



The following section features attorneys who have demonstrated leadership qualities and have achieved the AV Preeminent rating by Martindale-Hubbell®.

Martindale-Hubbell®, the company that has long set the standard for lawyer ratings, has supplied ALM with a list of Top Rated Lawyers who have achieved an AV® Preeminent® Peer Review Rating, the highest rating in legal ability and ethical standards. To create this section, Martindale-Hubbell® tapped its comprehensive database of Martindale-Hubbell® Peer Review Ratings™ to identify lawyers who have been rated by their peers to be AV® Preeminent™.

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A complete directory of all AV® Preeminent™ lawyers can be found online at Lawyers.com® and Martindale.com, in the Martindale-Hubbell® Law Directory in print and CD-ROM formats, and online through the LexisNexis® services and at lexis.com. Attorneys shown do not constitute the full list of "Top Rated Lawyers"



ILLINOIS CHICAGO

LITIGATION

ROBERT W. FIORETTI

Bob Fioretti is a seasoned litigator and certified mediator bringing his clients a diverse range of legal experience. A partner in the law firm Roth Fioretti LLC, he has handled cases in complex litigation and governmental law, many of which have been litigated in federal and state court or resolved through arbitration and mediation. Bob has a wide range of clients including individuals, local governments and corporations.

He cultivated his experience as a Senior Supervising Attorney of the General Litigation Division for the Corporation Counsel working in the Mayor Harold Washington administration. He was involved in more than 500 civil rights cases. His personal trial experiences have led to over 100 state and federal verdicts and appellate court decisions. He was appointed to numerous cases as an Illinois Special Assistant Attorney General and Special Assistant State's Attorney. Bob has taken cases others have declined yielding results with impact for his clients. His reputation of integrity, work ethic, and attention to detail is brought to each client.

Bob served two terms on the Chicago City Council as 2nd Ward Alderman where he focused on education, community development, and helped create over 8,000 jobs.

He earned his J.D. from Northern Illinois University College of Law and is a member of the adjunct faculty. Bob remains deeply involved in the Chicago community where he serves on various boards and lectures extensively on the legal profession, education, civics and has received numerous awards for his work in public service and the legal profession. He continues to serve his community with pro bono legal services.

He has served on the Character and Fitness Committee of the Illinois Supreme Court and the Judicial Evaluation Committee of the Chicago Bar Association Executive Committee. He was elected to the Illinois State Bar Association Assembly in 2019.



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TEXAS DALLAS

SAMUEL BOYD

A Texas native, an Eagle Scout and a former Green Beret Captain, Sam Boyd is the owner of Boyd & Associates, a leading whistleblower law firm in Dallas, Texas. Whistleblowers file Qui Tam suits on behalf of the government under the False Claims Act to hold corrupt companies and individuals accountable. He also files Whistleblower claims under the IRS and SEC. "Whenever your client takes the bold move of speaking out against the largest corporations, they need the assurance and confidence that fearless trial lawyers have their back." About 75% of all recoveries are returned to Government.

Sam has received the prestigious "AV" peer review rating from Martindale-Hubbell, signifying the highest standards of ethical and legal ability. Sam has also been honored as a "Texas Top Rated Lawyer" by Martindale-Hubbell. The National Trial Lawyers Association in 2020 named him to the Top 10 Lawyers after having named him to their Top 100 Lawyers from 2013 to 2020. For years, Sam has been a member of the Multi-Million Dollar Advocates Forum.

In 2018, The Top 100 Registry's Top 100 Lawyers honored Sam as America's Top Business Fraud and Whistleblower Attorney. It also presented him with its Lifetime Achievement Award. In 2020, the organization honored Sam in its cover story as Texas 'Best in its December 2020 Issue.

Honored as a 2015 Distinguished Alumnus by the Texas Tech School of Law, Sam was a Member and the Managing Editor of the Texas Tech Law Review, a member of the Board of Barristers and the Order of the Coif. During Law School, Sam was a 1977 Fellow of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange and performed research on innovative agricultural futures. He has been an active Director Emeritus of the Associations of the Texas Trial Lawyers and the Dallas Trial Lawyers.

In 1979, Sam married Delilah Holmes. Delilah graduated (1992) from the SMU School of Law and was an Editor on the SMU Law Review. Sam and Delilah, thankfully, are Permanent Residents in the Turks & Caicos Islands. Sam and Delilah volunteered for a charitable educational organization (Jubilee) in a lesser advantaged Dallas community: first, as a mentor to third-graders at O.M. Roberts Elementary; and, second, for many years on Jubilee's Education Committee.

