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

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

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

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

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

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

Congratulations to all the worthy honorees.
CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEAR’S WINNERS

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

Together, we can raise the bar.
Personal Injury
Best Phrase: “In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing, the next best thing is the wrong thing, and the worst thing you can do is nothing.” —Theodore Roosevelt.
Little Known Fact: I don’t like sweets.

Su Barry
Firm: Barry APC
Website: www.barryapc.com
Areas of Practice: Business Litigation, Bad Faith Insurance, Personal Injury, Employment Litigation.
Best Phrase: Do one thing every day that makes you happy.
Little Known Fact: My favorite TV show is “SportsCenter,” even after Kenny Mayne left.

Teresa Beck
Firm: Lincoln Gustafson C Сергus
Website: www.lglawoffice.com
Areas of Practice: Civil law advice and litigation defense in many areas including employment, construction.
Best Phrase: “I never look forward to Friday or for what reason because my work is not a thing I suffer. My work is not merely my source of income. It’s a source of meaning and joy.” —Ann Marie Houghtailing, millionaire Girls’ Movement.
Little Known Fact: My father was a Navy Chaplain who served in Vietnam during college, traveling to Guam, Korea, the Philippines and Okinawa, seven years.

Christina Bernstein
Firm: Pettit Kohn Ingrassa & Lutz
Website: www.pettitkohn.com
Areas of Practice: Commercial Litigation, Personal Injury, Premises Liability, Professional Liability.
Best Phrase: “Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can,” —Arthur Ashe.
Little Known Fact: I worked as a California State lifeguard on San Diego beaches for seven years.

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

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

I have surfed above the Arctic Circle.
Congratulations to San Diego’s Best of the Bar

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

At Abacus, we have raised the bar to provide fully managed legal technology products and services, enabling any size firm to achieve continued success.
Best of the Bar 2016

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

Mike Brown
Firm: Stradling
Website: www.stradling.com
Areas of Practice: Corporate, Real Estate
Best Phrase: “The only way to do great work is to love what you do,” Steve Jobs.

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

Robert J. Brown
Firm: Procopio Cory
Hargreaves & Savitch LLP
Website: www.procopio.com
Areas of Practice: Corporate and Securities, Real Estate and Tax
Best Phrase: Go heavy or go home. Little Known Fact: I still own the car I drove to high school on my 16th birthday — a 1969 Camaro convertible.

Paula Oliveira Bruno
Firm: Bruno Law
Website: www.brunolaw.com
Areas of Practice: Tax, Business Law
Best Phrase: “You can do anything you set your mind to,” Benjamin Franklin.

Tara Burd
Firm: T. Bard Law Group
Website: www.tbardlawgroup.com
Areas of Practice: Civil Litigation
Little Known Fact: I love fun socks! They don’t even have to match perfectly. A black cat sock and a white cat sock are “matching” enough for me!

Joanne Buser
Firm: Paul, Plevin, Sullivan & Connaughton LLP
Website: www.paulplevin.com
Areas of Practice: Labor & Employment
Best Phrase: “All grown-ups were once children...but only few of them remember it,” Antoine de Saint-Exupéry.

Little Known Fact: I went skydiving in the Alps.

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

William Caldarelli
Firm: Caldarelli
Hejmanowski Page & Leer LLP
Website: www.chpllaw.com
Areas of Practice: Business, Real Estate, Intellectual Property Litigation
Best Phrase: “We know truth not only by reason, but also by the heart,” Blaise Pascal.

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

Patrick Calhoun
Firm: Law Offices of Craig A. Miller
Website: www.craigmillerlaw.com
Areas of Practice: Insurance Bad Faith, Elder Abuse, Business Disputes, Personal Injury
Best Phrase: “Courage is grace under pressure,” Ernest Hemingway.

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

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

Elizabeth Call
Firm: Kriger Law Firm
Website: www.krigerlawfirm.com
Areas of Practice: Litigation, Real Property, Homeowners Association, Corporate
Best Phrase: The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.

Kurt Campbell
Firm: Klinedinst PC
Website: www.klinedinstlaw.com
Areas of Practice: Real Estate, Construction, Land Use
Best Phrase: Be kind to everyone you meet, most of all those who can do nothing for you in return.

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

Tyler Campbell
Firm: Foldenauer Law Group
Website: www.foldenauerlaw.com
Areas of Practice: Serious Personal Injury
Best Phrase: Discretion is the better part of valor.

Little Known Fact: I’m an open book.

Brigid Campo
Firm: Law & Mediation
Firm of Blueck & Hoppes, APC
Website: www.familylawsandiego.com
Areas of Practice: Family
Best Phrase: “Fight for the things that you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you,” Justice Ruth B. Ginsburg.

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

Cole Casey
Firm: Law Offices of G Cole Casey
Website: www.duisandiego.com
Areas of Practice: DUI, Criminal
Best Phrase: “Always assume that your opponent is going to be bigger, stronger and faster than you, so that you learn to rely on technique, timing and leverage, rather than brute strength,” Helio Gracie.

Little Known Fact: I am an avid practitioner of Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, Judo and Yoga, the combination of all three makes me a more confident and more balanced lawyer.

Jennifer Chang
Firm: Gresham Savage Nolan & Tilden, PC
Website: www.greshamsavage.com
Areas of Practice: Corporate, Real Estate Transactions
Best Phrase: “Bloom where you are planted.

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

Alara Chilton
Firm: La Torre Chilton
Website: lawofficefalaraichilton.com
Areas of Practice: Criminal Defense, Consumer Rights Litigation
Best Phrase: “There may be times when we are powerless to prevent injustice, but there must never be a time when we fail to protest,” Elie Wiesel.

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

Caroline Choi
Firm: Solomon Ward Seidenwurm & Smith, LLP
Website: www.swslaw.com
Areas of Practice: Family Law
Best Phrase: Kindness is never wasted.

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

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

John Cleary
Firm: Procopio Cory
Hargreaves & Savitch LLP
Website: www.procopio.com
Areas of Practice: Corporate, Securities, Mergers & Acquisitions
Best Phrase: Progress, not perfection.

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

I lived in Moscow, Russia from 1989 to 1994.

