

AN ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT TO THE LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL

SEPTEMBER 12, 2016

M O S T I N F L U E N T I A L

Minority Lawyers

I N L O S A N G E L E S



WITH Los Angeles the melting pot that it is, we're truly a national leader when it comes to influential minorities – and the field of law is no exception. There are some particularly stellar minority attorneys in the LA region and we've alphabetically listed 40 of the best of them here, along with some basic information about their careers, practice and some relevant recent successes they've achieved.

Congratulations to the attorneys who made this list and thank you for working to keep the people and businesses of Los Angeles on the right track!

THIS SPECIAL ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT DID NOT INVOLVE THE REPORTING OR EDITING STAFF OF THE LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL.

MOST INFLUENTIAL MINORITY LAWYERS

MANUEL A. ABASCAL

Partner
Latham & Watkins LLP



WITH a distinguished career as a law firm litigator and federal prosecutor, Manny Abascal has handled a variety of litigation matters, including multiple

criminal and civil jury trials; SEC proceedings; criminal, civil and administrative investigations; internal investigations; voluntary disclosures and testimony before Congress and state legislative bodies. These matters have involved several industries, including healthcare, financial institutions, financial services, investment advisors and hedge funds, entertainment, accounting, construction, food and agriculture, e-commerce and technology.

In addition to Abascal's successful litigation practice, he dedicates a substantial amount of his time to pro bono work and community service on behalf of needy individuals and worthy organizations – including serving as Founding Chair of the Board of Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Hospital. In the last year, Abascal personally negotiated the innovative agreements and secured government resolutions that created a unique, public-private partnership that allowed the independent non-for-profit safety net hospital to open and operate in one of the most underserved and economically disadvantaged communities in the nation.

RAYMOND O. AGHAIAN

Partner
Kilpatrick, Townsend & Stockton LLP



RAY Aghaian is an experienced trial lawyer and former federal prosecutor focusing his practice on white-collar criminal defense, cybersecurity and corporate internal

investigations. As a federal prosecutor with the Cyber & Intellectual Property Crimes Section of the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Central District of California, Aghaian helped lead the U.S. Justice Department's efforts in investigating and prosecuting an array of white collar crimes including cyber intrusions, copyright and trademark infringement, healthcare fraud, theft of trade secrets, bribery, mail, wire and bank fraud, money laundering, tax evasion, and mortgage fraud. Due to the depth and breadth of his work, he was nominated for the prestigious Attorney General's Award, the highest award in the Department of Justice.

In his current practice, he focuses on white-collar criminal defense and cybersecurity. Aghaian has represented numerous companies and corporate executives in a variety of internal investigations and white-collar defense matters. He advises clients in responding to cyber-attacks, data breaches, compliance matters and system assessments.

KENNETH G. ANDERSON

Partner
Haight Brown & Bonesteel LLP



KEN Anderson is the leader of Haight Brown & Bonesteel's Food Safety Litigation Practice Group and has emerged as a thought leader in the field. Anderson has been

selected as the National Coordinating counsel for defendants in major national listeriosis outbreaks for soft cheese, cantaloupe and apples. Additionally, he assists in risk transfer and public relations management during a listeriosis outbreak associated with onions.

In a recent national listeriosis case, Anderson was praised by a mediator who shared the belief that without Anderson's personality, integrity and perseverance the case would have failed to settle. In December of 2015, Anderson spoke to The Peanut Council, a food producing industry group, on the lessons learned from cantaloupe litigation, including strategies to be best prepared for the inevitable and unfortunate food safety recall and its ramifications. At the 2015 Alaska Environmental Health Association, he helped deliver the keynote presentation on food and safety titled "The Future of Food Regulation in Time of Government Deficits and Downsizing."

DINO BARAJAS

Partner
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld



A partner in Akin Gump's global project finance and corporate practices, Dino Barajas is one of the nation's foremost domestic and international project devel-

opment and finance attorneys. He is renowned for his substantial and substantive knowledge and experience and his successful track record of executing significant deals throughout the United States, Latin America and the Caribbean.

His practice involves domestic and international project financings in the energy, power, infrastructure and commercial sectors, with particular emphasis on Latin American infrastructure project financings, debt financings, and mergers and acquisitions. Additionally, Barajas is a member of the Los Angeles office's diversity committee. Within the last year, Barajas has been involved as counsel in a number of the largest infrastructure developments in the Americas, including advising Diamond Generating Corporation, a subsidiary of Mitsubishi Corporation, in its acquisition of a 50% ownership interest in an approximately 925 MW natural gas-fired power project. Simultaneously with Diamond's acquisition, the project closed a \$780 million non-recourse project financing.



We salute you.

Manatt is proud to congratulate our partners

Michelle Cooke, Victor De la Cruz and Brad Seiling

on being named among the *Los Angeles Business Journal's* Most Influential Lawyers.

Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP manatt.com

MOST INFLUENTIAL MINORITY LAWYERS

TAMBRY BRADFORD

Partner
Pepper Hamilton LLP



SINCE joining Pepper Hamilton in 2013, Tambry Hamilton has quickly established herself as a top-rate litigator, a leader in Pepper's Los Angeles office and a key contributor to the firm's efforts on the West Coast. Bradford, who was elevated to partnership this year, is a member of Pepper's Commercial Litigation and Healthcare Services Practice Groups. She focuses her practice on a wide range of complex commercial litigation matters involving contract disputes, fraud, unfair competition and product liability. As a trial attorney, she has represented individuals and public and private companies in state and federal courts.

