

CALIFORNIA
WOMEN'S
LAW CENTER

Pursuing Justice for Women and Girls

2025

PURSUIT OF JUSTICE

Awards

Honoring:

NICHOL WHITEMAN
CEO,
Los Angeles
Dodgers Foundation

JOANNA STROBER
Co-Founder & CEO,
Midi Health

LAURA JENKS
President,
Adidas Accessories
at Agron, Inc

Recognizing:

WOMEN'S FIRE ALLIANCE

&

CWLC Founders

SHEILA KUEHL, ABBY LEIBMAN, & JENIFER MCKENNA

Wednesday, September 17th, 6 o'clock in the evening

Skirball Cultural Arts Center

2701 N Sepulveda Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90049

Celebrating the pursuit of justice for women and girls.

Who We Are

For more than 30 years, CWLC has been breaking down barriers and advancing justice for women and girls. Founded in 1989, we were the first law center in California solely dedicated to addressing the comprehensive and unique legal needs of women and girls, and we have maintained an emphasis on supporting low-income communities.

More than seventy-five percent of legal service clients in California are women and children. Throughout CWLC's three decades of service, we have grown and evolved to meet the changing and diverse need of some of the most vulnerable residents of our state. As our communities evolve, CWLC will continue to protect and advance the rights of all women and girls.

What We Do

CWLC fills a unique role in the fight for gender equality. Our work is three pronged: we train legal professionals, provide technical support, and educate communities; we advocate for strong public policies; and—when necessary—we litigate impact cases.



Training and Education

CWLC supports individual women seeking legal assistance and we train attorneys to advocate for women and girls. We develop tools and hold trainings on a range of legal issues for the general public and the legal community. We also work to implement and enforce existing laws and provide technical assistance to school districts and other organizations and policymakers.



Policy Advocacy

CWLC advocates for policies that advance the rights of women and girls in California and beyond. We sponsor legislation, provide expert testimony, and issue policy briefs. Through our public education and litigation efforts, we interact with community members about matters of concern to them and we seek to address these needs by collaborating with lawmakers and other policy and community leaders.



Litigation

When necessary, CWLC litigates. We specialize in impact litigation that usually sets precedent and advances the rights of women and girls while securing justice for the plaintiff. In addition to our full-time staff attorneys, we work with a network of highly skilled lawyers who generously contribute their expertise to assist our efforts on a pro bono basis.

OUR PRIORITIES

Economic Security

Equal Pay
Affordable, Safe Housing
Aging Women's Needs
Veterans Issues

Gender Discrimination

Title IX Athletics
Breastfeeding Access

Violence Against Women

Sexual Assault & Harassment
Campus Safety
Intimate Partner Violence

Women's Health

Reproductive Care
Abortion Access

Our Impact



Ensuring Athletic Opportunities for Girls

Despite the 1971 passage of Title IX banning gender discrimination in schools receiving federal funds, female students are still regularly denied athletic opportunities. **CWLC is a leading expert on Title IX enforcement**, and we have successfully litigated numerous cases to ensure an equitable playing field for girls. We also provide technical support and guidance to students, coaches, parents, and school administrators who are working to ensure equity on the playing field.



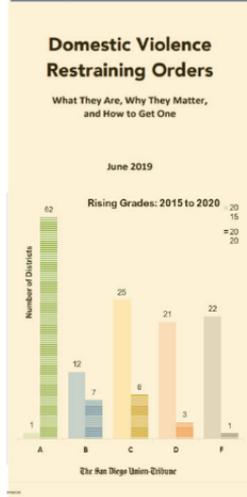
Supporting Survivors of Domestic Violence

Most women seeking restraining orders represent themselves in court. Navigating the legal system can be challenging for attorneys and non-attorneys, so **CWLC produced the "Domestic Violence Restraining Orders: What They Are, Why They Matter, and How to Get One" guide**. We also hold a series of legal trainings on domestic violence restraining orders and have provided amicus support in multiple domestic violence cases, arguing for courts to grant the protections women deserve.