Matthew Clendenin
Firm: Law Office of Matthew Clendenin APC
Website: www.clendeninlaw.com
Areas of Practice: Personal Injury
Best Phrase: Listen to your clients. Understand their story.

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

Keith Cochran
Firm: Fitzgerald Knaker LLP
Website: www.fitzgeraldknaker.com
Areas of Practice: Business Litigation
Best Phrase: “If you tell the truth, you don’t have to remember anything,” Mark Twain.

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

William Concidine
Firm: My Traffic Guys
Website: www.mytrafficguys.com
Areas of Practice: Traffic Tickets, DUI, Criminal Defense
Best Phrase: Success is having what you want, but happiness is wanting what you have.

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

Gerissa Conforti
Firm: Higgs, Fletcher & Mack LLP
Website: www.higgslaw.com
Areas of Practice: Family Law and Criminal Defense
Best Phrase: “Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere,” Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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

Jason Conforti
Firm: Law Office of Jason T. Conforti
Website: www.jasonconforti.com
Areas of Practice: Criminal Defense, Federal Criminal Defense
Best Phrase: “The time is always right to do the right thing,” Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Little Known Fact: I attended the same high school as Tom Brady, Barry Bonds and Lynn Swann.
**Best of the Bar 2016**

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

Andy Cook  
**Firm:** Law Offices of Andy Cook  
**Website:** www.divorcesd.com

**Areas of Practice:** Family Law  
**Best Phrase:** I break up marriages.  
**Little Known Fact:** I was a professional radio announcer between college and law school.

**I was a marine biologist before becoming an attorney.**

Steven T. Cooper Smith  
**Firm:** The Cooper Smith Law Firm  
**Website:** stevencoopersmithlaw.com

**Areas of Practice:** Business/Corporate Litigation, Executive-Level Employment, Financial Fraud, Fine Art Disputes, Public Process  
**Little Known Fact:** I served as a U.K. Army JAG, a military prosecutor. But my first Army assignment was to run the post’s tax center. I managed a dozen soldiers and we processed 10,000 soldiers’ tax returns through our office.

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

Elvira Cortez  
**Firm:** Sullivan Hill Law  
**Rez & Engel**  
**Website:** www.sullivanhill.com

**Areas of Practice:** Construction Defect, Insurance Defense, General Civil Litigation  
**Best Phrase:** “Start by doing what’s necessary, then do what’s possible, and suddenly you are doing the impossible,” John Wooden.

**Areas of Practice:** Criminal Defense  
**Best Phrase:** You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view.  
**Little Known Fact:** I grew up on a farm in Oxnard, California.

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

Julie Corbo Ridley  
**Firm:** Hurst & Hurst  
**Website:** www.facebook.com/juliecorboridley

**Areas of Practice:** Class Actions, Complex Litigation  
**Best Phrase:** Pressure makes diamonds.  
**Little Known Fact:** I used to be a stockbroker.

**I was a marine biologist before becoming an attorney.**

Emily Crowley  
**Firm:** Crowley Law Group, APC  
**Website:** crowleylawgroup.com

**Areas of Practice:** State and Federal Criminal Defense, Trial and Appellate  
**Best Phrase:** “The operational word in every competent defense is attack. If you’re explaining and defending, you’re losing,” Gerry Spence.

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

Michael Dallo  
**Firm:** Dallo Law Group | Tax Law Firm  
**Website:** www.dallolawgroup.com

**Areas of Practice:** Tax Law  
**Best Phrase:** “You can never cross the ocean until you have the courage to lose sight of the shore,” Christopher Columbus.

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

**I was a marine biologist before becoming an attorney.**

Jeremy Danney  
**Firm:** White & Bright, LLP  
**Website:** www.whiteandbright.com

**Areas of Practice:** Real Estate, Business Litigation  
**Best Phrase:** “Things turn out best for the people who make the best of the way things turn out,” John Wooden.

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

**I was a marine biologist before becoming an attorney.**

Matt Dente  
**Firm:** Dente Richard LLP  
**Website:** www.denterichard.com

**Areas of Practice:** Employment Litigation, Counseling & Employment/Criminal Defense  
**Best Phrase:** Don’t sweat the small stuff (except, of course, in fulfilling your duties to your clients).  
**Little Known Fact:** I love to travel and have visited six of the seven continents. I also lived in Africa for a time as a child.

**I was a marine biologist before becoming an attorney.**

Matt Deen  
**Firm:** Black + Deen, LLP  
**Website:** www.blackdeenlaw.com

**Areas of Practice:** Business Law, Estate Planning  
**Best Phrase:** No one looks back on their life and remembers the nights they got plenty of sleep.

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

**I was a marine biologist before becoming an attorney.**

Deborah Dixon  
**Firm:** Gomez Trial Attorneys  
**Website:** www.thegomezfirm.com

**Areas of Practice:** Class Action  
**Best Phrase:** Be the leader you would want to follow.  
**Little Known Fact:** I am the middle child of five sisters and love it!

**I was a marine biologist before becoming an attorney.**

Jenny Dixon  
**Firm:** Robbins Arroyo LLP  
**Website:** www.robbinsarroyo.com

**Areas of Practice:** Shareholder Derivative Actions, Securities Class Actions  
**Best Phrase:** “Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future,” John F. Kennedy.

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

**I was a marine biologist before becoming an attorney.**

Rommel Dizon  
**Firm:** Law Office of Rommel Dizon  
**Website:** www.avvo.com

**Areas of Practice:** Labor & Employment; Criminal Defense  
**Best Phrase:** No matter what, provide the best service possible.  
**Little Known Fact:** I am an avid surfer.

**I was a marine biologist before becoming an attorney.**

Amber Eck  
**Firm:** Zeldes Haegquist & Eck, LLP  
**Website:** www.zhelaw.com

**Areas of Practice:** Employment, Consumer, Securities, Class Actions  
**Best Phrase:** “Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere...Whatever affects one directly affects all indirectly,” Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**I was a marine biologist before becoming an attorney.**

Cate Edwards  
**Firm:** Edwards Kirby, LLP  
**San Diego Office Website:** www.edwardskirby.com

**Areas of Practice:** Personal Injury, Product Safety, Whistleblower and Qui Tam Actions, Civil Rights, Consumer Fraud  
**Little Known Fact:** In 2011, I launched the Elizabeth Edwards Foundation. The nonprofit honors the memory of my mother by providing opportunities to students with limited resources and support.
Best of the Bar 2016

William Eigner  
Firm: Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP  
Areas of Practice: Corporate, M&A, Business Transactions  
Little Known Fact: I interned at the U.S. Supreme Court.

