange County Apartment Association.

**CHERYL L. BARRETT**

FERRUZZO & FERRUZZO LLP

Cheryl L. Barrett is a partner within the Estate Planning and Trust Administration Practice Group at Ferruzzo & Ferruzzo, LLP.

Ms. Barrett successfully built her practice by understanding that two words can explain what differentiates an attorney who does estate planning from an excellent estate planning attorney: Experience and Empathy. Ms. Barrett's long-time practice is people-oriented and she is highly sensitive to the fact that estate planning deals with the two subjects dreaded by most people: death and taxation. The gift that Barrett brings to her clients is her ability to break down complex issues and move past the attorney and IRS lexicons in a manner that people can understand and apply to their personal goals and needs. When the need arises, Barrett's trust administration skills can be relied upon to carry out her clients' wishes, and in cases where probate is required, Barrett is able to guide clients through the rigors of the process.

Highly visible in the charitable community, Ms. Barrett served on the Board of Directors for Goodwill Industries of Orange County for 17 years and was Chair of the Board. The association supported her affinity for the needs of the disabled and she had developed a niche with special needs trusts.

Ms. Barrett has been quoted by financial editors at the Orange County Register, Los Angeles Times, Huffington Post, and Business Insider. She has been a guest on KABC and KCAA radio talk shows.

**KATIE BINKLEY**

VETERANS LEGAL INSTITUTE

Katie Binkley, Esq. is a Lead Staff Attorney at Veterans Legal Institute where she predominantly practices in family law litigation. She brings a trauma informed approach to her cases, where many of her clients

suffer from conditions like Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) or Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). She has successfully reunited veteran families by prioritizing children-focused solutions, rather than unnecessarily punitive or litigious strategies. She was instrumental in developing VLI's family law clinic that has now served thousands of veterans pro bono.

Public interest is the guiding value of Binkley's practice. Before joining Veterans Legal Institute, she staffed various committees and member offices ranging from the Arizona State Legislature to the U.S. House of Representatives. She also volunteered with the Homeless Legal Assistance Program during all three years of law school, leading bi-weekly legal aid clinics at the most populous homeless shelter in Maricopa County, AZ. In 2018, she received the Judge Mary M. Schroeder Award for donating the most pro bono legal aid hours of all second-year law students.

Binkley graduated with honors from Arizona State University with a concurrent degree in Political Science and Women's Studies, as well as earning a certificate in Political Entrepreneurship. She went on to earn her JD from Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law. Most recently, she was recognized as one of Congressman Lou Correa's Women of the Year for 2021. She is admitted to practice in Arizona and California, and is accredited to practice before the Department of Veterans Affairs.



Solutions at the speed of now

Stradling is proud to help companies across California meet the demands of today's fast-changing business landscape.

We are a premier business law firm with 110+ lawyers in 12 Western U.S. locations. Top companies and municipalities count on us for the right team and skills to meet their toughest challenges 24/7, 365 days a year.

stradlinglaw.com | 949.725.4000

© 2022 Stradling Yocca Carlson & Rauth. All Rights Reserved.

2022 WOMEN IN LAW PROFILES

Stuart Kane LLP

**EVE BRACKMANN**

STUART KANE LLP

Eve Brackmann is an equity partner at Stuart Kane LLP, a Real Estate, Employment and Litigation law firm based in Newport Beach. Brackmann litigates business disputes, including both regular and complex cases. She

has established a winning record on both the plaintiff and defense sides as lead counsel in jury and bench trials in both state and federal court, as well as private arbitrations.

Ms. Brackmann currently serves as a Director at Large on the Board of Directors for the Orange County Bar Association (OCBA). Previously, she served two terms as president of the Foundation Board of the Project Hope School in Orange, serving homeless and at-risk students in Orange County. She also serves as a Director on the Board of the USD Law School Alumni Association's Orange County Chapter, as co-chair of the OCBA Mentoring Committee, and as an arbitrator on the OCBA's Mandatory Fee Arbitration Panel.

Ms. Brackmann has been selected to the Best Lawyers list for Real Estate Litigation since 2018, and to the Southern California Super Lawyers list since 2013. She has been Stuart Kane's lead contributing attorney for the World Bank "Doing Business" report on Real Property around the globe since 2014, and served for three years as a Director on the statewide Board of the Conference of California Bar Associations.

Stradling

**CELESTE STAHL BRADY**

STRADLING YOCCA CARLSON & RAUTH

Celeste Stahl Brady helps public and private entities—including cities, housing authorities, and successor agencies—revitalize and develop affordable housing units, commercial spaces, and infrastructure projects to spur economic growth and achieve community goals throughout California. She has dedicated her legal career to planning, financing, structuring, and contracting for public projects, often through public-private partnerships that build, renovate, and operate projects funded by local, county, regional, state, and federal programs.

City attorneys, in-house counsel, and law firms consider Brady their go-to special counsel for their most challenging development projects and programs related to affordable housing and economic development to revitalize retail, entertainment, auto dealerships, restaurant, and other businesses. Further, she skillfully advises clients on other public law matters, including land use planning, zoning, and entitlements; CEQA; acquisition and relocation; infrastructure financing; public records procedures and conflict-of-interest laws. Following the dissolution of California's redevelopment agencies in 2011-2012, Brady continues to represent successor agencies in fulfilling their financial obligations and winding down their operations.

Mrs. Brady's expertise guides her and other Stradling clients through the hurdles of complex business transactions and legal issues, while she remains attentive to the intricacies of local laws and regulations. Brady achieves effective and efficient results while balancing the demands of lenders, investors, and regulators—who often impose tight deadlines and other demands.

McDermott Will & Emery

**SARAH BRO**

MCDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP

Sarah Bro is the office managing partner for the Firm's Orange County office. She focuses her practice on trademark prosecution, enforcement and brand portfolio management, as well as licensing, due diligence, copyright, right of publicity and domain name matters.

Bro assists clients across an array of industries with all stages of domestic and international trademark prosecution, and provides consultation and strategy with respect to the selection, clearance, enforcement and licensing of trademarks. Bro's clients include domestic and international companies in industries such as health care, blockchain and financial technologies, software/mobile applications, agriculture, fashion and apparel, consumer goods, beauty, wellness and lifestyle (including CBD products), arts and entertainment, food and beverage, hospitality, mining and pharmaceuticals. Bro has extensive experience in the research, drafting and filing of documents with the US Patent and Trademark Office, the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board and the US Copyright Office. Bro has a proven track record in recovering domain names through the Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP) and Uniform Rapid Suspension (URS) policies. Bro is also well versed in the submission of "takedown" and infringement notices across third-party websites, social media platforms, app stores and online marketplaces. She has experience in swiftly addressing instances of fraud, phishing or other online abuse by leveraging intellectual property claims through a multi-pronged enforcement approach. Bro also regularly provides intellectual property (IP) support and guidance in due diligence matters in connection with corporate transactions such as mergers, acquisitions and corporate reorganizations.

 shulman bastian
friedman & bui LLP
**LYNDA T. BUI**SHULMAN BASTIAN
FRIEDMAN & BUI LLP

Lynda T. Bui is a bankruptcy lawyer and business litigator with Shulman Bastian Friedman & Bui LLP, which has offices in Orange County and Riverside. She has extensive

experience in and focuses her practice on all aspects of pre-bankruptcy negotiations and bankruptcy, including representing trustees, debtors, creditors, plaintiffs and defendants in adversary proceedings in Chapter 11 and complex Chapter 7. Her clients are in a variety of industries including real estate, retail, restaurant, manufacturing, logistics, banking, food services, non-profit, and professional services. Some of her private clients include corporations, small businesses, financial institutions, and high net worth individuals. Ms. Bui is also a Bankruptcy Panel Trustee in the Central District of California, having been appointed in 2010. In that capacity, she has successfully administered many complicated cases and distributed millions of dollars to creditors. She has also successfully represented other trustees in distributing similar amounts.

Active in her professional community, Ms. Bui is currently serving a three-year elected term as a Director of the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees. Locally, she is also serving as a board member of the Vietnamese American Bar Association of Southern California. Ms. Bui recently completed her service on the 2020 Small Business Reorganization Task Force, chaired by Chief Bankruptcy Judge Maureen Tighe. Ms. Bui received her B.A. from the University of California at Los Angeles, and her J.D. from Loyola Law School.

For leisure, she enjoys spending time with her family, taking morning beach walks and reading.

Stradling

**ALLISON BURNS**

STRADLING YOCCA CARLSON & RAUTH

Allison Burns has particular experience in local agency governance matters, civil rights litigation, eminent domain, general real estate litigation, contract disputes, and construction disputes.

Her experience also includes economic development; affordable housing litigation; land use and planning litigation and representation; relocation and acquisition disputes; conflicts of interest; Public Records Act and Brown Act challenges, compliance and litigation; environmental contamination and remediation cost-recovery actions; water rights; and the dissolution of redevelopment.

Burns serves as city attorney to the city of Lancaster and general counsel to the Chino Basin Desalter Authority, Emerald Bay Service District, Spalding Community Services District, San Juan Basin Authority, Antelope Valley Transit Authority, Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District and Santiago Aqueduct Commission.

Her litigation experience includes Constitutional and civil rights challenges to governmental programs and actions; Development agreement disputes; Eminent domain representing both condemnees and condemnors; Breaches of covenants, conditions and restrictions; Foreclosure of taxes, special assessments, and liens; Construction disputes; Contamination and remediation cost-recovery actions; Evictions; Challenges to bond issuances; Affordable housing disputes, including challenges to expenditures from low-and-moderate-income housing funds.

MESSNER REEVES LLP

**KATHLEEN CARTER**

MESSNER REEVES

Kathleen Carter is a highly regarded trial lawyer with significant experience in complex litigation and case management. Throughout her 31 years of practicing Carter has prevailed on numerous high-profile cases, including an eight-figure damage award for clients involved in personal injury cases and defending an international firm in a high-stakes class action matter.

From employment law to complex commercial disputes, Carter has been involved in many cases, helping clients implement strategic best practices while creating processes and compliance policies to reduce risk. Carter was hand-picked to be a member of ABOTA, a membership exclusively granted by existing members of the organization based on her exceptional trial record and proven reputation in the legal field.

Outside of the courtroom, Carter is an instrumental member of the legal community. She is actively involved in both the Orange County Bar Association as well as the Los Angeles County Bar Association, one of the most significant voluntary metropolitan bar associations in the country. In these roles, Carter is directly involved in providing members with access to various leadership opportunities and BUZZ, An Executive Women's Think Tank. She was previously a member of the National Association of Minority & Women-Owned Law Firms.

An animal lover, Carter is also a supporter of Best Friends Animal Society, a Los Angeles-based animal welfare organization devoted to promoting a no-kill movement and encouraging the adoption of cats and dogs.

Carter graduated from Vermont Law School and earned her undergraduate degree from Saint Anselm College. She went on to receive her MBA from Pepperdine University.



FOCUSED ON RESULTS THAT MATTER.

When you partner with McDermott, you don't just receive access at your fingertips to a global network of diverse, industry-leading legal talent. You also get our personal commitment to you, your team and your vision. Our team works together across geographies, practices and industries to deliver the insights and results that matter most to your business and to the people you serve.