Improving Breastfeeding Access in Schools

In 2015, CWLC partnered with the ACLU of Southern California and BreastfeedLA to evaluate access to breastfeeding accommodations in Los Angeles County schools. Our initial findings were disappointing, prompting **CWLC to work closely with school districts to help implement policies that better support pregnant and parenting students and staff**. After years of partnering with schools and institutions to guide compliance efforts, CWLC released a 2019 report card showing that of eighty-eight percent of school districts in Los Angeles County now have sufficient employee and student lactation policies in place. CWLC is expanding this work to school districts across the state, and we continue to provide assistance to districts striving to fully support their students and staff.



Advocating for Federal Policies

We advocate against laws that roll back the legal rights of women and girls. In recent years, **CWLC has been a vocal opponent of numerous federal administration proposals** and we regularly file amicus briefs and submit expert public comment to federal agencies on a range of issues including abortion rights, immigrant women's health care access, and sexual assault on college campuses.

Commentary: Political agendas are infiltrating your health care. You have a uterus



California Women's Law Center

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2025 PURSUIT OF JUSTICE AWARDS

Program

Hosted by
Natalie Samarjian, President and CEO of Coro Southern California

Welcome.....Karen Rigberg, President, CWLC

Recognition of the Woman's Fire Alliance.....Janet Schulman,
Interim Executive Dir., CWLC

Pursuit of Justice Award
Presented to Joanna Strober,
CEO Midi Health.....Introduction by Karen Rigberg,
President, CWLC

Dinner

Live Auction

Recognition of the CWLC Foudners
Presented to Abby Leibman, Sheila Kuehl,
and Jenifer McKenna.....Introduction by Karen Rigberg,
President, CWLC

Fund-a-Need

Pursuit of Justice Award
Presented to Laura Jenks,
President, Adidas Accessories at Agron, Inc.....Introduction by
Debbie Scott, Senior Manager, Adidas

Pursuit of Justice Award
Presented to Nichol Whiteman,
CEO Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation.....Introduction by Cindy Starrett,
Council, Latham & Watkins

Entertainment provided by Olivia Pucci

Letter from the CWLC President

Welcome to the California Women's Law Center Pursuit of Justice Event.

Dear Friends, Supporters, and Advocates,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I'm delighted to welcome you to our Pursuit of Justice celebration. Tonight, we gather not just as supporters of the California Women's Law Center, but as champions of equality, justice, and empowerment for women and girls across our state.

In the 36 years since Sheila Kuehl, Abby Leibman, and Jenifer McKenna founded our beloved CWLC, it has been at the forefront of advancing women's rights through groundbreaking litigation, policy advocacy, and community education. Your presence here tonight demonstrates your commitment to ensuring that every woman has access to justice and the opportunity to thrive.

This evening is especially meaningful as we recognize our founders and the Women's Fire Alliance, and honor three remarkable women whose leadership and dedication embody our mission: Nichol Whiteman, Joanna Strober, and Laura Jenks. Through their work, they have each opened doors, broken barriers, and created pathways for countless others to follow.

Tonight celebrates our collective achievements while looking ahead to the challenges that remain. Together, we have made tremendous strides in areas such as workplace equality, reproductive rights, equal access to sports, and combating gender-based violence. Yet our work is far from over, and we need your continued partnership to build a more just future.

Thank you for your generous support, your unwavering dedication, and your belief in the power of law to create meaningful change. Enjoy this special evening of connection, celebration, and renewed commitment to our shared mission.

In solidarity and gratitude,

Karen Rigberg

Karen Rigberg
President, Board of Directors
California Women's Law Center



Letter from the CWLC Executive Director

Welcome to the 2025 Pursuit of Justice Awards. Tonight, we gather to celebrate the extraordinary individuals and organizations whose courage, vision, and dedication advance the mission of the California Women's Law Center.

It is my honor to extend heartfelt congratulations to our distinguished honorees—Nichol Whiteman, Joanna Strober, and Laura Jenks—whose leadership and commitment inspire us all. We are equally proud to recognize the Women's Firefighter Alliance whose bravery and courage helps to break barriers and champion the ideals of justice and equality.

This evening also gives us the opportunity to express our deep gratitude to the remarkable founders of the California Women's Law Center—Abby Leibman, Sheila Kuehl, and Jenifer McKenna. Their groundbreaking work laid the foundation for everything we celebrate tonight and continues to guide our pursuit of equity and empowerment.

