

Ben Allen, Senator for California: Ben Allen represents the 24th Senate District, covering the Westside, Hollywood, South Bay, and Santa Monica Mountains communities of Los Angeles County. Ben was first elected in 2014 and is now serving his third term in the State Senate. Ben chairs the Senate's Environmental Quality Committee and co-chairs the Legislature's Environmental Caucus, is a member of the Legislative Jewish Caucus, chairs the Legislature's Joint Committee on the Arts, and the Senate Select Committee on Aerospace and Defense. He previously served as Chair of the Education Committee (2017-2019) and Chair of the Elections and Constitutional Amendments Committee (2015-2016).

Catherine Alman MacDonagh, FIRM Guidance: Catherine is the CEO and Founder of the Legal Lean Sigma Institute and of FIRM Guidance Consulting. She is a co-founder of the Legal Sales and Service Organization, the Legal Sustainability and Social Impact movement, and the Legal Mocktail. A former corporate counsel and law firm executive, she is an innovator known for award-winning transformation work in law firms, legal departments, and legal aid offices. Catherine is a law school professor and a well-known expert, speaker, and the author of many published works.

Felicity Aston, Director, Business Development + Marketing, Field Law (Canada: Alberta): Felicity is responsible for helping the firm grow its brand, attract new clients and offer incredible client experiences. Felicity's experience includes account management, client service, marketing, business development and event management. She has worked for law firms, a marketing agency and professional service firms for almost 20 years in the UK and North America.

Mariano Batalla, Partner, ALTA Batalla (Costa Rica): Mariano's practice focuses on cross-border mergers and acquisitions and strategic advice for establishing and restructuring business operations in Central America. Drawing on his business training and expertise, he represents large-scale global clients on a wide variety of cross-border transactions and complex contract negotiations, having taken part in deals in all Central American countries. He also regularly advises companies with governmental and public affairs.

Michele Bisceglie, Director, Business Development and Strategic Initiatives, SCG Legal (US: Washington, DC): Michele has three decades of experience executing multifaceted business development, marketing, communications, sales, and/or fundraising initiatives for non/for-profit entities such as Legal Sales & Service Organization, LawVision, CEO Connection, McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP (now Dentons), Nixon Peabody LLP, Wiley LLP, Historic Charleston Foundation, Jekyll Island Foundation, Boy Scouts of America, ClubCorp (now Invited), Leadership Louisville Center, and SchenkelShultz Architecture.

Rob Bonta, Attorney General for California: In 2021, Rob Bonta was sworn in as the 34th Attorney General of the State of California, the first person of Filipino descent and the second Asian-American to occupy the position. Attorney General Bonta's passion for justice and fairness was instilled in him by his parents, who served on the frontlines of some of America's most important social justice movements. Instilling in him the lessons they learned from the United Farm Workers and the civil rights movement, Attorney General Bonta's parents lit a fire inside him to fight against injustice — to stand up for those who are taken advantage of or harmed. It's why he decided to become a lawyer — to help right historic wrongs and fight for people who have been harmed.

Lyn Brown, Of Counsel, Wiley (US: Washington, DC): Lyn advises clients on a wide range of cybersecurity, national security, economic espionage, insider threat, ransomware, election security, and privacy issues. She specializes in helping clients prepare for and respond to cyber-attacks, including multi-million-dollar ransomware attacks, business email compromises, and other forms of information security incidents or data breaches. She frequently directs privileged internal investigations, works with forensic consultants, interacts with federal law enforcement or homeland security agencies, and prepares after-action guidance.

Katie Callaway, Director, Fennemore (US: Arizona): Katie practices in the estate planning and probate area. Prior to joining the firm, she worked as Associate Editor for Wealth Strategies Journal where she drafted blog posts summarizing developments in tax and estate planning for the Journal's website. While in law school Katie served as a legal extern in the Phoenix, Arizona Juvenile Public Defender's Office and the Crime Victims Legal Assistance Project in Phoenix, Arizona. She also served as a legal extern for The Honorable George Foster, Maricopa County Superior Court.

