



Caldwell Leslie

“Caldwell Leslie Superseded All Expectations in 2008”

THE YEAR 2008 WAS ONE OF REMARKABLE SUCCESS FOR Caldwell Leslie & Proctor, PC, and eight of its lawyers were selected to *Super Lawyers*® or *Super Lawyers—Rising Stars Edition*. The firm, exclusively committed to complex civil and criminal litigation, practices in the areas of commercial, entertainment, intellectual property, environmental/land use, appellate and professional liability litigation, as well as white-collar criminal defense.

NEW PERSONNEL Linda Burrow and Sandra Tholen were elected as shareholders of Caldwell Leslie in January 2008. The firm was started by five lawyers in 1988 and now has 24 talented attorneys on its roster. Not only did Caldwell Leslie again attract top-notch associates from Ninth Circuit, state Supreme Court and federal district court clerkships, but it also announced that David C. Codell, a prominent civil rights attorney and former clerk to Ruth Bader Ginsburg of the U.S. Supreme Court, has become Of Counsel to the firm. These accredited lawyers also share Caldwell Leslie’s core values of excellence, diversity and teamwork. The firm is a uniquely collegial, community-minded organization that measures success not by profits per partner, but by the quality of service it provides.

REMARKABLE RESULTS Last year saw Caldwell Leslie achieve impressive results in challenging litigation matters. With his team of Caldwell Leslie lawyers, and before discovery had commenced, Michael Leslie persuaded a federal court to dismiss the first putative class action filed against oil companies by boat owners based

on the use of ethanol in gasoline. Codell was called the “architect” of the strategy that led the California Supreme Court to declare that laws against same-sex marriage violated the California constitution. Christopher Caldwell and Robyn Crowther obtained summary judgment for actor Robert De Niro in a fraud lawsuit, persuading the court that De Niro had not made any misrepresentation whatsoever. Caldwell and Andrew Esbenshade also obtained summary judgment in a copyright case brought against Warner Bros. arising out of the feature film titled *We Are Marshall*. And in a pro bono matter, Albert Giang persuaded the Board of Immigration Appeals to reopen proceedings for a woman who was facing deportation after 20 years in the United States.

PEER RECOGNITION Caldwell Leslie’s lawyers are frequently represented on lists of top attorneys compiled by their peers such as those in *Super Lawyers* and *Rising Stars*. In the area of white collar criminal defense, Caldwell Leslie continues to be one of the leading firms in California. The *Los Angeles Daily Journal* identified Michael Proctor as a top criminal defense attorney, and David Willingham was recently selected as the co-chair of ABA’s National Securities Fraud Committee. Crowther was included in the *Daily Journal’s* list of the Top 75 Women Litigators in California. The firm has been selected as a “strategic partner” by Shell Oil Company and was identified by CBS Inc. as its litigation counsel in a recent publication identifying the lawyers hired by Fortune 500 companies.

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