While Bradford handles all kinds of commercial litigation matters, she has a particular focus on the health care industry. Her clients include hospitals, medical groups and other health care related organizations. As head litigator in Pepper's West Coast health care practice, Bradford is often called upon to defend the firm's healthcare clients in court, to develop litigation strategy and to mitigate litigation risk.

WILLIAM J. BRIGGS II

Partner
Venable LLP



WILLIAM J. Briggs, II, Partner with Venable LLP in Los Angeles, is recognized as a leading trial lawyer and civil litigator, with extensive experience in the entertainment industry. He provides counsel to some of the most recognizable names in the film, television, music and sports industries. His clients include actors, musicians, comedians, producers, high-net-worth individuals, celebrities, athletes and entertainers.

Briggs has successfully defended clients against multiple claims in excess of \$20 million. He has wide-ranging trial experience in state and federal courts, involving intellectual property disputes, complex entertainment contract disputes, partnership disputes, rights of publicity and first amendment issues, and employment matters. Briggs has substantial courtroom experience in disputes that involve trademarks, copyrights, the First Amendment, defamation, invasion of privacy, right of publicity, guild disputes, profit participation, royalty payments, and interpretation and enforcement of talent, executive, distribution, film and recording contracts. Additionally, Briggs provides pro bono legal services for the "I Have A Dream" Foundation and has worked with the Alliance for Children's Rights.

APALLA CHOPRA

Partner, Chair of Labor & Employment Practice
O'Melveny



APALLA Chopra is Chair of O'Melveny's Labor and Employment Practice, and a member of the Firm's Executive and Policy Committees. She specializes in litigating complex multi-plaintiff and class action discrimination and wage and hour cases. Her experience is broad as she has represented clients in cases regarding employee allegations of invasion of privacy, wrongful discharge, and discrimination based on age, race, sex, national origin, physical handicap, and related matters. Chopra also has represented clients in traditional labor matters under the National Labor Relations Act and Educational Employment Relations Act, and has experience negotiating collective bargaining agreements and executive employment contracts.

Chopra is also among a handful of lawyers that colleges and universities turn to for their most complex and high profile legal challenges, including Title IX and Clery Act investigations and follow-on litigation into their handling of sexual assault allegations. She's become the national go-to lawyer for Title IX investigations and follow-on litigation over how universities handle sexual assault allegations, an issue spreading throughout colleges across the country.

ANDREW CHOUNG

Partner/Head of Patent & Tech. Practice
Glaser Weil Fink Howard Avchen & Shapiro LLP



ANDREW Choung is a Partner and Head of Patent and Technology Practice in Glaser Weil's Intellectual Property practice group, specializing in patent litigation. Choung's practice and experience runs the gamut of IP law, with a primary focus on high-tech, complex patent litigation and strategic counseling, including the development of both assertion and non-assertion monetization programs. He also advises clients on patent portfolio development, patent acquisitions and licensing, and IP due diligence.

With a footprint in both the U.S. and Asia, Choung also has experience in assisting and counseling clients on cross-border matters, including multi-country patent enforcement. He has helped Korean companies with their U.S. legal and IP issues, particularly assisting small to medium-sized Korean companies, Korean start-up companies, and Korean universities and research institutes that are inexperienced with the complexities and pitfalls of the U.S. legal system. He recently won an appeal in a precedent-setting opinion by the Federal Circuit on behalf of Nero in defense of a patent infringement lawsuit brought by JVC on various optical disc patents.

Caldwell Leslie
Caldwell Leslie & Proctor, PC

Caldwell Leslie & Proctor
is honored to congratulate

Albert Giang

on being named among the
Most Influential Minority Lawyers
by the *Los Angeles Business Journal*



MOST INFLUENTIAL MINORITY LAWYERS

WILL CHUCHAWAT
Partner & M&A Practice Chair
Sheppard Mullin



WILL Chuchawat is the Team Leader of Sheppard Mullin's M&A Team and is a partner in the Los Angeles office. He was one of the youngest ever partners in Sheppard's 90-year history and one of the fastest ever to earn the title. He was the firm's first cross border M&A attorney, relocating to Shanghai in 2007-2009 to build Sheppard's corporate practice in China (which was Sheppard's first international office).

Chuchawat is an advisor to private equity and public and private companies in the US and internationally. He is the go-to M&A attorney for a broad spectrum of clients. He represents clients in all industries, including A&D (where he co-heads the industry team), healthcare, biosciences, financial services, TMT, manufacturing, food and beverage and consumer. In 2015, he closed 34 deals and had 3,390.8 billable hours. Currently, he is handling 26 M&A deals (acquisitions or sales) in industries ranging from healthcare to A&D to consumer to Oil & Gas to everything in between.

MICHELLE COOKE
Partner and Co-Chair, Intellectual Property Practice
Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP



MICHELLE Cooke continues to build a high profile and expansive practice in the trademark field. Her work spans many industries with her client list including Universal Studios, publicly traded Alliance Healthcare, Eurostar and others. She has specialized in the trademark arena for over 20 years, and since joining Manatt, she has been able to extend her experience in developing and executing brand-centric legal strategies for multiple existing firm clients, particularly in entertainment, multimedia and consumer products.

Cooke is a recognized leader in the intellectual property field. Universal City Studios first engaged her several years ago to develop and implement trademark enforcement strategies for merchandise from certain film franchises in emerging markets such as South America and Asia-Pacific. Among her roles for this client is her spearheading enforcement and protection efforts for multiple Universal divisions for different film franchises on a global basis including major markets such as the United States and Europe.

