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The Los Angeles Business Journal will honor the significant role that in-house counsel plays in the success of a business enterprise and recognize the accomplishments of leading attorneys and firms within the Los Angeles business community.

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Yemi Adegbonmire
General Counsel
The Bail Project

Yemi Adegbonmire is a highly successful intellectual property and entertainment attorney. She currently serves as the general counsel of The Bail Project, a position she’s held since January 2019. Prior to joining The Bail Project, she was a legal executive at the Walt Disney Company, where she served as legal counsel to ABC Media Networks, Maker Studios Inc., Disney Consumer Products and Interactive Media, and Disney’s Direct to Consumer and International Division from 2014-2019. Before landing at Disney, Adegbonmire practiced trademark law for Red Monkey Designs negotiating licensing for Hasbro properties and managing the company’s merchandise and trademark defense strategy. She was also a solo practitioner for a couple of years and developed a Fortune 100 and private practice focused on structuring and negotiating agreements for cable distribution, consumer products licensing, viral marketing, digital content production, product acquisition, music publishing, international film and prime time television distribution.

Nada Alnajafi
Corporate Counsel
Franklin Templeton

Nada Alnajafi is an award-winning attorney with dynamic experience serving as in-house counsel for private and public companies in the technology sector for over ten years. She currently serves as corporate counsel for Franklin Templeton, a Fortune 500 global financial services organization, where she handles contract negotiations and management, data privacy, intellectual property, and other transactional matters.

Like the modern attorney she is, Alnajafi’s career path wasn’t linear. Having graduated law school during the recession, she didn’t have the luxury of being picky about her first job. She started out in litigation, hated it then started her own law firm, hated it then went into consulting, loved it and eventually found her way home. She worked hard and took each new experience in as a learning opportunity. Now, her diverse background is one of the key components to her success as an in-house attorney.

Brandon Braga
General Counsel and Corporate Secretary
The Agency

Prior to joining The Agency as general counsel, Brandon Braga practiced law for more than a decade at some of Los Angeles’ most prestigious law firms including Beddouzhi & Dadieh, LLP and Manning & Kass, Ellrod, Ramirez, Trester LLP. His legal expertise covers employment, professional liability, corporate and intellectual property litigation and transactional matters and he also serves as a patent attorney. Throughout his career, he has been tasked with some of the most challenging and complex cases, and has relied on his depth of experience and knowledge to secure successful results.

Braga holds a multifaceted role within the leadership team and oversees the firm and its affiliates’ legal affairs, including litigation, intellectual property, corporate and franchising matters, as well as developing, implementing and overseeing risk management policies and procedures. Braga aims to expand the legal department as The Agency grows its global real estate footprint.

Joseph Brajevich
General Counsel
Los Angeles Department of Water & Power

Joseph Brajevich was born in Split, Croatia and learned English at four after he and his parents immigrated to the United States and took up residence in San Pedro. After a successful career in private practice representing colorful individuals and corporations, Brajevich joined the LA City Attorney’s office in 2004 and initially was assigned to tackle water issues at LADWP. LADWP is the nation’s largest municipal utility and meets the water and power demands of the City’s four million people and businesses.

Brajevich rose through the ranks and was eventually appointed General Counsel by current City Attorney Mike Feuer in 2016. Throughout the years, he has guided LADWP as it takes bold actions to adapt to climate change, including advising on construction and power purchase deals for renewable sources and overseeing fruitful negotiations with large corporations to remEDIATE contaminated local groundwater.

Javier Avitia
Executive Vice President, Business & Legal Affairs
Virgin Orbit

The son of immigrant parents from Mexico, Javier Avitia grew up as a migrant farmworker in the Central Valley of California. His life changed when he went to college at UC Davis under an affirmative action program. A year abroad in Spain and then Harvard Law School catapulted Avitia into a world he and his parents could not imagine. He has been a lawyer for 33 years and has worked in the entertainment industry (Universal, Paramount, CBS and ViacomCBS) for the last 27 years.

Since 2014, Avitia has been the head lawyer for the division distributing CBS and Showtime content internationally, including Paramount movies since the merger of Viacom and CBS at the end of 2019. He leads a team of lawyers and contract administrators based in Los Angeles, New York, London, Amsterdam and Budapest, and together, they oversee business and legal affairs for a multi-billion dollar distribution business.

Derrick Boston
Chief Administrative Officer and General Counsel
Virgin Orbit

Derrick Boston joined Virgin Orbit with nearly three decades of experience in an accomplished business leader and attorney. Since starting his career at Irell & Manella LLP, where he became a partner, Boston has established a strong track record as the co-founder and leader of several start-up and emerging growth technology companies. Boston has been an excellent leader and colleague since the moment he joined the team. He’s taken on roles and responsibilities well outside of his initial remit, and done them extremely well. His teams are consistently among the most engaged and most empowered at the company.

Before his current role at Virgin Orbit, Boston managed three Panavision businesses as president of its Advanced Imaging Group. He then moved on to lead business development and the Legal Department at Panavision as executive vice president and general counsel. Boston holds undergraduate and law degrees from Harvard.

Ken Choi
General Counsel
Oceaneer Plaza LLC

Ken Choi is general counsel of Oceaneer Plaza LLC, where he oversees the company’s risk management operations by leading corporate strategic and tactical legal initiatives for Oceaneer Holdings’ U.S. real estate flagship, an over $1 billion dollar project with nearly 1.5 million square feet of mixed-use development across from the Staples Center. In this role, Choi leads a team that serves as legal advisors on all major real estate and business transactions at Oceaneer Plaza, including the over 166,000 square foot open-air retail galleria known as the Collection at Oceaneer Plaza, the 184-room Park Hyatt Los Angeles hotel and 504 contemporary residences.

Prior to Oceaneer, Choi was a Partner at DiHllo Law Group specializing in real estate Litigations and transactions, including due diligence processing for multi-million dollar real estate developments. There, he specialized in business and real estate matters including negotiating contracts for buying, selling, leasing, and constructing properties.

Malissia Clinton
Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary
The Aerospace Corporation

Malissia Clinton is the senior vice president, general counsel, and secretary for The Aerospace Corporation (Aerospace), the preeminent federally funded research and development center for the space enterprise, including the U.S. Space Force. In this role, she serves as a strategic partner to the CEO on a broad range of transactional and governance issues — which include compliance, strategy, ethics, mission, and culture. Her even greater role is being a role model and leader at Aerospace.

