

JOHN ALESSIO**MANAGING PARTNER, PROCOPIO CORY HARGREAVES & SAVITCH LLP**

WHY: A managing partner since 2018, John Alessio focuses on complex class-action, business and employment litigation, with particular experience in trade-secret misappropriation, unfair competition, real estate, shareholder and contractual disputes to include cross-border issues. **NOTABLE:** He has achieved great results for clients of all sizes in civil trials, arbitrations and mediations. **SOCIAL IMPACT:** Procopio donates funds and provides in-kind services to more than 200 charitable, educational, arts and professional organizations. **WORDS OF WISDOM:** "We always focus on three C's: clients, culture, and community."

**MICHAEL ATTANASIO****PARTNER, COOLEY**

WHY: Michael Attanasio is chair of Cooley's global Litigation Department. **NOTABLE:** He was co-trial counsel for baseball legend Roger Clemens in the obstruction of Congress and perjury prosecution brought against Clemens by the U.S. Attorney's Office. The jury returned not-guilty verdicts on all six counts. **SOCIAL IMPACT:** Michael secured the conviction of a coal mining company and its owner for mail fraud involving bid rigging on coal-supply contracts at a public utility. **QUOTABLE:** "I defend companies against threats to their innovation and success, and I defend individuals against threats to their freedom."

**JENNIFER BARNES****CEO, OPTIMA OFFICE**

WHY: Jennifer Barnes' firm helps organizations profit by utilizing her team of controllers, CFOs, senior finance, and operational leaders. They also provide accounting and bookkeeping services, plus a team of HR experts. **NOTABLE:** Barnes is an SDBJ 2021 Business Women of the Year Award winner. **SOCIAL IMPACT:** She volunteers as a mentor at SDSU and Miramar College. **QUOTABLE:** "In my view, you build your reputation with your current and future clients by being a trusted adviser and doing everything you can to help them be successful."

**VINCENT J. BARTOLOTTA, JR.****FOUNDING PARTNER, THORSNES BARTOLOTTA MCGUIRE**

WHY: Vincent J. Bartolotta, Jr specializes in plaintiff's litigation with a focus in business disputes, condemnation, and major-injury cases. **NOTABLE:** Bartolotta is recognized by Woodward/White as one of the Best Lawyers in America – an honor he has received the past 30 years. **SOCIAL IMPACT:** Bartolotta earned his negotiator's stripes in the jungles of Thailand, compensating relatives of victims of friendly fire while in the Marine Corps. **QUOTABLE:** "There's no secret about what I do. I really do care for my clients; each case gets the same kind of attention my family would get."

**ERIC BESTE****PARTNER, BARNES & THORNBURG LLP**

WHY: Eric Beste focuses his practice on white-collar criminal defense, internal investigations, and compliance matters, and complex business litigation. **NOTABLE:** As a supervisor in one of the busiest federal districts in the country, Beste oversaw hundreds of cases, many involving nationally significant prosecutions. **SOCIAL IMPACT:** While serving in the Southern District of California, Beste was responsible for devising strategies to combat financial frauds and ensure coordination among various federal agencies. **QUOTABLE:** "Gratitude. That's my reaction to being recognized in the 2024 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America* with over 250 colleagues."

**BETH BINGER****PRESIDENT, BINGER COMMUNICATIONS, INC.**

WHY: Binger Communications, Inc. (BCI) has a proven track record securing media coverage designed to influence key audiences and industry leaders. **NOTABLE:** BCI has secured coverage in WSJ.com, The New York Times, Los Angeles Times, and The San Diego Union-Tribune, among others. **SOCIAL IMPACT:** Binger has been involved with the Hispanic Education Endowment Fund (HEEF) of Orange County since 2015, when BCI commenced its annual sponsorship of the HEEF Gala to raise scholarship funds for college-bound Hispanic students. **WORDS OF WISDOM:** "fortes Fortuna adiuvat"

**CALLIE BJURSTROM****MANAGING PARTNER, SAN DIEGO, PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN LLP**

WHY: Callie Bjurstrom, a Pillsbury Intellectual Property partner and board member, is recognized by the Daily Journal as a top litigator delivering big wins. **NOTABLE:** A tenacious client advocate, Bjurstrom has successfully tried cases to verdict as lead counsel in both state and federal courts, as well as represented clients before the International Trade Commission. **SOCIAL IMPACT:** She is on the front lines assisting clients with COVID-19 matters. **QUOTABLE:** "I have considerable experience in cases involving electronic gaming systems and devices, building product materials, RFID-based products, computer software systems, and food and beverage products."