On behalf of our dedicated Board, staff, and community partners, we would like to thank you for joining us to honor these trailblazers and recommit ourselves to the vital work ahead. Your presence strengthens our shared resolve to ensure that every woman and girl in California has the opportunity to live free from discrimination, violence, and injustice.

Janet Schulman

Janet Schulman
Interim Executive Director
California Women's Law Center



Our Mission

The mission of California Women's Law Center is to create a more just and equitable society by breaking down barriers and advancing the potential of women and girls through transformative litigation, policy advocacy and education.

The California Women's Law Center (CWLC) was founded in 1989 by Sheila Kuehl, Abby Leibman, and Jenifer McKenna. Together, they created the first law center in California dedicated solely to addressing the comprehensive and unique legal needs of women and girls.

For decades, CWLC has been an advocate for gender equality throughout California and beyond, working in collaboration with allies to protect, secure, and advance the comprehensive civil rights of women and girls. Our work prioritizes the needs of low-income women and families.

We advance our mission through three primary activities: education and legal support services, including training for legal professionals, stakeholders, and the general public; impact litigation, including lawsuits and amicus briefs, and policy advocacy. The three areas of our work complement each other and ensure we have the tools necessary to meet the evolving and inter-sectional needs of women and their families. Learn more about our unique approach here.

Today, we continue to address persistent issues like domestic violence and sexual harassment while also investing in understanding and engaging in emerging challenges, like the needs of female veterans and housing discrimination. Our work focuses on four broad areas: Title IX and gender discrimination in schools, women's health and access to reproductive care, violence against women including sexual assault and domestic violence, and women's economic security. Within these categories are several specific issues that impact women's ability to lead healthy, autonomous lives. Learn more about the issues we focus on here.

As a leading advocate for women's rights, we are often consulted for guidance. We support policy leaders, legal professionals, school administrators, and others in crafting and enforcing laws that impact women's ability to thrive. CWLC has advocated for and achieved policy change on a wide range of issues, and we will continue to respond to the diverse and changing needs of women and girls in our state.

CWLC Staff

Elizabeth Kristen, Legal Director
Raquel Ibarra, Policy Associate
Janet Schulman, Interim Executive Director

Taylor C. Brewer, Housing Staff Attorney
Julianna Gesiotto, Staff Attorney
Heather Longridge, Office Manager

Pursuit of Justice Awards

Past Honorees

1995	2006	2015
•Hadsell & Stormer	•Blue Shield of California Foundation	•Dolores Huerta
•Sally Suchil	•Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP	•Lilly Ledbetter
	•Hon. Sheila James Kuehl	•Peg Yorkin
1996	2007	2016
•Patty DeDominic	•Dr. Leroy H. Carhart	•Downtown Women's Center
•Karen Randall	•Jon O'Brien	•Kaiser Family Foundation
1997	•Kathy Spillar	•Planned Parenthood Los Angeles
•Carla Sanger		
1998	2008	2017
•Lisa Leslie	•Anita DeFrantz	•The Actors' Gang Prison Project
•Sonia Nazario	•Heather Petri	•State Senator Connie M. Levya
		•Los Angeles Sparks
1999	2010	2018
•Diana Bonta	•Wendy Greuel	•Rita Hall
•Joannie Parker	•Maria Rodriguez	•It's On Us
		•The Hon. Hilda Solis
2000	2011	•Lois Thompson, Esq.
•Billie Heller	•Sandy Jo Macarthur	
	•Michael Messner	2019
2001	•Sweetwater Plaintiffs	•U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein
•Abby J. Leibman	•Yoav Potash, Joshua Safran and Nadia Costa	•Chris Hollinger
		•Cindy Robbins
2002	2012	2022
•Beatriz Olivera-Stotzer	•Coach Chris Martinez	•California Chief Justice
•Patricia Shiu	•Cristin Zeisler	•Tani Cantil-Sakauye
	•Julia Wilson	•Amed Khan
2003	2013	2023
•E. Allison Thomas	•Susan Burke	•Dr. Michele Goodwin
	•The Hon. Fiona Ma	•Kim Phuc Phan Thi
2004	•Sandra Fluke	
•Laura Chick	•Amy Ziering	
•Dorothy Jonas		
•Latham & Watkins LLP	2014	2024
•Bill Plaschke	•The Hon. Barbara Boxer	•Christen Press, Tobin Health
	•Nancy Lemon	•Angel City Football Club
2005		
•Roberick Jackson		
•Abby Wambach		

Natalie Simarjian - HOST



Natalie is President and CEO of Coro Southern California. Coro's mission is to strengthen the democratic process by preparing individuals for effective and ethical leadership. Under Natalie's leadership, Coro has developed a new strategic plan, expanded programs, partnerships, and revenue, and cultivated a growing community of Coro alumni who are transforming communities across the country.