VISIT US AT [MWE.COM](https://www.mwe.com)



**McDermott
Will & Emery**

2022 WOMEN IN LAW PROFILES

brownrudnick

**CATHRINE CASTALDI**

BROWN RUDNICK

Cathrine Castaldi is a partner in the Firm's Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring Practice Group. Castaldi concentrates her practice in the areas of bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization, and commercial litigation. She has represented Chapter 11 debtors, equity security holders, secured and unsecured creditors, trustees and committees in connection with bankruptcy cases, foreclosure actions, adversary proceedings, and related commercial litigation.

Her experience in Chapter 11 cases involves representation of debtors from the inception of the case to matters involving plan confirmation and related issues, DIP financing arrangements, cash collateral disputes, valuation issues, and litigation.

Castaldi also represents individuals and middle market businesses in litigation matters incident to bankruptcy or out-of-court restructuring, including fraudulent conveyance and preference litigation.

**JUDY CHIANG**

KIMBALL TIREY & ST. JOHN LLP



Judy Chiang is a partner at Kimball, Tiry & St. John LLP in the Business Real Estate Group and based in the Irvine office. Ms. Chiang provides management-side labor and employment litigation defense before federal and state courts and administrative agency proceedings involving the Fair Labor Standards Act, the ADA, Title VII, California Wage Orders and California Labor Codes. Her practice includes a variety of other federal, state and local wage and hour, discrimination, breach of contract, wrongful discharge, labor and workplace tort claims.

In addition to litigation defense, she advises management on complex issues arising in employment actions and prepares and reviews personnel policies, employee handbooks, and other employment-related materials to ensure legal compliance. She also represents employers and employees on workplace violence restraining orders.

Ms. Chiang is experienced in business and real estate matters and has over 20 years of litigation experience. She defends owners and management companies on habitability cases. She represents property owners and managers on breach of lease matters and commercial unlawful detainers.

Ms. Chiang is multilingual and speaks English, Mandarin, Taiwanese and Hakkanese. Besides having a Juris Doctor degree, Ms. Chiang also holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics (Major) and Music (Minor) from U.C. Berkeley. Ms. Chiang plays the piano, guitar, and enjoys singing.

Kimball, Tiry & St. John is a statewide law firm serving business and real estate owners and managers across California and is certified as a women-owned business by the National Association of Women REO Brokerages. www.kts-law.com.

**ELLEN CONNELLY COHEN**

CALL & JENSEN



Ellen Connelly Cohen earned her undergraduate degree from Harvard University, where she graduated cum laude and received her law degree from Georgetown University Law Center. Ms. Cohen's practice focuses on employment litigation and counseling.

She has litigated a broad array of employment matters in state and federal courts, as well as before administrative agencies such as the California Division of Labor Standards Enforcement and the Department of Fair Employment and Housing. Ms. Cohen represents corporate employers in single-plaintiff litigation as well as class actions and representative matters under California's Private Attorneys General Act. She has successfully defended clients against charges of discrimination, retaliation, harassment, failure to accommodate disabilities, unfair competition, wrongful termination, and misappropriation of trade secrets, as well as a host of wage and hour claims. Super Lawyers has recognized Ms. Cohen as a Southern California "Super Lawyer" for excellence in employment defense litigation.

Ms. Cohen's practice also includes employment counseling. She assists clients with questions about leaves of absence, proper classification of employees, reductions in force, and employee discipline. She prepares and reviews arbitration agreements, separation agreements and releases, and confidentiality agreements. Ms. Cohen also has extensive experience preparing employee handbooks and other employment-related policies. She regularly conducts internal workplace investigations, interviews witnesses, and prepares position statements on behalf of employers.

Prior to joining Call & Jensen, Ms. Cohen was a Litigation and Employment Senior Associate in the Los Angeles and Washington, D.C. offices of Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman.

**BRIDGET K. DEVOY**

MCDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP

Bridget K. Devoy focuses her practice in the areas of estate planning, trusts, charitable foundations, tax planning and estate administration. Devoy enjoys working with individuals and families to help them create sophisticated, tax-efficient estate plans that also achieve a client's non-tax goals, such as family harmony, personal growth of beneficiaries, and leaving a lasting philanthropic impact. She is particularly skilled in advising philanthropists and charitable organizations on charitable giving, including negotiating and drafting complex gift and grant agreements. Devoy also helps her clients create tax exempt entities and advises on tax exempt governance, grantmaking, and related tax compliance.

Prior to McDermott, Devoy worked in private practice and later served as general counsel at a national children's charity and assistant general counsel at a major entertainment studio. Such experiences have given her keen insight into the challenges and needs of clients' charitable organizations and businesses. Devoy is active in her local community and is particularly passionate about helping organizations focused on foster youth, the arts, wildlife conservation, and companion and farm animals.

**SAMANTHA DOREY**

EVERETT DOREY LLP

Samantha Dorey is a founding partner of Everett Dorey LLP, a full service civil litigation firm that represents multi-national corporations, non-profits, cities, public agencies and school districts in all aspects of litigation. She specializes in complex civil litigation with an emphasis in catastrophic injuries, public entity defense, employment law, mass tort, asbestos litigation and environmental law. She regularly advises clients on non-litigated matters, including development of risk management protocols and procedures related to property management and environmental issues. As a leading litigation firm in California routinely retained as trial counsel in complex and challenging cases throughout the state, Ms. Dorey has shaped a firm of exceptionally talented litigators with diverse cultural and personal backgrounds, with particular focus on creating an environment that empowers female attorneys. She has received numerous industry awards including the 2022 Benchmark Litigation 40 & Under List; The Best Lawyers in America 2020; Woman Entrepreneur Under 40 by the National Association of Women Business Owners; Lawyer of Distinction by the National Law Journal; Women in Law by the Orange County Business Journal; and a Southern California Rising Star Super Lawyer in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022. Ms. Dorey is an Adjunct Professor at Chapman University where she teaches a course on litigation strategy and civil procedure in state and federal courts. She serves on the Board of Directors for the Public Law Center, a nonprofit providing free legal services to low income residents and other nonprofits in Orange County, and former board member of the Orange County Lavender Bar.

**CAITLIN EMMONS**

VETERANS LEGAL INSTITUTE

Caitlin Emmons has established herself as a powerhouse at Veterans Legal Institute (VLI) as a Lead Staff Attorney and Discharge Upgrade Team Lead. VLI provides pro bono legal assistance to homeless, at risk, disabled and low income current and former service members to eradicate barriers to housing, healthcare, education, and employment and foster self-sufficiency. Ms. Emmons focuses on cases involving Military Sexual Trauma, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Traumatic Brain Injury, and discrimination. She is an advocate for veterans who were unjustly separated from the military. Ms. Emmons has presented at Harvard Law School, University of California Irvine, and to numerous national law firms about discharge upgrades and veterans' benefits. Under her supervision, the discharge upgrade unit achieved a success rate 5.5 times higher than the national Board average. Through her client-centered empowering approach, survivors become thrivers.

Ms. Emmons is a graduate of the University of California, Irvine School of Law, class of 2015. She is a military spouse. Her partner is an active-duty Marine. She served as a UCI Public Interest Fellow at the Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice. When her family received orders to North Carolina, she oversaw court operations in a four-county judicial district as the Trial Court Coordinator. Her work in North Carolina focused on legal research, writing, and supporting the civil and criminal dockets in one of the largest judicial districts in the state. Ms. Emmons returned to California in 2020 and joined the team at VLI. She and her partner have three young children.

FERRUZZO



ROOTED IN RELATIONSHIP

FERRUZZO & FERRUZZO, LLP
CELEBRATES 40 YEARS



IT'S YOUR BUSINESS IT'S YOUR FAMILY

For the past 40 years, Ferruzzo & Ferruzzo, LLP has known how important your legal issues are because we take a personal interest in you. Strong, lifetime relationships form the cornerstone of our practice. In celebration of our past 40 years, we thank all of our clients and trusted advisors who have contributed to our success. We look forward to the next 40 years, Rooted in Relationship.

BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS We work closely with you, your business, and your trusted advisors to set and achieve strategic plans. From start-ups to business operations, expansion to acquisition or sale, and devising an exit strategy, our transactional attorneys bring powerful expertise in the areas of tax planning, merger and acquisitions, deal structure planning, real estate transactions, and asset protection.

NEW DEALERSHIP REPRESENTATION Beginning in 1984, Ferruzzo has represented new vehicle dealerships. In addition to advising new motor vehicle dealerships, we have negotiated with all of the vehicle manufacturers, set up and reorganized dealership entities, and provided advice on the daily operations and laws governing the sale, rental, lease, financing, and repair of motor vehicles.

BUSINESS LITIGATION Our trial lawyers vigorously prosecute or defend your case and have brought to successful conclusion trials in state and federal civil court, appellate court, arbitration and before federal, state and local administrative boards and commissions. Our caseload regularly includes corporate and partnership disputes, real property disputes, and construction defect defense. Whatever litigation issue you may be facing, we'll walk you through it every step of the way.

REAL ESTATE Working alongside both owners and users of commercial real estate, our goal is to add significant value to the processes of property acquisition, due diligence, development, operations and disposition. Our depth of experience in real estate extends to construction, environmental conditions and sophisticated lease transactions and our approach is

both efficient and practical. It's not about meeting your expectations, it's about exceeding them.

ESTATE PLANNING Our team of estate planning attorneys design and implement estate plans that accomplish your objectives, ever mindful of preserving family harmony and providing smooth asset transition with minimal opportunity for dispute or court interference. You want experience, knowledge, and specialization. That's why our attorneys include Certified Specialists in the areas of Estate Planning, Trust and Probate Law. Meticulous planning – it's what we do.

TRUST ADMINISTRATION & PROBATE Let our trust administration group guide you through the complex legal, tax and financial issues that require expert analysis, discussion, and decision when administering a trust. We assist clients with properly administering a trust in compliance with a trustee's fiduciary obligations. Our team is highly skilled in administering and advising clients for both taxable and non-taxable estates. Our practice group will guide you through this emotional and difficult process.

TRUST AND PROBATE LITIGATION Our highly skilled trust litigation trial lawyers will zealously prosecute or defend claims related to a trust, estate, conservatorship, or guardianship matter. Our trust and estate litigators regularly handle claims related to the formation of trust agreements, amendments, fraud, undue influence, coercion, lack of capacity issues, and breach of fiduciary duties. We will enforce and defend your rights.

EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES We work hard to safeguard your business by providing preventative counseling and sound practical advice regarding the complicated employment laws that impact your business. And we are there to defend your business when a claim is brought alleging any of the myriad of state and federal laws that affect you and your employees. Our team of employment attorneys regularly defend wage and hour claims, allegations of harassment and discrimination, and wrongful termination. Your business deserves the proactive approach that our Firm offers and our litigation team is ready.