Whether called upon by organizations to help their leadership teams promote, recruit, and retain a diverse workforce or asked to speak on a panel, Clinton is always ready to put words and thoughts into action. For example, she dedicates her personal time to advancing the recruitment, retention, and representation of African American engineers at Aerospace. With 25 years of experience practicing law, Clinton maintains a commitment to corporate governance, diversity, and social justice.
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Catherine Lerer
FOUNDER OF MCGEE, LERER & ASSOCIATES

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**KHOI DANG**
EVP/General Counsel  
First Choice Bank

Khoi Dang was instrumental both in taking First Choice Bank public, as well as closing incredibly complex commercial credit transactions. As EVP/general counsel for the bank, Dang deftly balances the legal aspects of each deal along with the client’s expectations. Dang works tirelessly to ensure the Bank is in compliance with ever-changing regulatory guidelines, while simultaneously managing three separate departments within the Bank. He consistently leverages technology to keep the Bank competitive and conducts staff training to ensure the team is best utilizing all available resources. Dang has impeccable ethics with all aspects of the job and is an approachable and effective leader for First Choice Bank. He is respected by the staff and is a true team player.

**SABINA CLORFEINE**
Assistant General Counsel - Special Counsel  
Southern California Gas Company  
(Sempra Energy Subsidiary)

As a woman of color and the daughter of two immigrant parents, Sabina Clorfeine overcame multiple challenges and has had a very successful career. She also had two children to raise while working full-time throughout her career. Clorfeine has been practicing law for over 20 years. She was a litigator at Katten Muchin & Zavis, and then at Milbank Twed Hadley & McCloy. Clorfeine joined Sempra Energy in 2007 as a senior counsel and worked her way up to a managing attorney. As Southern California Gas Company, she led and managed attorneys handling administrative legal proceedings for the company. Since May 2017, she has been the lead attorney for all Aliso Canyon gas leak matters, including complex civil litigation, multiple state agency enforcement actions, a criminal case, shareholder cases, and related appellate matters. She is a dynamic leader who acts with integrity and enjoys problem solving with her high performing legal team.

**MICHAEL CORDOVA**
General Counsel  
Zero Parallel, LLC

Michael Cordova came aboard at Zero Parallel in 2018 in the role of corporate counsel. Within eight months he was promoted to general counsel as his background, experience and skill set matched the knowledge and qualities that Zero Parallel sought for a general counsel. During his time at Zero Parallel, Cordova has re-branded and re-developed the company’s Legal and Compliance Department. He has implemented compliance and legal protocols to help the organization grow to the next level. In addition, he has successfully supported various departments to help the different teams obtain the organization’s overall goals as well. He reports directly to the company’s president/founder and CE/CEO.

**ISIAH COSTAS**
Deputy General Counsel  
21 Alpha Group

Isiah Costas serves as deputy general counsel of 21 Alpha Group, a national network of real estate development, management and investment companies in the multifamily housing and hotel industries. He oversees all litigation, some of which he keeps in-house, and provides expert and strategic legal advice on corporate, compliance, development, financing, leasing, operation, acquisition and disposition matters. In this capacity, Costas has assisted in over $150 million in debt transactions and related acquisitions/dispositions, navigated complex fair housing issues and programs at the federal and local levels, and guides 21 Alpha Group through the ever-changing maze of novel coronavirus laws. Additionally, Costas assists a national nonprofit with its affordable housing activities and its mission to serve lower income households. Costas strongly believes in increasing the national affordable housing supply and matching the lives of at-risk populations.

**RACHEL CROSSMANN**
In-House Counsel & Acquisitions  
Kobre Companies/Trojan Storage

Rachel Crossmann began her career in law as a practicing attorney in Miami-Dade County. She dedicated herself to her craft both in and out of the courtroom as she relentlessly worked to drive the best possible outcomes for her clients. Though she thoroughly enjoyed this work, she realized she primarily enjoyed working on longer-term engagements with clients. After spending time at both a real estate private equity and real estate private debt firms, Crossmann accepted a role as in-house counsel & acquisitions at Venice-based Kobre Companies. In this role, she serves both as corporate in-house counsel and as a member of the acquisitions team at Trojan Storage (a Kobre company). Since joining Kobre, Crossmann has become a trusted member of the team at both Kobre Companies & Trojan Storage as they look to build out many facets of their rapidly growing businesses.

**ALAN DETTELBACH**
Chief Legal Officer/General Counsel  
Wedgewood

Alan Dettelbach serves as chief legal officer and general counsel of Wedgewood, LLC, one of the nation’s leading acquirers of distressed residential real estate, and CVC Financial Services, LLC—a wholly owned subsidiary and institutionalized private money lender. Dettelbach joined Wedgewood in 2012 and oversees all legal matters for the companies including acquisition transactions, financial structures, syndications, securitizations; mortgage product creation, joint ventures, corporate governance and litigation. Throughout the evolution of the company, Dettelbach has confronted many material challenges, such as helping to architect the complete restructure of the company and subsequent creation of unit awards, supporting the company’s first securitization; mediating distressed parties to a graceful conclusion; and many others. He also leads the compliance associated with Wedgewood’s HR team, all business transactions, expansion into new states, and relationships with new counterparties.

**NICOLE DIAZ**
Global Head of Integrity & Compliance Legal  
Snap

Nicole Diaz has a very diverse professional experience, which includes working in BigLaw, being a federal clerk, working for a small litigation boutique firm, and now working for a public company. As senior counsel of litigation at Snap, Diaz has helped successfully close investigations brought by the DOJ and the SEC related to allegations asserted in federal securities class action about Snap’s IPO disclosures, obtaining written declination letters in both matters. Shortly after concluding both matters, Diaz took maternity leave. Immediately upon returning, she petitioned for and received a promotion to global head of integrity & compliance legal. In her new role, Diaz is able to use her in-depth knowledge of Snap’s business operations to further Snap’s ethical culture as a vital business differentiator, working closely with Snap’s Corporate Social Responsibility, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and Learning & Development teams.

**SAMYAH EISNER**
Deputy General Counsel  
ICANN (Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers)

Samantha Eisner, trained as an antitrust litigator, works in the dynamic Internet space advising stakeholders around the world on policy and legal issues that keep the Internet running safely and securely. Dedicated to the not-for-profit mission of ICANN, Eisner works on emerging issues such as privacy and jurisdiction. A skilled negotiator, Eisner serves as a liaison from ICANN to many working groups, including the development of a grant program to deliver over USD 100 million to causes that support ICANN’s mission, and groups evaluating key technical components of the Internet. She is also skilled in corporate governance matters, serving as a leader in advancing a focus on ethics within ICANN, as well as advising an internationally comprised Board on governance issues. She also serves on ICANN’s crisis response team to COVID.