Natalie came to Coro Southern California from the California Women's Law Center (CWLC), where she worked to address the comprehensive and unique legal needs of women and girls through impact litigation, public policy advocacy and legal education. Prior to CWLC, Natalie was Staff Attorney and Dickran Tevrizian Fellow at Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County (NLSLA), where she provided individual representation to victims of domestic violence, supported impact litigation, including a successful appeal in *Montagner v. Montagner*, engaged in public policy advocacy, and conducted extensive community outreach and legal education. Before joining NLSLA, Natalie was a Labor and Employment litigator at Rutan & Tucker, LLP. While at Rutan, Natalie was actively engaged in pro bono efforts, successfully representing an asylum seeker before the Department of Homeland Security. Prior to embarking on her legal career, Natalie was a Human Capital Consultant in Deloitte & Touche LLP's Public Sector practice where she led the firm's National Public Sector Human Capital Community of Practice Initiative.

Natalie earned her Juris Doctorate from UCLA School of Law, her Master of Science at the Heinz School of Public Policy & Management at Carnegie Mellon University, and her Bachelor of Arts UCLA. Natalie is an alumna of the Coro Fellows Program in Public Affairs and Emerge California, and was a recipient of the Empowerment Congress' Emerging Civic Leaders 40 Under 40 award and a recipient of LA Impact-Makers to Watch award. Natalie serves on the boards of Public Counsel and the UCLA Alumni Association.

Pursuit of Justice Award

Honoree

Laura Jenks - President, Adidas Accessories at Agron, Inc.



Laura grew up in Southern California and graduated from Middlebury College, VT with a degree in German. She kicked off her career in Herzogenaurach, Germany at the adidas HQ as a Global Product Manager for Soccer Apparel and a spark was lit that would ignite a lifetime passion to build product for athletes and those inspired by sport. What makes her shine brightest, however is her family – husband Chris and daughters Marley, Jenny, and Meghan.

Laura is a people and business leader with over 30 years of experience at world class brands including adidas, The Walt Disney Company and Mattel, Inc.

Passionate about delivering strategic brand and product vision through leadership, innovation and an uncompromising focus on the consumer with the highest quality service to the customer, Laura has been part of the leadership team of adidas Acces. at agron, Inc. for 21 years. She has led the agron team as President since 2019. Her passion for sport, people and making a difference fuel everything she touches.

During the consumer research process agron realized people with disabilities, school aged kids in particular, have challenges using many of the popular athletic branded backpacks and socks on the market. Due to various sensory, limb, dexterity or movement differences, many students need specific features. Agron chose to service this inequity by building products that meet the needs of the disabled community at every level yet look and feel just like the products worn by their peers. The agron creation team worked collaboratively with the experts in this space, Gamut Management, to speak with and design adidas products directly intended for this consumer. The adidas Adaptive Backpack and Crew Socks launched in the Fall of 2024 and provide equal opportunities for all kids to look and feel their best!

Pursuit of Justice Award

Honoree

Joanna Strober - Co-Founder & CEO, Midi Health



Joanna Strober is a pioneering entrepreneur and advocate for women's health, dedicated to transforming how midlife care is delivered. As the Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Midi Health, Joanna has built the nation's leading virtual care platform focused exclusively on perimenopause and menopause. Under her leadership, Mid Health has become the only comprehensive midlife

women's health provider covered by major insurance plans, delivering expert, personalized care to tens of thousands of women each month.

Her passion for this work is deeply personal. After experiencing her own challenges navigating perimenopause, Joanna recognized the critical gap in accessible, evidence-based care for millions of women. She combined her extensive experience as a technology entrepreneur and venture investor with a steadfast commitment to equity in healthcare to launch Midi Health, ensuring that midlife women receive the attention, dignity, and treatment they deserve.

