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QUICK TAKES

On the Move: Who's Made Partner in 2022?

New leadership, partner and associate promotions from across the California legal market.

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Partner Promotions



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Hanson Bridgett appointed [Laura Long](#) to the role of chief operating officer on Jan. 1. Long previously served as the firm's CFO and will continue to oversee the firm's financial activities.

The firm named partners [Alfonso Estrada](#) and [Pat Glenn](#) as co-leaders of the firm's labor and employment section, taking the reins from [Jahmal Davis](#). Estrada joined the firm's Los Angeles office in 2021, and Glenn has been in the firm's San Francisco office for 30 years.

Hanson Bridgett's [Matthew Peck](#), [Payam Saljoughian](#) and [Daren Shaver](#) moved up to partner. Peck, who's been a member of the firm's litigation section since 2012, focuses on commercial, employee benefits and employment disputes with an emphasis on the defense of class, representative and multiparty actions. Saljoughian started in the firm's health section in 2012 and represents health care clients in litigation and transactional work. Shaver, who joined the firm's business section in 2019, represents clients in matters involving fund formation, tax credits, real estate, venture capital, partnerships and tax exempt entities.

Hanson Bridgett also advanced 10 associates to senior counsel including [Sheila Bridges](#) and [Nancy Dollar](#) in the firm's business section; [Laura Ratcliffe](#) and [Katherine Tsou](#) in the firm's government section; [Adrianna Kourafas](#) and [Jennifer Yazdi](#) in the firm's labor and employment section; [Patrick Burns](#), [Rosanna Gan](#) and [Laurel O'Connor](#) in the firm's litigation section; and [Sean Herman](#) in the firm's real estate and environment section.

Los Angeles plaintiffs trial firm **Greene Broillett & Wheeler** promoted [Aaron Osten](#) from senior associate to partner. Osten has focused on catastrophic personal injury, business and employment litigation, wrongful death, and legal malpractice. The partner helped obtain an \$8 million jury verdict in a sexual harassment and wrongful termination case against celebrity hot yoga guru Bikram Choudhury, who was the subject of a Netflix documentary.

Brown Rudnick elevated six attorneys to partner on Feb. 1, including [Arjun Sivakumar](#) in Orange County. Sivakumar specializes in complex business litigation in state and federal courts and arbitration, and has had experience serving as first-chair litigation counsel in trial proceedings before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. He is also the co-chair of the firm's Diverse Attorneys Working Network and on the Leadership Development and Diversity Committees for the Orange County Bar Association.

Stubbs Alderton & Markiles promoted [Kelly Siobhan Laffey](#) from senior counsel to partner. Laffey advises emerging growth and middle market companies in the technology, digital, internet, interactive media and entertainment industries. The partner recently represented software services firm Nexient in its sale to Tokyo-based NTT DATA, as well as in-home care company 24Hr Homecare in its sale to Alpine Investors and TEAM Services Group. The firm also elevated [John De La Merced](#) and [Neil Elan](#) from associate to senior counsel.

Duane Morris recently promoted 10 attorneys to partnership across six of the firm's offices, including two California attorneys. Corporate attorney [Justin Santarosa](#) in Los Angeles specializes in mergers and acquisitions and securities law, and [Kenneth Tze](#) in San Francisco advises real estate transactions and finance matters for commercial, office, mixed-use, residential, retail and industrial developments and projects.

Panish Shea Boyle Ravipudi promoted [Spencer Lucas](#) and [Robert Glassman](#) to partner in Los Angeles. Lucas is a litigator focusing on catastrophic personal injury cases and leads the firm's childhood sex abuse practice. Glassman is a trial lawyer representing plaintiffs in large and complex personal injury cases. He handled two school injury cases—*Lee v. Pupil Transportation Cooperative* and *Pierce v. Murrieta Valley Unified School District*—that sparked reforms establishing new child safety laws in California.

Civil defense firm **Tyson & Mendes** extended partnership to [Daniel Fallon](#) in San Diego, bringing the firm's total equity partners up to 10. Fallon leads a group of litigators in professional liability, personal injury, general commercial liability and business litigation. Fallon started with the firm in 2014 as a senior counsel.

Farella Braun + Martel elected five lawyers to partnership, effective Jan. 1. The new partners include [Elizabeth Dorsi](#), [Shanti Eagle](#), [Aviva J. Gilbert](#), [Drew N. Goodwin](#) and [Jeffrey Hamilton](#).