VICTOR DE LA CRUZ
Partner @ Co-Chair, Land Use Practice
Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP



VICTOR De la Cruz has become recognized as one of the leading land use and government attorneys in Los Angeles. Co-Chair of the Central City Association's Housing, Land Use & Development Committee, the leading voice of business on development issues facing Los Angeles, and National Co-Chair of Manatt's Real Estate & Land Use Practice, De la Cruz is widely sought out for complex and controversial projects at the intersection of law and government.

De la Cruz stands out in his ability to not only handle the technical legal aspects of a real estate development project and government contract matter, but also to quarterback its political, pre-litigation, public relations and media strategies. In the past two years, he has served as lead counsel on various high profile matters, including representation of Kilroy Realty on its \$300 million Academy Square project off Sunset and Vine in the heart of Hollywood, for which he is currently handling the land use entitlement and California Environmental Quality Act review for the marquee 3.5-acre project.

DENNIS S. ELLIS
Partner Litigation Department
Paul Hastings LLP



DENNIS Ellis is a partner in the Litigation Department of Paul Hastings and is the Global Chair of the Complex Litigation and Arbitration practice group. Ellis concentrates his practice in the defense of consumer class actions, complex commercial cases, mass and toxic tort litigation, and product liability lawsuits. Ellis also has a thriving practice representing plaintiffs in various business litigation matters, including copyright, trademark, trade secret and breach of contract actions.

Ellis has worked for a diverse group of clients, including major retail chains, cosmetic, petroleum, pharmaceutical and manufacturing companies, and internationally known celebrities. Among other clients, he is currently representing his cosmetic client L'Oréal USA, Inc. in multiple class actions, pending in state and federal court, alleging false advertising and unfair competition. He also represented the General Electric Company as lead counsel in a breach of contract and fraud case (based on failed negotiations surrounding a purchase of medical device patents), which lead to a motion for summary judgment granted in favor of GE.

DIVERSITY

INCLUSION IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS

We believe that diversity and inclusion are fundamental to our success. Congratulations to **Emilio Gonzalez** for being named one of the "Most Influential Minority Lawyers."





DAVIS WRIGHT TREMAINE
"Innovative Law Firm of the Year"

Anchorage | Bellevue | Los Angeles | New York | Portland
San Francisco | Seattle | Shanghai | Washington, D.C. | DWT.COM/DIVERSITY

 Davis Wright Tremaine LLP

MOST INFLUENTIAL MINORITY LAWYERS

E. MARTIN ESTRADA

Partner
Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP



FRESH off the heels of winning the Justice Department's top award for obtaining convictions in one of the nation's largest RICO organized crime prosecutions, E.

Martin Estrada joined Munger, Tolles & Olson and set about defending major companies and civic institutions in their most complicated cases. With a full caseload of defending The Norton Simon Museum in an art restitution case, Wells Fargo in a consumer sales practices lawsuit, Southern California Edison in an environmental crimes case, LG Electronics in a multi-district, federal antitrust case, and defending companies and high-level corporate executives in confidential investigations, Estrada is playing a critical role in a number of highly publicized, high-stakes and complex matters that are critical to the Southern California business community.

In addition to his extensive work for corporate clients, Estrada is trial counsel for one of the largest educational-rights cases in the country. The lawsuit – which is the first of its kind – seeks to establish equal rights to education for Latinos, Native Americans and other groups in New Mexico.

YESENIA M. GALLEGOS

Partner
Fox Rothschild LLP



YESENIA Gallegos of Fox Rothschild is passionate about her work for clients and driving change for diverse attorneys and women in the legal profession. Named

a "Top Lawyer Under 40" and "Regional President of the Year" by the Hispanic National Bar Association in recent years, Gallegos is known for her professional excellence, integrity, leadership and commitment to the legal and Latino community. She is also an active speaker, presenting at national conferences on the topic of diversity in the legal profession and advising professionals of color on how they can change their career trajectory by obtaining strategic mentors and sponsors.

In her labor and employment practice, Gallegos represents companies in employment discrimination, harassment, retaliation cases, wage and hour class actions, and in trade-secret and non-compete litigation matters that require immediate restraining orders and injunctions in both state and federal court. Her clients range in size from local and small start-up and family-owned businesses to Fortune 500 companies.

ALBERT GIANG

Shareholder
Caldwell, Leslie & Proctor, PC



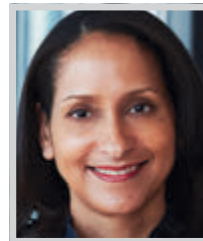
ALBERT Giang was recently elected as a shareholder at Caldwell Leslie & Proctor, PC, and is a leader in the firm's technology, appellate, and pro bono practices.

Since joining the firm after clerking for the Honorable Richard A. Paez on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, Giang has built a track record for passionate advocacy on some of the most pressing legal issues today.

Recently, Giang's most impressive work has focused on counseling technology companies, particularly in the "sharing economy." Since 2013, Giang has advised the groundbreaking ridesharing company Lyft on a wide range of regulatory and litigation matters—from defending against major driver and passenger class actions, to advising on closely scrutinized independent contractor and background check disputes, to representing Lyft on governmental relations and environmental issues. In addition to his innovative advice and counseling, Giang has been at the forefront of strategically using arbitration to help young tech companies survive existential litigation threats.