A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and UCLA School of Law, Joanna previously founded Kurbo Health, a digital health company focused on childhood obesity, which was acquired by WW (formerly Weight Watchers). She has also held senior roles in venture capital and private equity, guiding early-stage technology and consumer companies to scale.

Joanna lives in the San Francisco Bay Area with her family and continues to champion innovation and access in women's healthcare, proving that every stage of life deserves expert care and respect.

Pursuit of Justice Award

Honoree

Nichol Whiteman - Chief Executive Officer, Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation



Nichol Whiteman is a relentless champion for equity and opportunity, serving as Chief Executive Officer of the award-winning Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation (LADF). Tasked with relaunching LADF in 2013 with a modest \$600,000 budget, Nichol has transformed it into one of the nation's most impactful sports-based charities, raising over \$204 million in just eleven years—including a landmark \$100 million pledge in 2024 from LADF Chairman Mark Walter and Dodgers Ownership. Guided by a mission to tackle Los Angeles's most pressing challenges in

education, health care, homelessness, and social justice, she has directed \$60 million in community investments, touching the lives of more than 10 million children and creating signature programs such as the Dodgers Dreamteam, the first-ever LADF Scholarship, the College & Career Accelerator, and the Science of Baseball Initiative.

A child of Jamaican immigrants and a first-generation college graduate, Nichol sees herself in the communities she serves. Determined to ensure that ZIP codes never define opportunity, she has built a team of dedicated professionals and a sustainable funding model while leveraging the power of the Dodgers brand. Under her leadership, LADF has completed its 60th Dodgers Dreamfield, launched a multi-million-dollar benefit gala, distributed over 10 million meals, and developed alliances with community partners who fight every day for the resources youth deserve.

Nichol's career reflects both business acumen and deep commitment to service. After earning a degree in Economics from Spelman College, she worked in investment management and publishing before beginning her philanthropic journey as Vice President, Western Region, of the Jackie Robinson Foundation. Today she is a visible leader in Major League Baseball and a mentor to professionals across industries. She serves as a Senior Fellow at USC's Brittingham Social Enterprise Lab, sits on numerous advisory boards, including Cerity Partners and Shoes That Fit, and acts as an ambassador for the LA Opera and member of the Women's Leadership Council and Women in Sports and Entertainment.

Widely recognized for her influence, Nichol has been honored with the 2024 National Foster Youth Institute Champion of Children and Youth Award, the Woman of Inspiration Award from Women In Sports Entertainment, the Benjamin E. Mays Award, and many others, while LADF itself earned the 2020 ESPN Sports Humanitarian Team of the Year and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Sports Award. Featured in the *New York Times*, *Forbes*, and the *Los Angeles Times*, Nichol continues to inspire with her belief that every person can positively impact a life. She lives in Los Angeles with her two sons, Timothy Jr. and Nicholas, and remains steadfast in her mission to ensure that every young person has the chance to dream—and achieve—without limits.

CWLC
Founders

Abby J. Leibman -
President & CEO, MAZON

Abby J. Leibman has been President & CEO of MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger since 2011. MAZON, a national advocacy organization working to end hunger among people of all faiths and backgrounds, prioritizes the needs, challenges and experiences of those who struggle with hunger in the United States and Israel who have either been overlooked or ignored by other national advocates. Currently, MAZON's priorities include single mothers, trans youth, college students, currently serving military families, Indian Country, veterans, and those living in Puerto Rico and the territories.



Prior to her current tenure at MAZON, Ms. Leibman had a consulting practice to assist social justice organizations, businesses, and public institutions meet the challenges of growth and change, including leadership development, managing diversity, and implementing strategies to respond to discrimination.

Ms. Leibman is a proud feminist and a lifelong advocate for women and girls. Among her proudest accomplishments is co-founding the California Women's Law Center, which she then directed for 12 years.

She has a J.D. from Hastings College of Law and graduated magna cum laude from UC San Diego with a B.A. in Political Science.

Sheila Kuehl -
CA State Senator, State Assembly-
member, LA County Supervisor (ret.)