BUSINESS LAW | LITIGATION | ESTATE PLANNING | REAL ESTATE | TAX | EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES

FERRUZZO & FERRUZZO, LLP | A Limited Liability Partnership, including Professional Corporations
3737 Birch Street, Suite 400, Newport Beach, California 92660 | PH: (949) 608-6900 | ferruzzo.com

2022 WOMEN IN LAW PROFILES



LISA EYANSON

VETERANS LEGAL INSTITUTE

Lisa Eyanson is an accomplished criminal defense attorney with over thirty years of litigation experience. Eyanson has dedicated her career to representing indigent clients, including more than two decades with the Orange County Public Defender's Office. She is currently a Senior Staff Attorney with the Veterans Legal Institute where she now uses her legal experience to advocate on behalf of Veterans and their families in need. Eyanson focuses primarily on keeping veterans and their families housed by collaborating with other nonprofits so the veteran and his/her family can access all resources available to stay safe and secure. To date, VLI has prevented over 250 Veteran families from becoming homeless.

Eyanson received her Bachelor of Arts from Loyola Marymount University and her Juris Doctor from Western State University College of Law.

Upon receiving her Juris Doctor, she was an associate with the Law Offices of William J. Kopeny, handling pre-trial motions and appeals, including capital case appeals, at both the state and federal court levels.

In 1994, Eyanson joined the Orange County Public Defenders Office eventually serving as a Senior Deputy Public Defender, where the majority of her litigation experience was in the handling of serious, violent, and complex felony matters, including special circumstance and capital murder cases.

In her free time, she serves as the Volunteer Coordinator with Bob Hope USO of Orange County and as a Soldier and Family Readiness Group Leader for the 358th Military Police Company of the United States Army Reserve.



MICHELLE FONSECA-KAMANA

WEST COAST LEMONS APC

When life gives you lemons, she'll get you justice. Michelle Fonseca-Kamana is the founder and Principal Attorney at West Coast Lemons APC, a law firm specializing in California lemon law. She is passionate about consumer advocacy, education, and an unparalleled client experience. With over \$6 million recovered and 35 five star Google reviews, Fonseca-Kamana has proven she is a force to be reckoned with. By actively sharing her knowledge in both English and Spanish via informational and entertaining videos on Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube, and TikTok she has built a solid direct to consumer and direct to business referral network all using social media.

In her spare time, she mentors aspiring law firm owners across the country on how to start their own law firms and use social media as a marketing tool. She has been featured as a guest on Clio's Building a Successful Law Firm series, the popular Legal Talk Network podcast New Solo, as well as legal conferences like the Women In Trial Travel Summit and Law-di-gras where she has discussed how to use social media to reach your target clientele, connect with potential referral sources, and stay top of mind.

Fonseca-Kamana is a member of consumer advocate group Justice HQ, ProVisors, Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles, Consumer Attorneys of California, the Latina Lawyers Bar Association, and the Orange County Bar Association. In her spare time she enjoys traveling with her husband and their silver Labrador named Pumbaa. Follow her on Instagram to learn more: @westcoastlemons

FERRUZZO



ALLISON C. GIBBS

FERRUZZO & FERRUZZO LLP

Alison C. Gibbs is a Senior Associate with Ferruzzo & Ferruzzo, LLP. She represents clients, big and small, in many industries including property management, financial services, retail, automotive, health care, hospitality, staffing, manufacturing, among other areas.

Ms. Gibbs advises employers in all aspects of employment law matters, including counseling employers on legal compliance, conducting internal investigations, audits, drafting transactional documents such as employee contracts, severance agreements, settlement agreements, independent contractor agreements, and employee handbooks. She practices the spectrum of employment matters, including disputes involving discrimination, harassment, retaliation, whistleblower, and wage and hour issues. Ms. Gibbs also represents employers and individuals in single-plaintiff, multi-plaintiff, class action matters, and representative lawsuits brought under California's Private Attorneys General Act (PAGA).

Throughout her career, Ms. Gibbs has represented employers in both state and federal courts as well as in matters before state agencies such as the California Department of Industrial Relations and the California Department of Fair Employment & Housing.

Ms. Gibbs earned her undergraduate degree from Pepperdine University, and her juris doctor degree from Santa Clara School of Law. She resides in Newport Beach and enjoys Ohio State football, running, hiking, and spending time with her family and friends.



ELIZABETH R. GLASGOW

MCDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP

Elizabeth R. Glasgow focuses her practice on multigenerational wealth preservation and tax minimization, including the creation and implementation of dynasty trusts, business succession plans, asset protection strategies and charitable giving structures for business owners, real estate investors, entrepreneurs, and families managing inherited wealth. She provides comprehensive advice on a wide range of issues facing mobile high net worth individuals and geographically dispersed families, including coordinated income tax planning across multiple jurisdictions. She is also an experienced counselor to the non-profit community and works with a variety of tax-exempt entities in fulfilling their charitable missions by ensuring proper formation and management of their organizations.

Glasgow speaks frequently on the subject of estate planning, and income and transfer tax strategies. She has lectured at programs for the University of Southern California's Gould School of Law, Pepperdine University, and the American Bar Association.

Glasgow is a co-founding member of RISE, an organization of women lawyers committed to supporting each other's professional growth and advancement to becoming equity partners, general counsel, and high-ranking public officials. RISE is dedicated to developing necessary tools to shatter the glass ceiling in public service and corporate America.



SARAH J. GROSS

VETERANS LEGAL INSTITUTE

Sarah J. Gross is a VA-accredited attorney and an author and educator with publications in various journals including the Orange County Lawyer, Nursing, and the USC Interdisciplinary Law Journal. Sarah is a Staff Attorney at Veterans Legal Institute, a nonprofit law firm dedicated to serving our nation's heroes. She works in the area of veterans benefits, where she supports homeless and low income veterans to ensure they have access to needed compensation, healthcare, and other benefits to which they are entitled for their military service.

Ms. Gross received a Bachelor's degree in English with a minor in Expository Writing through the University of California, Davis. She then entered their School of Education and received a Teaching Credential and a Master's degree in Education, and taught advanced English studies to high school and middle school students. Ms. Gross then completed law school at Chapman University Fowler School of Law. While at Chapman, Ms. Gross founded the law school's Health Law Society. Using her education background, she also contributed to curriculum development and served as teaching assistant for the law school's Legal Writing Skills course. Following her admission to the CA State Bar, Ms. Gross lived on campus at Pepperdine University School of Law and received a Master of Laws (LL.M.) through the Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution.

Ms. Gross has worked with the OC Superior Court and in private practice. She spearheaded the development of a pilot program in elder care coordination in Orange County to assist senior citizens. She has worked with many veterans and their family members and continues to do so at Veterans Legal Institute.

FERRUZZO



DANIELLE R. GUERRERO

FERRUZZO & FERRUZZO LLP

Danielle R. Guerrero is a senior associate within the Estate Planning and Trust Administration Practice Group at Ferruzzo & Ferruzzo, LLP. Throughout her career, Ms. Guerrero has counseled clients on various aspects of estate planning, trust administration, and probate, as well as special needs planning, succession planning, and litigation settlement planning.

Ms. Guerrero currently represents a variety of clients in estate planning and trust administration matters, including high net worth individuals with intensive tax planning needs and business owners looking for guidance on the succession of their business. Additionally, Ms. Guerrero supports the Firm's Contested Probate and Trust Administration and Litigation Practice Group by advising trustees on their fiduciary obligations while they resolve disputed matters.

Ms. Guerrero's primary goal is to empower her clients to make informed decisions, often with a team of advisors working together. While the trust and estate administration process can be "insult to injury" after losing a loved one, Ms. Guerrero's technical knowledge of California law, the Internal Revenue Code, and overall best practices allows her to patiently break down complex tax, estate planning, and trust administration concepts (often using visuals and flowcharts). Her ability to adjust to the specific needs of each individual client allows her to tailor the process and develop meaningful relationships with her clients along the way.

Ms. Guerrero earned a BA in Romance Languages from Point Loma Nazarene University and her JD from Pepperdine University, School of Law. She is currently a candidate for her LL.M in Taxation from Georgetown Law.

THE GOAL OF HELPING PEOPLE HAS ALWAYS BEEN

The Driving Force



As a former nurse,

current lawyer and longtime advocate of social justice, Jennifer Johnson has dedicated both her personal and professional life to making a difference in her community. "Often, the people I represent wouldn't have a voice," she says, "and that's why it's such an incredible honor to represent them in the court of law."

In her legal practice, Ms. Johnson concentrates on catastrophic personal injury, wrongful death, medical malpractice and elder abuse, providing injured individuals with committed and compassionate representation in Southern California and many other parts of the country. "I focus on cases that cry out for justice, because I strongly believe that access to justice is not a privilege for the few, but a right for all," she says.

Prior to attending law school, Ms. Johnson served in one of the country's most trusted professions—nursing. And in establishing her own law firm, she drew on her experience in that field, as well as on her expertise from working first at two prestigious defense firms and then at a national powerhouse plaintiff firm. "People often ask why I became a lawyer after already being a successful ICU-nurse," says Ms. Johnson, who has practiced law since 1992. "As a nurse and a lawyer, my motivation has been the same: to make a difference in people's lives."



LAW OFFICE OF
**JENNIFER R.
JOHNSON** A PROFESSIONAL
LAW CORPORATION

jrj@jenniferjohnsonlaw.com / JENNIFERJOHNSONLAW.COM

9210 IRVINE CENTER DRIVE / IRVINE, CALIFORNIA 92618 / (714) 884-4197 • F. (714) 884.4206

2022 WOMEN IN LAW PROFILES

**MONA Z. HANNA**

MICHELMAN & ROBINSON, LLP

Mona Z. Hanna is among the most preeminent lawyers nationwide. A sought-after litigator known for defending “bet-the-company” cases, her remarkable record of courtroom victories—including a string of extraordinary defense verdicts and multi-million-dollar plaintiff awards—speaks for itself, as does her standing within Michelman & Robinson, where she sits on the Executive Committee and manages the firm’s Orange County office. For these reasons, Hanna has been named a “Top Woman in Business” by the Orange County Business Journal, a “Top Woman Lawyer” by the Daily Journal and SuperLawyers, an “Orange County Lawyer of the Year” by Best Lawyers, and a “Woman to Watch” by Business Insurance Magazine.

Throughout the bar, Hanna is acclaimed for her litigation prowess and ability to secure early-stage dismissals and defeat high-exposure class certified cases—this on top of her administrative functions at M&R. There, she is a veritable rock star. Among other leadership roles, Hanna is the firm’s National Complex & Class Action Trial Chair; founder of the Women Attorneys of M&R; and a member of the Recruiting and Diversity, Multiculturalism and Inclusion Committees.

Outside the office, Hanna is thoroughly engaged as well. She was elected to the Orange County Bar Association’s Board of Directors and is also an involved member of the California and Los Angeles Bar Associations. In addition, she actively supports Working Wardrobes, an organization helping struggling women, and Project Hope Alliance, working to end the cycle of homelessness, one child at a time.

**GRACE HOROUPLAN**

FISHER & PHILLIPS LLP

Grace Horouplan is a partner in the Irvine office. Her practice is focused on representing employers in a variety of employment cases. Her diverse practice includes litigating claims involving discrimination, harassment, retaliation, wage and hour violations (both individual and collective actions), unfair business practices, whistleblower claims, workplace violence and wrongful discharge.

She represents employers in both state and federal courts as well as before state and federal agencies, such as the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing, and the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement (DLSE). Horouplan also provides preventive counseling on subjects such as handling of disciplinary matters and employee terminations, internal investigations, the development of workplace policies and procedures, compliance with state and federal wage and hour laws and leaves of absence. Horouplan also frequently presents seminars, workshops and trainings on employment issues for industry groups and private employers.