Krista Chaytor, Partner, WeirFoulds (Canada: Ontario): Krista is an experienced litigator with a practice focused on business litigation. Krista has experience litigating a large number of business disputes, including those related to commercial leasing, construction, real estate, shareholder rights and remedies, and employment.

Guillermo de la Rosa, Equity Partner and President, Torres, Plaz & Araujo (Venezuela): A member since 1988, Guillermo is a member of the Board of Directors and head of the business-corporate consultancy practice at the Firm. His professional practice extends to both advising business clientele and individuals in their day-to-day affairs. He has been very active in national and international negotiations of mergers, acquisitions, project finance; public and private issues; consortia, joint ventures and other forms of associations; negotiations of contracts with government institutions and other State-owned entities

Andrew Edge, Partner, McGinnis Lochridge (US: Texas): Andrew's practice focuses on civil litigation, including intellectual property, constitutional, product liability, and commercial disputes. He represents a diverse set of clients, including governmental entities, corporations, and individuals. Andrew offers his clients a broad perspective on litigation matters, having significant experience representing both plaintiffs and defendants. Andrew's experience spans state and federal courts at the trial and appellate levels, arbitration, and administrative forums.

John Elliott, Senior Manager-Legal Operations & Technology, Netflix

Yoav Etzyon, Managing Partner, Amit, Pollak, Matalon & Co.: Yoav specializes in venture capital investments, private equity transactions, public and private debt financings, mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, strategic collaborations and technology licensing arrangements. Yoav provides ongoing legal advice to both public and privately held high-growth companies operating in the technology and life science sectors. His clients include local and foreign entities (from, among other, US, Europe, China and Korea), venture capital and private equity funds, angel investors, strategic investors, multinationals corporations, leading high-growth companies and entrepreneurs.

Dolores Gallo, Partner, Barreiro (Argentina): Dolores' practice is oriented to Corporate Law, where she advises local and foreign investors in the design and structuring of their investments, the incorporation and registration of companies and associative agreements (UT, AC and joint ventures, among others), start-ups, partners agreements and agreements entered into between shareholders or between shareholders and third parties. She also supervises compliance with the formal obligations before the control agencies.

Claudia Garcia, Partner, Peixoto & Cury Advogados (Brazil): Claudia has large experience in corporate consulting focused on corporate governance, high-complex corporate operations and M&A, in addition to regulatory matters involving the Central Bank of Brazil. She also has relevant experience in the area of Compliance and is an expert in internal investigations and implementation of integrity programs and has improved her professional skills in renown institutions in the area (LEC and New York University).

Doug Gold, Chief Operating Officer, Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp LLP (US: Los Angeles, CA): Doug has spent the last 20 years, since graduating with a degree in Finance from Santa Clara University, working in a variety of industries, including software, banking, non-profit, professional services and manufacturing on diverse transactions, ranging from an IPO to venture financings to acquisitions and sales operations. He has worked for companies ranging in size from pre-revenue to \$700 million and pre-IPO to public, exposing him to enterprises going through business reorganization, start-up phases and high-growth scaling.

Yakub Hazzard, Partner and Vice-Chair, Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp (US: Los Angeles, CA): Yakub is the Vice Chair and former Co-Chair of the Litigation Practice Group. Yakub specializes in litigating high-profile matters involving intellectual property, right of publicity, privacy, breach of contract, profit participation, commercial disputes, and other media & entertainment-related conflicts across a wide range of industries. He has also handled employment litigation matters for clients.

Martin Hu, Senior Partner, MHP Law Firm (China: Shanghai): Martin has over 27 years of extensive experience and has advised a number of remarkable projects and cases. His representative clients include P&G, Amsted, Coventry University, BorgWarner, IQVIA, CBMG, China Pacific Insurance Group, Shanshan Group, which Martin Hu has counseled actively and extensively on their market entry strategies, joint venture transactions, mergers & acquisitions, technology licensing arrangements, and other major legal and political endeavors in China.