Sam volunteered to serve his country during the Vietnam War. On his way to Special Forces training, Sam was selected as the Distinguished Honor Graduate [1/500] of his Airborne Jump School Class # 68-22 at Fort Benning. He became a Special Forces A-Team Demolition Specialist and, later, an A-Team Leader. In Vietnam, Sam was a Rifle Platoon Leader in Combat with the 173d Airborne Brigade. Sam's Awards and Decorations include the Combat Infantryman's Badge, Master Parachutist's Badge, Military Freefall (HALO) Badge, 4 Bronze Stars (2 with "V" for Heroism) (2 for Achievement in Combat), three (3) Air Medals (Achievement During Flight), three (3) Army Commendation Medals, the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm, the Jungle Expert Badge among other recognition. As a Rifle Company Commander in the 82nd Airborne Division, one of his rifle platoons and one of his rifle squads were each awarded the Outstanding Unit awards in annual Division competition, a first in 82nd Airborne history.

After his military service, Sam attended Texas Tech University, where he graduated (1974) as Valedictorian with a Bachelor of Arts (Mathematics), with Highest Honors, and later (1977) as Valedictorian of his MBA class. He received (1977) his Juris Doctor (JD), with High Honors, from Texas Tech. Sam was selected by the International Legal Fraternity Phi Delta Phi. as its International Winner of the Law Graduate for the Year 1977.



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FLORIDA WEST PALM BEACH | PALM BEACH GARDENS | MIAMI

MICHAEL J. PIKE

Michael Pike is the Managing Partner of Pike and Lustig, LLP located in West Palm Beach and Miami. The Firm has 8 lawyers and several support staff, and a sophisticated corporate and business litigation department involved in high-stakes litigation through Florida Federal and State Courts. Pike is known for aggressively and methodically trying several cases, including arbitration, jury and bench trials. For many years, Pike and Lustig has represented notable law firms in connection with employment and partnership disputes, Florida Bar Complaints and other business related matters. Pike is known as the "lawyer's lawyer."

The Firm also represents several medical practices throughout the State of Florida in connection with employment disputes, drafting of corporate documents, physician practice management and employment agreements along with billing guidance regarding CPT codes. This area of law often involves the representation and counseling of orthopedic surgeons, spine surgeons, neurologists and other medical professionals.

Over the years, Pike and Lustig's trial experience, combined with its corporate knowledge, has assisted businesses in taking preventative measures to avoid litigation altogether because, as Pike says, "we have seen how it unfolds at trial." Pike and Lustig is no stranger to the courtroom. Pike has been lead counsel in several trials, and achieved one of the largest jury verdicts in the Southern District of Florida involving willful-copyright infringement for \$2.5 million.

Pike and Lustig handles derivative actions, shareholder disputes, partner disputes, non-compete disputes, contract disputes, real estate disputes, trademark and copyright disputes, appeals in both State and Federal Courts, Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO) – State and Federal, and Federal overtime cases. Pike was also selected as a Top 100 High Stakes Litigator and is AV Rated. Visit the firm at www.pikelustig.com



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CALIFORNIA SAN FRANCISCO

SOLOMON B. CERA

Mr. Cera, the managing partner, has been litigating complex cases with the Firm for more than thirty years. He has been at the forefront of the Firm's nationwide practice in litigating complex class action and individual cases on behalf of plaintiffs. The Firm's principal areas of practice are securities, antitrust, and consumer litigation. Many of the Firm's cases are class actions. With unwavering commitment to its clients' interests, the Firm establishes a close working relationship from initial investigation through successful resolution. The Firm's nationwide class action practice, run from its San Francisco and Boston offices, covers a wide range of businesses and industries. The Firm's cases often involve alleged accounting manipulations, misstated financial results, price fixing, monopolization, and/or other restraints of trade. In addition to its class action cases, the Firm also represents individuals and small businesses in high stakes litigation in a variety of areas including ERISA litigation, *qui tam* and whistleblower litigation, churning and unsuitability claims, and for breaches of fiduciary duty by officers and directors and general partners. The Firm also undertakes representation of individuals and businesses in arbitration, and has vast experience in obtaining mediated resolutions of disputes.

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CALIFORNIA BEVERLY HILLS

Founded in 1993, Rosen Saba, LLP is a 9-lawyer firm of civil trial lawyers who prosecute and defend individual claims, mass actions and class actions in both federal and state courts. The firm's primary focus is on catastrophic injuries, professional responsibility, employment disputes, and complex business matters.

Known for its creativity and work ethic, Rosen Saba routinely obtains some of the largest plaintiffs' verdicts and settlements in their practice areas. In 2020, the firm obtained a \$25.6 million trial verdict, the year's largest personal injury verdict in California and 20th largest such jury verdict in the USA. Additionally, the firm settled the most watched and significant legal malpractice claim in California. Despite the COVID pandemic's impact on the court system in 2020, the firm also settled two eight-figure matters and four seven-figure cases for plaintiff clients.

