

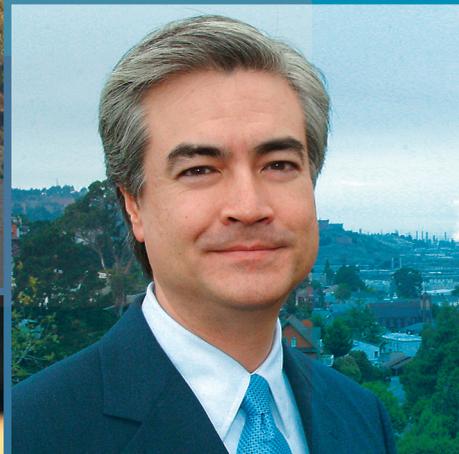
California LAWYER

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2009 CLAY AWARDS

CALIFORNIA LAWYER
ATTORNEYS OF
THE YEAR



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We honor 43 attorneys for their extraordinary achievements in 2008.

BY THE EDITORS OF CALIFORNIA LAWYER

The California Lawyer Attorneys of the Year Awards recognize lawyers throughout the state whose legal work made a profound impact in 2008. They include sole practitioners, city attorneys, and lawyers from large international firms. Their practice areas range from employment law and intellectual property to environmental law and appellate work. Among their successes: making school buses healthier for millions of California schoolchildren, protecting voters' rights during the recent election cycle, and winning a \$184.1 million jury award in a patent infringement case. In total, we identify 22 accomplishments in 13 areas of legal practice that reflect the breadth of the California State Bar. Although it has become our policy not to consider previous CLAY winners, we made an exception for the landmark conservation agreement in our environmental law category. The nine attorneys who worked on that deal included two earlier honorees, Harry C. O'Brien and Joel R. Reynolds. Congratulations to all the winners. —*Chuleenan Svetvilas*

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW



RICHARD T. DRURY
Lozeau Drury, Alameda



JAMES WHEATON
Environmental Law Foundation, Oakland

Drury and Wheaton led the plaintiffs team in a case in San Francisco Superior Court that invoked Proposition 65 to force two large school bus companies to reduce emissions from buses used to transport schoolchildren in California. Laura Baughman and Thomas Sims of Baron & Budd in Dallas, Texas, joined the two in leading the legal team. Under the larger of two settlements, reached last summer, Laidlaw Transit is required to spend an estimated \$28.3 million to retrofit and upgrade its fleet of diesel buses. The other deal was reached in 2007 with Durham School Services, which also agreed to phase in new buses or repair older vehicles. Plaintiffs estimate the agreements will result in thousands of buses that are far healthier for their young passengers to ride in. Together, the two bus companies operate two-thirds of the school buses in the state. Laidlaw was sued in 2006 under the Prop. 65 right-to-know law for allegedly failing to provide warnings about diesel exposure to bus riders, and Durham was added as a defendant the following year.

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