Horouplan is currently a member of the Orange County and Armenian Bar Associations and is “AV” Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell. In addition, Horouplan formerly served as the Vice Chair and General Counsel of the Huntington Beach Chamber of Commerce and is former Chair of the firm’s Associate Development Committee.

**LINDSAY HULLEY**

RUTAN & TUCKER LLP

Lindsay Hulley’s practice focuses on trademark and copyright prosecution, and advising clients on the adoption and use of trademarks. She regularly represents clients in trademark applications at the United States Patent and Trademark Office and in opposition and cancellation proceedings before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board. She has a robust worldwide network of excellent foreign associates with whom she works in managing clients’ international IP portfolios.

Hulley advises clients on the development of trademark strategies, clearance searches, protection, enforcement, licensing and transfer of intellectual property. Her clients are varied and conduct business in the apparel, medical device, alcohol, food and beverage, vitamin supplement, gaming, automotive, e-commerce, real estate, hospital administration, dental, construction, cosmetics, marketing, software, fitness, financial, and communications industries.

**SHANNON JENKINS**

TLD LAW

Shannon Jenkins has been a leading employment defense attorney in Orange County for over 20 years. She works with all sizes of employers and executives in business litigation and employment-related disputes. She guides employers through individual and class action cases, administrative judicial forums including the Labor Commissioner, the Employment Development Department (EDD), the Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) and Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) and alternative dispute resolution. She successfully defends sexual and other harassment claims, alleged discrimination assertions, breach of employment, confidentiality unfair competition and trade-secret agreements (including prosecution to protect employer rights), wage and hour disputes, breach of confidentiality agreements, breach of fiduciary duty, wrongful termination and all manner of related tort and contract claims.

Ms. Jenkins pro-active representation includes preventive services such as required sexual harassment training, payroll practice auditing and drafting/review of employer documentation including all pre-hire/hire/post-hire forms. She offers seminars and trainings to keep business at the cutting edge of compliance.

Representative clients, industries and occupations include manufacturing, banking, software, construction, hospitality, staffing, medical and veterinary practices, trucking and all manner of professional services firms. Ms. Jenkins strives to solve employer problems utilizing an appropriately aggressive approach balanced with principles of fairness, diversity and inclusion both in the clients’ workplace and in her practice.

**JENNIFER R. JOHNSON**

THE LAW OFFICE OF JENNIFER R. JOHNSON

Jennifer R. Johnson has dedicated her life to helping others. She was raised in North Dakota and South Dakota, the daughter of a pastor. Ms. Johnson’s firm focuses on the representation of individuals injured due to the negligence of others.

Ms. Johnson earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology with a minor in Music Education from Evangel College in Springfield, Missouri. She then attended nursing school at Mesa Community College in Arizona after which she became a registered nurse.

Thereafter, Ms. Johnson enrolled in the James Rogers College of Law at the University of Arizona in Tucson. During law school, she worked as a nurse in intensive care units. After law school, Ms. Johnson relocated to California where has practiced law in California and other parts of the country ever since.

Ms. Johnson spent the first eight years of her career representing doctors and hospitals in medical malpractice cases. She then joined a Plaintiffs’ firm dedicated to the representation of injured people where she worked for ten years on both medical malpractice and product liability pharmaceutical cases. Ms. Johnson is AV Preeminent rated by Martindale Hubbell, the organization’s highest rating for legal ability and ethical standards. In 2020, the Orange County Trial Lawyers Association presented Ms. Johnson with their Top Gun Award for an eight figure settlement Ms. Johnson obtained for her clients. In 2022, she was recognized as the OCTLA Member of the Year for her work mentoring law students.

**NANCY JONES**

VETERANS LEGAL INSTITUTE

Nancy Jones, a graduate of the University of San Diego School of Law, is the senior lead attorney on Veterans Legal Institute’s veterans’ benefits team. She represents hundreds of low-income and at-risk veterans in proving their claims for veterans benefits before the Veterans Administration at both the regional appeals level and before the Board of Veterans Appeals. Many veterans have come to her after numerous denials by the Department of Veterans Affairs that have left them feeling frustrated and marginalized by one of the largest bureaucracies in the nation.

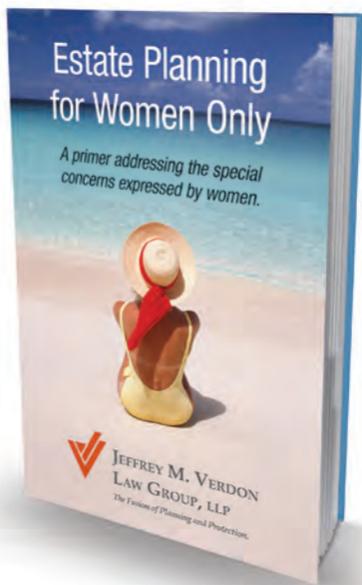
Jones thoroughly reviews the veteran’s military service history, listens to the veteran’s story, and gathers critical post-service medical evidence to build claims that have resulted in hundreds of thousands of dollars in life changing compensation for veterans and their surviving spouses who are often at-risk of homelessness.

Jones also argues for the waiver of thousands of dollars in debt owed to the Department of Veterans Affairs. Frequently, low-income veterans do not understand the complicated VA forms they receive, or due to personal struggles, do not respond in a timely fashion resulting in the overpayment of benefits. Sometimes, the VA, itself, fails to act timely to notify the veteran of an overpayment of benefits resulting in the veteran owing a substantial debt. Jones represents these veterans before the VA Debt Management Center and has successfully requested numerous hardship waivers.

A Marine spouse of twenty-seven years, Jones connects with veterans validating their struggles during and after their military service.

Estate Planning for Women Only

An insightful quick read which unravels the myths and common concerns expressed by women. It is a collection of valuable practical information that every business woman should know.



Learn how to:

- ✔ Gain full control over your retirement
- ✔ Protect your assets and business
- ✔ Control your legacy

This book can be purchased on Amazon.



**JEFFREY M. VERDON
LAW GROUP, LLP**

The Fusion of Planning and Protection.

1201 Dove Street, Suite 400, Newport Beach, CA 92660
303 Twin Dolphin Drive, 6th Floor, Redwood City, CA 94065

949.333.8150 ▼ www.jmvlaw.com

JMV Law Group paid for this space and is solely responsible for its content.

2022 WOMEN IN LAW PROFILES



NAHAL KAZEMI

KELLER/ANDERLE LLP

Nahal Kazemi has achieved outstanding results in major litigation matters, including successfully defending the City of Costa Mesa in federal litigation brought against it by sober living businesses. Kazemi and

the Keller/Anderle team were honored with a "2019 *California Lawyer Attorneys of the Year*" award for their victory in that case, which was also named one of the top defense verdicts of 2018 by the *Los Angeles and San Francisco Daily Journal*. Kazemi worked closely with appellate counsel to defend this victory on appeal.

On behalf of a plaintiff insurance agency, Kazemi and the Keller/Anderle team obtained a highly-favorable settlement in a breach of good faith action. The case was resolved after mediation following aggressive litigation in Orange County Superior Court. In a breach of contract and bad faith case brought by a major fitness equipment company in Superior Court in Los Angeles County, Kazemi and the K/A team achieved a full victory on summary judgment. Kazemi drafted and successfully litigated the emergency temporary restraining order application on behalf of the City of Costa Mesa that led the state and federal governments to abandon their plan to use a dilapidated and unsuitable former assisted living facility as a coronavirus isolation site. The case drew national media attention to the inadequate planning and lack of state and federal coordination with county and local authorities in addressing the coronavirus threat.

Kazemi was selected by Super Lawyers® as a Rising Star for Business Litigation in 2020 and as a Super Lawyer in 2022.



JENNIFER KELLER

KELLER/ANDERLE LLP

Jennifer Keller is one of America's most successful trial attorneys. She represents both plaintiffs and defendants in a broad range of high-stakes commercial litigation. Chambers USA and Chambers

Global rank her among the top commercial litigators in the nation, quoting sources who describe Keller as "widely regarded as one of the best trial lawyers in California." "She has uncanny instincts, a wonderful courtroom demeanor and "is absolutely unflappable in court and builds a strong rapport and credibility with judges and decision makers." She is a Fellow of the invitation-only American College of Trial Lawyers, considered to be among the highest honors a North American trial attorney can receive. The Legal 500 recommends Keller as one of just 63 "leading trial lawyers" in the entire United States.

Keller is also a 2018 inductee into the California Lawyers Association Trial Lawyer Hall of Fame, one of only 35 attorneys so honored throughout the years. Benchmark Litigation lists her as one of the "Top 100 Trial Attorneys in America" and among the "Top 20 Trial Lawyers in California," calling her a "National Litigation Star." In 2020 and in 2021, Super Lawyers ranked Keller #1 in Southern California. The *Los Angeles and San Francisco Daily Journals*, rank her as a "Top 100 Lawyer in California" for over 10 years in a row. In three separate years (2019, 2018 and 2012), in starkly different subjects, Keller's trial victories have led to California Lawyer Magazine Attorneys of the Year (CLAY) awards for extraordinary achievements in litigation.



RIKA M. KIDO

SHULMAN BASTIAN FRIEDMAN & BUI LLP

Rika M. Kido is a partner at Shulman Bastian Friedman & Bui LLP in Irvine. Ms. Kido is a member of the firm's bankruptcy and transactional departments.

Ms. Kido's practice focuses on all aspects of bankruptcy, including representing trustees, debtors, creditors, plaintiffs, and defendants in adversary proceedings. She has assisted her trustee clients sell a variety of assets, including intellectual property, claims in pending litigation and real property (including the recent sale of the Hearst Estate for \$63.1 million!). Ms. Kido's practice also focuses on providing advice to clients on corporate formation, governance, and their ongoing business transactions. Ms. Kido was selected for inclusion in *Rising Stars of Southern California Super Lawyers Magazine* in 2018, 2020 and 2021.

Ms. Kido grew up in Orange County and attended Santa Margarita Catholic High School before she obtained her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Japanese from Middlebury College in Vermont in 2003. She then moved back to California and earned her Master of International Affairs in 2007 from the School of Global Policy and Strategy at the University of California, San Diego, and her Juris Doctorate from the University of San Francisco School of Law in 2010.