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Anthony Gin leads legal affairs for Upfront Ventures. Prior to joining Upfront in 2019, he served as legal counsel at MedMen, one of the world’s largest cannabis retailers, where he focused on M&A and general commercial transactions. Earlier in his career, he was an attorney with Kirkland & Ellis and Simpson Thacher & Bartlett, where he advised private equity sponsors on a variety of corporate transactions including M&A, corporate finance and fund formation. Gin received a J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania Law School and a B.A. in Political Science from the UCSB.

In addition to his work for Upfront, Gin maintains philanthropic involvement with 9 Dots, a nonprofit organization committed to ensuring that all K-6 students have the opportunity to engage in a transformative computer science education. He generously uses his network and expertise in technology to help better serve the community of students in Los Angeles.

Marc Goldstone joined Prime Healthcare from Community Health Systems (CHS), where he served as vice president and associate general counsel for more than 10 years. In that role, he oversaw all legal work for more than 30 hospitals, 500 employed physicians and multiple non-hospital facilities in seven states, representing more than four billion dollars in annual revenue.

Prior to CHS, Goldstone was the senior counsel for a large, investor-owned hospital operator in Florida, handling all legal work for six acute care hospitals comprising more than 2,500 licensed beds. Earlier in his career, Goldstone was a partner in one of central New Jersey’s largest law firms, and he served as general counsel and chief legal officer of Monmouth-Ocean Hospital Service Corporation, an integrated hospital shared services consortium. In addition, Goldstone has more than 20 years’ experience working with complex statutes and regulations in healthcare.

Marc Goldstone
Senior Vice President & General Counsel
Prime Healthcare

Cassandra Hooks
Director of Legal Affairs
Niagara Bottling

Cassandra Hooks has a career spanning over 14 years of big law and in-house experience. Cassandra Hooks has built a reputation as being a solid counselor in employment, litigation, consumer packaged goods, risk management, insurance, worker’s compensation, and immigration. Her sound legal advice and warm personality are an asset to any business. Technically sound, Hooks is also resilient, quick thinking, and creative when finding business solutions.

One of the biggest life hurdles she was able to overcome was being the first person in her family to graduate college, graduating 7 months pregnant with her son after taking the LSAT, and then getting into law school. The son she had in college just turned 18 years old. Cassandra graduated from law school, became the sole breadwinner, financially supported her parents through the recession, survived and thrived in big law, and is now director of legal affairs at Niagara Bottling.

Cassandra Hooks
Director of Legal Affairs
Niagara Bottling

Clarice Hovsepian
Vice President, General Counsel
iHerb

As the general counsel at iHerb, Clarice Hovsepian has been tasked with creating and running the internal legal department of a multinational company with revenues over $1.5 billion. Her challenges include integrating legal into business seamlessly so that her group is viewed as a strategic partner which allows her team to provide legal/compliance oversight to business. She is also responsible for creating companywide legal/compliance programs that address practical business needs and yet still mitigate risk and exposure.

Heling the legal department of the fast-growing multi-billion dollar online health and wellness business that is iHerb, Hovsepian is also responsible for managing compliance in the various countries in which iHerb operates. She has repeatedly demonstrated growth and professional proficiency within a fast-paced, consumer-focused environment, and is notable for her continued success at iHerb in light of such mission-critical responsibilities.

Clarice Hovsepian
Vice President, General Counsel
iHerb

Ben Howell is a versatile attorney who is helping to presage the legal team efforts at Greenlots. Holding also a Masters in Public Accounting, Howell has a complete understanding of his company’s business needs.

Greenlots is a rapidly growing provider of EV charging solutions. As an innovative fast-paced startup with customers around the globe, the company has incredible growth opportunities throughout the United States and Asia, and Howell oversees the legal support of the organization’s growth each step of the way.

Ben Howell
General Counsel
Greenlots

ERIK GRAHAM-SMITH
General Counsel
FloQast, Inc.

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Ben Howell
General Counsel
Greenlots
Milbank proudly congratulates our partners as nominees for Los Angeles Business Journal’s 2020 Leaders in Law Awards

Deborah Conrad  
Partner  
Corporate

David Gindler  
Partner  
Intellectual Property

Allan Marks  
Partner  
Corporate

Alex G. Romain  
Partner  
Litigation

Mark Shinderman  
Partner  
Bankruptcy

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Arijun Kampani has led Aerojet Rocketdyne through the relocation of its corporate headquarters from Sacramento to El Segundo. He also reorganized, made positive changes to the balance sheet, and income and overall growth of the organization resulting in positive earnings and continued competitive bid success to secure the company client portfolio. The company is stronger, leaner than in large part due to Kampani’s efforts, and as a part of the Coast, he has helped to set it up for success into the future. Working alongside his fellow COO colleagues, Kampani participates and leads the company’s veteran outreach and military support including job training, hiring and community involvement.

Sarah Levitt handles high-risk litigation for the Fortune 200 engineering and construction company across all business lines and geographies. She manages internal investigations and ethics and compliance matters, as well as any resulting litigation. She is also responsible for critical in-house legal functions such as managing outside counsel, budgeting, e-discovery, and reporting to auditors, insurers, and Board of Directors. Prior to joining AECOM, Levitt was a federal criminal prosecutor at the U.S. Attorney’s Office for seven years, where she received various awards and commendations, including 2011 Prosecutor of the Year from International Association of Financial Crimes Investigators. She also previously worked as senior counsel, content protection at the Motion Picture Association, handling intellectual property litigation on behalf of Disney, Warner Bros., Fox, NBCUniversal, Paramount, and Sony.

Culbert Lu began his career in 2000 as a litigator with Allen Matkins. In 2004 he transitioned to work in-house with Arden Realty, a publicly-traded REIT. In 2006 GE Capital purchased Arden, and Lu helped expand Arden’s footprint across the US by completing more than $5 billion in purchase/sale transactions. He also led GE’s Leasing & Property Operations global practice group. In 2013 Lu became the general counsel, and then chief legal & HR officer at ARYZTA, a bakery manufacturer with over $2 billion in annual revenue, overseeing the entirety of its legal and people operations in North America. Lu left ARYZTA in June 2018 to become the first general counsel at OnPrem Solution Partners, a rapidly growing consulting and technology firm with offices throughout North America. Lu manages all of OnPrem’s legal function, dealing with major studios and broadcasters, as well as leading consumer product companies.

