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Rouda Feder Tietjen & McGuinn Spring Newsletter

Spring is here, and it's been a season of growth at Rouda Feder Tietjen & McGuinn! We've welcomed new team members who deepen our commitment to wildfire survivors, connected with more than a thousand clients navigating the Eaton Fire litigation, and brought our advocacy to the national stage on emerging issues in drug policy. In this quarter's newsletter, we're sharing firm news, community highlights, and updates on the work our attorneys are doing inside and outside the courtroom.

Firm Happenings



Bradford Bowen Joins RFTM as Director of Wildfire Litigation

We're excited to welcome attorney Bradford Bowen to the firm as our new Director of Wildfire Litigation. Brad brings more than seven years of experience representing wildfire victims and businesses across California and beyond, including work on the 2017 Wine Country fires, the 2018 Camp Fire, and the 2023 Maui fires. He has represented more than 7,000 clients across 16 fires and secured multiple eight-figure awards for his clients.

Brad's arrival strengthens the firm's capacity as we continue to represent over 1,200 clients in pending litigation against Southern California Edison over the 2025 Eaton Fire, including approximately 400 households and more than 50 businesses. His addition was featured in the Daily Journal.

"Every job I've ever had has involved helping people in crisis," Brad shared. "I'm honored to join a team that shares my commitment to truly knowing our clients."

[Read more about Brad.](#) | [Read the Daily Journal feature.](#)

Connecting with Our Eaton Fire Clients in Pasadena

One year after the Eaton Fire tore through Altadena and the surrounding communities, recovery and litigation remain a daily reality for those affected. For many of our clients, the legal process is about more than maximizing their financial recovery—it's about having someone in their corner who listens, advocates, and helps them understand what comes next.

That's why our firm recently hosted a private, in-person event in Pasadena for our Eaton Fire clients alongside our partner firm, Brent & Fiol. With more than 50 businesses and hundreds of families among our clientele, the event was designed to keep clients informed, connected, and supported as the case against SCE continues to develop. Zoom meetings and technology are valuable tools in litigating a case of this scale, but we know it's the human connection that matters most.

Partner June Bashant Speaks at National Drug Policy Summit

In February, partner June Bashant spoke at the Good Drug Policy Summit in Washington, D.C., hosted by [Smart Approaches to Marijuana](#) and the [Foundation for Drug Policy Solutions](#). The summit brought together experts in drug prevention, policy, treatment, and enforcement to discuss science-based approaches to the country's evolving drug landscape. She joined a panel alongside Judge Mary Celeste (ret.), Marc J. Bern, and Patrick D. Kenneally to discuss the legal perspectives on changing drug policy.



June shared her experience leading lawsuits against STIIIZY and similar cannabis brands, which allege that these companies widely promote their products as safe and positive while downplaying the risk of cannabis-induced psychosis, particularly among teens.

Her work in this space was also highlighted in a recent Law360 article covering new litigation efforts by anti-legalization advocates challenging the cannabis industry in court.

[Read the Law360 article.](#)

Partner Loren Schwartz Presents at San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association Ski & CLE

Partner Loren Schwartz presented at the San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association Ski & CLE Seminar, sharing his expertise on cases involving infections that develop after surgery. His presentation, titled "Beyond the Incision: Evaluating and Prosecuting Post-Operative Infection Cases," walked attendees through the science of how these infections occur, where providers fall short in preventing or treating them, and how to build a case on behalf of patients who are harmed as a result.

Loren addressed a common defense argument that post-surgical infections are simply an accepted risk of any surgery, making the case that while infections can happen without fault, that does not mean negligence was absent in any given situation.

Learn more about the [event](#).



RFTM Partners Honored in 2026 Lawdragon 500 Leading Plaintiff Consumer Lawyers Guide

Partners John Feder, Cynthia McGuinn, June Bashant, and Loren Schwartz have been named to the 2026 Lawdragon 500 Leading Plaintiff Consumer Lawyers guide. This recognition highlights their outstanding work representing individuals in complex consumer and personal injury litigation.

It is an honor to be recognized alongside some of the most distinguished attorneys in the field. These remarkable professionals inspire us to continue advocating for justice and recovery, particularly for those who have experienced profound personal tragedies.

Congratulations to John, Cynthia, June, and Loren for this well-deserved achievement. Their dedication continues to inspire our firm and strengthens our mission to serve clients and the broader community with excellence.

Staff Spotlight: June Bashant



Meet one of our partners! June Bashant is a dedicated advocate for individuals harmed by negligence and unsafe corporate practices. With more than 25 years of experience, June has built a reputation for her meticulous preparation, client-centered approach, and ability to tell compelling stories that underscore the humanity at the heart of every case. Her practice focuses on catastrophic injuries, wrongful death, elder abuse, medical malpractice, and defective products, and her work has led to meaningful improvements in safety standards and consumer protections.

June's career highlights include a \$15 million settlement against The Regents of the University of California in a medical negligence case at UCSF, and multi-million-dollar recoveries in wrongful death and catastrophic injury matters, including a \$20 million settlement secured alongside partner John Feder for a young medical professional exposed to a dangerous virus while on vacation. She is also actively holding companies accountable in emerging areas of concern, including rideshare safety and the marketing of high-potency cannabis products to teens.