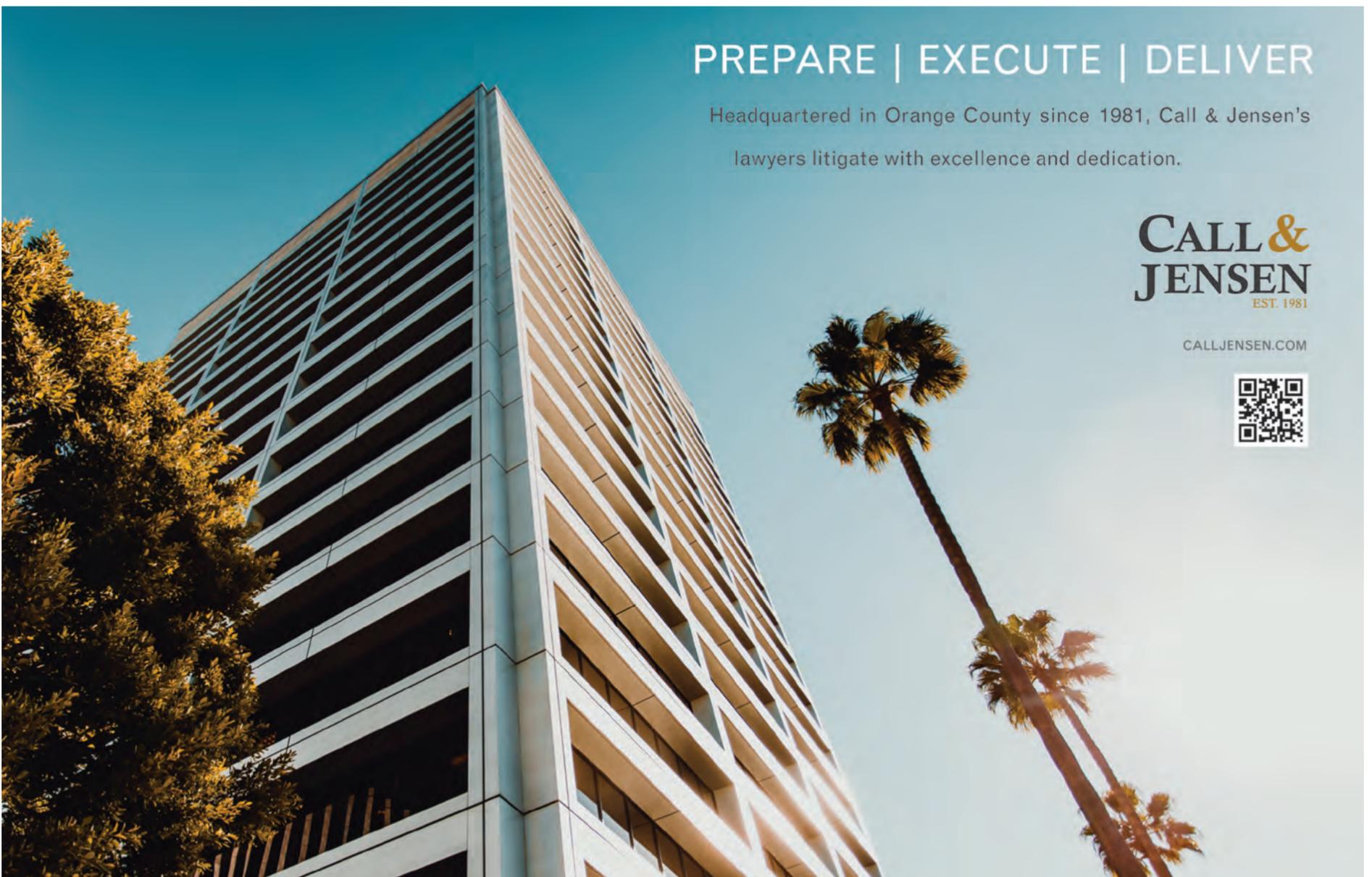
Ms. Kido is very active the community. She recently co-produced a panel on enforcing arbitration agreements in bankruptcy proceedings for the California Bankruptcy Forum's 26th Annual Insolvency Conference. She is also the treasurer of the Orange County Bankruptcy Forum and the Southern California Network of the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation.

PREPARE | EXECUTE | DELIVER

Headquartered in Orange County since 1981, Call & Jensen's lawyers litigate with excellence and dedication.



CALLJENSEN.COM



2022 WOMEN IN LAW PROFILES



MANDY H. KIM

MCDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP

Mandy H. Kim focuses her practice on intellectual property litigation. Kim has significant experience managing complex litigations across a wide range of technologies, including in the life sciences, biotechnology, medical devices, computer hardware and software, and consumer electronics industries. Kim routinely handles motion practice, fact and expert discovery matters, and has litigated a number of cases from pleadings through trial and/or settlement. She has represented clients in federal and state courts, and before the International Trade Commission.

While in law school, Kim earned specialized certificates from the Palmer Center for Entrepreneurship and the Law and Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution and received several awards. She also was managing editor of the Journal of Business Entrepreneurship and the Law and served as a law clerk in the Office of the City Attorney (Los Angeles), Intellectual Property Unit, General Counsel Division.

Prior to law school, Kim was a research associate. She has also authored a number of publications, and worked as a technology transfer specialist in the Office of Intellectual Property, UCLA. Kim earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in microbiology, immunology and molecular genetics.



WENDY R. KOTTMEIER

HOLLAND & KNIGHT

Wendy R. Kottmeier is a partner in Holland & Knight's Orange County office with over twenty years of experience advising clients in mergers and acquisitions (M&A), private equity transactions, securities offerings, commercial contracts, licenses, and general corporate transactions. She is a trusted advisor to emerging growth and middle market companies, private equity firms, family offices, and other investors operating through all stages of the business and investment life cycle. Ms. Kottmeier represents clients in a broad array of industry sectors, including technology, healthcare, medical device, beauty, consumer products and manufacturing industries, locally in Orange County and throughout the world. Ms. Kottmeier strives to provide practical legal advice to help her clients make the best decisions for their businesses and families. Often a corporate transaction is one of the most significant events in company's lifespan, and having a trusted professional on the team will make the process more efficient and more enjoyable.

Ms. Kottmeier received her law degree from the University of California, Hastings College of Law in San Francisco, where she was an editor of the Hastings Law Journal and graduated Order of the Coif, and received her undergraduate degree from the University of Redlands. When not practicing corporate law, Ms. Kottmeier dedicates time to various pro bono legal endeavors, including representing a number of local Orange County nonprofit organizations and working for the Election Protection hotline operated by the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. Ms. Kottmeier enjoys spending time with her husband, Sasha, and their two children.



KARLA KRAFT

STRADLING YOCCA CARLSON & RAUTH

In a career marked by professional relationships that are both lasting and durable, Karla Kraft is frequently asked to litigate types of matters she has not previously encountered. This is a testament, not just to the trust placed in her by long-term clients, but also to her comfort level in facing new challenges. As a consequence, she represents clients across a broad range of complex commercial litigation matters.

Much of Kraft's work focuses on defending employment litigation, including both single plaintiff cases and wage-and-hour class actions. But she also tries trade secret disputes for technology companies, and defends class action suits against large consumer product companies and financial services providers.

Clients credit Kraft with an instinctive ability to balance the legal aspects of a lawsuit with the business considerations underlying them. She recognizes that the goals of each case are different, and that they don't necessarily fit within a standard win-or-lose scenario. Accordingly, she works with clients to define objectives up front, so that she can properly gauge the range of strategies available to achieve them. This approach leads to business-smart resolutions and ensures that matters are conducted efficiently, with small teams and reasonable amounts of research.

RUTAN

WOMEN OF INFLUENCE IN LAW



Christina McSparron
Partner
Corporate & Tax



Meredith Williams
Partner
Litigation & Trial



Allina Amuchie
Partner
Litigation & Trial



Alisha Patterson
Partner
Land Use & Entitlement



Lindsay Hulley
Partner
Intellectual Property

Guiding clients to **success**

www.rutan.com

2022 WOMEN IN LAW PROFILES


**VANESSA LEGBANDT**STRADLING YOCCA
CARLSON & RAUTH

Within California's complicated and heavily-regulated municipal debt framework, Vanessa Legbandt provides clarity for public agencies that seek to raise financing for public facilities.

Whether Legbandt is acting as bond counsel or disclosure counsel to public agencies, or as underwriter's counsel to a financial institution, her honest, straightforward approach helps clients make informed decisions in matters involving lease revenue financings, utility revenue financings, land-secured financings and tax increment bond refundings. She also represents public agencies and developers in financing and structuring various economic development projects. She has advised numerous clients regarding the procedures and relative costs and benefits of forming and issuing debt through enhanced infrastructure financing districts.

Legbandt's experience as a public finance attorney, as well as representing public entities in connection with a variety of public private partnership arrangements, gives her a firm grasp on her clients' goals and objectives, and the perspective to explore alternatives to their legal restrictions. When her clients are faced with complicated or uncertain legal concerns, Legbandt thoroughly evaluates the factual circumstances against all applicable laws and regulations before presenting the options and approaches that best suit their needs. Clients appreciate her simple, straightforward transaction documents and her ability to resolve any issues quickly. Undaunted by the fast pace of municipal financings, Legbandt meets all required timeframes and staffs transactions appropriately to ensure she obtains the most beneficial financing for her clients.


**MICHELLE LEPICH**

FERRUZZO & FERRUZZO LLP

Michelle Lepich is an Associate within the Estate Planning and Trust Administration Practice Group at Ferruzzo & Ferruzzo, LLP. Ms. Lepich's practice is currently focused on representing and advising clients on complex issues surrounding trust and estate administration.

From the beginning of her career, Ms. Lepich knew that she wanted to work with clients as they pass their estates, hopes and legacies to the next generation. Growing up in a close-knit family, and being fortunate enough to have a close relationship with her grandparents, Ms. Lepich appreciates the value and fragility of generational relationships. She understands that how an estate plan is crafted and administered can make or break family bonds.

While handling estates requires much technical knowledge, which Ms. Lepich has honed over her 9-year practice, it would be a mistake to ignore the underlying emotional current of family systems: their history - good and bad - that will inevitably come up for each client. Ms. Lepich appreciates and honors this aspect of her practice. She knows the only way to manage the unexpected dynamics that arise in each administration is to take the time to build open communication, without judgement. Ms. Lepich's practice has never been "one size fits all." Instead, she prides herself in treating each client experience as a unique opportunity to meet them where they are, to connect and learn, and, only then, to administer their estate in the manner best suited to their needs.


**CAROL LEW**STRADLING YOCCA
CARLSON & RAUTH

For state and local governments and nonprofit organizations raising money for public infrastructure and other projects, Carol Lew's proven tax advice is a critical piece of the complex financing puzzle. With more than 30 years of federal tax law experience, Lew is nationally recognized for her ability to apply her in-depth knowledge of the Internal Revenue Code to tax-advantaged debt financings. The complicated tax analyses she undertakes keep issuers and buyers in compliance with all federal tax laws and help communities thrive.

Lew's sought-after tax advice helps states, highway authorities, water districts, housing authorities, hospitals, school districts and municipal agencies and nonprofits finance development projects through a variety of sources, including tax-advantaged and taxable bonds, and public/private partnerships. Many clients also rely on Lew for post-issuance compliance advice. If the IRS audits a bond issuer or buyer, she steps in to resolve any outstanding tax issues quickly. Lew also assists with voluntary closing agreements and private letter ruling requests.

When clients work with Lew, they get the full benefit of her cutting-edge insight and long-standing leadership in the organizations helping shape today's U.S. tax laws. She currently serves on the IRS IRSAC advisory committee that provides advice directly to the IRS Commissioner on a broad range of tax matters. Lew has also served as President of the National Association of Bond Lawyers and as Chair of The American Bar Association Taxation Section's Tax-Exempt Financing Committee.

Holland & Knight is proud to celebrate

Wendy Kottmeier

and all of the *Orange County Business Journal's* 2022 Women in Law honorees for their recognition as dedicated professionals who are changing California's legal landscape.