Jeremy Evans  
Firm: California Sports Lawyer  
Areas of Practice: Sports, Entertainment, and Business  
Little Known Fact: I once visited 19 countries and 29 cities in three months for a study abroad program and vacation.

Sarah Evans  
Firm: Schwartz Semerjian  
Areas of Practice: Employment  
Little Known Fact: I am a romantic.

John Engel  
Firm: Sullivan Hill  
Areas of Practice: Business/Corporate Law, Real Estate Law, Labor/Employment Law  
Little Known Fact: I graduated from Bucknell University followed by New York University School of Law.

Jillian Fairchild  
Firm: Tyson & Mendes  
Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Professional Liability  
Little Known Fact: I participated in the Court Appointed Special Advocate Program with Voices for Children to advocate on behalf of a foster child.

P. Randolph Finch Jr.  
Firm: Fincher, Thornton & Baird, LLP  
Areas of Practice: Construction  
Little Known Fact: I can’t pass up an animal that needs a home. As a result, I have four cats and three dogs right now.

Brian Findley  
Firm: Mulligan, Banham & Findley  
Areas of Practice: Medical Malpractice, Personal Injury  
Little Known Fact: I served as a juvenile probation officer prior to law school.

Amie Flynn  
Firm: Law Office of Amie J. Flynn  
Areas of Practice: Construction, Real Estate, Civil Litigation  
Little Known Fact: I am an avid runner, hiker and mountain biker.

Loren Freestone  
Firm: Higgs Fletcher & Mack  
Areas of Practice: Employment, Civil Litigation  
Little Known Fact: I have a degree in percussion.

I also have my MBA in business.

I was a calculus tutor throughout college.

Karolina Ericsson  
Firm: Gresham Savage Nolan & Tilden PC  
Areas of Practice: Real Estate Transactional  
Little Known Fact: I was a calculus tutor throughout college.

Best Phrase: “Don’t give up on your dreams, or your dreams will give up on you,” John Wooden.

Matthew Friedrichs  
Firm: Winship & Friedrichs, APC  
Areas of Practice: Administrative Law  
Little Known Fact: I am a surfer.

Best Phrase: “Always turn a negative situation into a positive situation,” Michael Jordan.

Jennifer Gerstenzang  
Firm: Gerstenzang Law  
Areas of Practice: Criminal Defense  
Little Known Fact: In my second year of law school, the California Innocence Project selected me as one of their student members.

Cameron Gharabiklou  
Firm: Justice Law Group  
Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Employment  
Little Known Fact: I’m handy and would rather fix/build something myself than hire someone else.

David Gibbs  
Firm: CGP Law Group, APC  
Areas of Practice: Business/Corporate, Estate Planning  
Little Known Fact: I am planning a ski trip to Antarctica.

I have a degree in percussion.

Best Phrase: “Be the change you want to see in the world,” Mahatma Gandhi.

Best Phrase: Character is how you behave when nobody’s looking.

Little Known Fact: My collie’s name is Blue.

Best Phrase: “Be the change you want to see in the world,” Mahatma Gandhi.

Best Phrase: “Don’t give up on your dreams, or your dreams will give up on you,” John Wooden.

Best Phrase: “Always turn a negative situation into a positive situation,” Michael Jordan.
Congratulations to our 2016 Best of the Bar

Douglas Pettit
Professional Liability
Business Litigation

Christina Bernstein
Professional Liability

Valerie Garcia-Hong
Business Litigation
Professional Liability

Jenna Leyton-Jones
Employment & Labor

Arie Spangler
Professional Liability

Conor Hulburt
Professional Liability
Personal Injury

Derek Wilson
Personal Injury

Pettit Kohn Ingrassia & Lutz is proud to celebrate our 10 year anniversary. We are grateful for our clients and friends that have trusted us with the support and opportunity to provide our best service.

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www.PETTITKOHN.com
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John Gomez
Firm: Gomez Trial Attorneys
Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Business Litigation, Mass Torts, Class Actions, Environmental Litigation, Children’s Rights
Best Phrase: “It is not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who actually in the arena...who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat,” Theodore Roosevelt.
Little Known Fact: My first job was as a busboy at Marie Callender’s in El Cajon.

Noam Glick
Firm: Glick Law Group, PC
Areas of Practice: Employment Law, General Litigation
Best Phrase: A good lawyer knows the law. A better lawyer knows the judge. But the best lawyer knows the judge’s mistress.
Little Known Fact: I was in a rock band in high school which never made it big, though we did play the Whiskey in LA.

Samantha Greene
Firm: Stratton & Green, ALC
Areas of Practice: Employment, Business & Construction Litigation
Best Phrase: “Justice is open to everyone in the same way as the Ritz Hotel,” Judge Sturgess.
Little Known Fact: I used to be a blues singer at several clubs in New York.

Jordon Harlan
Firm: Harlan Law, P.C.
Areas of Practice: Employment, Business Litigation
Best Phrase: “Until I started to yourself. Little Known Fact: Until I started practicing law, I was known as “DJ Harmeling” my whole life.

David Greeley
Firm: Seltzer Caplan McMahon Vitek
Areas of Practice: Business Litigation, Franchise Law
Best Phrase: “Happiness does not depend on outward things, but on the way we see them,” Lev Tolstoy.
Little Known Fact: I am a member of the San Diego Outrigger Canoe Club.

Robert Hamparyan
Firm: The law offices of Robert Hamparyan
Areas of Practice: Personal Injury
Best Phrase: “All the great things are simple, and many can be expressed in a single word: freedom, justice, honor, duty, mercy, hope,” Winston Churchill.

Sarah Havens
Firm: Phillips & Pelly
Areas of Practice: Personal Injury
Best Phrase: “Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere,” Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
Little Known Fact: I once performed at a Clippers halftime show.