LISA GILFORD

Partner
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP



LISA Gilford is consistently recognized as one of the leading complex civil litigators in California. Her practice is focused on class actions, products liability

law and jury trials. She represents several major members of the automotive, pharmaceutical, communications, oil and gas, aerospace and chemical manufacturing industries and has earned a reputation as a "go-to" lawyer for companies facing their most challenging and significant issues. As well, superb advocacy skills have played a pivotal role in shaping the outcome of numerous class actions nationwide. Gilford has been engaged by an impressive roster of clients who have positioned her at the forefront of weighty litigation. If early, cost-effective resolutions cannot be achieved, she is highly experienced at defending class action lawsuits through the class certification process and trial.

Over the past year, while continuing to secure landmark victories for Skadden clients, Gilford has led numerous high-profile class action matters and provided diverse litigation and counseling services to organizations facing their most formidable disputes.

BIRD | MARELLA
BIRD • MARELLA • BOXER • WOLPERT • NESSIM • DROOKS • LINCENBERG • RHOW

CONGRATULATIONS

Bird Marella proudly congratulates
our Principal and colleague

Ekwan E. Rhow

on being named among the 2016
Most Influential Minority Lawyers



Bird Marella litigates complex civil and white collar criminal matters in state and federal courts across the United States. For 35 years, we have built our reputation on the quality of our lawyers and the outstanding results we achieve for our clients.

1875 Century Park East, 23rd Floor | Los Angeles, California 90067 | 310.201.2100 | www.birdmarella.com

MOST INFLUENTIAL MINORITY LAWYERS

EMILIO G. GONZALEZ

Partner
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP



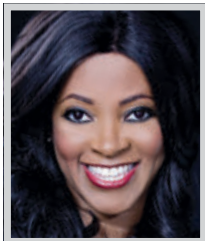
EMILIO Gonzalez is an experienced management-side trial attorney who has won jury verdicts on behalf of employers involving civil rights, discrimination

and wrongful termination claims. He has received many accolades for his work, including media recognition after his trial team successfully obtained a post-trial order reversing a \$7.1 million verdict in 2016.

In an area where matters typically settle, Gonzalez has significant experience taking cases to trial and winning. For example, in *Brady v. The Walt Disney Company, et al.*, Gonzalez led a team in this high-profile age discrimination and wrongful termination case filed against Walt Disney Pictures by its former Story Department director. The case had the potential to tap into a preconceived narrative about Hollywood's bias toward the young, but Gonzalez succeeded in getting the case dismissed at summary judgment, persuading the judge that Disney's decision had everything to do with talent and nothing to do with age.

SAMANTHA C. GRANT

Partner
Mitchell, Silberberg & Knupp LLP



As National Diversity and Inclusion Chair and Partner for Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp, Samantha Grant has been a trailblazer in diversity for the firm. Under

her guidance and leadership, she has single handedly driven the efforts of MSK's impact on the legal profession as a whole, as well as the broader community, on matters of diversity.

Aside from Grant's championing the topic of diversity for MSK and the broader community, she juggles her extracurricular efforts with her charismatic force in the labor and employment department at the firm. She consistently and successfully represents employers in a wide variety of matters. She is an effective advocate for employers in arbitration, administrative, and trial proceedings, and provides the highest quality legal work and delivers superior litigation results due to her strong analytical, strategic, and problem solving skills. Her excellent negotiation and interpersonal skills allow her to obtain remarkably favorable settlements, usually without the use or cost of a mediator, when early resolution is consistent with a client's objectives.

ELLIOT HINDS

Partner Transactions and Corp Energy
Crowell & Moring LLP



ELLIOT Hinds is a partner in Crowell & Moring's Los Angeles office and focuses his practice on corporate and energy matters. While he is deeply engaged in energy

transactions, Elliot also works with clients in a variety of other capital-intensive industries, including manufacturing, health care, and technology.

Hinds works extensively on mergers and acquisitions, debt financings, project development and finance, and joint ventures. The projects he has worked on include renewable energy (including wind, geothermal, solar, and biomass), natural gas, cogeneration and coal-fired electric power, liquefied natural gas, and bioethanol facilities. He has handled many billions of dollars of energy project finance transactions and worked on some of the first merchant facilities to be developed and/or owned in a fully deregulated environment. He represents several wind and solar energy project developers, technology companies (some of whom bridge the energy and technology sectors), manufacturers of equipment, lubricants, and other products and companies in the health care space.

VICTOR JIH

Partner
Irell & Manella LLP



A litigation partner in the Los Angeles office of Irell & Manella, Victor Jih has significant experience in a broad selection of complex litigation matters, at both

the trial and appellate levels. His areas of practice include entertainment, copyright and trademark, First Amendment, unfair competition, consumer privacy, class action defense, contract and other commercial disputes in forums across the nation. Jih's major clients in recent years include computer software companies and hardware manufacturers, major motion picture studios, and other large companies in the Internet, entertainment and retail industries.

In the last year, Jih has been involved in some of the most-watched cases concerning internet privacy and copyright. Recent victories include defeating a putative class action filed against Hulu alleging violations of the Video Privacy Act. More recently, he delivered a huge victory to client CBS in a California class action lawsuit for which Jih came up with a novel argument, convincing the judge to grant summary judgment for CBS.