Mark Humphrey, Partner, Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp (US: Los Angeles, CA): Mark's practice focuses on commercial litigation with an emphasis on contractual and commercial disputes, video games, entertainment and intellectual property. Prior to joining the firm, Mark was an associate at Early Sullivan Wright Gizer & McRae LLP. While at Early Sullivan, Mark gained experience in all aspects of civil litigation, including trial, motion practice, oral argument, discovery procedures, negotiating settlements, and appeals.

Vipal Jain, Associate, WeirFoulds (Canada: Ontario): Vipal's practice focuses on privacy and technology matters. She helps organizations on matters relating to data governance, cybersecurity, access to information and technology transactions. Vipal previously served as a Legal Counsel to the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario. In that role, Vipal advised the Commissioner and senior officials on a range of issues in the context of public and private sector privacy. She also worked closely with public sector organizations including government ministries, police services and child welfare agencies.

Maureen Keegan, Partner, Curtis Thaxter (US: Maine): Maureen Keegan focuses her practice in the areas of estate planning, estate and trust administration, family business transactions and taxation. She previously practiced as a certified public accountant. She also has experience as a CFO of various business organizations in the commercial real estate, hospitality and retail industries. She remains licensed as a CPA. Maureen is a member of the Maine Estate Planning Council, the Trusts and Estates and Federal and State Taxation sections of the Maine State Bar Association, the pro bono panel of the Immigration Legal Advocacy Project in Maine, and the Katahdin Counsel Recognition Program.

Saravana Kumar, Partner, Rosli Dahlan Saravana Partnership (Malaysia): Saravana is the Head of the Firm's Tax, SST & Customs, where he has appeared in benchmark litigations with a sizeable volume of wins in tax disputes. He is recognized as one of the leading lawyers by Asialaw Profiles and was named as one of the 40 leading lawyers under 40 in Asia by Asian Legal Business in 2018. Saravana was also named as one of the 100 leading lawyers in Malaysia by Asia Business Law Journal in 2022.

John Latimer, Managing Partner and Founder, Capitol Advocacy (Government Relations – CA): John is recognized year after year as one of Sacramento's most influential lobbyists. Known for his strength in strategic planning and coordinating lobbying campaigns, John's ability to shape and deliver messaging in a clear and convincing manner gets results for clients. This talent has allowed John to build Capitol Advocacy into one of the most successful lobbying firms in Sacramento.

Chris Luna, Partner, Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp (US: Los Angeles, CA): Chris is an experienced attorney with an extensive background in corporate, international, and partnership taxation, with a particular focus on domestic and international structuring for transactional tax matters. Chris represents a diverse clientele consisting of public and private corporations, private equity firms, other pass-through entities and individuals. He has provided invaluable tax planning and transactional guidance to clients operating in various industries, with a particular emphasis on the technology, entertainment and financial services sectors.

Tony Macvean, Partner, Hall & Wilcox (Australia: Melbourne): Tony was previously the Managing Partner of Hall & Wilcox, finishing in June 2024 after 17 years. In that role, he was responsible for driving the firm's strategy, leading the firm's people, facilitating the firm's relationships with key clients and representing the firm publicly. During Tony's time leading Hall & Wilcox, the firm enjoyed significant growth and success. The business grew >10x, opened seven new offices, forged numerous new major client relationships and hired and onboarded many great people and teams. Tony led the transformation of Hall & Wilcox into the leading firm it is today.

Jonathan McCardle, Partner, Featherstonhaugh, Clyne & McCardle (US: Albany, NY): Jonathan joined Featherstonhaugh, Clyne & McCardle, LLP in 2011 and has developed extensive knowledge and experience in the areas of complex litigation, lobbying compliance, administrative law, and government relations. As an attorney, Jonathan is a skilled courtroom and appellate advocate who has represented clients before the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and other tribunals across New York State. Jonathan's legal practice focuses on representing private interests before New York State government along with procurement bid protests.