Elizabeth Heisner
Firm: Heisner Alvarez, LLP
Areas of Practice: Complex Business, Trust Litigation
Little Known Fact: I have 10 grandchildren.

I once performed at a Clippers halftime show.

I was certified as a sommelier when I was 23.

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

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

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

The law offices of APC
Areas of Practice: Intellectual Property Litigation
Best Phrase: “Ray, when someone asks you if you’re a god, you say YES,” Winston Zeddmore, “Ghostbusters.”
Little Known Fact: I lived in Great Britain for five years.

David Greene
Firm: The Law Offices of Terry L. Armstrong, APC
Areas of Practice: Criminal Law
Little Known Fact: I’m scared of heights.

Samantha Greene
Firm: Sevens Legal, APC
Areas of Practice: Criminal
Little Known Fact: I’m minored in both French and Theatre Arts.

Sara Hariri
Firm: Hariri Law Group
Areas of Practice: Personal Injury
Best Phrase: “Nobody made a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could only do a little,” Edmund Burke.

Little Known Fact: I enjoy Brazilian Ju Jitsu.

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

I was a member of the San Diego Outrigger Canoe Club.

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

I once performed at a Clippers halftime show.

I was certified as a sommelier when I was 23.

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

I volunteered at HiCaliber Horse Rescue every week helping to save hundreds of horses from slaughter.
Best Phrase: “How alive am I willing to be?” Anne Lamott
Little Known Fact: I make a killer hot salsa.

Robert Hill
Firm: Law Offices of Robert L. Hill
Areas of Practice: Business Litigation, Corporate Law
Website: www.rllfirm.com

Leslie Hublurt
Firm: Cozen O’Connor
Areas of Practice: Civil Litigation
Website: www.cozen.com

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

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

Byron Husted
Firm: Morris Law Firm, APC
Areas of Practice: Civil Litigation, Trust, Estate, Probate Litigation
Website: www.morrislawfirmcapc.com

Best Phrase: “I love traveling the world to scuba dive with my wife in exotic places.

Little Known Fact: Prior to law school, I worked at the Washington Post.

Lincoln Horton
Firm: Horton Village Law Group, APC
Areas of Practice: Corporate, Business Law
Website: www.hortonvillagelaw.com

Little Known Fact: I have an identical twin.

Lincoln Horton
Firm: Horton Village Law Group, APC
Areas of Practice: Business Litigation, Labor & Employment Litigation
Best Phrase: “We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act but a habit.” Aristotle.

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

Amy Hsiao
Firm: Hsiao Law, PC
Areas of Practice: Trust & Estate
Website: www.hsiaolaw.com

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

Lawrence Huerta
Firm: Huerta Mediation
Areas of Practice: Mediation, Arbitration, Alternative Dispute Resolution
Best Phrase: “Always darkest before dawn.

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

Conor Hublurt
Firm: Pettit Kohn
Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Professional Liability
Website: www.pettitkohn.com

Little Known Fact: I was a varsity baseball player.

Best Phrase: “Individual commitment to a group effort — that is what makes a civilization work,” Vince Lombardi.

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

Dustin Jones
Firm: Finch, Thornton & Baird, LLP
Areas of Practice: Construction
Website: www.ftblaw.com

Little Known Fact: I enjoy head support your theme.

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

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

Randall Kay
Firm: Jones Day
Areas of Practice: Intellectual Property Litigation
Website: www.jonesday.com

Little Known Fact: I enjoy head standing.

Lee Jurewitz
Firm: Jurewitz Law Group
Areas of Practice: Social Security Disability, Personal Injury
Website: www.jurewitz.com

Little Known Fact: “If worms had pistols, birds wouldn’t eat ’em,” Darrell K. Royal.

Little Known Fact: I worked at the washingtonpost.com where you water it.

Best Phrase: “We are what we get, but we make a life by what we give,” Winston Churchill.

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

Deepalie Milie Joshi
Firm: Joshi Law Group
Areas of Practice: Business Law, Bankruptcy Law, Personal Injury
Website: www.joshilawgroup.com

Best Phrase: “I can’t explain it simply, you don’t understand it well enough.” Albert Einstein.

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

Lee Jurewitz
Firm: Jurewitz Law Group
Areas of Practice: Social Security Disability, Personal Injury
Website: www.jurewitz.com

Little Known Fact: “If worms had pistols, birds wouldn’t eat ’em,” Darrell K. Royal.

Little Known Fact: I worked at the washingtonpost.com where you water it.

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Deepalie Milie Joshi
Firm: Joshi Law Group
Areas of Practice: Business Law, Bankruptcy Law, Personal Injury
Website: www.joshilawgroup.com

Best Phrase: “I can’t explain it simply, you don’t understand it well enough.” Albert Einstein.

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

Lee Jurewitz
Firm: Jurewitz Law Group
Areas of Practice: Social Security Disability, Personal Injury
Website: www.jurewitz.com

Little Known Fact: “If worms had pistols, birds wouldn’t eat ’em,” Darrell K. Royal.

Little Known Fact: I worked at the washingtonpost.com where you water it.

Best Phrase: “We are what we get, but we make a life by what we give,” Winston Churchill.

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

Deepalie Milie Joshi
Firm: Joshi Law Group
Areas of Practice: Business Law, Bankruptcy Law, Personal Injury
Website: www.joshilawgroup.com

Best Phrase: “I can’t explain it simply, you don’t understand it well enough.” Albert Einstein.

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

Lee Jurewitz
Firm: Jurewitz Law Group
Areas of Practice: Social Security Disability, Personal Injury
Website: www.jurewitz.com

Little Known Fact: “If worms had pistols, birds wouldn’t eat ’em,” Darrell K. Royal.

Little Known Fact: I worked at the washingtonpost.com where you water it.

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Little Known Fact: When I tell people that my parents are in the restaurant business, they usually assume that the restaurants are Indian food. But actually, I grew up in rural Tennessee and they are fried chicken restaurants.
Best of the Bar 2016

Pejman Kharrazian
Firm: Epstein Grinnell & Howell, APC
Website: www.epsten.com
Areas of Practice: Civil Litigation, Real Estate, Construction
Best Phrase: Earning trust and respect are key to a successful practice, so I am honored to be nominated by my peers in the legal community.

