

SAN DIEGO BUSINESS JOURNAL

SD500

THE MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE IN SAN DIEGO 2025

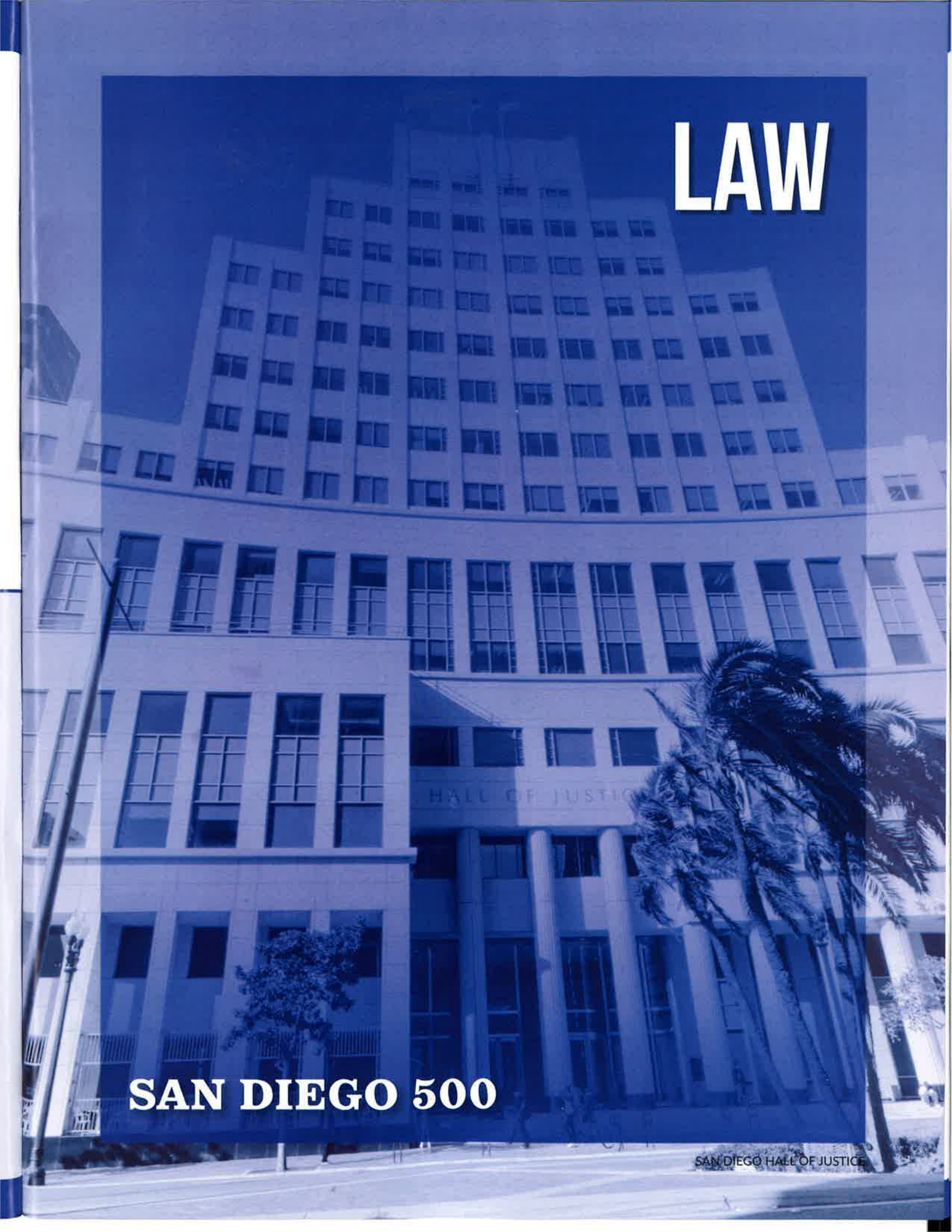


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SAN DIEGO HALL OF JUSTICE

BILL & TINA HOWE**PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT,
BILL HOWE FAMILY OF COMPANIES**

WHY: Sustaining a family-owned business for 45 years successfully with multiple generations, with the couple's three daughters now managing operations. **NOTABLE:** The Bills Sr. and Jr. launched their operation out of their P.B. apartment in 1980 and built it into one of the county's leading plumbing, heating and AC contractors. Among their many awards, they received the industry's top honor as California Contractor of the Year (2020). **COMMUNITY IMPACT:** The Howes are major supporters of San Diego Food Bank and other charities.