Recognized as one of the Daily Journal's Top Plaintiff Lawyers in 2025, June has consistently been named to Super Lawyers® since 2014 and included in The Best Lawyers® in America since 2019. Beyond the courtroom, she has served on the Executive Board of the San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association and remains deeply engaged in professional advocacy and community service.

Reflecting her philosophy, June says: "We protect and advocate for our clients throughout their legal journey, providing creative, strategic, and financial resources to expertly navigate litigation." Her dedication to justice and consumer continues to inspire both colleagues and clients alike.

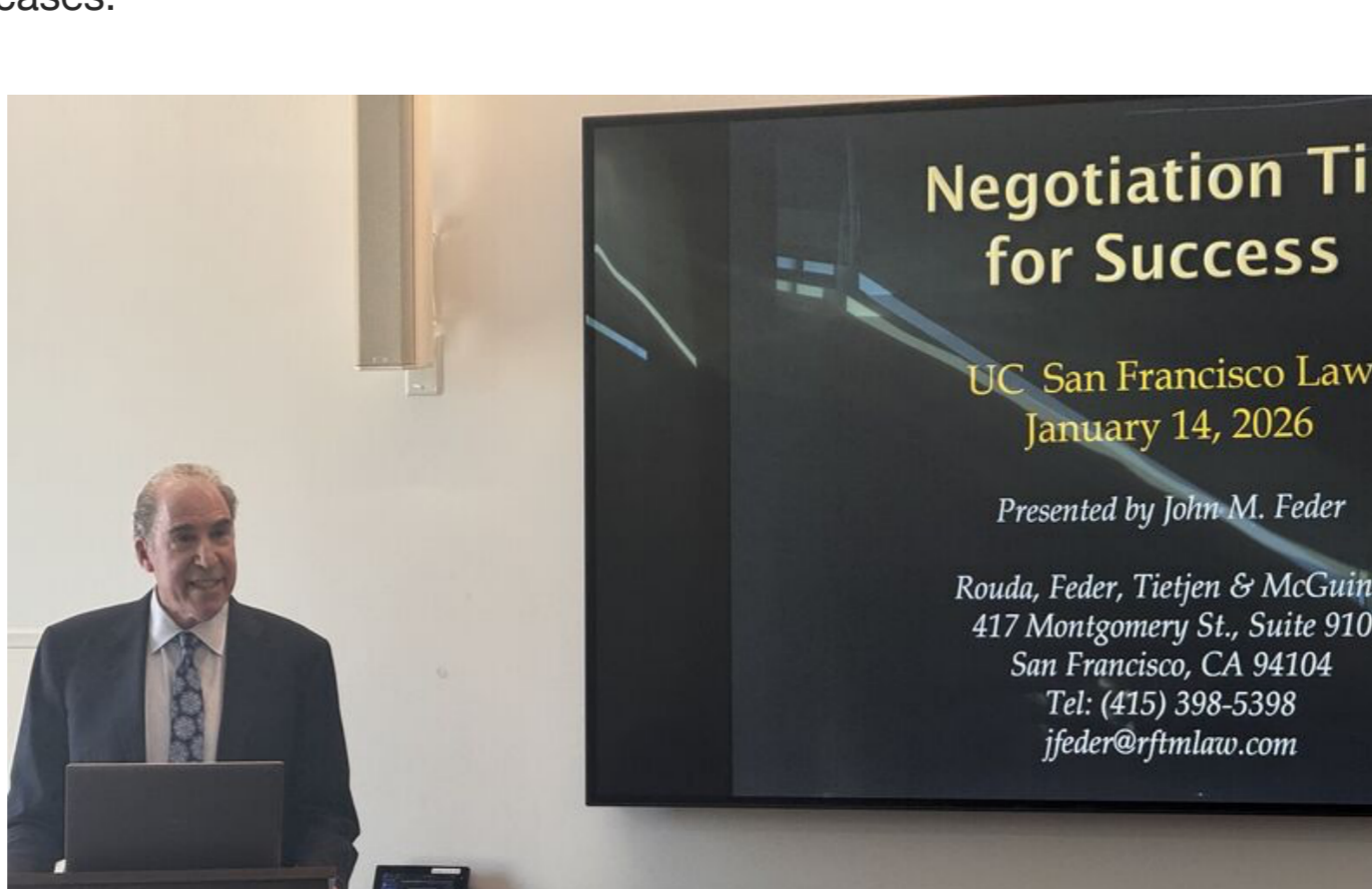
[Learn More](#)

Connecting with our Community

Partner John Feder Guest Lectures at University of California, College of Law, San Francisco

Partner John Feder recently spoke at the University of California, College of the Law, San Francisco as a guest lecturer, sharing practical insights on effective negotiation and case preparation.

John presented 12 strategic tips for negotiation success and 10 tips to follow when presenting your case at trial or mediation if negotiations are not successful. He illustrated these lessons from a recent wrongful death case involving a distracted bus driver, highlighting the importance of thorough preparation in achieving meaningful outcomes for clients. He also led a discussion on employment discrimination and helped students focus on asking the right questions before entering negotiations in such cases.



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