Elizabeth Kounas
Firm: Kounas Law Group
Website: www.kounaslaw.com
Areas of Practice: Employment Law
Best Phrase: Carpe Diem — seize the day.
Little Known Fact: I am a single mother by choice.

John Kim
Firm: IPLA, LLP
Website: www.ipla.com
Areas of Practice: Trademark, Copyright
Best Phrase: Every action has an equal and positive reaction.
Little Known Fact: I have three dogs and they all have human names.

George Kindley
Firm: The Kindley Firm, APC
Website: www.kindleylawyers.com
Areas of Practice: Plaintiff’s Personal Injury Litigation/Nursing Home Neglect
Best Phrase: “Justice denied anywhere diminishes justice everywhere,” Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
Little Known Fact: I grew up in a small town on the beach and enjoy all water sports.

Kate Kowalewski
Firm: Kowalewski Law
Website: www.klawsd.com
Areas of Practice: Business, Corporate
Best Phrase: “My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor, and some style.” Maya Angelou
Little Known Fact: I was six years old when I decided that I wanted to be a lawyer when I grew up.

Andrew Kubik
Firm: Eppsteiner Law, APC
Website: www.eppsteiner.com
Areas of Practice: Class Actions
Best Phrase: Never trust a skinny chef.
Little Known Fact: I worked as a tour guide in Alaska during summers in college.

James Lance
Firm: Kirby Noonan Lance & Hoge
Website: www.knlh.com
Areas of Practice: Commercial Litigation, Real Estate, Personal Injury
Best Phrase: “Pray as though everything depended on God. Work as though everything depended on you,” St. Augustine.
Little Known Fact: I have coached youth baseball and football for more than 15 years.

John Landay
Firm: Landay Roberts LLP
Website: www.landayroberts.com
Areas of Practice: Personal Injury Class Action
Best Phrase: Work hard, get far.
Little Known Fact: I played in Lacrosse All America.

Elizabeth Kisselburg
Firm: Basie & Fritz
Website: www.basiefritz.com
Areas of Practice: Family Law
Best Phrase: Never, never, never give up!
Little Known Fact: I am a professional musician.

Garrison “Bud” Klueck
Firm: Law & Mediation Firm of Klueck & Hoppes
Website: FamilyLawSanDiego.com
Areas of Practice: Family Law
Little Known Fact: I am a published essay writer under the pen name “Citizen Bud.”

I am a published Family Law

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

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

I won a rap competition in Taiwan.

I played high school football with Lawrence Phillips.

Little Known Fact: I am a professional musician.

Family Law
Best Phrase: Never, never, never give up!

Little Known Fact: I am a professional musician.

I grew up in a small town on the beach and enjoy all water sports.

Best Phrase: Every action has an equal and positive reaction.

Little Known Fact: I have three dogs and they all have human names.

George Kindley
Firm: The Kindley Firm, APC
Website: www.kindleylawyers.com
Areas of Practice: Plaintiff’s Personal Injury Litigation/Nursing Home Neglect
Best Phrase: “Justice denied anywhere diminishes justice everywhere,” Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
Little Known Fact: I grew up in a small town on the beach and enjoy all water sports.

Little Known Fact: I was six years old when I decided that I wanted to be a lawyer when I grew up.

Andrew Kubik
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Little Known Fact: I worked as a tour guide in Alaska during summers in college.

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Firm: Kirby Noonan Lance & Hoge
Website: www.knlh.com
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Website: www.kindleylawyers.com
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Little Known Fact: I was six years old when I decided that I wanted to be a lawyer when I grew up.

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Best Phrase: Work hard, get far.
Little Known Fact: I played in Lacrosse All America.
Congratulations to Wendy Behan and Melissa Deleon for being recognized as “Best of the Bar.” Your dedication and commitment to providing justice for your clients is exemplary and we are proud to have you both on our team.

CaseyGerry

CASEY GERRY SCENK FRANCAVILLA BLATT & PENFIELD LLP

www.caseygerry.com

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San Diego  |  North County  |  619-238-1811  |  Free Initial Consultation
more luck I seem to have:

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

Matt Mahoney
Firm: Witham Mahoney & Abbott
Areas of Practice: Business Litigation
Best Phrase: I can explain it to you, but I can’t understand it for you.

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

Antonio Maldonado
Firm: Maldonado Law Group PC
Areas of Practice: Personal Injury
Best Phrase: To win you need to prepare, prepare and prepare.

Little Known Fact: I invest in commercial real estate.

Robert Marasco
Firm: Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP
Areas of Practice: White Collar Criminal Defense
Best Phrase: Diligence is the mother of good luck.

Little Known Fact: I was a Zamboni driver.

Amy Martel
Firm: Chihab & Martel
Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Medical Malpractice
Best Phrase: “You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose,” Dr. Seuss.

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

Steven Martin
Firm: Bonnici Law Group, APC
Areas of Practice: Civil Litigation, Personal Injury, Social Security Disability, Workers’ Compensation
Best Phrase: “Try not to take life too seriously, you’ll never get out alive,” “National Lampoon’s Van Wilder.”

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

Jennifer Martinez
Firm: Martinez & Schill LLP
Areas of Practice: Personal Injury
Best Phrase: “When you reach the end of your rope, tie a knot in it and hang on,” Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Little Known Fact: I am an amateur history buff.

Lawrence Maxham
Firm: The Maxham Firm
Areas of Practice: Patents, Trademarks, Copyrights (Intellectual Property)
Best Phrase: “Good enough” is not good enough.

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

Josh Maxwell
Firm: Home Maxwell LLP
Areas of Practice: Tax
Best Phrase: Time to make the donuts.

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

Gayle Mayfield-Venieris
Firm: Mayfield Bustarde, LLP
Areas of Practice: Business, Employment Transactions & Litigation
Best Phrase: Strive for excellence.

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

Peter Maizza
Firm: Jones Day
Areas of Practice: Commercial litigation, Investigations, White Collar Defense
Best Phrase: You gotta want the ball with the game on the line.