**BARRY JANTZ****RETIRED CEO,
GROSSMONT HOSPITAL DISTRICT**

WHY: His impact runs deep in East County, serving four terms on the La Mesa City Council, on the Mission Trails Regional Park task force. During his years as CEO, he led efforts for \$260 million in improvements at Sharp Grossmont Hospital, including a cardiovascular center. **NOTABLE:** He runs Jantz Communications, which specializes in public and government relations and related fields. **COMMUNITY IMPACT:** Jantz remains active in community issues and local politics, including serving on San Diego County Health Services Advisory Board, ECEDC, San Diego Taxpayers Education Foundation, and Grossmont Hospital Foundation.

**SELWYN ISAKOW****CHAIRMAN,
CALPRIVATE BANK**

WHY: Isakow founded and leads CalPrivate, and has served as chairman and/or trustee of several NYSE companies, numerous private companies and nonprofit organizations. He also founded Oxford Investment Group, a private investment, real estate and venture firm, and has been an executive leader in holding companies and private banking, wealth management and mortgages. Earlier in his career he served as a principal for Booz Allen & Hamilton. **NOTABLE:** Isakow has seen military service as an officer in the South African Air Force. **PHILANTHROPY:** He was chairman of City of Hope, and founder of the Kindness Initiative and Hebrew Free Loan of San Diego to address poverty in the community.

**STATH KARRAS****EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, BURNHAM-
MOORES CENTER FOR REAL ESTATE**

WHY: Karras is a leading figure in commercial real estate, currently leading Burnham-Moores Center for Real Estate at University of San Diego's Knauss School of Business. **NOTABLE:** Karras was CEO of Burnham Real Estate Services, before the company was sold to Cushman & Wakefield, where he served as executive managing director overseeing Southern California operations. **COMMUNITY IMPACT:** His extensive contributions include board seats at Connect, the EDC, SD Military Advisory Council, LEAD, Challenged Athletes Foundation and San Diego Performing Arts League. Karras is also an advisor to several technology companies.

**JO DEE JACOB****FORMER CEO,
GIRL SCOUTS SAN DIEGO**

WHY: She was a trailblazer as a female military officer before taking charge of the local Scout council, where she served as an innovative CEO for 15 years. She led two capital campaigns, raising \$8 million to improve historic camp properties. She used her military savvy to launch Operation Thin Mint after 9/11. To date San Diegans have sent over 4 million cookie boxes to troops overseas. **COMMUNITY IMPACT:** She teaches at UCSD Rady School of Management. **NOTABLE:** Jacob capped her 27-year Navy career as a captain, running the base at Guam.

**MEL KATZ****EXECUTIVE OFFICER & CO-OWNER,
MANPOWER SAN DIEGO**

WHY: Katz and partner Phil Blair bought San Diego's Manpower Staffing in 1977 and built it into America's largest franchise. Both professionally and personally, Katz has been dedicated to advancing economic equity and civic improvement, making significant contributions to educational institutions and libraries. **COMMUNITY IMPACT:** He sits on several boards including San Diego County Water Authority; San Diego Foundation; SD Regional Policy and Innovation Center; and Metropolitan Water District. **IN THE NEWS:** In June, Katz was hailed for his help in ending a 15-year legal dispute between the County Water Authority and the Metropolitan Water District.

**IRWIN JACOBS****CO-FOUNDER,
QUALCOMM INC.**

WHY: Irwin Mark Jacobs is a co-founder of Qualcomm Inc. and served as its founding CEO. The company, which just celebrated its 40th anniversary, developed and refined core technology for modern wireless communications. During Jacobs' 20 years as CEO, Qualcomm grew to be the largest company in San Diego. **COMMUNITY IMPACT:** Over the years, Irwin Jacobs as well as his late wife Joan have given generously to community causes, notably the arts. **IN THE NEWS:** The \$43.5 million Joan and Irwin Jacobs Performing Arts Center opened in September at Liberty Station.

**JOHN D. KLINEDINST****CEO & SHAREHOLDER,
KLINEDINST PC**

WHY: The firm Klinedinst founded in the 1980s has grown to seven Western cities across four states. A veteran litigator specializing in business, liability and IP disputes, he has handled dozens of trials in both state and federal court, and hundreds of arbitrations. **IN THE NEWS:** After stepping back to emeritus status in 2021, he was reinstated as CEO of Klinedinst PC in late 2024. **NOTABLE:** His early training includes not just a J.D., but an M.B.A. He has earned the highest rating from the prestigious Martindale-Hubbell for legal ability and ethics.

