

2009 SUPER LAWYERS®



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The Cornerstone of Construction Law™

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WHAT IS A SUPER LAWYER® AND HOW WERE THEY SELECTED*

The objective of the Super Lawyers selection process is to create a credible, comprehensive and diverse listing of outstanding attorneys that can be used as a resource to assist attorneys and consumers in the search for legal counsel.

Step One: Creation of the Candidate Pool

- * Each year, a regional survey is conducted in which Southern California lawyers are invited to participate in the nomination process. In recent years over 60,000 lawyers each year were invited to participate. Lawyers eligible to participate include those who have been in practice for at least five years.
- * Lawyers are asked to nominate the best attorneys they've personally observed in action.
- * Nominees need not be in private practice. Lawyers may nominate legal aid attorneys, prosecutors and in-house counsel.
- * Lawyers may nominate attorneys in their own firm, but these nominations count only if each in-firm nomination is matched by at least one out-firm nomination.
- * Each nomination carries a point value. An out-firm nomination has substantially greater point value than an in-firm nomination.
- * Lawyers cannot nominate themselves.

Step Two: Evaluation of Lawyers in Candidate Pool

The background and experience of each candidate is researched searching for evidence of peer recognition and professional achievement.

Factors considered in evaluating candidates:

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|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| * Verdicts and settlements | * Experience | * Position within law firm | * Scholarly lectures and writings |
| * Transactions | * Honors and awards | * Bar and or other professional activity | * Education and employment background |
| * Representative clients | * Special licenses and certifications | * Pro bono and community service | * Other outstanding achievement |

Step Three: Peer Evaluation by Practice Area

Candidates are grouped according to primary area of practice.

Those with high point totals from the balloting and qualitative evaluation steps are asked to be on a blue ribbon panel for their practice area.

Panelists review and score a list of candidates from their practice area.

Panelists may add names to the list. These are passed along to research for evaluation.

Final Selection

Final candidates are segmented according to firm size (firm size categories vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction). Those with the highest point totals from each category are selected. Only 5 percent of the total lawyers in the state are selected for inclusion in Super Lawyers.

* Polling, research and selection are performed by Law & Politics, a publication of Key Professional Media, Inc.

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