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

Jennifer Martinez
Firm: Martinez & Schill LLP
Website: www.martinezschill.com

Areas of Practice: Personal Injury
Best Phrase: “When you reach the end of your rope, tie a knot in it and hang on,” Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Little Known Fact: I am an amateur history buff.

Lawrence Maxham
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Website: www.maxhamfirm.com
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Best Phrase: “Good enough” is not good enough.

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

Josh Maxwell
Firm: Home Maxwell LLP
Website: www.homemaxwell.com
Areas of Practice: Tax
Best Phrase: Time to make the donuts.

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

Little Known Fact: I am a big wave surfer.

Little Known Fact: I was born and raised in the United Kingdom.

Little Known Fact: I enjoy a good game of poker or chess.

Little Known Fact: I am a big Chicago Cubs’ fan.

Little Known Fact: I raised in the United Kingdom.


I am long suffering Chicago Cubs’ fan.

F. Scott Fitzgerald is my favorite writer.

I have dinner in Edinburgh Castle. And yes, haggis was one of the courses.

Little Known Fact: I’ve had dinner in Edinburgh Castle. And yes, haggis was one of the courses.

Estate, Business
Best Phrase: “If you’re going through hell, keep going.” Winston Churchill.
Little Known Fact: I enjoy a good game of poker or chess.

Best Phrase: “To give anything less than your best is to sacrifice the gift,” Steve Prefontaine.

Little Known Fact: I was born and raised in the United Kingdom.

Best Phrase: “To give anything less than your best is to sacrifice the gift,” Steve Prefontaine.

Little Known Fact: I was born and raised in the United Kingdom.

Best Phrase: “To give anything less than your best is to sacrifice the gift,” Steve Prefontaine.

Little Known Fact: I was born and raised in the United Kingdom.
Best of the Bar 2016

I have two standard Poodles.

Thomas Palecek
Firm: Williams | Palecek Law Group, LLP
Website: www.wplgattorneys.com
Areas of Practice: Transactional, Litigation Matters relating to Business, Corporate, Real Estate, Hospitality, Construction, Employment
Best Phrase: Vision to see beyond problems and create solutions.
Little Known Fact: I am a member of the USD Lacrosse Hall of Fame.

Vanessa Penav
Firm: Pena Law
Website: www.penalaw.net
Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Criminal Defense
Best Phrase: A good life is when you smile often, dream big, laugh a lot, and realize how blessed you are for what you have!
Little Known Fact: I am a mom to three adorable little boys, Lucas (age 5), Jack (age 3) and Zane (age 7 months).

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

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

Maria Palmieri
Firm: Palmieri Law, APLC
Website: www.palmierilawfirm.com
Areas of Practice: Personal Injury
Little Known Fact: I earned a bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering.

Patrick Dodgson Paschall
Firm: Paschall Law
Website: www.paschallaw.com
Areas of Practice: Civil Litigation: Employment & Labor Law, Business Law, Construction Law, Personal Injury, Landlord Tenant
Best Phrase: Equity favors the vigilant.
Little Known Fact: I was named after my great grandfather’s favorite baseball enthusiast and I speak Spanish.

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

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

Doug Pettit
Firm: Petit Kohn Ingrassa & Latz
Website: www.petitkohn.com
Areas of Practice: Professional Liability, Business Litigation
Best Phrase: “It’s not about how hard you can hit but about how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward,” Rocky.
Little Known Fact: I was in Life Magazine when I was five, helping my grandfather put up a Justice of the Peace election sign.

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

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

My downtime is spent with a guitar or piano.

Vanessa Pena
Firm: Pena Law
Website: www.penalaw.net
Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Criminal Defense
Best Phrase: A good life is when you smile often, dream big, laugh a lot, and realize how blessed you are for what you have!
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Little Known Fact: I am a past rugby referee for the U.S. and short story writer.

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Website: www.palmierilawfirm.com
Areas of Practice: Personal Injury
Little Known Fact: I earned a bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering.

Patrick Dodgson Paschall
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Website: www.paschallaw.com
Areas of Practice: Civil Litigation: Employment & Labor Law, Business Law, Construction Law, Personal Injury, Landlord Tenant
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Best Phrase: “It’s not about how hard you can hit but about how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward,” Rocky.
Little Known Fact: I was in Life Magazine when I was five, helping my grandfather put up a Justice of the Peace election sign.

Lukas Pick
Firm: Pick Law
Website: www.picklaw.com
Areas of Practice: Elder Abuse/Neglect, Personal Injury
Best Phrase: Pride comes before a fall.
Little Known Fact: I have traveled to Antarctica.

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

Stephanie Poli
Firm: Tatro & Zamoyski
Website: www.tatrozamoyski.com
Areas of Practice: Business Litigation, Personal Injury, Class Action
Best Phrase: “To handle yourself, use your head, to handle others, use your heart,” Eleanor Roosevelt.
Little Known Fact: Prior to law school I taught ballet, jazz, tap, and lyrical to children ages two to 13.

Pinned for professional services.

Shanna Pearce
Firm: Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP
Website: www.linkedin.com/in/shannapearce
Areas of Practice: Business Litigation, Arbitration, Appeals
Best Phrase: To cut down a tree in five minutes, spend the first three sharpening the axe.
Little Known Fact: I went to Bhutan to interview the drafters of its first constitution and the first chief justice of its supreme court.

Jessica Pride
Firm: The Pride Law Firm
Website: www.pridelawfirm.com
Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Sexual Assault Litigation
Best Phrase: “Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere,” Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Little Known Fact: I am a spin class enthusiast and I speak Spanish.

Jamey Quaint
Firm: Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP
Website: www.procopio.com
Areas of Practice: General Business Litigation
Best Phrase: Family first.
Little Known Fact: I am a vegan.

John Reynard III
Firm: Anderson Reynard LLP
Website: www.arlawplanners.com
Areas of Practice: Business, Estates
Little Known Fact: My downtime is spent with a guitar or piano.

Stephanie Reynolds
Firm: Pope, Berger, Williams & Reynolds, LLP
Website: www.popeberger.com
Areas of Practice: Employment Litigation
Best Phrase: “Motivation is what gets you started. Habit is what keeps you going,” Jim Ryun.
Little Known Fact: I received a full-athletic scholarship to play soccer at a top 10 Division I program.