Michael Marchand graduated from the Pepperdine University School of Law in 2011. He practiced litigation with a focus on intellectual property and commercial disputes until 2015, when he joined Headspace as the company’s first legal hire. Since then, Marchand has overseen the legal function at Headspace, successfully shepherding company growth from 30+ to 300+ employees and raising more than $200 million in investment capital. Headspace provides mindfulness and meditation content to over 65 million users worldwide. Marchand’s core responsibilities at Headspace include risk identification and mitigation with respect to a variety of areas of substantive law, particularly consumer protection, data privacy, corporate governance, employment, intellectual property and regulatory compliance. Marchand has also drafted and negotiated several key partnerships and sales agreements with world-class brands such as Microsoft, Amazon, Nike, the NBA, Spotify, and Snip.

JASON LEE
Senior Managing Director General Counsel, CCO
Lido Advisors

Jason Lee is the son of immigrants that escaped China during the upheaval of the Cultural Revolution. His parents arrived without a penny to their name, relying on the grace and goodwill of their adopted Seven Day Adventist family to make their way in the country they now call home. From his parents’ central values of hard work and dedication to family, he became the first lawyer from generations that worked the land on a distant and different shore. Lee later continued this “first” by becoming the youngest and first Chinese American to serve as president (chair) of the State Bar of California.

Lee has accrued nearly 25 years of white collar and securities-related litigation, regulatory, and compliance experience in both government, private practice, and in-house settings. Although Lee joined Lido Advisors as a partner, general counsel, and chief compliance officer in 2017, his role has expanded and now encompasses the firm’s overall administrative, operational, legal, and regulatory functions.

CULBERT LU
General Counsel
OnPrem Solution Partners, LLC

MICHAEL MARCHAND
Director of Legal
Headspace

MICHAEL MARKUNAS
General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer
B. Riley Wealth Management

Prior to joining B. Riley, Michael Markunas was chief compliance officer for Athene Securities, LLC and assistant director of compliance for Athene Asset Management, L.P., responsible for all aspects of 90 Act regulatory compliance. Prior to Athene, Markunas worked at the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) and at the Investment Company Institute. He was a member of the core litigation team for several high-profile securities class action matters related to the financial crisis in New York City. Markunas previously spent 15 years at several Wall Street broker-dealers in various management and compliance roles, including with Morgan Stanley, UBS, and Wells Fargo. He holds a B.A. in Accounting and Finance and an MBA in Finance and International Economics from Loyola Marymount University. He also holds a JD from Fordham University School of Law, and a Master of Law from Georgetown University Law Center.
Congratulations to all of this year’s nominees for being recognized as Leaders in Law.

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IN-HOUSE COUNSEL NOMINEES

**STACEY MCGUIRE**  
General Counsel  
Pelican Products

Stacey McGuire has extensive experience as both a litigator and as a transactional attorney. She has worked in-house for the last 12 years in bonded and security industries. She currently serves as general counsel for Pelican overseeing the legal department. Pelican has over 1000 employees and operates in 26 countries. She has recently assisted with the acquisition of NanoCool, an Albuquerque, New Mexico-based manufacturer of temperature-controlled packaging solutions. McGuire always makes herself available as a mentor and supports other women in the profession to achieve new goals and growth.

**TANYA MENTON**  
Assistant General Counsel  
The Walt Disney Company

Tanya Menton oversees a variety of litigation matters for The Walt Disney Company and ABC, handling large complex disputes and smaller matters with equal dedication and skill. Watching her interact with other company executives and employees, both legal and non-legal, it is immediately clear that she has earned wide respect from everyone with whom she works.

Menton plays the role of in-house litigation counsel to perfection, combining her impressive legal insight and experience, with her understanding of the company’s culture and overall goals, to collaborate with outside counsel and develop winning strategies. She then trains her outside counsel to implement those strategies through the day-to-day litigation activities and decision points. She is actively involved in the Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law – Law Alumni Club of Los Angeles.

**JOE MOSCHELLA**  
EVP, General Counsel/Corporate Secretary  
Jukin Media

Joe Moschella oversees all of Jukin Media’s legal and business affairs matters, with the speed required of fast-growing businesses and a critical eye for issues affecting companies at the forefront of intellectual property. He is a former general counsel to a children’s electronics manufacturer and media company, former counsel to a theatrical distribution company, and has a history of working with international high-growth enterprises to maximize value and minimize risk. He was one of the first investor-funded hires in the early days of the company; now a 200+ person team driving more than $40 million in annual revenue.

Moschella leads contract negotiations for all material agreements and manages legal operations across four diverse business units and for Jukin’s offices in Europe and India. He also directs all arbitration, mediation, and litigation efforts and has achieved a 100% win-rate in major litigation.

**ARA H. MOVSESSIAN**  
Associate Legal Counsel  
Cordeia Corporation

As a native Armenian, Movsessian is the associate legal counsel of Cordeia Corporation, a California based full-service engineering, construction management and program management firm specializing in the delivery of infrastructure projects in the transportation, water, energy, and education sectors with offices throughout California. For over five years, Movsessian has been integral in the negotiations and execution of all contracts and legal matters, as well as a key member of the Executive Management team that oversees the operations of the company.

Movsessian received his Bachelor of Science in Public Policy Management and Planning from USC, and his Juris Doctorate from Southwestern Law School. He also sits on the board of Directors and serves as the Secretary of the Board of Armenia Fund USA, which has raised more than $130 million for humanitarian aid and infrastructure development in Armenia.

**NIKITA PATEL**  
General Counsel  
Fashionphile

Nikita Patel joined Fashionphile at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic and despite being a first-time GC (and a first-time in-house attorney), she has shown a natural ease in tackling novel and complex issues, while maintaining a focus on Fashionphile’s growth. As the first in-house attorney for Fashionphile, she brought her unique experience and knowledge and worked tirelessly to understand Fashionphile’s business, identify areas of exposure and strategic solutions. She quickly dove into building forms, policies and protocols that were tailored to the company’s unique business and workforce.

Patel also led the Company in navigating COVID-related matters such as employee privacy, return to work guidelines, CARES Act and general safety and best practices. In response to COVID, she assisted Fashionphile in launching the “White Glove Pickup” service whereby Fashionphile employees do at-home pick-ups from suppliers.