Ranked among the
Los Angeles Business Journal's
2016 Most Influential Minority Lawyers

**Yesenia M. Gallegos**

Co-chair, Diversity Committee
Partner, Labor & Employment Department

**Darrell D. Miller**

Chair, Entertainment Department
Los Angeles Office Managing Partner

We salute the achievements of our colleagues



Fox Rothschild LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

750 attorneys | 22 offices nationwide

1800 Century Park East, Suite 300 | Los Angeles, CA 90067 | 310.598.4150

MOST INFLUENTIAL MINORITY LAWYERS

TRACEY KENNEDY

Partner
Sheppard Mullin



TRACEY Kennedy is the go-to Los Angeles trial attorney in Sheppard Mullin's Labor and Employment practice group who is routinely retained to try cases. She is in high demand to try virtually any type of employment or business related case and has an impressive win record. An experienced trial attorney, she has tried to verdict in state and federal court employment matters such as age, race, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, and disability discrimination and harassment, as well as retaliation, and wrongful termination.

Among her recent wins, in May of this year, she obtained a complete defense verdict for Whole Foods on a harassment case. A month prior, she obtained a significant defense verdict for Taco Bell as to a \$122 million PAGA claim for a wage and hour class action. After the jury trial, the class sought PAGA penalties of \$122 million in a two-day bench trial, the court found that there was no legal basis to award any PAGA penalties -- an important victory for Taco Bell.

YUKIKO KOJIMA

Partner, Infrastructure Practice
Nossaman LLP



YUKIKO Kojima's experience covers some of the most important public-private partnership (PPP) and innovatively delivered projects in the US and Canada. Kojima

was a key member of the Nossaman team that advised the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) on the procurement of a concessionaire to implement the \$2.3 billion I-4 Ultimate Managed Lanes Project, one of the largest and most complex infrastructure PPP projects in the US. Following the successful closing of the project in September of 2014, Kojima continues to assist FDOT with the implementation of the Project, which is scheduled to be completed in 2021.

Kojima is also a key member of the Nossaman team advising the University of California on its \$1 billion UC Merced 2020 Campus Expansion Project, one of the largest and most innovative social infrastructure procurements in the US. She previously played a key role in advising the New York State Thruway Authority on the \$3.6 billion Tappan Zee Bridge Replacement Project.

AARON LEWIS

Special Counsel
Covington & Burling LLP



AARON Lewis practices in Covington's White Collar Defense and Investigations practice group. He has represented businesses and individuals in sensitive, high

profile internal investigations, government enforcement matters, and complex commercial litigation. Lewis began his career at Covington in the firm's Washington, DC office and returned to the firm in March 2015 after six years of service in the Department of Justice to help open Covington's Los Angeles office.

Since then, Lewis has worked on a number of important matters, including representation of an aerospace and defense company in connection with a DOJ-led investigation of alleged violations of the False Claims Act; representation of a municipal contractor in connection with a fraud investigation and prosecution led by the Los Angeles U.S. Attorney's Office; and representation of an apparel manufacturer in connection with a false statements and obstruction of justice investigation led by a U.S. Attorney's Office. He also provided representation of a financial services company in connection with an FCPA investigation.

KEVIN S. MASUDA

Partner
Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP



SAN Diego Chargers' contemplated move to Los Angeles. DreamWorks Animation's purchase by NBCUniversal. Beats' sale to Apple. These are just a few of

the mega-deals in which Munger, Tolles & Olson corporate partner Kevin S. Masuda has played a key role. The Los Angeles-based dealmaker's practice encompasses a range of business transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, restructurings, public and private securities offerings and other business financings.

Masuda is tapped frequently by clients across a range of industries -- almost all of which call California home -- to help them navigate their most significant corporate transactions. Most recently, he served as lead counsel to MGM Resorts International in its \$900 million acquisition of Boyd Gaming Corporation's stake in Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa in Atlantic City. In a deal announced in April of this year, Masuda also represented the independent directors of the board of Glendale-based DreamWorks Animation in the company's \$3.8 billion acquisition by NBCUniversal, a division of Comcast Corporation.



real people.
real perspective.™

navigating the way

Congratulations to Arthel McDaniel, named to the *Los Angeles Business Journal's* 2016 "Most Influential Minority Lawyers." Looking through the lens of the client, Arthel identifies legal strategies that align to each client's business goals. Informed legal counsel to navigate complex waters.

Leaders stand out.

Atlanta Boston Chattanooga Chicago Dallas Denver Houston Kansas City Los Angeles
Nashville New York Phoenix Raleigh St. Louis San Francisco Washington, D.C. Wilmington

polsinelli.com

The choice of a lawyer is an important decision and should not be based solely upon advertisements. Polsinelli PC. Polsinelli LLP in California.

MOST INFLUENTIAL MINORITY LAWYERS

ARTHEL MCDANIEL IIIPrincipal
Polsinelli LLP

ARTHEL McDaniel III is an exceptional and influential attorney who has built a niche legal practice blending his experience in financial services, real estate, and

entertainment law. A creative strategist and problem solver, McDaniel works closely with clients to help them navigate the complex issues inherent in tax credit finance and capital markets transactions.

Clients rely on McDaniel for his legal acumen and deep industry knowledge and experience to achieve their business objectives. Whether representing a national tax credit syndicator or a local nonprofit developer, he uses his highly developed drafting and negotiation skills to successfully close tax credit transactions in both up and down markets. Recently, McDaniel has guided one of his clients in the disposition of investor interests in 38 apartment complexes representing in excess of 4,100 units of affordable housing valued at over \$125 million. He was instrumental in overseeing every aspect of each transaction including due diligence, as well as negotiating purchase and sale agreements.

MARCELLUS MCRAEPartner
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP

MARCELLUS McRae focuses his litigation practice on a wide variety of business disputes, internal investigations, and criminal prosecutions including

defense of individuals and corporations in cases involving allegations of financial fraud, False Claims Act violations, public corruption, violations of federal and state environmental laws, health care fraud, wrongful death, criminal antitrust violations, and other matters. He also represents and advises employers in wrongful termination, retaliation, and whistleblower claims.