Doug McDonald, Partner, Mills & Reeve (UK): Doug heads the Firm's national technology practice, which acts for fast-growth technology startups through to global technology giants. Doug's own practice focuses on commercial dispute resolution, including high-value complex contract disputes, product recall, international distribution agreements, IT outsourcing agreements, injunctive relief, High Court litigation and alternative dispute resolution.

Jeremy Mittman, Partner, Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp (US: Los Angeles, CA): Jeremy Mittman represents management in litigation of employment-related matters, including discrimination, harassment, and retaliation, as well as state and federal wage and hour claims. He regularly counsels clients on compliance with employment-related laws and on enforcing personnel policies and procedures. Jeremy has extensive experience representing employers in a variety of industries such as financial services, security services, and numerous entertainment and media companies.

Lynn Morrow, Partner, Adams and Reese (US: Louisiana): Representing regional, national and international clients, Lynn advises and advocates for businesses and organizations that promote music and other forms of entertainment, and helps artists, authors, songwriters, music publishers and producers negotiate deals. She also works with independent publishing companies, record companies and large non-profit ministries with a music element, helping them to protect their intellectual property and content. Previously a litigator, Lynn brings courtroom and negotiation skills to her practice.

Joe Moschella, Senior Vice President, General Counsel, Trusted Media Brands: Joe Moschella is the General Counsel of Trusted Media Brands, Inc., the owner of a number of famous print and digital-first brands, including Reader's Digest and FailArmy. He is a former general counsel to a children's electronics manufacturer and a theatrical distribution company, and has a history of working with high-growth enterprises to maximize value and minimize risk. He has a BA in Political Science and a JD from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and an MBA from Cornell University's Johnson School, where he was a Park Fellow.

Sapna Pandya, Executive Vice President, General Counsel, Red Bull

Tom Pickthorn, Partner, Head of International, Mills & Reeve (UK): Tom leads the international practice and is a corporate partner, advising on M&A transactions, equity investments, ECM matters and restructuring. As Head of International, he works globally to manage the firm's strong relationships with hand-picked network of firms. Last year the team supported clients in over 75 countries including USA, Germany, France, China, India and Australia.

Paul Plunkett, Shareholder, Larkin Hoffman (US: Minnesota) | Chair, SCG Legal: Paul practices in the areas of corporate, commercial and business law and has extensive experience in mergers and acquisitions, financing transactions, business organization, development and planning, shareholder matters, contract matters, and manufacturing and product distribution matters.

Héctor Ramírez, Partner, Philippi, Prietocarrizosa Ferrero DU & Uría (Colombia): His professional practice focuses on the tax structuring and implementation of numerous M&A deals involving parties from different jurisdictions and economic sectors. He has coordinated due diligence activities for the aforementioned transactions. Additionally, he has experience in M&A and the issuance of shares and bonds, both in Colombia and New York. He has successfully led the structuring and implementation of wealth planning for high profile families in Colombia. Héctor attends the day-to-day tax and corporate issues of numerous clients from diverse industries.

Brad Rifkin, Partner, Rifkin Weiner Livingston (US: Maryland): Brad co-chairs the firm's Government Relations and Lobbying division and is a member of the Sports Law, Gaming and Facilities, and Complex Civil and Commercial Litigation practice groups, where he has represents clients with a wide array of statutory, regulatory, funding and procurement interests in industries ranging from alcohol manufacturing, automobile dealer, cannabis, casino-gaming, credit service businesses, energy, franchise laws, healthcare, innovative technology, insurance, investment services and platforms, non-profit organizations, rental cars, ride-sharing, ride-hailing, sports franchises and facilities.

Justin Ripman, Partner, Mills & Reeve (UK): Justin is a private tax and trust expert with a particular focus on advising landed estates. He is also one of the firm's complaints partners. Justin acts for a large number of landed estates across the UK, providing overall strategic advice, complex tax planning in areas such as heritage property and development land consortia, and the structuring of sophisticated trust reorganizations. Further, his practice frequently focusses on achieving a smooth transition for families at a time of inter-generational change.