**LUIS PEREZ**  
Legal Services Director  
Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA)

Luis Perez joined CHIRLA to coordinate its Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) clinic in 2012. He is now the organization’s legal director, supervising a staff of 58 in 10 offices, including a deportation defense team. Born in Jalisco, Mexico, he was brought to the U.S. at age 9. In high school, Perez became the public face of AB540, which let undocumented immigrants pay in-state tuition at California public universities. He would later become the UCLA School of Law’s first undocumented graduate, in 2020. He holds a BA in political science from UCLA and an associate’s degree in Chicana/o Studies from Los Angeles Mission College.

Perez has built CHIRLA’s legal services department to be one of the most impactful in the country. He grew the department to a unit made up of attorneys, paralegals and legal fellows numbering 56 working in the areas of family unity, naturalization, DACA, detention and removal and asylum.

**KEITH PETERSEN**  
General Counsel  
Gimbal

Keith Petersen has been an incredible asset to the Gimbal team. For all the requests that come across his desk, he is discrete, thoughtful in his execution, and thorough in accomplishing each task in a timely manner. The integrity behind his work provides a great deal of comfort to his colleagues, knowing that they can always rely on him to keep Gimbal legally and morally above the line. He has directly assisted Gimbal’s executive team with five acquisitions, the latest being our acquisition of m4sm, which was a marketing firm for The Walt Disney Company.

In addition to the daunting undertaking of an acquisition, Petersen’s role covers much more. He is responsible for all client contracts, IP related tasks and legal filings, employee contracts, employee onboarding and disciplinary issues, client NDAs, investor updates, investor data upkeep, investor request, and keeps the company up to date with all legal business requirements/regulations/compliances, etc.

**ROB RADER**  
General Counsel and Corporate Secretary  
Ovation TV LLC

Rob Rader is general counsel and corporate secretary of Ovation TV, America’s only cable network, which is distributed on AT&T/ DIRECTV, Comcast, DISH, Time Warner Cable and Verizon in approximately 50 million households in the U.S. As Ovation TV, Rader has direct responsibility for all business and legal matters and human resources, including production, distribution, marketing, litigation, IP, real estate and corporate affairs.

Rader’s chief accomplishments for Ovation include handling all business affairs, production and clearance for over 500 annual hours of internal productions. He also obtained rights for, instituting clearance of and operationalizing “TV Everywhere” with major distributors, including AT&T/ DIRECTV, Verizon, Comcast and Time Warner cable to enable re-watch, playback, catch-up rights both in and out of home to all devices and platforms (mobile, internet, tablet), including acquiring thousands of hours of motion pictures.
CONGRATULATES

Sanford Michelman, Dana Kravetz, and Ronald Camhi on their selection by Los Angeles Business Journal as Leaders in Law nominees. These three leaders at M&R continue to achieve extraordinary successes on behalf of some of the most admired companies in L.A. and beyond.
The choice of a lawyer is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisements. Polsinelli PC, Polsinelli LLP in California.

A. JOEL RICHLIN  
Vice President & Chief Litigation Counsel  
Prime Healthcare

After a successful run at private practice specializing in healthcare, Joel Richlin was a natural fit to join Prime Healthcare, the nation’s fifth-largest health system, as its senior litigation counsel in April of 2017. In less than a year and a half, he was named deputy general counsel of Prime Healthcare, with oversight of all litigation. In that role, he oversees litigation on behalf of 46 hospitals in 14 states. To succeed in this role, he works tirelessly to develop relationships with the various business units and hospitals throughout the country to ensure that their interests are protected.

His background and strong litigation skills allow Richlin, in close consultation with outside counsel, to develop comprehensive litigation strategies in order to achieve business goals and manage litigation costs. He has his finger on the pulse of countless litigation matters throughout the country.

OREN ROSENTHAL  
Associate Counsel, Senior Director  
L.A. Care Health Plan

Oren Rosenthal is an associate counsel in L.A. Care Health Plan, the nation’s largest publicly operated health plan. In that role, he manages L.A. Care’s litigations and arbitrations, and provides legal advice on a wide range of subjects, including pending and potential legal disputes, healthcare law, enterprise risk management, and compliance. He regularly represents L.A. Care in court proceedings, mediations, and arbitrations.

Rosenthal is routinely engaged in the facts and legal issues, and he will provide whatever resources he can to outside counsel. He comprehends the big issues and the small ones of any given case; and has an exceptionally acute sense of the “next move” that will direct a dispute toward a favorable resolution. In short, he willingly goes the “extra mile” and does not compromise pursuing excellence.

PATTI SABEL  
Vice President & General Counsel  
Herbalife International of America, Inc.

Patti Sabel has been with Herbalife for nearly 10 years, and during her tenure, she had immeasurable value to the company. She is always looking out for Herbalife’s best interests, and consistently provides proactive advice and counsel to keep the organization looking forward. She ensures the company complies with the myriad employment laws throughout the country — which is no small task, as each state, county and city Herbalife operates in has different employment and labor laws.

Sabel understands litigation and best practices to avoid it. Preventive counseling is the most valuable legal asset a company can have — staying out of litigation in the first place is far more cost-effective and productive than defending it. When litigation does come up, she meticulously approaches the issue and leaves no stone unturned. She prepares her outside counsel with the information and perspectives they need, and collaborates with them to form a winning strategy.

MEHDI SINAKI  
General Counsel  
Capna Intellectual

Capna Technologies and its affiliate, Bloom, are at the forefront of the burgeoning cannabis industry. Directing the legal operations of both entities is Mehdi Sinaki, the dynamic vice president and general counsel of Capna and Head of Legal and Compliance for Bloom. In his capacity as Capna’s GC, Sinaki handles all litigations and transactional issues for a company focused on creating the most efficient, safe and eco-friendly methods of cannabis extraction and processing.

Sinaki does the same for Bloom — which is innovating the cannabis concentration market — as its chief legal officer. Sinaki spearheads compliance for Bloom, including updating its standard operating procedures and preparing the company to effectively comply with all rules and regulations issued by all governing bodies. In addition, he employs new strategies and procedures to forecast future compliance issues in a market category that is highly regulated.
WYLIE STROUT
General Counsel
Laserfiche

Wylie Strout’s experience spans two decades and includes practicing in many different industries, including technology, media, health care and real estate. She leads the Laserfiche legal team in all transactional and compliance matters, including Laserfiche’s worldwide operations.