McRae has first chaired numerous jury trials, bench trials, and arbitrations in both federal and state courts. Prior to joining Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, he served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney with the Criminal Division, Major Frauds Section, of the U.S. Attorney's Office in Los Angeles. A highly regarded litigator with numerous trials under his belt, McRae recently scored a complete victory for San Diego-based Bridgepoint Education by securing the dismissal with prejudice of a False Claims Act lawsuit brought against the education company and its school, Ashford University, in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California.

DARRELL D. MILLERPartner, Chair of Entertainment Department
Fox Rothschild LLP

DARRELL D. Miller is Chair of the Entertainment Department at Fox Rothschild LLP, a national firm with 750 attorneys in 22 offices coast to coast. In the

past year, he has garnered a remarkable number of accolades from the industry and his peers in recognition of his successes in closing deals for his African American entertainment industry clients. From launching a TV talk show to landing roles in major motion pictures and Broadway shows to striking deals to direct and produce, the contracts that he negotiated have made headlines for taking his clients' careers to new levels of success. His innovative techniques for effective brandbuilding have transformed many of his clients' careers.

By breaking into the elite ranks of the Director's Guild of America and taking on producer roles at the Academy Awards and Marvel Comics franchises, Miller's clients are writing a new chapter in the entertainment industry's history and clearing a path for the next generation.

NILI T. MOGHADDAMCounsel
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP

NILI T. Moghaddam is Counsel in Skadden's Los Angeles Litigation Group. Prior to joining the firm in 2014, Moghaddam served for six years as an Assistant

United States Attorney in the Central District of California where she prosecuted national security, racketeering and financial crimes.

Moghaddam is a seasoned trial lawyer who has served as counsel on a wide variety of matters at Skadden, ranging from white-collar crime to complex commercial litigation. In addition to her legal skills, Moghaddam has a strong business development acumen, demonstrated by the numerous matters she has originated during her brief tenure at Skadden. Among her recent successes, Moghaddam presented seven witnesses for the trial portion of a lawsuit brought by Ameritox, Ltd. against Millennium Laboratories, Inc. for false advertising and unfair business practices. Moghaddam also played a major role in the representation of a global healthcare corporation in a Foreign Corrupt Practices Act investigation conducted by the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.



CALIFORNIA'S BEST PERSONAL INJURY LAW FIRM

WILSHIRE LAW FIRM PLCCONGRATULATIONS TO OUR
FOUNDING PRESIDENT AND MANAGING ATTORNEY,**BOBBY SAADIAN, ESQ.**ON HIS SELECTION AS A LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL
2016 MOST INFLUENTIAL MINORITY LAWYER

Wilshire Law Firm is a full service, personal injury law firm headquartered in Los Angeles, with 20 office locations throughout California. Since 2007, we have established a reputation for providing unparalleled legal representation to accident and injury victims. Our total case winnings exceed \$100,000,000.00.

3055 Wilshire Blvd, 12th Floor | Los Angeles, California 90010 | 1.800.LA.CRASH | www.wilshirelawfirm.com

MOST INFLUENTIAL MINORITY LAWYERS

NIMISH PATEL

Partner & Vice Chairman
Mitchell, Silberberg & Knupp LLP



NIMISH Patel has a long-standing reputation for being a thought-leading corporate securities attorney. For almost 20 years he has consistently delivered

results for clients across a wide range of industries, leveraging various modalities of financing companies. Whether the venture-backed financings of the late 1990's or the roaring reverse merger and PIPEs market in the early 2000's or the massive influx of Chinese-based companies seeking capital in US markets in the late 2000's, Patel has worked on hundreds of transactions involving billions of dollars in accumulated financings.

With a pedigree that includes a CPA (formerly having practiced at Deloitte) and MBA, Patel has persistently brought a dealmaker's personality to corporate securities. In the past 12 months, Patel's clients have completed NASDAQ uplistings, closed on multi-million public offerings, concluded a nine-figure cross-border merger, and secured numerous venture financing transactions. His involvement in helping emerging growth companies secure the necessary capital to grow their business has been as consistent in the past year as it has for almost two decades.

ANGELA REDDOCK-WRIGHT

Employment & Labor Law Attorney
Reddock Law Group



ANGELA Reddock-Wright is the Founding & Managing Attorney of the Reddock Law Group, a boutique employment law firm based in downtown Los

Angeles. She and her firm were selected to manage the Project Labor Agreement (PLA) between the unions and the stadium builders for the Inglewood NFL Los Angeles Rams Stadium. This project will generate thousands of jobs in the Los Angeles County area and will be a great economic boost, with Reddock-Wright at the forefront of helping bring the project to life.

Additionally, in March of this year, Reddock-Wright was appointed to serve on the County of Los Angeles Equity Oversight Panel (CEOP). The CEOP is a one-of-a-kind body that strives to resolve employment issues before they turn into lawsuits. The CEOP is an independent oversight body made up of employment law professionals with the authority and responsibility for reviewing Los Angeles County equity investigations and making recommendations to Los Angeles County Department Heads concerning disposition and discipline.

EKWAN E. RHOW

Principal
Bird Marella PC



A high stakes litigator specializing in complex business disputes and trials, Ekwon Rhow is the go-to attorney for numerous companies spanning across a variety of

industries. Countless General Counsels of organizations such as Vizio, Hyundai, Samsung, and Xerox have vouched for Rhow and his overall practice, and a number of them have indicated publicly that he is one of the top Asian American trial lawyers in California.