On the defense side, Rosen Saba is widely considered one of the premier "bet-the-company" trial firms in California. In 2020, the firm defended a client in a \$50 million long cause civil jury trial in a food manufacturing industry dispute. The firm also obtained dismissal of a seven-year, \$18 million loan contract action on behalf of a commercial borrower for zero dollars. Rosen Saba internally supports its trial practice on appeal, successfully obtaining numerous published decisions in state and federal courts of appeal, including four California appellate decisions in 2020.

Rosen Saba, LLP is rated Best Law Firms by ALM, Tier 1 (highest) by U.S. News and World Report, AV-Preeminent (also highest) by Martindale Hubbell, and was named a "Top Boutique Law Firm" in California by the LA Daily Journal. Jim Rosen and Ryan Saba are both members of the American Board of Trial Advocates and have been honored as Southern California "Super Lawyers" for multiple years in succession. Partner Elizabeth Bradley is the current President of the Los Angeles County Bar Association's Professional Responsibility and Ethics Committee. In 2021, Francesca Dioguardi was elevated to become the firm's fourth partner for her tenacious representation of defense clients. Tyler Vanderpool is a repeat "Rising Star" honoree.

The firm pays referral fees per state bar rules.



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PENNSYLVANIA HAMBURG

LOUIS COFFEY

Lou has been voted a Best Lawyer in America for 13 consecutive years. He is a former senior partner in a Philadelphia based national law firm. Handled business transactions for national financial institutions, professional sports teams, entrepreneurs, governments and building contractors. Projects ranged in value from \$350K to \$275M. Has been a business consultant to entrepreneurs and an expert witness in litigation. Since 2000, Lou is a full-time arbitrator and mediator of large, complex commercial, real estate and construction cases. He serves on panels of the American Arbitration Association, the International Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution, and the Native American Dispute Resolution Network, is a member of the International Mediation Institute and a former Judge Pro Tem of the Philadelphia Commerce Court. Lou is a Fellow and Board Member of the College of Commercial Arbitrators. In ADR, he is a solo arbitrator and mediator and member of tri-partite panels, which he frequently chairs. He mediated to resolution the only settled Native American land claim against a government. It involved multiple parties, including national and state governments. Amounts in controversy in arbitrated and mediated cases range from \$75K to hundreds of millions of dollars. Parties include national financial institutions, governments, manufacturing and business companies, franchisees, and entrepreneurs.



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FLORIDA MIAMI | NAPLES | TALLAHASSEE

GARY M. CARMAN

Gary Carman is a shareholder of GrayRobinson and practices out of our Miami, Naples, and Tallahassee offices and has been a practicing attorney since 1974. He is AV rated by Martindale-Hubbell and a lifetime Fellow of the American Bar Association. He is an experienced litigator in sophisticated commercial litigation. He practices in all federal and state courts, handling complex business litigation, bank related litigation, intellectual property and commercial disputes and media law. He has represented numerous corporations in business disputes including medical practitioner's in the negotiation of health care contracts and terminations. He has negotiated acquisitions and divorces of hospital-based physician practices. Gary also handles Stark related matters, representing physicians in credentialing disputes as well as disciplinary and other matters relating to hospital privileges. He is an aggressive advocate while tempered by the concerns of the client, both from a business perspective as well as an expense side.



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**CALIFORNIA**

MOUNTAIN VIEW

E. DAVID MARKS

David Marks specializes in litigation and alternative dispute resolution in a variety of real estate and construction matters.

Mr. Marks also uses his experience in construction and real estate law to prepare practical and efficient construction contracts, to review leases and to counsel clients on insurance issues for construction projects. He also assists clients in the purchase and sale of residential property.



Professional Background

Mr. Marks joined GCA Law Partners in August 2011. He was previously a partner at Miller Starr Regalia. He has an extensive background in alternative dispute resolution, and currently acts as an arbitrator, mediator and as an Early Neutral Evaluator in Santa Clara County. In May of 2015, he was added to the list of mediators for the California Association of Realtors (C.A.R.) Mediation Panel.

He was the Co-Chair of the Litigation subsection of the Real Estate Section of the California State Bar, is a member of the Santa Clara County Bar Association, participates as an Early Neutral Evaluator for the Santa Clara Superior Court, and is a member of Stanford Professionals in Real Estate (SPIRE). He holds various seminars for Real Estate Agents in Santa Clara County.

He is AV rated by Martindale Hubbell and has been selected as a Super Lawyer in 2011-2013, 2016-2020.

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Corey R. Chivers is a partner in Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP's Capital Markets practice. He has represented corporations, investment banks, national governments and multinational financial institutions in a wide range of public and private securities offerings, including initial public offerings, major high-yield transactions and investment grade debt offerings.

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