In addition to her regular corporate duties, Strout is involved on the transactional side of the company’s major expansion of its headquarters in Long Beach, which will accommodate the company’s rapid growing number of employees.

In addition to her expansive duties as general counsel, Strout is also a lover of the arts and is an actress and writer in her own right. She wrote and starred in a 10-minute short, casting herself as a Suzy Parker (1950’s supermodel) impersonator. She also writes short stories, poetry and screenplays.

ARMOND TATEVOSSIAN
Vice President - Assistant General Counsel
AECOM

Following 12 years of private practice at law firms, Armond Tatevosian served as contracts lead of the Global Business Unit at Parsons for eight years. Tatevosian has now served as vice president and associate general counsel at AECOM for five years.

Tatevosian leads a talented legal team charged with overseeing AECOM’s Design Consulting Services business unit for the Western United States as well as its energy business unit for the Americas. With over $1 billion in yearly revenue and thousands of active projects, the business units present him and his team constant and unique challenges. Tatevosian is a skilled attorney and leader and he is highly respected in the industry.

DAN TEPSTEIN
Senior Managing Associate General Counsel
Verizon

Dan Tepstein serves as lead litigation counsel for Verizon Media Group (VMG), which operates Yahoo!, AOL, HuffPost, and other leading online brands. He leads a diverse team of lawyers and legal professionals who not only litigate, but serve as the company’s legal support for copyright and VMG’s newsroom editors and journalists, as well as its global response to law enforcement requests for user data.

Tepstein previously served as vice president and associate general counsel for Yahoo! in 2007 from Hunton & Williams LLP, and before that at O’Donnell & Shaeffer LLP, where he was partner. With over two decades of litigation experience, Tepstein has been at the forefront of hundreds significant disputes, several of which were matters of first impression that shaped the law for Internet service providers and their users.

DAVID THOMSON
General Counsel
MannKind

David Thomson has been an instrumental leader to build the company to where we are today. He helped the founder form MannKind back in 2001 and assisted with taking the company public in 2004. Over the last 20 years we have raised over $2 billion dollars and he has been part of this journey and also helped us restructure over $400 million in liabilities over the last three years.

Additionally, Thomson helped MannKind establish its commercial infrastructure to run a compliant commercialization process and company as it launched its first product in 2017. He is also a PhD and has been critical in MannKind’s business development efforts including five partnerships in the last three years, one of which was a $105 million deal with United Therapeutics in 2018.
Karen Thorland
Senior Vice President & Deputy General Counsel
Motion Picture Association

Karen Thorland manages content protection civil litigation and oversees the MPAs global voluntary initiatives. Such content protection efforts are an imperative for the entertainment industry, which is a vital component of the LA business community. The illicit distribution of content creates billion-dollar losses each year to the companies that create and distribute television and motion picture programming, including MPA’s members.

Thorland leads efforts in the development of the MPAs global content protection policies and strategies. She was also instrumental in the launch of the Alliance for Creativity and Entertainment (ACE). This global coalition of more than 30 content producers and entertainment companies is a powerful voice in protecting the dynamic legal market for creative content and reducing online piracy around the world.

Cesely Westmoreland
General Counsel
KIPP SoCal Public Schools

Cesely Westmoreland currently serves as General Counsel for KIPP SoCal Public Schools. Prior to joining KIPP, Westmoreland served as senior attorney/chief public defender for the Clark County Public Defender’s Office in Las Vegas, Nevada for almost nine years. She has years of experience with education law, criminal law, juvenile law, family law, contract law, negotiations, mediation, litigation, and many other areas of law.

Westmoreland is very proud to have been born and raised in Inglewood. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from the University of California, Berkeley, a Master of Arts degree in Psychology from Pepperdine University Graduate School of Education and Psychology, and a Juris Doctor degree from Arizona State University Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law.

Robert Zakari
EVP Corporate Development & General Counsel
Jam City

Robert Zakari has worked as in-house counsel for technology and media companies from the day he graduated law school, getting his start in tech startups in the midst of the first tech boom. In fact, the first company he ever worked for as GC went IPO, and he hasn’t looked back since. Zakari has guided companies from startup to sale, and even acted as CEO when required. For the past four and a half years, he has guided Jam City from 300 employees based in the U.S. to over 760 employees with nine offices in five different countries.

With Zakari’s legal stewardship, Jam City has emerged as a powerhouse in licensing AAA intellectual property from the likes of Disney and Warner Bros Interactive Entertainment so the company can continue to be a leader in publishing IP based games featuring Harry Potter: Hogwarts Mystery, Disney Frozen Adventures, and others.
FIRM ATTORNEY NOMINEES

Wade Ackerman  
Partner  
Gibbs Giden Locher Turner  
San Francisco  

Jason M. Adams  
Partner  
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP  
Portland  

Peter Anderson  
Managing Partner  
Andrade Gonzalez LLP  
San Francisco  

Sean Andrade  
Managing Partner  
Andrade Gonzalez LLP  
San Francisco  

Heather Antoine  
Chair, Trademark and Brand Protection Group  
Covington & Burling LLP  
Washington, D.C.  

Ryan Baker  
Partner  
Baker Marquart LLP  
Chicago  

Andrew Baum  
Partner  
Glaser Weil Freeman, Freeman, & Smiley  
Los Angeles  

Arash Beral  
Equity Partner  
Fenwick  

Lee Jay Berman  
Mediator  
The Mediation Offices of Lee Jay Berman  
Los Angeles  

Gina Bibby  
Partner and Global Head of the Fashion Tech Practice  
Gibbs Giden Locher Turner  
San Francisco  

Steven Bledsoe  
Partner  
Larson LLP  
Chicago  

Philippe Bond  
Partner  
Larson LLP  
Chicago  

Mark A. Boxerfont  
Shareholder  
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Katie Boyd  
Owner and CEO  
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Lee Brenner  
Chair, Entertainment and Media Litigation Group  
Munger, Tolles & Olson  
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Brad Brian  
Partner and Chair  
Munger, Tolles & Olson  
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Joshua Briones  
Member/Managing Member - LA Office  
Mediation Offices of Lee Jay Berman  
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On being named by the LA Business Journal as a 2020 Leader in Law

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Congratulations!