Jane Rheinheimer
Firm: Rheinheimer, Mayhalli + Drake, APC
Website: www.rsdapc.com
Areas of Practice: Professional Liability, Defense, Employment Litigation
Best Phrase: “You miss 100 percent of the shots you don’t take,” Wayne Gretsky.
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For more than 35 years, Ogletree Deakins has built on the high standards of its founders and their dedication to exceptional client service. One of the largest labor and employment law firms representing management in all types of employment-related legal matters, Ogletree Deakins has more than 750 lawyers located in 49 offices across the United States and in Europe, Canada, and Mexico.

Register at www.ogletreedeakins.com/our-insights to receive updates on recent developments in labor and employment law.

Ogletree Deakins

SAN DIEGO OFFICE
4370 La Jolla Village Drive
Suite 990
San Diego, CA 92122

www.ogletreedeakins.com | 858.652.3100
Best of the Bar 2016

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

Brian Robbins
Firm: Robbins Arroyo LLP
Areas of Practice: Securities, Consumer, Antitrust, Employment/ERISA Litigation
Best Phrase: How can I help you?

Little Known Fact: I’m also your guy if you're looking for tips on local BBQ restaurants.

Kia Roberts
Firm: Gresham Savage
Areas of Practice: Real Estate
Best Phrase: Attract what you expect, mirror what you admire.

Little Known Fact: I have beautiful twin two-year-old daughters.

Parisima Roshanzamir
Firm: The Roshanzamir Law Firm
Areas of Practice: Personal Injury
Best Phrase: Get up and try again.

Little Known Fact: I love to dance.

Scott Salmo
Firm: Salmo Law Firm, APC
Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Criminal Defense
Best Phrase: My parents emigrated from Iraq to raise children in the U.S. for a better life. I am fluent in Arabic and Aramaic languages.

I worked for FOX Sports at the Sydney Olympic Games.

I was in Moscow for work in August 1991 during the Soviet coup d’etat attempt.

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

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Best of the Bar 2016

**Jason Sheinberg**
Firm: Sheinberg Law Group
Areas of Practice: Trust/Estates, Estate Planning
Best Phrase: “You always go to other people’s funerals, otherwise, they won’t come to yours,” Yogi Berra.

**Sara Simmons**
Firm: Lepine Law Group
Areas of Practice: Civil Rights, Financial Elder Abuse, Oral Contracts, Family
Best Phrase: “As long as the world shall last there will be wrongs, and if no man objected and if no man rebelled, those wrongs would last forever,” Clarence Darrow.

**Spencer Skenne**
Firm: Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, PC
Areas of Practice: Employment, Insurance Bad Faith Litigation
Best Phrase: Anything in Latin.

**Christopher R. Sillari**
Firm: Finch, Thornton & Baird, LLP
Areas of Practice: Construction Law, Business / Commercial Litigation, Federal Procurement / Claims, Business / Commercial Transaction
Best Phrase: Go Pats.

**Jaclyn Simi**
Firm: Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, PC
Areas of Practice: Employment Litigation
Best Phrase: Be fearless when it comes to life and careless when it comes to what others say and think about you.

**John Smaha**
Firm: Smaha Law Group
Areas of Practice: Business Litigation, Trust Litigation, Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Practice
Best Phrase: Live each day for what it is and don’t look back. Enjoy your friendships, family and even your times alone. Be true to yourself and those that care about you. And foremost never stop praying and believing.

**Sean Southard**
Firm: CGS3 (Crosbie Gliner Schiffman Southard & Swanson LLP)
Areas of Practice: Commercial Real Estate
Best Phrase: It’s not our experiences that make our life – it’s what we do with them.

**David Skilling**
Firm: CGS3 (Crosbie Gliner Schiffman Southard & Swanson LLP)
Areas of Practice: Employment, Insurance Bad Faith Litigation
Best Phrase: Believe you can and you’re halfway there,” Theodore Roosevelt.

**Spencer Southard**
Firm: CGS3 (Crosbie Gliner Schiffman Southard & Swanson LLP)
Areas of Practice: Employment, Insurance Bad Faith Litigation
Best Phrase: Believe you can and you’re halfway there,” Theodore Roosevelt.

**Arie Spangler**
Firm: Pettit Kohn
Areas of Practice: Professional Liability, Civil Litigation
Best Phrase: “Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life,” Poet Mary Oliver.

**San Diego Defense Lawyers.**
and first racially diverse president of the San Diego Defense Lawyers.

**I wrote a children’s book, “The Original Poi Cats on O’ahu,” which was a bestseller in Hawaii for a year.**

**Grachielle Tenorio**
Firm: Tenorio Law
Areas of Practice: Estate Planning, Estate Administration, Probate
Best Phrase: Plan. Dig the well before you are thirsty.

**Sara Simmons**
Firm: Lepine Law Group
Areas of Practice: Civil Rights, Financial Elder Abuse, Oral Contracts, Family
Best Phrase: “As long as the world shall last there will be wrongs, and if no man objected and if no man rebelled, those wrongs would last forever,” Clarence Darrow.

**Little Known Fact:** I was a Junior Pillsbury Bake-Off finalist.

**I was a Junior Pillsbury Bake-Off finalist.**

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

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

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

**I was a Junior Pillsbury Bake-Off finalist.**

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

**Little Known Fact:** I love to cook.

**Little Known Fact:** I was named after Roosevelt.

**Little Known Fact:** I love to cook.

**I wrote a children’s book, “The Original Poi Cats on O’ahu,” which was a bestseller in Hawaii for a year.**

**I was a Junior Pillsbury Bake-Off finalist.**

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

**Little Known Fact:** I am a sixth generation California native.

**I wrote a children’s book, “The Original Poi Cats on O’ahu,” which was a bestseller in Hawaii for a year.**

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**Little Known Fact:** I was named after Roosevelt.

