

THE BEST OF THE BAR

Judging the Lawyers

Los Angeles County has enough practicing lawyers to fill a stadium, so it is no simple task to select those who are considered the best. The Business Journal did just that. It solicited nominees with the help of an informal committee of people knowledgeable about the local bar, and picked the standout lawyers in each of 10 practice areas. The lawyers talk about their philosophies, their most challenging cases and even confess their most embarrassing moments or things their colleagues don't know about them. In all, 81 lawyers are identified as the best of the bar in Los Angeles.

Peers pick the best of the bar

CLOSE to 48,000 lawyers practice in Los Angeles County. That's about 30 percent of California's entire legal workforce and an amount equal to the population of Beverly Hills and Malibu combined. But in that legal army, how can you determine which individuals are the standouts, the ones regarded as the best in their business? The Business Journal sought to do just that in compiling this year's Who's Who in Law list. The staff of the newspaper sought nominations for outstanding lawyers in 10 practice areas. An informal committee comprised of knowledgeable figures in the local legal community select-

ed from the nominees those attorneys whose career achievements merit special designation. Some lawyers were favored because they are great business generators, for example, while others are known as having a legal acumen that is unmatched and a select few excel in both areas. Some lawyers were picked because they produce work that's consistently great and others were selected for their leadership abilities. Regardless of why they were chosen, what follows is a compilation of what the Business Journal considers the lawyers who stand out in L.A.'s crowded legal field – the best of the bar in Los Angeles.

LABOR/EMPLOYMENT



ROBERT MILLMAN

Firm: Littler Mendelson PC

Clients: International Coffee & Tea LLC, Tenet Healthcare Corp. and Axiom International Inc.

Reason I'm a Lawyer: I enjoy solving problems and achieving results in complicated cases on behalf of my clients.

Most Interesting Matter: A vessel was loaded by non-union laborers in Melbourne and set sail for Long Beach. I represented the shipping company that wanted the vessel unloaded in Long Beach by members of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union. The ILWU initially refused, but we managed to reach a compromise resolution.

Best Career Moment: Convincing a federal judge to enter a national injunction prohibiting an unlawful work stoppage by the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

My Colleagues Don't Know: Being a grandfather is my greatest joy in life.

If I Weren't an Attorney: I would love to be the president or CEO of the Green Bay Packers.