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# 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.



**Steven T. Coopersmith**  
**Firm:** The Coopersmith 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.S. 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.



**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.



**Elvira Cortez**  
**Firm:** Sullivan Hill Lewin 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," St. Francis of Assisi.  
**Little Known Fact:** I grew up on a farm in Oxnard, California.



**Jill Cremeans**  
**Firm:** Law Offices of Jill Cremeans  
**Website:** www.attorneyjill.com

**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.



**Thomas Crosbie**  
**Firm:** CGS3 (Crosbie Gliner Schiffman Southard & Swanson LLP)  
**Website:** www.cgs3.com

**Areas of Practice:** Commercial Real Estate  
**Best Phrase:** Think big, be big, my friend.  
**Little Known Fact:** I was a bartender at Club Med.

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



**James Crosby**  
**Firm:** Henderson, Caverly, Pum & Charney LLP  
**Website:** www.hcesq.com, www.trialcall.net

**Areas of Practice:** Complex and General Business, Commercial Litigation  
**Best Phrase:** Winning is better than losing.  
**Little Known Fact:** 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.



**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.



**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 a University of Illinois basketball game to win a prize of \$500.



**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.



**Arthur D'Egidio**  
**Firm:** D'Egidio Licari & Townsend, APC  
**Website:** www.deltlaw.com  
**Areas of Practice:**

Personal Injury  
**Best Phrase:** "No man is above the law and no man below it," Theodore Roosevelt.  
**Little Known Fact:** I enjoy spending time with my wife and two dogs, surfing, tennis, and basketball.



**Melissa Deleon**  
**Firm:** Casey Gerry Schenk Francavilla Blatt & Penfield LLP  
**Website:** www.caseygerry.com

**Areas of Practice:** Personal Injury  
**Best Phrase:** "First they ignore you, then they laugh at you, then they fight you, then you win," Mahatma Gandhi.  
**Little Known Fact:** I am a true native San Diegan — raised here and never left!



**David Demian**  
**Firm:** Finch, Thornton & Baird, LLP  
**Website:** www.ftblaw.com  
**Areas of Practice:**

Business & Commercial Transactions, Construction Law, Federal Procurement & Claims, Government & Regulatory, Real Estate, Trusts & Estate Planning  
**Best Phrase:** To dare is to do.  
**Little Known Fact:** I am a season ticket holder with the L.A. Galaxy.

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



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

Employment Litigation, Counseling  
**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.



**Quinn Disparte**  
**Firm:** RJS Law  
**Website:** www.rjlawfirm.com  
**Areas of Practice:**

Tax Controversy  
**Best Phrase:** Make the most of every opportunity.  
**Little Known Fact:** I have lived in Heidelberg, Germany.



**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!

*In shareholder litigation last year, I deposed Mark Zuckerberg. And no, it was not at all like the movie!*



**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:** In shareholder litigation last year, I deposed Mark Zuckerberg. And no, it was not at all like the movie!



**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.



**Amber Eck**  
**Firm:** Zeldes Haeggquist & Eck, LLP  
**Website:** www.zhlaw.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.



**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.