

WOMEN OF INFLUENCE: ATTORNEYS



WELCOME TO THE 2021 EDITION OF OUR ANNUAL SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT HONORING LA'S MOST INFLUENTIAL WOMEN attorneys. According to the American Bar Association, 37% of practicing attorneys today are women – and that number will continue to move toward balance when you consider that law school enrollment is currently 54% female.

Los Angeles is truly a national leader when it comes to influential women – and the field of law is no exception. There are some particularly stellar attorneys in the LA region who happen to be women and we've alphabetically listed some of the very best of them here, along with details about their careers, practices and relevant recent successes they've achieved.

The women covered in these pages have been recognized for exceptional legal skill and achievement across the full spectrum of responsibility, exemplary leadership as evidenced by the highest professional and ethical standards, and for contributions to the Los Angeles community at large.

Congratulations to the extraordinary women included this year and thank you for your contributions to the people and businesses of our region.

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**MARTA FERNANDEZ***Partner*

Jeffer Mangels Butler & Mitchell LLP

Marta Fernandez has a traditional labor law practice with 35 years of experience in the representation of employers in union/labor collective bargaining in both the private and public sectors. She has negotiated well over 100 labor contracts for her clients with every major labor union in California, primarily in the healthcare and hospitality industries. The labor contracts she negotiates represent multiple millions of dollars to employers in labor costs covering wages, benefits such as health care and pension plan contributions, and work rules. Fernandez is the chair of the Labor & Employment Law Department at Jeffer Mangels Butler & Mitchell LLP and is a member of the firm's Management Committee. Recently, as the chief negotiator, Fernandez successfully negotiated a three-year labor contract on behalf of a major healthcare system covering seven separate healthcare facilities and approximately 5,000 registered nurses with the United Nurses Association of California/Union of Health Care Professionals.

**RACHEL FISET***Partner*

Zweiback, Fiset & Coleman LLP

Rachel L. Fiset is a co-founder and partner of Zweiback, Fiset & Coleman LLP. Her practice includes state and federal civil and white-collar criminal matters, including government and internal investigations. In 2018, Fiset left a large international firm with a clear mission – to build a powerhouse woman owned law firm focused on diversity, leadership and efficiency. Since forming Zweiback, Fiset & Coleman, Fiset has been involved in several of the highest profile investigations and cases in the Central District of California. She currently defends an unindicted co-conspirator in the indictment of various entities relating to allegations of a fraudulent \$2 billion-dollar scheme to avoid paying U.S. tariffs. Recently, Fiset defended and achieved a declination from the Department of Justice on behalf of a chain of long-term care pharmacies relating to False Claims Act allegations amounting to over \$100 million dollars. *Villamizar v. Senior Care Pharmacy Services, Inc. et al.*

**TANYA FORSHEIT***Partner; Chair of the Privacy & Data Security Group
Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz, PC*

In a world where privacy and data security are among the most urgent issues facing government, business and individuals, nobody knows more about how to navigate the fast-changing regulatory landscape than Frankfurt Kurnit Privacy & Data Security chair Tanya Forsheit. A lifelong Southern California native and current supervising partner of Frankfurt Kurnit's LA office, Forsheit is widely considered one of the country's top privacy and data security lawyers. Forsheit has advised on high-profile matters involving confidential data and other sensitive information for over 20 years. Widely recognized as one of the leading advisors on the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA), Forsheit has advised hundreds of organizations on compliance with the law. And she testified before the California legislature during its consideration of CCPA amendments. Forsheit is currently advising clients on the new California Privacy Rights Act, Proposition 24, which will take effect in 2023.

**DEBORAH FOX***Principal; Chair of First Amendment Practice and
Trial & Litigation Practice
Mayers Nave*

Deborah Fox is a principal in the Los Angeles office of Meyers Nave, a member of the firm's three-person Executive Committee, and the founder and leader of the firm's Trial & Litigation Practice and First Amendment Practice. The cases Fox handles confirm her reputation as a go-to attorney for high impact complex litigation and crisis management involving controversial matters that are already front-page news or likely to become headlines in the greater Los Angeles region and across the U.S. She is particularly well known for handling cases in new areas of law that define pivotal eras in history that will leave powerful legacies, such as her pioneering COVID-19 litigation that lies at the intersection of law and highly charged considerations for society. She is currently defending counties, cities and public officials in 10 lawsuits throughout California in cases filed by businesses challenging COVID-related restrictions.

Most Influential Women Lawyers In Los Angeles



Meyers Nave congratulates

DEBORAH J. FOX

and her team of Trial, Litigation and First Amendment attorneys for their outstanding results, exemplary client service and highly ranked legal expertise.

Principal and Executive Committee Member
Chair, Trial and Litigation Practice
Chair, First Amendment Practice

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