Lathrop GPM Partners Nancy Sher Cohen and Erica Van Loon were selected as nominees for the 2020 Leaders in Law by Los Angeles Business Journal. Congratulations, Nancy and Erica, and thank you for your dedication to the firm, clients and the community.

Working together, we build exciting futures.

Nancy Sher Cohen
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Erica Van Loon
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This is an advertisement. The choice of a lawyer is an important decision and should not be made based solely upon advertisements. Neither the highest state courts nor state bar associations review, recognize, or approve certifying organizations, certifications of specialties or specialist designations in the practice of law. The certificate, award or recognition is not a requirement to practice law.

Lathrop GPM LLP, 1888 Century Park East, Suite 1000, Los Angeles, CA 90067. For more information, contact Nancy Sher Cohen at 310.789.4600.
Congratulations to Scott Gizer for being named by the Los Angeles Business Journal as one of its 2020 Leaders in Law nominees.
The LADWP family congratulates our own

Joseph Brajevich

LADWP General Counsel
Office of the Los Angeles City Attorney

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We celebrate your leadership, knowledge of the law, hard work and dedication to the city of Los Angeles.

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Fisher Phillips congratulates Los Angeles and Woodland Hills Partner

Nicole Kamm

2020 Leaders in Law nominee by the Los Angeles Business Journal

We applaud all of this year’s nominees and recipients on their accomplishments and thank them for their dedication to the Los Angeles business community.

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Woodland Hills
21600 Coward Street, Suite 850
Woodland Hills, CA 91367

Larson LLP congratulates our partners and all of the law firm and in-house counsel 2020 Leaders in Law nominees.
CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR 2020 LEADERS IN LAW NOMINEES!
California Provisional Licensing Program to Launch

The California Supreme Court announced last month that it approved the State Bar’s proposal for the provisional licensure of 2020 law school graduates. New Rule of Court 9.49 will be effective November 17, 2020, and the State Bar is slated to begin accepting applications on that day.

“We know that this year’s graduates have been anxiously awaiting certainty about the details and timeline of this program, so we have been working hard to expedite its development,” said Donna Hershkowitz, Interim Executive Director. “We look forward to being able to offer it to the first group of eligible graduates in the next four weeks.”

The new program will allow eligible 2020 law school graduates who have not passed a bar exam to apply to practice law in California as provisionally licensed lawyers under the supervision of fully licensed lawyers. The initial group eligible for provisional licensure are those who graduated law school between December 1, 2019, and December 31, 2020.

Provisionally licensed lawyers will be able to engage in all the activities of a fully licensed lawyer, subject to certain restrictions. Both the provisionally licensed lawyer and their supervising lawyer are expected to abide by all applicable State Bar rules and guidelines and are bound by the disciplinary authority of the California Supreme Court and the State Bar.

The Provisional Licensure Working Group, which crafted the rule under the leadership of Trustee Hailyn Chen, is assessing recommendations that may further expand the program. At its meeting on October 14, 2020, the working group voted to recommend that the program be extended to those who scored 1390 or higher on the July 2015 bar exam or any subsequent exam.

In response to the challenges facing law students due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Court in July directed the State Bar to expedite creation of a provisional licensing program. Graduates will need to find a supervising attorney, apply online, pay a small fee, and meet all requirements, such as already having submitted a complete moral character application. The State Bar Board of Trustees is expected to review these recommendations at its November 19 meeting, after which any expansions to the program would need to be approved by the Supreme Court.

The provisional licensure program lasts until June 1, 2022, unless extended by the Court. As currently structured, when the program ends, provisionally licensed lawyers wishing to continue practicing law will have to meet all normal requirements for admission, including passing a bar exam.

The State Bar of California’s mission is to protect the public and includes the primary functions of licensing, regulation and discipline of attorneys; the advancement of the ethical and competent practice of law; and support of efforts for greater access to, and inclusion in, the legal system. Learn more at calbar.ca.gov.
**Mask Up! Facemasks with Valves No Longer Permitted in LA County Courthouses**

Non-exempt individuals who refuse to wear a face mask will be denied courthouse/courtroom entry under revised order.

P resenting Judge Kevin C. Brazile last month issued a revised mandatory face mask order that prohibits the use of face masks with valves in all Los Angeles County courthouses. The new Order also requires that face masks be worn beneath face shields except as required by a physician. Children under the age of two are exempt from the Order.

On April 10, 2020, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) issued a Guidance for Face Coverings which it subsequently amended on June 2, 2020, June 19, 2020, June 26, 2020 and July 17, 2020. The Court is aligning its mandatory face mask requirements in all Los Angeles County courthouses with Public Health and California Department of Public Health guidelines, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations, to prevent or slow the spread of COVID-19.

Persons with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that precludes them from wearing a face mask, are exempt from the Order. Nevertheless, they must take whatever protective measures their condition permits, such as wearing a face shield with a drape on the bottom edge as long as their medical condition allows it. Individuals with disabilities who seek an exemption from this Order as a reasonable accommodation pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Rule 1.100 of the California Rules of Court, should contact the ADA liaison at each courthouse. A list of liaisons is available at lacourt.org/ada/adahome.aspx.

To reduce the risk of contagion, the matters of individuals exempted from wearing a face mask may be scheduled when fewer people are present in court.

To prevent or slow the spread of COVID-19 and to protect the health of court users, the Court issued the following orders:

- All persons entering any courthouse or courtroom shall wear a face mask over their nose and mouth at all times within public areas of the courthouse or courtroom.
- Non-exempt individuals who decline or refuse to wear a face mask will be denied entry to the courthouse and/or courtroom.

**Mandatory use of a face mask is part of the Court’s Here For You Safe For You plan to provide a safe courthouse environment.**

- Individuals who remove their face masks after entering the courthouse or courtroom will be reminded to wear them. If they refuse, they may be denied services, may have their legal matters rescheduled, and/or will be asked to leave the courthouse or courtroom immediately.
- Persons who refuse to leave voluntarily will be escorted out of the courthouse and/or courtroom by Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department’s personnel.
- Individuals are required to maintain at least six feet of physical distance from all persons (except those within their household) at all times. Comply with social distancing signage throughout the courthouse.
- Use hand sanitizer when entering the courthouse, practice good hand-washing hygiene and cover coughs and sneezes, preferably with a tissue.

The Order replaces Presiding Judge Brazile’s July 6, 2020 Order. Judicial officers and court employees also are required to wear face masks in all courthouses, courtrooms and public spaces unless they have a medical exemption. Paper masks will be available for the public at security screening areas at courthouse entrances.