Dorsi handles complex litigation with an emphasis on unfair competition, false advertising consumer class actions, breach of contract claims, and trust and estate litigation. Eagle's practice focuses on insurance recovery for large corporate clients, small businesses and individuals.

Gilbert co-chairs the firm's white-collar criminal defense and internal corporate investigations practice group. Goodwin advises companies from a wide-range of industries, including renewable energy, cannabis, and sports, on nearly every facet of business law. As chairs of the firm's cannabis industry group, Hamilton counsels companies on a broad range of transactional matters.

[David Mehretu](#) of **Meyers Nave** in Oakland transitioned from of counsel to principal on Jan. 1. Mehretu's practice targets commercial law, employment law, civil rights and constitutional law, and land use law. He has represented private sector and public entity clients in matters at the federal, state and appellate court levels.

Employment and labor law firm **Little Mendelson** has promoted three attorneys in the firm's San Francisco and Walnut Creek offices to shareholder. [Philip Baldwin](#) advises and represents employers in matters such as breach of contract and wrongful termination claims, independent contractor misclassifications and wage and hour

claims. [Richard Gillespie](#) counsels employers on individual, class and collective actions that involve alleged wage and hour violations, sexual harassment, discrimination and wrongful termination. [Melissa Peters](#) specializes in Occupational Safety and Health Administration matters, particularly California OSHA.

[Jenny Yelin](#) is now a partner at **Rosen Bien Galvan & Grunfeld**. Yelin joined the firm in 2012, becoming senior counsel in 2020. The litigator, who specializes on individual and class action employment law, is trained as a mediator through the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California and serves on that court's mediation panel.

Business and real estate firm **Newmeyer Dillion** promoted Walnut Creek attorney [Tara Dudum](#) to partner on Jan. 1. Dudum focuses on business and employment law in industries including retail, e-commerce, real estate, manufacturing and hospitality.

BraunHagey & Borden elected [David Kwasniewski](#) to partner in the firm's San Francisco office. Kwasniewski's practice focuses on complex commercial litigation and intellectual property disputes, including defending the firm's clients against consumer class actions and Proposition 65 lawsuits.

In January, **Reed Smith** announced a promotion class of 66 lawyers worldwide, including six California attorneys. The firm promoted to partner San Francisco-based [Marc Hauser](#), chair of the firm's cannabis law team, and Century City-based music and entertainment attorney [Joshua Love](#). The firm promoted four other California lawyers to counsel, including San Francisco-based [Kevin Hara](#) and [James Hennessy](#) in the life sciences health industry group, and Century City-based [Donna Salcedo](#) in the global corporate group and [Carla Wirschafter](#) in global regulatory enforcement.

Two **Alston & Bird** attorneys in Los Angeles became partner earlier this year. [Alexander Akerman](#) is a litigator focusing on class action defense and complex commercial disputes relating to sophisticated technologies. [Anoush Garakani](#) is a partner in the firm's [financial services and products group](#) and advises on mortgage banking and consumer finance.

Withers' January promotion cycle brought the firm's partner count to 200, including one partner in San Francisco. [Amy Hespenheide](#) advises clients on trusts, estates and charitable planning.

Real estate and land use firm **Miller Starr Regalia** promoted [Travis Brooks](#) to shareholder in the firm's land use department. Brooks joined the firm as an associate in 2018 in the firm's Walnut Creek headquarters. He represents private and public entity clients in a wide range of land use and California Environmental Quality Act compliance matters throughout the state of California.

Finnegan elevated six attorneys to partnerships, including one attorney in Palo Alto. [Morgan Smith](#) is an intellectual property attorney specializing in trademark, copyright, and false advertising litigation. She's represented clients in industries such as sports equipment, apparel, food and beverage, travel, consumer electronics, personal healthcare, video games, pet products and services, automotive, and telecommunications.

Pasich advanced Los Angeles-based attorneys [Nathan Davis](#), [Jacquelyn Mohr Heitman](#), and [Christopher Pasich](#) to partner.

Davis is a litigator in the firm's insurance recovery practice representing notable personalities in the entertainment industry, as well as Fortune 500 companies. Heitman, who is based in Manhattan Beach, represents commercial and individual clients in a wide range of complex coverage disputes, including coverage advice, pre-litigation disputes, international arbitrations, and coverage litigation. Pasich has represented insureds in claims under directors and officers liability insurance, first-party property insurance, commercial general liability insurance, homeowners insurance and disability insurance policies.