Holland & Knight

www.hklaw.com

Orange County, CA | 949.833.8550

Copyright © 2022 Holland & Knight LLP All Rights Reserved



2022 WOMEN IN LAW PROFILES

shulman bastian
friedman & bui LLP



MIMI LIN

SHULMAN BASTIAN
FRIEDMAN & BUI LLP

Mimi Lin is a partner in the firm's transactional practice group. She represents small and mid-sized companies in a broad range of industries including software and technology, restaurant and catering, construction, as well as private and commercial lending.

Lin has extensive business, corporate, and real estate experience gained from a combination of private practice and years spent at a private equity firm and a global investment management company. She regularly counsels clients on mergers and acquisitions, financings, workouts, and foreclosures. She advises clients on organizational governance and compliance, including the development and implementation of policies and procedures. She also represents clients in real estate transactions including acquisitions, dispositions, financings and leases.

Additionally, Lin's practice includes estate planning as well as business succession planning.

Lin earned her Juris Doctorate from Loyola Law School of Los Angeles and a Bachelor of Science in Cognitive Science from UCLA.

KA
Keller/Anderle LLP
UNRIVALED TRIAL LAWYERS



STEPHANIE LIND

KELLER/ANDERIE LLP

Stephanie Lind focuses her practice on complex commercial litigation and white collar criminal defense. She has been an essential part of K/A's trial teams in the defense of multiple bad faith insurance claims and a nine-month-long white collar jury trial resulting in acquittal of all charges. She was integral in successfully prosecuting a billion-dollar legal malpractice case where a settlement was reached on the eve of trial.

Lind is an active member of the Orange County legal community. She led the firm to win a silver partnership award in the Food from the Bar campaign, which raises money and food for the hungry in Orange County. Lind volunteers her time with the Orange County Bar Association at events such as the OCBA Super Pet Adoption. Lind is also a member of the Association of Certified E-Discovery Specialists.

Lind received her law degree from the University of California, Irvine School of Law. She was a member of the UC Irvine Law Review Executive Board from 2015-16, and was a lead article editor the previous year. Lind earned the law school's Pro Bono Achievement Award three years running in recognition of her work for the Domestic Violence Assistance Program, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (the Dreamers program), the Elder Abuse Clinic, and The New Way of Life Re-Entry Project (helping successful probationers gain expungement of criminal convictions).

shulman bastian
friedman & bui LLP



MELISSA DAVIS LOWE

SHULMAN BASTIAN
FRIEDMAN & BUI LLP

Melissa Davis Lowe has a broad range of experience across all areas of insolvency, restructuring and bankruptcy law. Ms. Lowe is a partner at Shulman Bastian Friedman & Bui LLP in Irvine where she has been practicing for over 15 years. Ms. Lowe has represented nearly every type of party in Chapter 7 and Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings, including debtors and creditors in the newly enacted Subchapter V proceedings. Recently, Ms. Lowe has focused much of her practice on assisting clients in out of court workouts and restructurings in order for her clients, both companies and individuals, to avoid a bankruptcy filing. Ms. Lowe has prosecuted nearly 100 avoidance actions such as fraudulent transfer and preference actions for trustees, most of them settling before trial. She has also obtained multiple judgments denying the discharge of dishonest debtors for her trustee clients.

Ms. Lowe grew up in Arizona, obtaining her Bachelor of Science in finance in 2003 from the University of Arizona. She then moved to Southern California and earned her Juris Doctor in 2006 from Loyola Law School in Los Angeles and then her Master of Law in taxation in 2008. Ms. Lowe is passionate about community service, particularly focused on helping children. She sits on the board of directors and volunteers with The First Tee of Orange County, where she is the current Governance Committee Chair. She is also a member of the OCBF, serving as its president in 2013, and of the OC Bar Association. Ms. Lowe lives in Lake Forest with her husband and two young children.

shulman bastian

friedman & bui LLP

*"Congratulations To All
The 2022 OCBJ Women In Law"*



Lynda T. Bui, Partner



Melissa Davis Lowe, Partner



Rika Kido, Partner



Mimi Lin, Partner

Meet the Firm's Outstanding and Accomplished,

WOMEN IN LAW

100 Spectrum Center Drive
Suite 600
Irvine, CA 92618
Tel: 949.340.3400

shulmanbastian.com

2022 WOMEN IN LAW PROFILES



KATHLEEN MARCUS

STRADLING YOCCA
CARLSON & RAUTH

Kathleen M. Marcus is co-chair of Stradling's Enforcement Defense & Investigations practice group. She also leads the firm's Compliance & Corporate Governance practice group. Marcus is also

active in firm management as a member of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee.

As a former attorney with the SEC's Division of Enforcement, Kathleen brings a deep understanding of the federal laws and government processes for clients facing regulatory and white collar investigations. Marcus has significant experience before a host of agencies and regulators, including the SEC, DOJ, FINRA, FDA and the FCC, as well as number state agencies. Companies, funds, investment advisors, municipalities and executives rely on the trust she has built with regulators and her ability to interact with government agencies to negotiate a successful outcome. Using her streamlined, careful approach, she has defended clients against accusations of fraud, accounting and disclosure discrepancies, insider trading, breaches of the FCPA, and violations of the Federal Anti-Kickback statute. Marcus also assists clients facing cyber security incidents and defends regulatory investigations involving blockchain, cryptocurrency and token offerings.

Companies and funds often call on Marcus to lead internal investigations to fully assess risk and limit possible sanctions posed by looming government investigations. Her thorough, yet cost-efficient approach to fact-finding enables her to spot problems quickly, assess potential liability and offer solutions to navigate through challenging issues. Marcus also assists clients seeking to mitigate their future enforcement risks by conducting compliance assessments. Marcus works with stakeholders to develop robust compliance programs and offer training to meet the business and industry-specific needs of her clients.



AMY MARTINEZ

RMO LLP

Inheritance attorney Amy Martinez is laser-focused on guiding her clients—trustees, executors, beneficiaries, heirs, conservators and guardians—through some of the most complex and emotionally charged issues life can throw them.

As an experienced litigator, Martinez understands the emotional and financial toll disputes can take on clients, especially those who are unfamiliar with the probate process. For that reason, she strives to navigate the process and present all potential litigation alternatives, including mediation and creative settlement options, to maximize results and reduce litigation time and spend. Martinez's goal is to swiftly and economically secure favorable results for her clients.

Based in the firm's Costa Mesa office and as an active member of the local business community, Martinez works alongside her colleagues throughout California, Texas, Kansas and Florida to employ decades of experience, common sense and integrity to achieve results that not only add to a client's bottom line but to their peace of mind. Better, real-world results, sooner and for less spend so clients can move on with their lives is the RMO commitment.



McDermott
Will & Emery



ERIKA MAYSHAR

MCDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP

Erika Mayshar advises foundations, charities, hospitals, universities and other tax exempt organizations facing complex legal and tax issues.

Mayshar works closely with prominent philanthropists and foundations across the country on complex charitable grants, tax planning, succession planning, and governance – all with the goal of maximizing philanthropic impact.

She advises nonprofit leaders engaging in major strategic transactions such as joint ventures, mergers and acquisitions, and tax-exempt bond financings, and represents nonprofits under audit by the Internal Revenue Service or state authorities. She advises for-profit business leaders engaging in innovative relationships with the nonprofit sector, managing tax-exempt investments, and expanding corporate giving.

EVERETT DOREY LLP
EverettDorey.com 949-771-9233

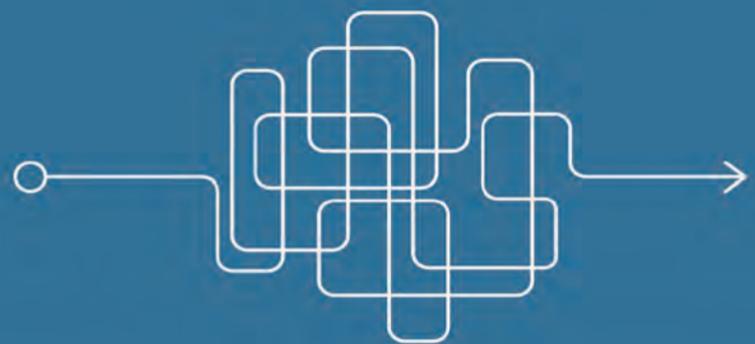
**CELEBRATING
OUR FEMALE
SUPERSTARS!**



**SUPERSTARS
EVERETT
DOREY** LLP

LAW OFFICES OF
**Kimball,
Tirey &
St. John LLP**

Complicated is commonplace.



Making the complicated simple, that's KTS.

EMPLOYMENT LAW | BUSINESS & REAL ESTATE LITIGATION
BUSINESS & REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

(949) 476-5585 | BREGINFO@KTS-LAW.COM
2040 MAIN ST #500, IRVINE, CA 92614 | WWW.KTS-LAW.COM

2022 WOMEN IN LAW PROFILES



CHRISTINA MCSPARRON
RUTAN & TUCKER

Christina McSparron works closely with entrepreneurs and corporate clients across the country at all stages in the lifecycle of their businesses. She has extensive experience on both sides of the deal, representing buyers and sellers in mergers and acquisitions and other business combinations (including leading roll-up acquisitions for acquisitive clients). Often serving as general outside counsel, she advises on entity structuring, corporate governance, growth and exit plans, contract negotiation, debt and equity financing, licensing, and general business operations. Ms. McSparron's clients are in diverse industries, including automotive, technology, restaurant, food and beverage, building materials and manufacturing, service and retail.

Ms. McSparron prides herself on bringing real-world business knowledge to her practice for a creative problem solving approach. As a former business owner, she is adept at understanding legal issues in a business context. Importantly, Ms. McSparron can strategically negotiate complex agreements while maintaining good relationships with the other side. She is passionate about helping her clients be successful and smart while taking calculated business risks.



EVELYN MOON (HAHN)
SIMPLY LAW GROUP

Evelyn Moon (formerly Evelyn Hahn) is a founder and managing attorney at Simply Law Group, APC, a full-service immigration firm based in Irvine, California. Her passion in immigration law is deeply ingrained in her because she was also an immigrant. Having a full understanding of the complex immigration process based on her personal experience, she prides herself in helping her clients navigate complex immigration system and ultimately achieve their immigration goals in the U.S. Using her personal experience as an immigrant and over 10 years of experience as an immigration attorney, her main objective is to make her clients' immigration journey as "simple" and "seamless" as possible. This is mainly the reason why she named her firm, Simply Law Group, APC.

Moon particularly enjoys working with her clients, who make a positive social and economic impact on the U.S. by utilizing business and investment immigration. She has filed over a thousand employment-based immigration cases to date, representing both individual clients and small, mid-size and large Fortune 500 companies from over 20 different countries in various sectors including IT, chemical, e-commerce, import/export, healthcare, entertainment, and non-profit organizations. She also represents both foreign investors and regional centers/project developers on all aspects of the EB-5 investment visa program.

Moon has spoken at several conferences, seminars, and other speaking engagements, covering various immigration topics and was named a Rising Star by Super Lawyers Magazine in 2019-2021. She received JD from Chapman University School of Law and BA from UCLA and is licensed to practice law in California and District of Columbia.