Autumn Ronda, Partner, Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp (US: Los Angeles, CA): Autumn specializes in designing and implementing sophisticated tax and estate planning strategies for her clients. She is regarded for her special expertise in planning for cross-border estate and gift tax issues, including pre-immigration tax planning. She also manages complex trust and probate administration matters. Autumn is designated as a Certified Legal Specialist in Estate Planning, Trust & Probate Law by the Legal Specialization Board of the State Bar of California.

Su Ross, Mithell Silberberg & Knupp (US: Los Angeles, CA): Su's practice focuses on compliance whether dealing with Cybersecurity/Privacy or International Trade. She deals with regulatory, civil and criminal issues. Her clients come to her for assistance to solve current challenges, but also to identify and manage risk.

Melissa Salhab Sykes, Partner, McGinnis Lochridge (US: Texas): Melissa has more than 20 years of experience in the electric energy industry. She has extensive experience representing electric cooperatives and municipally owned utilities across the state of Texas in business transactions, including developing and negotiating wholesale and retail power supply contracts, electric facilities purchase and sales transactions, electric utility product supply chain alliance agreements, municipal franchise agreements, wind and solar lease transactions, and debt financing and restructuring transactions.

Suzanne Steinke, Senior Director | Production Employment Legal & Employee Relations – US & Canada, Netflix: Suzanne leads the Employment Legal and Employee Relations teams for all of Netflix's Film, Series and Nonfiction productions in the United States and Canada. Working closely with executives from, among others, the Creative, Business & Legal Affairs, Physical Production, Labor Relations, and Public Policy teams, Suzanne's team helps Netflix proactively address employment issues, including engaging cast & crew, addressing employee relations issues on set, creating safe and healthy work environments, and ensuring compliance with legal requirements in the United States and Canada. Suzanne's team also handles all employment litigation and administrative matters arising from Netflix productions.

Richard Stobbe, Partner, Fiel Law (Canada: Alberta): Richard is an intellectual property lawyer, Trademark Agent and Certified Licensing Professional (CLP), helping corporations and individuals throughout Alberta with a practical and solutions-oriented approach. Many of his clients are mid-sized software vendors, company founders and owner-operators who value Richard's responsive, cut-to-the-chase approach to problem solving. He is also called in to flag and resolve issues for corporate transactions involving intellectual property (IP) assets.

Brian Sweet, Counsel, Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler (US: New York): Brian engages in sophisticated estate planning for individuals and families, often designed to accomplish transfers to family members and charitable organizations in a tax-efficient manner. Brian has served clients in a variety of situations, including entrepreneurs, investment fund principals, corporate executives, artists and collectors, and high net-worth families. In recent years, Brian has helped many founders and investors with estate and tax planning involving their interests in high-growth companies.

John Tang, Senior Partner, Beijing DHH Law Firm (China: Beijing): John represents public and private interests in trade investigations/disputes (for example, recently represented the Chinese Chamber of Commerce in response to USTR Section 301 investigations on China and certain IP issues). He assists Chinese clients in cross border funds recovery and judgment enforcement (for example, currently assisting a Chinese client with civil litigation to recover funds embezzled). John also advises clients with anti-corruption legislation compliance, including, FCPA, British Anti-Bribery Laws, Chinese Anti-Corruption Laws, etc.

David Weslow, Partner, Wiley (US: Washington, DC): David focuses his practice on intellectual property litigation and transactions involving trademarks, copyrights, and domain names. A former software and web developer, he regularly handles cutting-edge disputes involving law and technology. David has developed particular expertise helping businesses navigate Internet, software, and anti-counterfeiting issues, and assists clients with application of intellectual property claims to business and product impersonations, intangible and digital asset thefts, business email compromise scams, social media issues, and other Internet and software-based disputes.