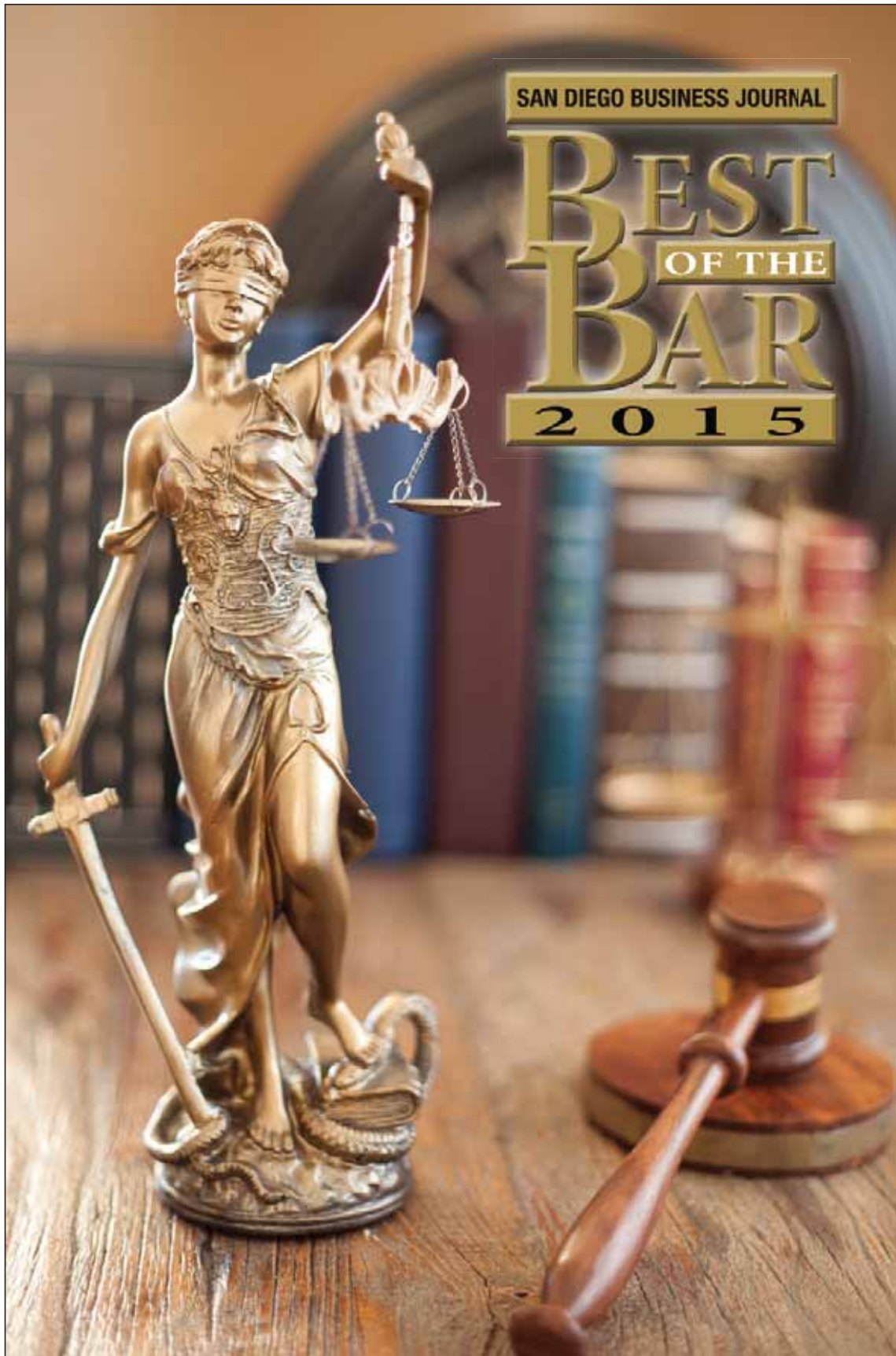


SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL

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“Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope...”

— Robert F. Kennedy (1925-1968; 64th U.S. Attorney General; U.S. Senator, New York; University of Virginia School of Law)

Robert Kennedy’s words resonate today as they did half a century ago. Following in that tradition, San Diego’s legal community encompasses a diverse and passionately committed group of individuals whose experience and expertise rivals those in cities of a much grander scale. In this, our second annual Best of the Bar issue, we honor 268 local lawyers who were chosen by their peers as the most outstanding in their field.

The list of attorneys represents a wide range of practice areas from intellectual property, mergers and acquisitions, to civic rights and family law — each specialty with its own unique perspectives and strategies. However, one of the most striking commonalities of the assembled honorees is their local connection. More than half of the attorneys in our final list graduated from a law school in San Diego — notably the University of San Diego School of Law, California Western School of Law and Thomas Jefferson School of Law. These three distinguished institutions have fostered a prolific force of top notch legal professionals who bring a distinct approach to their firms and their clients that is entrenched in the ethics, aspirations, hopes and dreams of our unique region of the country.

An impressive 1,576 votes were cast in a field of 721 attorneys affiliated with 544 firms and solo practices throughout the area. Legal professionals throughout the metro area cast votes and were urged to consider colleagues inside and outside of their respective firms. No one made the list based solely on votes from others at the same firm.

Not only is this section a showcase for the area’s top attorneys, but it is a comprehensive resource for anyone needing legal services. Congratulations to all the worthy honorees.

Duane Morris

Best of the Bar 2015



DAWN HALL CUNNEEN

Firm: Duane Morris LLP
Areas of Practice: Trusts, Estates Planning, Litigation
Law School: California Western School of Law
Website: www.duanemorris.com
Comments: The law is a fantastic career that continually provides opportunities to learn, grow and develop professionally.



PATRICIA HOLLENBECK

Firm: Duane Morris LLP
Areas of Practice: Business Litigation, Franchise Litigation, Class Actions
Law School: University of Colorado School of Law
Website: www.duanemorris.com
Comments: I feel fortunate to have chosen law as my career. I was trained by outstanding lawyers who taught me about the dedication necessary to practice well, and to represent clients to the very best of your ability and with the highest of ethical standards. I am passionate about professional integrity, teaching and mentoring others, equal opportunity in the profession, and giving back to the community.



JULIE MEBANE

Firm: Duane Morris LLP
Areas of Practice: Real Estate Transactions
Law School: UCLA School of Law
Website: www.duanemorris.com
Comments: Real estate transactions are fulfilling matters to handle. Ultimately, the parties are working together to make the deal come together and close.



GRANT PULEO

Firm: Duane Morris LLP
Areas of Practice: Real Estate, Finance
Law School: University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law
Website: www.duanemorris.com
Best Advice: To always put the client first and everything else will sort itself out.