Mandatory use of a face mask is part of the Court’s Here For You Safe For You plan to provide a safe courthouse environment while offering services that allow court business to be conducted remotely. Whether appearing by phone, from home, the office or coming to the courthouse, the Court provides safe, efficient options to access justice. The Court’s remote technology options promote social distancing by reducing the number of people appearing in person. Pre-scheduled appointments are required for in-person transactions at the courthouse.

Information on Here For You Safe For You can be found at lacourt.org.

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Congratulations to the 2020 Leaders in Law Nominees, including our founding partner Patrick Maloney, for your exemplary leadership and contributions to the Los Angeles community at large.

Patrick M. Maloney
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As Presiding Judge-Elect Eric C. Taylor prepares to lead the nation’s largest trial court amid pandemic-related challenges, restoring access to justice safely and more widely is chief priorities during his upcoming two-year term.

“The Court is focused on a safe expansion of access to justice after a 6-month hiatus of Criminal and Civil trials and non-essential matters,” Presiding Judge-Elect Taylor said. “Restoring access to justice is complicated by the pandemic-related state budget crisis. I am focused on leading the Superior Court of Los Angeles County with a commitment to restore safe access to justice while achieving a fair allocation of state funding to support the magnitude of our Court’s fundamental and essential functions.”

Elected unanimously in September by the Los Angeles County bench, Judge Taylor has served as the Assistant Presiding Judge since January 1, 2019. His 2-year term as Presiding Judge begins January 1, 2021.

“I want to thank my friend and colleague, Presiding Judge Kevin C. Brazile, for his extraordinary leadership as we faced the swift, devastating impacts of COVID-19 that erupted in March 2020 in Los Angeles County,” Judge Taylor said. “It has been an honor to assist Presiding Judge Brazile as he tirelessly and courageously made decisions to lead our Court safely through this truly unprecedented crisis. Every decision he made was prioritized around protecting the public health and safety of all who use and work in our courts.”

Since March 2020, Judges Brazile and Taylor methodically sought and obtained the authority from Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye to extend statutory deadlines while prioritizing emergency and essential matters to limit the number of people in the county’s 38 courthouses. Beginning in late June, they led the gradual, phased resumption of court services and hearings with social distancing protocols, enhanced sanitization of high-touch areas in courthouses, and a mandatory mask requirement.

“I intend to build on our restoration of services with strategies designed to withstand further waves of COVID-19 as we enter into the pandemic’s second year,” Judge Taylor said. “We are fortunate in Los Angeles County that we have brilliant, creative and resilient jurists supported by our dedicated staff led by Executive Officer/Clerk of Court Sherri R. Carter. Together we have guided the Court through this crisis with rapid deployment of remote courtroom appearance technology in nearly 600 courtrooms while providing remote Clerk’s Office services to reduce courthouse traffic.”

Judge Taylor, along with his team of judicial leaders, will continue to restore access to justice in a way that will foster confidence in a justice system that always elevates public health and safety while seeking to overcome the significant COVID-19 case backlogs and delays.

“We must now look toward the next phases of resuming jury trials and other matters safely and more widely throughout the county,” Judge Taylor said. “I am grateful to our essential court employees and bench officers who have served the public during the ongoing tumult of the past six months. I will rely on their expertise and ongoing commitment to help me solve these vexing challenges.”

Because of the $167.8 million cut to state trial court funding in the current fiscal year plus annual cost increases, the Court had to close more than a $60 million deficit in its Fiscal Year 2020-21 budget through spending reductions and by exhausting all available reserves.

“We will do everything we can to restore our budget so as not to further impair court operations at a time when people need justice the most,” Judge Taylor said. “We are acutely aware of the pain so many are enduring during this pandemic. A healthy society and economy depend on a healthy court system. I grew up in the Crenshaw District in Los Angeles, in a single parent, small-apartment household, with very limited resources. I remember well the stresses on our family, and especially on my mother. I know that but for the courts, the most vulnerable among us would have no forum in which to pursue legal protections, equal rights and simply a place to be heard.”

As Assistant Presiding Judge, Judge Taylor’s service to the people of Los Angeles County also has focused on mentoring at-risk youth.

“Involving the community as partners in our legal system, especially young people, is a wonderful way to build trust and to positively influence future social justice,” Judge Taylor said. Recognizing the integral role of the county’s justice partners, Judge Taylor looks forward to working collaboratively with these dedicated attorneys and officials in the next two years.

“I am honored to serve the people of Los Angeles County alongside the other dedicated elected officials and justice partners who work every day to help those people who rely on us for fair, equal — and safe — access to justice,” he said.

Shook congratulates our friend and partner

Michael Mallow,
nominated as a Leader in Law.

Expanding our presence in California and beyond.

CONGRATS TO

ANGELA J. REDDOCK-WRIGHT, ESQ.
EMPLOYMENT MEDIATOR & ARBITRATOR
ON BEING NAMED A LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL 2020 LEADERS IN LAW NOMINEE

To book Angela for your next mediation or arbitration, contact Heather Reed, Senior Case Manager at Judicate West: 714.852.5181 | heather@judicatewest.com
Los Angeles Superior Court Establishes Judicial Mentor Program

President Judge Kevin C. Brazile and Presiding Judge-Elect Eric C. Taylor announced the creation of the Los Angeles Superior Court’s Judicial Mentorship Program.

In collaboration with the Office of Governor Gavin Newsom and Judicial Appointments Secretary Justice Martin Jenkins (Ret.), Judges Brazile and Taylor have appointed a standing committee comprised of a diverse group of judges to identify, encourage, and provide mentors for all individuals considering a judicial career.

A goal of the program is to convey to the legal community the uniform message of Governor Newsom’s commitment to appointing a highly capable bench reflective of the rich diversity of the state.

This will be the first program of its kind in the County of Los Angeles.

“We are excited to collaborate with Justice Martin Jenkins, who has guided the Newsom Administration’s efforts to build a judiciary that reflects the people they serve,” Judge Brazile said.

“The program is designed to identify, encourage, and provide mentors for all individuals considering a judicial career, and we look forward to working with our justice partners and Bar members as we develop the program next year and in years to come,” Judge Taylor said.

The program will work with all sectors of the legal community, including bar associations, public interest organizations, government attorneys, private law firms, and solo practitioners to develop wide-ranging outreach and provide effective mentorship to all individuals who participate.

Information for this article was provided by the Los Angeles Superior Court.