**ANNA CROWE****CEO & FOUNDER, CROWE PR**

WHY: Anna Crowe is a recognized public relations expert, best-selling author, speaker, and marketing faculty. **NOTABLE:** For over 20 years, she has represented iconic brands around the globe, pivoting from a Big 4 CPA track to founding and scaling a national public relations agency. **SOCIAL IMPACT:** Crowe is president elect of the San Diego Chapter of the Entrepreneurs Organization and is an active member of the PEERS Network and digital wellness non-profit Half The Story. **WORDS OF WISDOM:** "I have always had a knack for uncovering opportunities where others saw roadblocks."

**TREVOR BLAIR****CEO, BLAIR SEARCH PARTNERS**

WHY: A native of San Diego, Trevor Blair has over 20 years of experience in executive search, recruiting, and workforce development. **NOTABLE:** He began his career with a global provider of recruiting and HR solutions, and was initially based in Sydney, Australia. **SOCIAL IMPACT:** Returning to San Diego five years later, Blair worked closely with nonprofit organizations to develop training and job-placement programs for underserved communities. **WORDS OF WISDOM:** "Pay it forward."

**KEVAN BRADSHAW****STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS LEADER, PWC**

WHY: Kevan Bradshaw is a member of PwC's Assurance Innovation Leadership Team, responsible for leading strategic communications for PwC's U.S. Assurance innovation practice. He also leads PwC strategy with assurance practice clients and markets to drive the advanced use of Centers of Excellence for delivering services to our clients. **NOTABLE:** Bradshaw spent four years working in PwC's Assurance Leadership Team in China. **SOCIAL IMPACT:** The PwC Charitable Foundation has invested more than \$172 million supporting education, military veterans and aid to natural disaster victims.

**BILL BRENNAN****CHIEF REVENUE OFFICER, CMR**

WHY: Bill Brennan joined CMR in 2020 with over 24 years of industry experience as a principal, broker at other large insurance firms. **NOTABLE:** He is now chief revenue officer, and part of the new Executive Leadership Team, which oversees daily operations and strategic goals. **SOCIAL IMPACT:** He has been on the board of Big Brothers Big Sisters, is co-founder of the Daisy Miracle Foundation, and is very active with USD organizations. **WORDS OF WISDOM:** "I believe a life spent giving is a life worth living."

**RYAN BUELL****FOUNDER & CEO, SAYVA**

WHY: Ryan Buell's company elevates organizations with strategic finance, accounting, IT, and HR experts, and experienced consulting teams at every stage of growth. **NOTABLE:** Sayva specialize in delivering strategic support and extraordinary outcomes to finance, accounting, technology, and HR teams. **SOCIAL IMPACT:** Buell serves on the boards of the Better Business Bureau and Connect. **QUOTABLE:** "My top priority is ensuring our culture is consistent with our values, and to make sure our company's growth strategy aligns with creating value and growth opportunities for clients, employees, consultants, and candidates."

**REID CARR****CEO, RED DOOR INTERACTIVE**

WHY: Red Door Interactive is a multichannel marketing agency for enterprise brands. Reid Carr has been president and CEO for 22 years, and CEO and Executive Creative Director for six years. **NOTABLE:** He gave a Ted Talk about "100% jerk-free workplace," and hosts The Marketing Remix podcast. **SOCIAL IMPACT:** Carr is a board member at Benefunder, Voice of San Diego, and San Diego Sport Innovators. **WORDS OF WISDOM:** "The marketing world is fast-paced. Blink, and you'll miss the latest digital marketing trends. Red Door is here to help you stay on top of it all."

**DAVID S. CASEY, JR.****MANAGING PARTNER, CASEYGERRY**

WHY: David S. Casey, Jr. joined the firm in 1976 after working as a prosecutor for the San Diego City Attorney's office. The practice was founded by his late father, David S. Casey Sr., in 1947 and is the oldest plaintiffs' law firm in San Diego. **NOTABLE:** CaseyGerry's personal-injury lawyers have recovered billions of dollars on behalf of clients. **SOCIAL IMPACT:** Since 2008, Casey served as state chair for Senator Dianne Feinstein's Judicial Selection Committee. **WORDS OF WISDOM:** "It is an honor to represent and support an individual whose life has been severely impacted."

**STEVE COOPERSMITH****MANAGING ATTORNEY, COOPERSMITH LAW**

WHY: Steve Coopersmith founded The Coopersmith Law Firm nearly 15 years ago, after substantial experience as a business litigator in San Diego, and service as a military prosecutor in the U.S. Army's Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps. **NOTABLE:** The firm has grown substantially, representing businesses and individuals with business interests at all stages of litigation. **SOCIAL IMPACT:** Coopersmith is a member of San Diego Rotary Club 33, and an active participant in the San Diego community. **QUOTABLE:** "Representing both plaintiffs and defendants, we provide clear thinking and intelligent advice to a wide range of clients."

