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## LA500 LAW



## SANFORD MICHELMAN Founding Partner and Chairman Michelman & Robinson

**THE LATEST:** From 2016 to 2019, Michelman represented a group of songwriters in a case against music streaming company Rhapsody International Inc., also known as Napster, which settled with artists for \$20.4 million over failure to pay royalties. In 2020, Michelman and other lawyers on the case sought \$6.1 million in attorney fees from Napster. Michelman was selected as one of the Business Journal's Leaders in Law in 2020.

**BACKGROUND:** Michelman is a litigation partner for Michelman & Robinson, the firm he co-founded in 1999 with Mark Robinson. He specializes in complex litigation and regulatory matters and works with a broad range of clients, including insurers, brokers, private equity groups, banks, and advertising and media companies. He was on the board for the Western division of the Insurance Industry Charitable Foundation and is chief executive of digital business card company Reacha's board. Michelman received a BA from UCLA and a JD from the Southwestern University School of Law.



## YURI MIKULKA Partner

Alston & Bird

**THE LATEST:** In August 2020, Mikulka was appointed to the American Bar Association's standing committee on the Federal Judiciary. She will serve for three years on the 19-person committee as a representative of the Ninth Circuit, which comprises Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Northern Mariana Islands, Oregon and Washington. Mikulka was also recognized as a top trade secrets lawyer by the Daily Journal in October.

**BACKGROUND:** With more than 20 years of experience in intellectual property law, Mikulka serves as lead counsel on high-stakes litigation and trials. She also provides IP counseling to companies on digital technology, product development and brand protection strategies. Mikulka, who joined Alston & Bird in 2019, serves on the executive committee of the L.A. chapter of the Federal Bar Association. She has a BA from UC Irvine and a JD from Pepperdine Law School.



## LOUIS "SKIP" MILLER Partner Miller Barondess

**THE LATEST:** Since 2020, Miller has represented L.A. County in negotiations in federal court as part of a massive lawsuit brought by the L.A. Alliance for Human Rights against local government agencies over their handling of the homeless situation. In April, Judge David Carter filed a preliminary injunction calling on government officials to provide housing for those living in encampments, which Miller appealed on behalf of the county.

**BACKGROUND:** In late 2019, Miller worked on litigation to bring the Los Angeles Clippers' proposed arena to the city of Inglewood. His entertainment industry clients have included Sean Connery, Lionel Richie, Paula Abdul, the Tupac Shakur estate, rock bands Journey, Mötley Crüe and Stone Temple Pilots, and studios MGM, Columbia Pictures and Paramount. He has handled complex litigation for corporate clients KB Home, Entertainment Studios Inc., Prudential, Patrón Tequila, East West Bank, and several other publicly traded banks, private equity and venture capital firms. Miller is litigation counsel for Los Angeles County and the city of Inglewood.



GRETCHEN NELSON Co-Founder and Partner Nelson & Fraenkel

**THE LATEST:** In June 2020, Nelson & Fraenkel represented plaintiffs in a class-action suit against Carnival cruises. The firm filed the complaint on behalf of thousands of passengers who were exposed to Covid-19 in February aboard the Princess Cruise Lines Grand Princess cruise from San Francisco to Mexico.

**BACKGROUND:** Nelson and Stuart Fraenkel, who worked together at Kreindler & Kreindler, opened their firm in 2015. She practices in the area of complex class action litigation and handles business

tort claims. Nelson also represents the victims of accidents on cruise ships and other maritime claims. She has served on the board of trustees for the State Bar of California and is the former president of the L.A. County Bar Association. Nelson earned her JD from Georgetown University Law School.