Sheila Kuehl served in public office for 22 years. In 1994, she was elected to the California State Assembly, termed out after six years, and served in the California State Senate for eight years. She was the first woman in California's history to serve as Speaker pro Tempore of the Assembly and was the first openly gay or lesbian person elected to the California Legislature.

While in the Legislature, she also served as Chair of the Judiciary Committee, successfully advanced single-payer health insurance through the Legislature twice and authored 171 bills that were signed into law,



including legislation to establish paid family leave, establish nurse to patient ratios in hospitals, protect the Santa Monica Mountains, and prohibit discrimination on the basis of gender and disability in the workplace and sexual orientation in education, which was the first law to include sexual orientation and gender identity in anti-discrimination statutes in California.

In 2014, she was elected to the LA County Board of Supervisors, was re-elected to her second term in 2018 and Chaired the Board from 2017-2018. She also served on the Metro Board, the AQMD Board, the founding Board of the Clean Power Alliance, and chaired First Five LA for eight years. As Supervisor, she worked to increase the minimum wage, emphasize and enable “second chance” and anti-recidivism programs, provide unprecedented funding and services for the unhoused community, create a Sheriff’s Oversight Commission, and establish the new Department of Justice, Care and Opportunities, to bring together all of the areas overseeing the various aspects of justice for the County.

Before her election to the Legislature, Supervisor Kuehl was a public-interest attorney who drafted and fought to get into California law more than 40 pieces of legislation relating to children, families, women, and domestic violence. She was a law professor at Loyola, UCLA, and USC Law Schools and co-founded and served as managing attorney of the California Women’s Law Center. She was also the Founding Director of the Public Policy Institute at Santa Monica College and a Regents’ Professor in Public Policy at the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs.

She graduated from Harvard Law School in 1978. In her youth, she was known for portraying the irrepressible Zelda Gilroy in the television series, “The Many Loves of Dobie Gillis.” She is now retired and writing.

Jenifer McKenna - Senior Advisor, Reproductive Health & Freedom Watch

Jenifer McKenna is Senior Advisor at Reproductive Health & Freedom Watch, working to monitor, investigate, and expose drivers of disinformation and regressive policy in the reproductive and maternal health landscape. She is co-founder California Women’s Law Center and past coordinator of The Alliance, a first-time collaboration of state women’s rights and gender equality law centers. Jenifer led the Alliance partners in the first multi-state investigation into crisis pregnancy centers, and co-authored the groundbreaking national report *Designed to Deceive: A Study of the Crisis Pregnancy Center Industry in Nine States*. She is a contributing reporter on crisis pregnancy center issues for *Ms. Magazine*, and consults with public officials and advocates around the U.S. on CPC industry accountability.





The **Women's Fire Alliance (WFA)** is a pioneering network of female firefighters, fire service professionals, and community advocates dedicated to advancing equity, safety, and resilience in the fire service. Formed to address the unique challenges women face in this demanding field, WFA provides a platform for mentorship, training, and policy advocacy that empowers women to thrive as leaders on and off the fireline.

WFA's goal is to recruit, support, and retain women in firefighting and related emergency services while promoting inclusive practices that strengthen public safety for everyone. Through regional chapters and national partnerships, the Alliance offers career development workshops, fitness and skills training leadership programs, and peer support designed to help women enter and excel in fire service careers.

In addition to workforce development, WFA plays a vital role in community outreach. The organization hosts wildfire preparedness seminars, youth fire-safety education, and disaster-response training for underserved neighborhoods—efforts that have proven critical as climate change fuels longer, more destructive fire seasons. WFA also advocates for policies that prioritize firefighter wellness, family-friendly scheduling, and the equitable distribution of resources across departments.

Today, the Women's Fire Alliance stands as a beacon for progress and possibility. By fostering collaboration among firefighters, civic leaders, and community members, WFA not only expands opportunities for women in the fire service but also enhances the capacity of every department to protect the public. Through courage, skill, and solidarity, the Alliance continues to light the way toward a more inclusive and resilient future for the fire profession and the communities it serves.



Justice Advocate
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Special congratulations to Nichol Whiteman
for her work with the Los Angeles Dodgers
Foundation, and to CWLC founders Sheila
Kuehl, Abby Leibman and Jennifer McKenna.

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Together. Leading the way.

