



Summer Newsletter



Summer is here, and we've seen an influx of evening strolls, kids out of school, and foot and bicycle traffic picking up across every neighborhood. It makes this the perfect moment to focus on pedestrian safety.

Pedestrians: Cross at marked crosswalks, make eye contact with drivers before stepping into the street, and stay off your phone while crossing. If you're out after dark, wear something light or reflective.

Drivers: Slow down near parks and residential intersections, and watch your blind spots when turning.

As proud sponsors of the San Francisco Bike Coalition and Walk SF, pedestrian and cyclist safety is something we support beyond the

courtroom. These organizations do important work making San Francisco safer and more accessible for people on foot and on bikes. Learn more about the [San Francisco Bike Coalition](#) and [Walk SF](#).



In this newsletter, we're sharing attorney awards and recognitions, speaking engagements, and updates from across the firm. Wishing you and your families a safe and enjoyable summer!

Firm Awards

Partner June Bashant Named to Daily Journal's Top Women Lawyers List

Partner June Bashant was recognized by the Daily Journal as one of California's Top Women Lawyers for 2026! The recognition honors attorneys who have demonstrated exceptional skill and leadership in their practice. June has been a tireless advocate for clients in catastrophic injury, wrongful death, and product liability matters for more than 25 years.

[Read more about June's award](#)

Partner John Feder Named Finalist for Best Mentor in Law.com's California Legal Awards



Partner John Feder was recently named a finalist in Law.com's California Legal Awards in the Best Mentor category. The recognition reflects John's decades-long commitment to shaping the next generation of trial lawyers — a role he has embraced through guest lectures, bar leadership, and his nearly 50 years of practice. We are proud to see that dedication recognized on a statewide stage! John attended the California Legal Awards dinner on June 24th.

[Read John's Finalist Profile](#)

Director of Wildfire Litigation Brad Bowen Named to Lawdragon 500 X – The Next Generation

Director of Wildfire Litigation Brad Bowen was named to Lawdragon's 500 X – The Next Generation, a list recognizing standout lawyers in the earlier stretch of their careers. Brad leads the firm's wildfire litigation practice, currently representing more than 1,200 clients in litigation against Southern California Edison over the Eaton Fire. Over the course of his career, he has represented more than 7,000 fire victims across 16 wildfires. This work has put him at the front of one of the most consequential and growing areas of litigation in California.

[Read more about Brad's recognition](#)

Firm Happenings

Partner Loren Schwartz Represents Family in Pedestrian Safety Case Covered by KRON4, KTVU

Partner Loren Schwartz is currently representing the family of a 2-year-old boy and his nanny after the pair was hit by a pickup truck while crossing the intersection of Chestnut and Laguna Streets in San Francisco's Marina District, an area designated as part of the city's High Injury Network.

The case has prompted calls for infrastructure improvements at the intersection, including raised crosswalks and daylighting measures.

[Watch: Kron4](#)

[Read KTVU Fox 2](#)

Partner John Feder Featured in Law.com's "How I Founded a Law Firm" Series

Founding partner John Feder was featured in Law.com's "How I Founded a Law Firm" series, where he reflected on the career experiences and values that have shaped our firm over more than four decades of plaintiff advocacy. In the profile, John discusses his early years practicing on the defense side, the lessons that shaped his approach to preparation and client service, and the importance of mentorship in sustaining a meaningful legal career.

On what it takes to stay committed to plaintiff's work, John said:

"Make sure you have a genuine calling for the work, because passion is what sustains you when the hours get long and the cases get heavy."

[Read John's "How I Made It" Profile](#)

Events

Partner and SFTLA Board Member Loren Schwartz Joins Retreat and Speaks on Panels



Beyond the courtroom, Loren stays active in the leadership of the San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association. This spring he joined fellow members of SFTLA's Board of Directors for the organization's retreat, a chance to step away from the day-to-day demands of active litigation and connect with the colleagues who make up the Bay Area's trial bar.

On May 27, Loren spoke on a panel with Nolan Armstrong and Priya Navaratnasingham on "Bridging the Gap: Plaintiff and Defense Perspectives on Effective Mediations." The discussion explored mediation strategy, negotiation dynamics, risk evaluation, and practical approaches to resolution. Designed for trial lawyers, litigators, and mediation advocates, the session focused on bridging the gap between competing perspectives to reach more effective outcomes for clients, an idea that fits squarely with how Loren approaches his own cases.

On June 9th, Loren led a San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association conversation with attorneys Adam Koss of Koss Firm APC and Tom (T.J.) D'Amato of D'Amato Law Corporation, focused on productive strategies and best practices in the age of artificial intelligence and emerging cybersecurity risks for legal practice.

Director of Wildfire Litigation Bradford Bowen Joins Panel at Infraday Conference



Director of Wildfire Litigation Brad Bowen joined infrastructure leaders and policymakers from across California at the Infraday Conference in Los Angeles to discuss grid reliability, wildfire mitigation, and utility infrastructure investment. The panel explored how California is balancing the need for rapid deployment of safety solutions with long-term infrastructure resilience, and how litigation is shaping utility behavior and investment priorities.

As the firm's Director of Wildfire Litigation, Brad spoke to the complex challenges California faces in managing wildfire risk while keeping energy infrastructure reliable for communities across the state.

Partner Cynthia McGuinn Attends Women's Leadership Conference in Savannah, GA

Partner Cynthia McGuinn, former national president of the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA), recently attended and participated in the Women of ABOTA Leadership Conference in Savannah, Georgia, hosted by Women of ABOTA. The conference brought together women trial lawyers and judges from across the country and provided an opportunity to connect with fellow leaders in the profession.

Cynthia came away energized by the turnout and by the conversations among women leaders in the profession. Her involvement in ABOTA runs deep as she continues to serve on several of the organization's national committees, including its governance committee, where she remains an active voice for the association and a steady presence for the next generation of advocates.

Attorney Spotlight:

Em Feder Cooper



This issue we're spotlighting associate Em Feder Cooper, who joined the firm in early 2026 and works alongside Brad Bowen on wildfire litigation, representing clients impacted by the Eaton Fire. Beyond her case work, Em supervises the firm's paralegal team and oversees workflows, coordinating discovery and working with experts on everything from property damage to loss valuation.

She joined the firm after working at a mass tort firm in the Bay Area. She earned her J.D. from NYU School of Law, where she won the Kaye Writing Prize and served on the Moot Court Board, after earning her undergraduate degree from Johns Hopkins University.

Em's path to plaintiff work grew out of a long-standing commitment to justice, from advocating for progressive legislation before law school to helping a survivor of sexual assault prepare for a Title IX proceeding during her time with Equal Rights Advocates. Outside the office, she's an improv and stand-up performer, a devoted WNBA and Knicks fan, and a fluent Spanish speaker who travels often through Spain and South America. She'll also happily point you to the best gluten-free cupcakes in the Bay.

Sticking The Landing:

Art from the firm



This issue's art comes from Partner Cynthia McGuinn, an accomplished photographer when she steps away from her trial practice. This photo came from her recent trip to Romania, taken on the middle fork of the Danube River Delta near the Black Sea, close to Ukraine. It depicts a pair of Great White Pelicans "Sticking the Landing."

We're pleased to close this edition with the perspective her photos bring from beyond the courtroom. Enjoy!



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