**Little Known Fact:** I love to cook.
Best of the Bar 2016

James Thompson
Firm: Law Office of James R. Thompson
Website: www.jrthompsonlaw.com
Areas of Practice: Business Litigation, Real Estate
Best Phrase: “Life is what happens to you while you’re busy making other plans,” John Lennon.
Little Known Fact: Before law school, I played bass in a punk rock band that toured the West Coast and played with some of the bands that defined the hardcore sound in the 90’s, including the Deftones, Korn and 311.

John Tishler
Firm: Shepard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP
Website: www.sheppardmullin.com
Areas of Practice: Corporate Transactional
Little Known Fact: I earned a black belt in Taekwon Do in 2014.

Jonah A. Toleno
Firm: Shustak Reynolds & Partners, PC
Website: www.shufirm.com
Areas of Practice: Securities Litigation/Arbitration, Financial Services Law, Corporate Law, Civil Litigation
Best Phrase: You never know.
Little Known Fact: My middle name is America. That’s an even more fun conversation starter than my first name.

David Vogel
Firm: Hecht Solberg Robinson Goldberg & Bagley LLP
Website: www.hechtsolberg.com
Areas of Practice: Real Estate, Common Interest Developments
Best Phrase: “Now you must cast aside your laziness ... for he who rests on down or under covers cannot come to fame ...” Therefore, get up, defeat your breathlessness with spirit that can win all battles if the body’s heaviness does not deter it ... you have understood, now profit from it. Then I arose and showed myself far better equipped with breath than I had been before; Go on, for I am strong and confident,” Dante, “Inferno Canto XXV.

Sandra Wagner
Firm: Law Offices of Sandra M Wagner
Website: wagnerimmigrationlaw.com
Area of Practice: Immigration
Best Phrase: There is heart in what I do and the results are life-changing for my clients.
Little Known Fact: I play bass clarinet and tenor sax.

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

Janice Walshok
Firm: Tyson & Mendes
Website: www.tysonmendes.com
Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Insurance Bad Faith
Best Phrase: “It’s not the will to win that matters — everyone has that. It’s the will to prepare to win that matters,” Paul “Bear” Bryant.
Little Known Fact: I don’t know why, but people always seem surprised to learn I was born in Oklahoma.

Christopher Walton
Firm: Walton Law, APC
Website: www.waltonlawapc.com
Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Nursing Home Neglect
Best Phrase: The details matter.
Little Known Fact: I really enjoy cooking.

Bethany Ward
Firm: Law Office of Bethany M. Ward
Website: familylawsandiego.com
Areas of Practice: Family, Guardianships, Adoption
Best Phrase: Always consider cost versus benefit.
Little Known Fact: I have the pleasure of working with a group of wonderful, smart and dedicated family law attorneys.

Sara Ward
Firm: The Ward Law Group
Website: www.wplgattorneys.com
Areas of Practice: Real Estate Transactions
Best Phrase: Apparently there is nothing that cannot happen today.
Little Known Fact: I can’t turn left.

Steve Wedeking
Firm: Thompson | Wedeking
Website: bestsandiegoевiction.com
Areas of Practice: Landlord Tenant - Landlord Representation in Evictions
Best Phrase: “Discipline is the bridge between goals and accomplishment,” Jim Rohn.
Little Known Fact: I have ridden a bull.

I have ridden a bull.

I play bass clarinet and tenor sax.

I am a huge Kansas basketball fan. Rock Chalk!

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

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

Best Phrase: “If you can dream it, you can do it.” Walt Disney.
Little Known Fact: I am a huge Kansas basketball fan. Rock Chalk!

Tamera Weisser
Firm: Jones Day
Website: www.jonesday.com
Areas of Practice: Intellectual Property, Patent Law, Life Sciences
Best Phrase: “We don’t accomplish anything in this world alone,” Hon. Sandra Day O’Connor.
Little Known Fact: My first concert was Elvis Presley on April 27, 1977. I was age five.

Christina White
Firm: Law Office of Christina Krywicki White
Website: www.kwhitelaw.com
Areas of Practice: Estate Planning, Trust/Probate Administration
Best Phrase: Everything happens for a reason. Only time will tell the reason.
Little Known Fact: I have my private pilot’s license.

Justin White
Firm: The Opus Law Firm
Website: www.opusattorney.com
Areas of Practice: Real Estate Transactions
Best Phrase: Apparently there is nothing that cannot happen today.
Little Known Fact: I can’t turn left.

Joseph Wilmore
Firm: Wilmore Law Firm
Website: www.wilmorelawfirm.com
Areas of Practice: Divorce, Family Law
Best Phrase: Don’t be afraid to start over. It’s a chance to rebuild what you want.
Little Known Fact: I’m also admitted to practice in Arizona but have never actually practiced law there.
Best of the Bar 2016

Derek Wilson
Firm: Pettit Kohn Ingrassia & Lutz PC
Website: www.pettitkohn.com
Areas of Practice: Personal Injury, Trials
Best Phrase: “It ain’t over till it’s over,” Yogi Berra.
Little Known Fact: I was twelve when I had my first job, and it involved a shovel and horse stables.

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

Charles Witham
Firm: Witham Mahoney & Abbott, LLP
Website: www.wmalawfirm.com
Areas of Practice: Business, Corporate Law
Best Phrase: “Every day is a new day and every day is a chance to be better.”
Little Known Fact: While in college, I provided private tours of the U.S. Capitol Building in Washington D.C.

Arlene Yang
Firm: Brown Law Group
Website: www.brownlawgroup.com
Areas of Practice: Employment, Litigation
Best Phrase: “Surely, in the light of history, it is more intelligent to hope rather than to fear, to try rather than not to try. For one thing we know beyond all doubt: Nothing has ever been achieved by the person who says, ‘It can’t be done,’” Eleanor Roosevelt.
Little Known Fact: I love the performing arts and spent many years as a board member and development professional.

Anna Yum
Firm: Law Offices of Anna R. Yum
Website: www.annayumlaw.com
Areas of Practice: Criminal Defense, Personal Injury
Best Phrase: “Let your faith be bigger than your fears.”
Little Known Fact: I am a runner and Pilates enthusiast.

Lisa Yun
Firm: Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP
Website: www.sheppardmullin.com
Areas of Practice: Business Litigation, Bankruptcy
Best Phrase: “Let’s eat!”
Little Known Fact: I take foosball very seriously.

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