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Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP
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We congratulate
Nichol Whiteman, Joanna Strober,
and Laura Jenks
on their well-deserved
recognition.

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Pursuit of Justice Awards





Community Partners

Breaking Barriers

Akerman proudly sponsors the 2025 Pursuit of Justice Awards and champions the California Women's Law Center's mission to advance the potential of women and girls through transformative litigation, policy advocacy, and education. We extend our sincere thanks to visionary leaders Joanna Strober, Nichol Whiteman, Laura Jenks, the Women's Fire Alliance, and CWLC's founders — Abby Leibman, Sheila Kuehl, and Jenifer McKenna — whose leadership paves the way for women across California.

Founded in 1920, Akerman is recognized as one of the country's premier law firms, with more than 700 lawyers in 25 offices throughout the United States.

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The Akerman logo features the word "akerman" in a lowercase, serif font. A red horizontal bar is positioned below the letter "a".



FEM LAW GROUP

F. Edie Mermelstein, Attorney at Law

FEM Law Group congratulates the 2025 Pursuit of Justice Honorees.

We proudly celebrate this year's honorees for their extraordinary leadership, unwavering dedication, and commitment to advancing justice.

Your vision, courage, and advocacy continue to inspire us all and pave the way toward a more equitable future.

We honor Nichol Whiteman, Joanna Strober, and Laura Jenks, and recognize the Women's Fire Alliance and CWLC Founders Sheila Kuehl, Abby Leibman, and Jenifer McKenna.

Thank you for your remarkable contributions.

We are proud to support the California Women's Law Center and its mission to pursue justice for women and girls.

Gibson Dunn is proud to support

California Women's Law Center

gibsondunn.com

CWLC's commitment serves as an inspiration to many, and together we strive for a future where equality is a reality.



HONORING THE CALIFORNIA WOMEN'S LAW CENTER

Karen and David Rigberg

We salute the CWLC
founders, **Sheila Kuehl**,
Abby Liebman, and
Jenifer McKenna, and
thank the CWLC staff for
your continued hard work
and dedication.

Lois and Jim Thompson





**WE'RE PROUD TO CELEBRATE OUR CEO,
NICHOL WHITEMAN, AS SHE IS HONORED
BY THE CALIFORNIA WOMEN'S LAW CENTER
FOR HER LEADERSHIP AND COMMITMENT TO
EQUITY AND OPPORTUNITY.**

Through Nichol's visionary leadership, the Los Angeles Dodgers Foundation continues to uplift communities and create lasting impact across Los Angeles.



Thank you
to
Abby, Sheila, and Jennifer

For their visionary,
foundational leadership
of CWLC.

You have made an
enormous difference!!

Janice Kamenir-Reznik



We are proud to support the
**California Women's Law
Center** and join in congratulating
**Nichol Whiteman, Joanna
Strober** and **Laura Jenks** as
recipients of the 2025 Pursuit of
Justice Awards

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Relentlessly committed to advancing **justice together.**

Barnes & Thornburg is proud to support the California Women's Law Center and its mission to advance equity through litigation, advocacy, and education. With more than 800 legal professionals nationwide, we are committed to helping clients overcome complex challenges and to supporting organizations that drive meaningful change.

**Barnes &
Thornburg**

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DRIVING *POSITIVE CHANGE*

McDermott Will & Schulte is proud to support California Women's Law Center as part of our commitment to the communities we serve.

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- Adidas Accessories
at Agron/Laura Jenks
- Amy Poyer
- Andre Munoz
- Beachlife Festival
- Beacon Grand San Francisco
- Beverly Hills Fire Department
- BMO Wealth Management
/Alla Kutz
- Broad Museum
- David Rigberg
- Diana Leiden
- Gourmet Food Baskets
- Hyatt Regency San Francisco
- Kendra Scott
- LA Kings
- La Philharmonic
- Los Angeles Dodgers
Foundation
- Mattel
- Mike & Kathy Wunderli
- North Redondo Beach
Business Association
- Santa Barbara Zoo
- Sija - Sound Baths
- Skirball Museum
- South Bay Lakers
- Steve Goldstein
- Tin Roof Bistro
- Top Golf
- West Coast Sweat
- Wine Guy & Wine Gal
- Women's Fire Alliance