Rhow's in-depth knowledge, tenacity, and commitment to clients have brought him much success, as well as an impressive roster of clientele. Within the last year alone, he has had a string of victories on behalf of major national and international companies, including a dismissal of a consumer class action against online retailer, Newegg Inc., securing the dismissal of a copyright infringement lawsuit on behalf of Korea's largest entertainment and media conglomerate, CJ E&M, and obtaining a summary judgment of a consumer class action against Hyundai Motor Company.

ERIC RICHARDS

Partner
O'Melveny



As a top corporate and project finance attorney, Eric Richards has been redefining the way major infrastructure projects are developed and financed.

While based in Los Angeles, his work spans the globe, advising clients on projects involving investment in U.S. seaports, and on international deals such as the acquisition of airports in Northern Ireland and Sweden.

At O'Melveny, Richards' practice focuses on project finance and infrastructure investment and development. He represents sponsors, developers, investors, financial institutions, and others in investment-related transactions involving infrastructure assets across a wide range of sectors. He is particularly experienced in transactions involving transportation infrastructure, including airports, seaports, rail, and surface transportation projects, as well as public-private partnerships and the privatization of governmentally-owned assets. He has worked on transactions throughout a majority of the United States, Asia, Latin America, Europe, and Africa. Notably, Richards has also been instrumental in bringing the public-private partnership (PPP) financing model—which has been successful in funding developments abroad—to sophisticated transportation enterprise and social infrastructure projects in the US.



It is not a matter of if, but when.

Anticipate. Alleviate. Control. We mitigate your concerns with the wisdom of our knowledge and experience. We consider the unknown, clarify the right path and act accordingly. All to ensure a smooth journey to your success. 19 offices nationwide. Over 200 attorneys. Always ready to ease the way.

wshblaw.com

877 974-2529

WSHB
WOOD • SMITH • HENNING • BERMAN
Legal Services Without Limits

MOST INFLUENTIAL MINORITY LAWYERS

BOBBY SAADIAN
*Founding President & Managing Attorney
Wilshire Law Firm*



Bobby Saadian is the founding President of Wilshire Law Firm where he has worked extensively to award victims of sexual assault and vehicular accidents leading to catastrophic injuries. He has represented thousands of clients and won millions of dollars in verdicts and settlements – amounting to more than \$100 million. In 2014-2015 he was awarded the prestigious Litigator Aware by the Trail Lawyer Board of Regents.

Saadian and his legal team helped obtain a \$17.1 million verdict for an 85-year-old bus accident victim who had suffered catastrophic injuries, including an amputated leg. Although the bus company refused to accept liability, Saadian was able to fight the case in trial and achieve a huge verdict. Saadian is also regularly sought out by major media outlets for his legal insight and commentary on notable and high profile accidents. Saadian also champions several charitable causes and serves on the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Trial Lawyer Charities.

BRAD SEILING
*Partner
Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP*



Brad Seiling serves as co-chair of Manatt’s Class Action Practice Group. His practice focuses on the defense of consumer class action lawsuits in state and federal courts. He has a long and successful track record of defending class actions filed against clients in the financial services, healthcare, direct marketing, entertainment, publishing and insurance industries.

His experience defending class action lawsuits ranges from challenges to the pleadings through trial and appeal. His philosophy is to seek the most efficient and expeditious way to eliminate the risk of the class action for the client. He has defeated class certification in trial and appellate courts. He also has broad experience in negotiating favorable settlements of class actions and defending those settlements when challenged by objectors. His cases often involve cutting-edge legal issues that have significant impact for his clients and entire industries. For example, he recently employed novel arguments to successfully defend a marketer of a dietary supplement in a case alleging false advertising.

CASSANDRA SETO
*Partner
O’Melveny*



Cassandra Seto is a litigator with vast experience in copyright and intellectual property issues, complex contract disputes, and business torts. She represents entertainment and media companies including motion picture and television studios, publishing companies, and satellite radio broadcasters, among others.

In the past few years alone, Seto has managed some of O’Melveny’s most high-profile cases and secured key victories for her media and entertainment clients. After years of hard-fought litigation, she helped Warner Bros. and DC Comics secure rights to the iconic Superman character. A theory asserted by the heirs’ of Superman’s creators, Joe Shuster and Jerry Siegel, threatened to shut down all future Superman works absent an enormous settlement. In 2013 and 2014, Seto’s team obtained decisive rulings confirming that the Siegels and Shusters granted 100% of their Superman rights to Warner Bros. and DC Comics, and were barred from recapturing those rights under the Copyright Act’s termination provisions. She has also represented Sirius XM in a series of landmark lawsuits and has scored key victories for Disney.

ALFRED SMITH
*Partner, Chairman of Nossaman’s Water
Practice
Nossaman LLP*



Alfred Smith, Chair of Nossaman’s Water Practice Group, is a recognized expert in water and environmental law. A graduate of the Harvard Law School, he has secured more than \$500 million worth of contamination settlements in favor of his clients. Alfred has successfully litigated at all levels. His accomplishments include helping negotiate one of California’s largest water contamination mitigation settlements in favor of his clients and winning a unanimous decision from the U.S. Supreme Court. Smith is a trusted advisor on matters involving water rights, contamination remediation, groundwater adjudications, water transfers, recycled water, desalination, conjunctive use, climate change, and environmental regulatory compliance. He has also developed water supply assessments and environmental impact reports for a wide range of residential and commercial developments.