Morrison & Foerster elected 22 lawyers to partnership Jan. 1. The class of 2022 includes eight new partners in California: [Nicholas Fung](#), a Los Angeles member of the litigation department and intellectual property group; [Shai Kalansky](#), a San Diego member of the corporate department; [Ryan Keats](#), a San Francisco member of the litigation department and part of the firm's securities litigation, enforcement, and white-collar defense group; [Victor Liang](#), a San Francisco member of the finance department and the finance and projects group; [Lee Shepard](#), a Palo Alto member of the corporate department; [Lisa Silverman](#), a Palo Alto member of the corporate department and patent group; [Roman Swoopes](#), a Palo Alto member of the litigation department and part of the intellectual property group; and [David Zins](#), a Los Angeles member of the litigation department and part of the employment and labor group.

Baker & Hostetler announced 28 lawyers new partners Jan. 1, including three Los Angeles attorneys. [Joelle Berle](#) is a litigator representing clients in breach of contract, business torts, environmental, real estate, health care and securities matters. [Christopher Habashy](#) is an employment lawyer representing clients in harassment, discrimination, retaliation and wrongful termination cases. [David Richardson](#), a member of the firm's bankruptcy and restructuring and litigation teams, focuses on bankruptcy cases and actions against corporate insiders for pre-petition or post-petition violations of fiduciary duties and related claims.

Eversheds Sutherland elected 15 new partners, including a litigator in San Diego. [Brandi Taylor](#) counsels tech companies in product development and global data privacy compliance. Taylor advises clients building and integrating emerging technologies, such as augmented and virtual reality.

Arnold & Porter promoted 14 attorneys to partners in January, including two San Francisco lawyers. [Amy Endicott](#) is a member of the firm's international arbitration practice, and [Joseph Farris](#) is a member of the intellectual property practice. Los Angeles-based [Oscar Ramallo](#), a member of the intellectual property practice, was promoted to counsel.

Blank Rome promoted Los Angeles-based [Natalie Alameddine](#) to partner as part of a class of 11 partnership elevations in January. Alameddine is an employment attorney that handles a variety of matters, including including single-plaintiff, class actions, and PAGA representative actions.

In December, **Susman Godfrey** announced its election to partner of all five associates in its 2021 partnership class, including Los Angeles attorney [Glenn Bridgman](#). Bridgman is a commercial litigator trying insurance, antitrust, intellectual property, securities, and breach of contract matters.

O'Melveny & Myers' 2022 partner class featured a handful of attorneys in California. The attorneys include [Elizabeth Bock](#) in Los Angeles who represents health care industry clients in enforcement litigation and regulatory matters; [Brian Cook](#) in Los Angeles is an intellectual property attorney, and former nuclear physicist, representing clients in patent, trade secret and licensing disputes; [Jorge deNeve](#) in Los Angeles is a white-collar attorney and veteran U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission enforcement lawyer; [Megan Smith](#) in Century City represents commercial clients in high-stakes litigation, [Wenting Yu](#) in Silicon Valley is a corporate attorney specializing in venture financings, mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, IPOs, equity and debt offerings, 1934 Act reporting, and other corporate transactions.

Buchalter promoted eight California lawyers to partner. [Anne Marie Ellis](#) in Orange County focusing on products liability defense, personal injury litigation, commercial litigation, premises liability, regulatory compliance, and client counseling. [Katharine \(Trina\) Falace](#) in Napa Valley is a business litigator handling real estate and land use representing multiple wineries and vineyard managers. [Brian Harvey](#) is a Los Angeles member of the insolvency practice group. [Jeffrey Judd](#) is a San Francisco litigator focusing on trade secrets, corporate ownership and governance, real estate, and general commercial and finance issues. [David Mark](#) in Los Angeles specializes in complex commercial litigation, creditor's rights litigation, real estate litigation, and intellectual property litigation.

In Sacramento, Buchalter's [Michael Muse-Fisher](#) focuses on administrative cases involving contract disputes, commercial litigation, real estate disputes, licensing and intellectual property matters, eminent domain/inverse condemnation, government tort liability, breach of fiduciary duty, as well as land-related torts. Orange County-based [Roger Scott](#) is a litigator specializing in labor and employment law. Corporate attorney [Nikole Zoumberakis](#) in Los Angeles handles corporate, partnership and general securities matters, including mergers and acquisitions, securities offerings and private equity transactions.

