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L.A.'s
Top 100
Lawyers

▶ Real Estate

LOS ANGELES is known as the capital for lawyers. After all, “L.A. Law” was the name of a television series years ago. But which of L.A.’s many lawyers are regarded as standouts? To find out, the Business Journal’s legal affairs reporter, Alexa Hyland, surveyed local recruiters, various legal experts and, of course, lawyers themselves to help her distill a list of the Top 100 Lawyers. They are presented on the following pages, grouped in 12 practice areas, such as litigation, real estate and (appropriately for L.A.) media and entertainment. Besides listing the requisite name, age and law firm, the Business Journal took the extra step of asking what’s on each lawyer’s bucket list and what their colleagues don’t know about them, among other questions. We discovered, for example, that Jeff Modisett prosecuted volatile boxer Mike Tyson, that Richard de Bodo once ran a career counseling program in Eskimo and Aleut villages in Alaska, and that Susan Fowler-McNally was one of the original Boogie-Boarders – and still rides one. Many more details of L.A.’s legal life emerge in this Who’s Who in Law section, which profiles local lawyers who are highly regarded by their peers.

MARK ARMBRUSTER, 59

FIRM: Armbruster Goldsmith & Delvac LLP

LAW SCHOOL: Loyola Law School

CLIENTS: Woodridge Capital, Marlborough School, Genton Barth Real Estate Group, Lehman Bros.

YEARS IN PRACTICE: 31



Most Challenging Case: Obtaining entitlements for Angeles National Golf Course. Approval of this project required years of delicate negotiations.

If I Weren’t an Attorney: I would be a real estate developer or owner of a winery.

Bucket List: Golf with a 10 handicap, produce a great wine, travel to more exotic and unusual destinations, enjoy the company of interesting people.

– Joel Russell