Recently, during a time period where we have seen issues relating to water ratchet up significantly given the ongoing drought conditions throughout California, Smith has been involved on a number of matters that will have a profound impact on water statewide.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR
FRIEND AND COLLEAGUE**

TAMBRY BRADFORD

2016 Most Influential
Minority Lawyer Nominee

Berwyn
Boston
Detroit
Harrisburg
Los Angeles
New York
Orange County
Philadelphia
Pittsburgh
Princeton
Silicon Valley
Washington
Wilmington

pepper.law

Pepper Hamilton LLP
Attorneys at Law

LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL

**FASHION
AWARDS**

**Awards will be presented
in the following categories**

- Trendsetter
- Social Responsibility
- Supplier of the Year
- Rising Brand
- Philanthropy of the Year
- Technology Innovation
- Direct to Consumer
- Made in California
- Professional Service Provider

PRESENTING SPONSORS

MOSS-ADAMS LLP
Certified Public Accountants | Business Consultants

GOLD SPONSOR
Greenberg Glusker

To nominate someone for this event, please visit
www.labusinessjournal.com/bizevents

MOST INFLUENTIAL MINORITY LAWYERS

MAURICE SUH

Co-Chair, Sports Law Practice Group
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP



MAURICE Suh is Co-Chair of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher's Sports Law Practice Group and is a member of the Litigation Department and its White Collar

Defense and Investigations and Crisis Management Practice Groups. He focuses his practice on business litigation and the representation of clients in conjunction with white collar, compliance and related government enforcement actions. As Co-Chair of the firm's Sports Law Practice Group, he leads a team representing a wide range of clients in matters relating to professional and amateur sports, including individual teams, sports facilities, athletic associations, athletes, financial institutions, television networks, sponsors and municipalities.

Suh has previously served as Deputy Mayor of Homeland Security and Public Safety for the City of Los Angeles. As Deputy Mayor, he developed the Office of Homeland Security and Public Safety, which has responsibility over the Los Angeles Police Department, Los Angeles Fire Department and the Emergency Preparedness Department and their combined 17,500 employees and \$1.7 billion budget.

KENJI TATSUGI

Partner Transactional
Holland & Knight LLP



KENJI Tatsugi is the head of the West Coast Corporate, Mergers & Acquisitions and Securities Practice Group for Holland & Knight and a member of the firm's Inter-

national & Cross-Border Transactions group, with a specific emphasis on the Japan practice. In particular, over the past year, his practice has focused on advising international entrepreneurs. This area will continue to grow, and legal service providers will have to cater to their needs.

Recent work highlights include his efforts on behalf of Nobu. Tatsugi's representation includes the negotiation of various international deals, including representing Nobu in a deal valued at \$100 million where an Australian billionaire acquired a 20% interest in the Nobu companies. He also represented the expansion of Nobu Hotel & Restaurant, a venture with actor Robert De Niro, Nobu Matsuhisa & movie producer Meir Teper. Nobu Hotel has now opened in Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, Miami, and Manila. Upcoming locations include London, Riyadh, and Chicago.

ELLISEN S. TURNER

Partner, Hiring Chair
Irell & Manella LLP



IRELL & Manella partner Ellisen S. Turner is an IP litigator whose practice includes patent and trade secret litigation, patent post-grant proceedings and IP transactions. He

has also excelled in pre-litigation counseling, successfully resolving disputes for many companies before claims are even filed. Turner is increasingly sought after to facilitate the sale and acquisition of patent and technology portfolios. Turner has been responsible for writing successful briefs in both the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court of the United States. He has also successfully represented clients as both claimants and respondents in patent infringement proceedings before the International Trade Commission and in the International Court of Arbitration.

Turner has achieved victories in IP matters across the federal courts, in the ITC and in international arbitration, netting billions of dollars in value for clients. Also successful on the defense side, he most recently successfully defended T-Mobile by securing a dismissal of a trademark and unfair competition lawsuit brought by Simply Wireless in January of this year.

DEBRA WONG YANG

Co-Chair, Crisis Management
Practice Group
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP



DEB Wong Yang focuses her practice on corporate crime and compliance. She has also served as a DOJ-appointed monitor over an orthopedic manufacturing company

with health care compliance and regulatory issues. She has represented companies and boards in internal investigations, compliance matters, and criminal investigations. In addition, she has provided advice on matters relating to FCPA, trade secrets, and cyber/data intrusions. She has overseen teams of attorneys conducting internal investigations and has reviewed compliance programs in a variety of industries. She previously served as the U.S. Attorney for the Central District of California and was the first Asian-American woman to serve as a U.S. Attorney.

Among her recent matters has been the representation of DraftKings, a high-profile online daily fantasy sports company now facing an onslaught of challenges to its business model related to data security and online gaming. She is co-lead of a Gibson Dunn team representing the company in all federal governmental inquiries into DraftKings' practices, and in a majority of states Attorneys General, and the FTC.



Alfred Smith



Yukiko Kojima

influential
...having an impact on or shaping how things occur

Nossaman congratulates
Alfred Smith and Yukiko Kojima
on being recognized as
Los Angeles' "Most Influential Minority Attorneys."

At Nossaman, our commitment to
a diverse and inclusive environment
is part of our core values.

NOSSAMAN LLP

LOS ANGELES | SAN FRANCISCO | ORANGE COUNTY | SACRAMENTO | WASHINGTON, DC | AUSTIN | SEATTLE

nossaman.com

crowell  **moring**



Congratulations **Elliot Hinds**

Recognized by the Los Angeles
Business Journal as a **Most Influential
Minority Lawyer**

CROWELL.COM