LIZBETH "LIZ" OCHOA
FISHER & PHILLIPS LLP

Lizbeth "Liz" Ochoa is a partner in the firm's Irvine office. With over 18 years' experience representing employers, Ochoa has experience litigating employment matters in state and federal courts, arbitration forums, as well as in state and federal administrative agencies such as the California Division of Labor Standards Enforcement (DLSE), the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH), the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) and others.

She represents and counsels employers on various employment-related matters, including, but not limited to, discrimination, unlawful harassment, wrongful termination, unfair business practices, wage and hour class and PAGA actions and compliance with COVID-19 related laws and regulations. She also conducts various types of trainings including, but not limited to, anti-harassment supervisor trainings in Spanish and English.

Prior to joining Fisher Phillips, Ochoa gained invaluable experience working in a smaller firm where she represented employees and employers in various employment litigation matters. This experience has enabled Ochoa to have great success in defending employers because of her unique insight into employee claims.

In 2010, 2013 and 2014, Ochoa was selected for inclusion in Southern California Super Lawyers – Rising Stars. Ochoa is fluent in Spanish and sits on the firm's Diversity Committee. She is also an ambassador for the firm's Women's Initiative and Leadership Council and has been the Co-Chair of the National Association of Women Lawyers (NAWL)'s Diversity and Inclusion Committee for several years.



FISHER PHILLIPS PROUDLY COMMENDS OUR TRAILBLAZERS

Christine, Grace and Liz

Fisher Phillips celebrates the advancement of women both within the firm and within the community.



Christine Baran
Partner | Irvine, Los Angeles
cbaran@fisherphillips.com



Grace Horoupian
Partner | Irvine
ghoroupian@fisherphillips.com



Liz Ochoa
Partner | Irvine
lochoa@fisherphillips.com

2050 Main Street, Suite 1000, Irvine, CA 92614

fisherphillips.com

2022 WOMEN IN LAW PROFILES

FERRUZZO



SHANNON C. PAPAZIS

FERRUZZO & FERRUZZO LLP

Shannon C. Papazis is a partner at Ferruzzo & Ferruzzo LLP and is the Chair of the Firm's Contested Probate and Trust Administration and Litigation Practice Group. Ms. Papazis represents clients in a wide variety of civil litigation matters in both state and federal court. Her practice is primarily focused in the areas of trust and probate litigation, inclusive of elder abuse, conservatorship, and guardianship matters representing corporate, private professional, and individual fiduciaries, as well as beneficiaries, in administrations involving claims such as breach of fiduciary duty, accounting disputes, estate distribution, will and trust contests, undue influence, and elder abuse.

The variety of extensive trial experience Ms. Papazis gained early in her career while externing at the District Attorney's Office, and later expanding into the family law and civil realms, has enhanced her ability to truly excel as an effective litigator and trial attorney who applies her passion for the law and dedication to obtaining justice for her clients to achieve successful results. Her strength in the courtroom and compelling advocacy provides her clients with the fortitude and confidence necessary to withstand an intra-family dispute.

As a Partner in a leading trust and probate litigation firm in Southern California, Ms. Papazis has shaped a team of exceptionally talented litigators with diverse and particularized skill sets designed to promote each client's individual need, while gaining and maintaining their trust. Ms. Papazis understands the unique challenges that clients face while participating in estate litigation with their family members and strives to promote reunification and early case resolution wherever possible.

Ms. Papazis earned her BS in Business Economics, with honors, from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and her JD, summa cum laude, from La Verne College of Law.

RUTAN RUTAN & TUCKER, LLP



ALISHA PATTERSON

RUTAN & TUCKER LLP

Alisha Patterson provides strategic counsel to, and litigates on behalf of, public agencies and private clients, including numerous California cities, property owners, and developers. She is currently the City Attorney for the City of Claremont and the City of Laguna Woods.

In her representation of public entities, she is involved with all aspects of general municipal affairs and, in particular, planning and land use. She has worked with clients in every stage of the entitlement process (pre-application through public hearing and litigation, if any) and has a thorough knowledge of the myriad of state and federal laws that regulate local governmental agencies and those who do business with them. A significant part of her practice concerns advising and defending clients on issues arising under the Planning and Zoning Law, the Subdivision Map Act, the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"), the California Coastal Act, the Permit Streamlining Act, the Quimby Act, and the Mitigation Fee Act.

Unlike other municipal law attorneys, Patterson has experience handling matters at the intersection of land use and civil rights laws, such as the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA"), the Federal Fair Housing Act ("FHA"), and California's Fair Employment and Housing Act ("FEHA"). Knowing that civil rights laws are continually evolving, She regularly reads new court decisions and keeps current on community and market trends in order to anticipate the needs of existing clients.

TLD LAW



BROOKE POLLARD

TLD LAW

Brooke Pollard's practice focuses on mergers and acquisitions of closely-held businesses, real estate law, entity use in estate planning, and business succession planning.

Ms. Pollard handles all aspects of stock and asset purchases, including letters of intent, due diligence, purchase agreement preparation and review, closings and earn-out strategies. She has a particular emphasis on counseling and implementing business transition and succession strategies between family members. Ms. Pollard handles everyday matters for business owners including lease reviews, distribution agreements, trademark issues, employment agreements, tax saving strategies, corporate compliance, and asset protection. Her corporate law experience ranges widely and includes, among others, mergers and acquisitions, general corporate transactional, real estate purchase and leasing.

Ms. Pollard has exceptional knowledge in the area of property taxes, property tax appeals, and claim-for-reassessment exclusions during transfer of real property into and out of legal entities. She processes and reviews commercial lease and purchasing agreements, and works with publicly traded companies needing local representations for lease and purchase negotiations for developed and undeveloped properties.

Ms. Pollard practice includes experience working with construction firms in business succession planning. She is adept at gaining an understanding of the unique circumstances facing contractors, subcontractors, and residential contractors and then working with the owners and other advisors to craft a detailed succession plan that takes into account lending, bonding and licensing.

MESSNER REEVES LLP

CONGRATULATIONS TO PARTNER
KATHLEEN CARTER
RECOGNIZED AS A WOMAN OF INFLUENCE BY
ORANGE COUNTY BUSINESS JOURNAL

ORANGE COUNTY • SILICON VALLEY • RENO • LAS VEGAS
PHOENIX • SALT LAKE CITY • DENVER • GREENWOOD VILLAGE
COLORADO SPRINGS • CHEYENNE • NEW YORK CITY

EXCEPTIONAL COUNSEL • INTEGRITY • ACCOUNTABILITY • ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT

Messner Reeves is a full service business law firm providing legal services to a diverse group of clients that include Fortune 500 companies, individual entrepreneurs, and executives across a wide range of industries.

We work hard to earn the trust of our clients.

LEARN MORE AT [MESSNER.COM](https://www.messner.com)

M | R MICHELMAN & ROBINSON, LLP

Michelman & Robinson, LLP celebrates Mona Hana, our Orange County Office Managing Partner and Women in Law honoree, for the mark she continues to make on the legal profession and beyond.

We're the most influential and in-demand law firm of our kind, where bona fide industry expertise meets unsurpassed advisory and practice area know-how

Los Angeles | **Orange County** | San Francisco | Dallas | Houston | Chicago | New York

714-557-7990
mrlp.com

2022 WOMEN IN LAW PROFILES



CHRISTINE PAMBA POPP
VETERANS LEGAL INSTITUTE

Christine Pamba Popp is driven by her passion for service. A wife to a former Marine, Ms. Popp has devoted her entire legal career to helping disabled veterans ensure they receive access to healthcare through proper guidance and support.

Seated in a strong desire to zealously advocate for her clients, Popp dedicates her time to fighting for the rights of veterans in need and helping them achieve self-sufficiency. For over 4 years, Popp has assisted veterans in submitting claims for benefits, and represented veterans in their hearings before the Board of Veterans Appeals and Regional DRO hearings. To date, Popp has helped connect low income and homeless veterans to hundreds of thousands of dollars in veteran benefits at Veterans Legal Institute and no veteran ever receives a bill. Popp is licensed to practice law in the District of Columbia and is accredited before the Department of Veterans Affairs.



MICHELLE ROBINSON
VETERANS LEGAL INSTITUTE

Michelle Robinson is the managing attorney at Veterans Legal Institute (VLI), supporting close to 20 staff members who fight to provide pro bono access to justice to veterans in need. As Managing Attorney, Robinson is dedicated to representing low income, disabled, homeless current and former military service members, in an array of practice areas, to foster client self-sufficiency. As the mother of five, one of whom is currently an active-duty Marine, assigned as Alpha Co. Guidon and Guidon for the Battle Color Detachment at 8th & I in Washington D.C., she is deeply connected to the veteran-focused mission of VLI.

Robinson has over 27 years of experience as an attorney at the Orange County Public Defender's Office and the District Attorney's Office. During her time at the Public Defender's office, Robinson worked with clients from all backgrounds, representing them throughout the criminal court process under highly emotional, stressful, and intense circumstances. She has negotiated and resolved thousands of mental health, juvenile, misdemeanor, and felony cases. Her passion revolves around representing clients in collaborative courts, aiding them in rehabilitating themselves to become productive citizens.

Robinson obtained a B.S. degree from the University of Southern California in 1988 in Public Administration, and a Juris Doctor from Western State College of Law in 1995, graduating Summa Cum Laude and was a member of Law Review. She clerked for Justice Sheila Sonenshine prior to joining the OC Public Defender's Office in 1995.



ARDELLE ST. GEORGE
ST. GEORGE & CARNEGIE NAUTILUS GLOBAL SOLUTIONS, LLC

As managing partner of her Law Firm, St. George & Carnegie and Solutions & Licensing Company, NAUTILUS GLOBAL SOLUTIONS, LLC, Ardelle St. George assists clients in transforming their businesses into the future economy.

Ardelle has completed her Executive Certification Program from Harvard in essential areas for businesses today — Cybersecurity, Experiential/Digital Transformation, Sustainability and Artificial Intelligence (including AR, VR and Mixed Reality) as well as holding JD and MBA degrees. Ardelle has established these areas as pillars of her Law Firm and Solutions & Licensing Company and with her international teams, she provides a range of legal, business and technical experience and services to assist clients with their experiential/digital transformation into our new economy. Now, she is launching THE WAVE CONNECTION®, a multimedia platform to complement her legal and business practice, to showcase the innovation and leadership of clients and provide services for their transformation into the future economy.

Ardelle brings global experience for advanced technology/innovation, education, healthcare/medical technical devices, broadcasting & entertainment, real estate, renewable energy, aerospace and other areas. Ardelle's expertise and legal services include General Counsel, Executive & Board Governance/Compliance, Intellectual Property, Brand Management, Regulatory, Licensing, Experiential/Digital Transformation, Sustainability, M&A, Real Estate, Dispute Resolution/Litigation Support & Strategy.

Her community work includes serving on the Executive Leadership Team of the American Heart Association, Harvard Business School and Kennedy School Alumni Associations, U.S. Bank Advisory Board, Wyland Foundation/BlueCo Board, President of the International and Orange County Boards of the Association for Corporate Growth and Orange County Venture Group.

VETERANS LEGAL INSTITUTE
VetsLegal.org

Presented by
Wright Ford Young & Co.