Munger, Tolles & Olson promoted six California attorneys to partner Jan. 1. [Jennifer Bryant](#) is a Los Angeles litigator specializing in legal challenges faced by the entertainment and technology industries. [Wesley T.L. Burrell](#) is a Los Angeles litigator focusing on finance, intellectual property and corporate governance issues. [Nicholas Fram](#) is a San Francisco litigator who handles internal investigations and mass torts. [Tyler Hilton](#) is a Los Angeles corporate attorney who advises buyers and sellers in public and private M&A transactions. [Craig Jennings Lavoie](#) is a Los Angeles litigator who has represented owners of the LA Clippers and Kobe Bryant's widow in litigation against the Los Angeles County Sheriff's and Fire Department. [Vincent Ling](#) is a Los Angeles intellectual property attorney who handles patent infringement and trade secret matters.

Winston & Strawn promoted 21 attorneys, including [Josh Birenbaum](#), a Los Angeles mergers and acquisitions attorney; [Laura Franco](#), a San Francisco and Silicon Valley intellectual property attorney; [Hao Huang](#), a Los Angeles attorney representing financing parties and sponsors in financing and acquisition transactions in the renewable energy and infrastructure sectors; [Shawn Obi](#), a Los Angeles litigator focusing on consumer protection cases, class actions and securities matters; [Aaron O'Dell](#), a trial attorney in Los Angeles and Dallas; and [Jeffrey Steinfeld](#), a Los Angeles securities litigation and white-collar criminal defense attorney.

Dechert's largest new partner class in recent firm history, according to the firm, featured 31 lawyers, including one California attorney. [Benjamin Sadun](#) is a Los Angeles products liability and mass torts lawyer.

Simpson Thacher & Bartlett elevated several California attorneys to partner, including [Mimi Cheng](#), a fund finance attorney in Los Angeles; [Frederick De Albuquerque](#), an M&A attorney in Palo Alto; [Mark Myott](#) an M&A attorney in Palo Alto; and [Kelli Schultz](#), a capital markets and public company advisory attorney in Palo Alto.

Weil, Gotshal & Manges promoted 26 new partners, including Silicon Valley attorney [Nicholas Doloresco](#), who advises companies and private equity firms in transactional matters.

Willkie Farr & Gallagher elected two California partners in its class of 31 new partners in January. The firm elevated litigator [Nicholas Reddick](#) in San Francisco and corporate attorney [Jenny Liu](#) in Palo Alto.

Perkins Coie promoted six attorneys in California to partner. [Alberto Araiza](#), a member of the patent prosecution and portfolio consulting practice, and [Sarah \(Hody\) Shtylman](#), a technology transactions and privacy practice, are based in Palo Alto. Business litigator [Oliver M. Gold](#) and [Paul L. Navarro](#), a member of the emerging companies and venture capital practice, are located in Los Angeles. [Michelle W. Chan](#) is a real estate and land use attorney in San Francisco, and [John D. Esterhay](#) is a patent litigator in San Francisco.

Three of **Polsinelli's** 34 newly elected shareholders are based in California. Employment litigation attorney [Alex Polishuk](#) and [Pavel \(Pasha\) A. Sternberg](#), part of the firm's technology transactions and data privacy practice group, are shareholders in the Los Angeles office. [Jacek M. Wnuk](#) is a shareholder in the firm's electrical engineering/computer science patent prosecution practice in San Francisco.

Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner promoted corporate attorney [Caitlin Hartsell](#) in San Francisco to partner. Hartsell represents clients in a broad range of transactions in industries including health care, retail, financial services, higher education, agricultural technology, financial technology, pharmaceuticals, medical devices and insurance.

Proskauer Rose promoted 26 partners and senior counsel, three of which are based in the firm's Los Angeles office. [Kristian Herrmann](#), a corporate attorney in the firm's private equity transactions and mergers and acquisitions practice, was promoted to partner. Litigation attorney [David Hanna](#) and labor and employment lawyer [Philippe Lebel](#) were elevated to senior counsel.

<https://www.law.com/therecorder/2022/02/11/on-the-move-whos-made-partner-in-2022/>