SAVE THE DATE
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2022

A SPECIAL EVENING
HONORING OUR NATION'S VETERANS
Lawyers for Warriors
Networking and Fundraising Event

Attorney of the Year: Michael Jones, Esq. *US Army Reservist
Veteran of the Year: Michael Kibbe, Esq. *US Marine Corps Veteran
Veteran Advocate of the Year: Jennifer R. Joslin, Esq.
Law Firm of the Year: ArentFox Schiff
Community Partner of the Year: U.S. Veterans Magazine

TICKETS
In-Person Event: \$150 per person
Virtual Ticket: \$50 per person
Sponsorship and Underwriting Opportunities Available
Register at VetsLegal.org

SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION
For sponsorship or other inquiries,
please contact Antoinette Balta
at abalta@vetslegal.com

RMO LLP
PROBATE LITIGATION

We protect the Davids and Goliaths.

Family Legacy Litigation

Our clients tell us they feel "supported" and "relieved," that their cases were handled with "expertise and care." Let us help protect what your loved one intended, so you can move on with life.

- ✓ Inheritance Disputes
- ✓ Will & Trust Contests
- ✓ Estate Embezzlement
- ✓ Financial Elder Abuse
- ✓ Contested Conservatorships

California Florida Texas Missouri

RMOlawyers.com

2022 WOMEN IN LAW PROFILES



MICHELLE S. STROWHIRO

MCDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP

Michelle S. Strowhiro is an employment counsel, litigator and M&A transaction advisor. She leads McDermott's Transactions and Executive Contracts Employment Subgroup and co-leads McDermott's COVID-19 Employment Task Force and advises clients on pandemic response and preparedness, including COVID-19 policymaking and legal compliance (including vaccination, safety and paid leaves) and remote work and return-to-work considerations.

Strowhiro provides trusted, strategic counsel to US and international companies on all aspects of employment law compliance. Strowhiro partners with clients to establish and maintain their strong and lawful employment policies and practices; manage their employee relationships from hire to termination; conduct workplace investigations; administer leaves and other workplace accommodations and resolve disputes. She provides manager and employee trainings on effective management and sexual harassment. She regularly prepares and negotiates executive employment and severance agreements, and advises companies on employment law issues for mergers and acquisitions. Strowhiro regularly works with clients in the private equity, healthcare, technology, retail, marketing food and restaurant, sports, media and entertainment industries.



JULIE TROTTER

CALL & JENSEN

Julie R. Trotter is the managing shareholder at Call & Jensen, a full-service litigation boutique headquartered in Newport Center for 40 years. Ms. Trotter specializes in the area of employment litigation and advice and counsel, and has represented clients in a variety of commercial disputes with a particular focus on class action and PAGA wage and hour disputes, employment discrimination, retaliation, harassment, wrongful termination, and claims under the Americans with Disabilities Act. She maintains an active practice partnering with companies headquartered in Orange County and around the country, and is regarded as an expert on California wage-and-hour matters. Ms. Trotter has achieved numerous defense judgments on behalf of her clients, and has established an impressive record of resolving her clients' most intractable employment disputes and bet-the-company litigation. She is considered a "go to" attorney for managing her clients' internal employment affairs and high-exposure claims. With the team of employment attorneys at Call & Jensen, Ms. Trotter strategically defends employment litigation in her clients' best interests. Ms. Trotter is also a frequently sought-after speaker on employment issues for legal, human resources, and business audiences.

Prior to joining the firm in August 2004, Ms. Trotter was an associate with Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher in their Orange County office where she practiced in the firm's Labor and Employment and Litigation Departments. Ms. Trotter commenced her career at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher after earning her law degree from Pepperdine University School of Law where she was Valedictorian and graduated first in her class.



ANURITA VARMA

CALL & JENSEN

Anurita Varma is a skilled litigator with a focus on business, intellectual property, and employment disputes. Ms. Varma's clients have been pleased with her ability to secure early dismissals, favorable settlements and early resolutions, as well as summary judgment victories. Prior to joining Call & Jensen, Ms. Varma worked at a large national law firm where she focused her practice on high-profile, complex civil litigation matters.

Ms. Varma earned her Juris Doctorate in 2011 from the University of California, Davis School of Law. During law school, Ms. Varma served as a board member of Moot Court, and as the Senior Interview Editor for the Business Law Journal. She was also one of few law students selected for the Diversity Fellowship Program. Ms. Varma earned her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor.

Varma has served as the Executive Director of The Indus Entrepreneurs (an organization dedicated to fostering entrepreneurship within the South Asian community), and has been an active member of Girls, Inc. (an organization dedicated to empowering and inspiring girls to be smart, strong, and bold) and Women Helping Women (an organization that provides unemployed women with skills and resources necessary to secure employment).



SOMETIMES YOU ONLY GET ONE SHOT. WE MAKE IT COUNT.

At Stuart Kane, precision and accuracy are the keys to success. Whether drafting up a contract or litigating a case, our attorneys have every detail covered so you can move forward with confidence. Our extensive experience in real estate, employment and litigation allows us to provide superior legal advice, unparalleled customer service and extraordinary results.

StuartKaneLLP

Real Estate • Employment • Litigation

620 Newport Center Drive, Suite 200 | Newport Beach, CA 92660 | P: 949.791.5100 | F: 949.791.5200 | StuartKane.com



CORPORATE LAW | REAL ESTATE | EMPLOYMENT LAW
TRUST & ESTATE | CIVIL LITIGATION | FAMILY LAW



TLD Law, a women and minority-owned law firm, is proud to recognize our talented female partners: Brooke Pollard, Jennifer Lumsdaine, Monica Goel, Jennifer Sawday, and Shannon Jenkins

TLDLAW.COM | (949) 756-0684

2010 MAIN ST., STE. 1000 IRVINE, CA 92614

IRVINE | LONG BEACH | DOWNEY | BEVERLY HILLS

2022 WOMEN IN LAW PROFILES

brownrudnick



CAMILLE VASQUEZ

BROWN RUDNICK

Camille Vasquez is a partner in the Firm's Litigation & Arbitration Practice Group. Her current practice focuses on plaintiff-side defamation suits, with additional experience litigating contract disputes, business-related torts, and employment-related claims.

Vasquez is adept at formulating offensive and defensive litigation strategies for private clients. She also has extensive experience handling parallel reputation management and crisis communications issues arising from these engagements.

Earlier this year, Vasquez co-led a Brown Rudnick team in the successful representation of actor Johnny Depp in his highly publicized defamation trial against ex-wife Amber Heard. She was elevated to partner following her commanding performance during the trial.

RUTAN
RUTAN & TUCKER, LLP



MEREDITH WILLIAMS

SIVAKUMAR

RUTAN & TUCKER LLP

Meredith Williams focuses on representing and advising clients in protecting their intellectual property rights. Williams' practice emphasizes trademark and copyright litigation, trade secret misappropriation, false advertising, and unfair competition, and she advises clients on how best to promote and defend their brands and other IP assets given novel legal issues raised by social media and advances in technology. Her experience representing both plaintiffs and defendants in federal and state court, in ex parte and inter partes proceedings before the USPTO and TTAB, and in domain name dispute and other takedown procedures gives Williams a variety of tools to assist clients in both enforcing and defending their rights.

Prior to joining Rutan & Tucker, Williams worked at Jones Day, where she represented clients in all aspects of complex litigation in state and federal courts, including drafting and responding to pleadings, discovery, and pre- and post-trial motions, taking and defending depositions, and preparing matters for hearing at trial and arbitration proceedings.

NELSON KIRKMAN
FAMILY LAW ATTORNEYS & ADVISORS



ALENA HERNANDEZ

NELSON KIRKMAN

Q: Why did you decide to become an attorney?

A: As a first grader in Redlands California, I was struck by a car walking home from school. Following the accident, I used a wheelchair for six months and had to learn to walk again. My family hired a personal injury attorney. His presence was calming and he spoke directly to me. In college I reflected on those interactions and decided to go to law school. I chose family law for the client interaction and to be the voice of reason during disputes.

Q: What law school did you attend and why?

A: After I obtained a B.S in Psychology with a minor in Law at the University of Arizona, I received a scholarship at William H. Bowen School of Law in Little Rock, Arkansas.

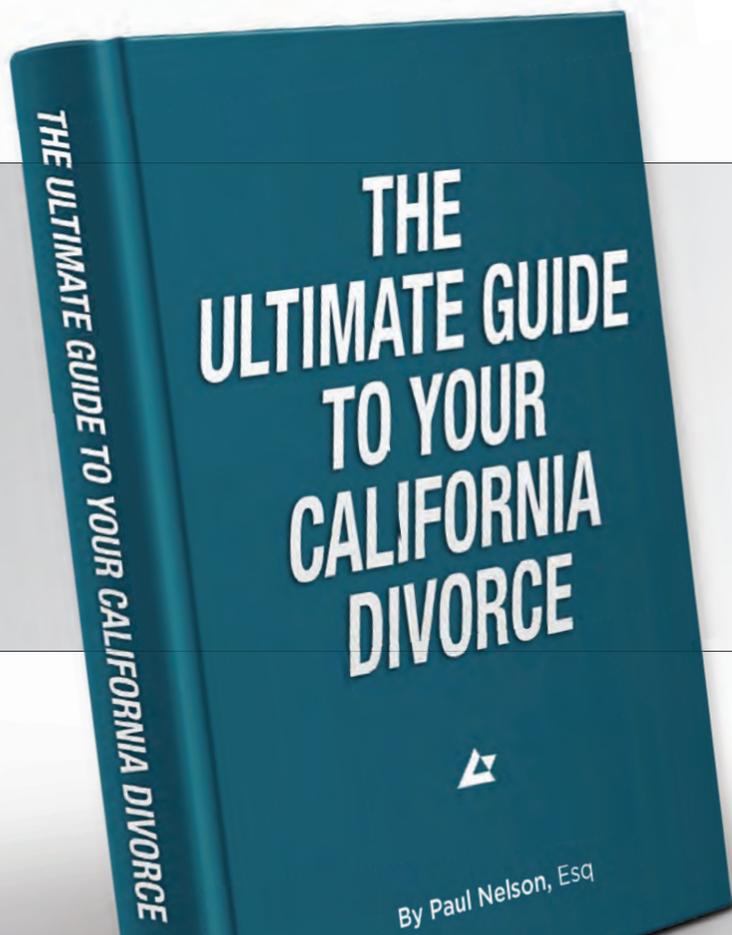
Q: What were your memorable moments in law school?

A: I was the vice-president of the LatinX Club, where I volunteered time and raised money for scholarships for our members. Throughout law school I gained exciting firsthand experience in different areas of law.

Q: What internships did you do during law school?

A: In 2020 at the Arkansas Attorney General's Office, I researched and drafted multiple appellee briefs for the criminal department. In 2021 at the Arkansas Municipal league, I researched legal issues for city officials who were allocating Federal grants. I received the Arkansas Traveler Award from the State of Arkansas, an honor Arkansas given to individuals who serve as goodwill ambassadors for the state.

UPCOMING BOOK LAUNCH
SUMMER 2023



Paul Nelson, Esq

4100 Newport Place Drive, Suite 250
Newport Beach, California 92660
949.760.8888

NELSON KIRKMAN

Family Law Attorneys & Advisors

When the stakes are highest

NelsonKirkman.com