



RYAN M. LAPINE

Partner

(424) 278-2323

ryan.lapine@diamondmccarthy.com

Ryan Lapine is a Partner in Diamond McCarthy's Los Angeles office. A first-chair trial lawyer, Ryan is undefeated at trial. He specializes in litigating, trying, and winning the most complex cases, regardless of the subject matter. Ryan has particular expertise in insurance recovery, intellectual property, entertainment, and complex business disputes.

Ryan received his J.D. from the University of California, Hastings College of Law where he served as Managing Editor of the Hastings Communications and Entertainment Law Journal. He received his B.A. in Public Policy and Economics from the University of Chicago, after attending Rice University as a Max Roy Scholar.

Ryan previously served on the California Committee of Bar Examiners, where he oversaw the creation, administration and grading of the California Bar Examination and all state-accredited and non-accredited law schools in California.

Representative Cases

Insurance Recovery Litigation / Counseling

- *Doublevision Entertainment, LLC v. Navigators Specialty Insurance Company* – California Northern District Court

Lead counsel and lead trial counsel for a production company asserting breach of the duty to defend, breach of the duty to pursue settlement, and breach of the duty to settle claims against an errors and omission insurance provider. At a jury trial before the Honorable William H. Alsup, succeeded on all claims, obtaining a \$2,280,000 jury verdict on two claims and a directed verdict in client's favor pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 50 on the Court's own motion on the remaining claim. This was the second largest insurance recovery jury verdict in California in 2015.

- *Navigators Specialty Insurance Company v. Commercial Escrow Services, Inc. et al.* – Contra Costa County Superior Court

Lead counsel for and successfully intervened on behalf of client and other interested parties and had vacated a purported settlement agreement in an interpleader action filed pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure section 386(b). Obtained a subsequent global settlement.

Location

Los Angeles, CA

Education

University of California, Hastings College of Law (J.D., 2004) Managing Editor of the Hastings Communications and Entertainment Law Journal

University of Chicago (B.A. in Public Policy & Economics, 2001)

Rice University Max Roy Presidential Scholar

Areas of Practice:

Complex & High-Stakes Litigation

- Intellectual Property
- Probate, Trust, and Fiduciary Litigation
- Insurance Coverage

Admitted to Practice:

California

U.S. District Courts for the

Northern, Eastern,
Central and Southern
Districts of California

Languages

French

- *Rodas et al. v. Farmers Insurance Exchange, et al.* – Los Angeles County Superior Court

Lead counsel for policyholders, procuring a confidential settlement despite an initial denial of coverage.

Entertainment and Business Litigation

- *Doublevision Entertainment, LLC v. Commercial Escrow Services, Inc. et al.* – Contra Costa County Superior Court

Lead counsel and lead trial counsel for a production company asserting breach of fiduciary duty and breach of contract claims against an escrow company. After a three-week jury trial, obtained a verdict in client's favor for \$1,500,000 plus prejudgment interest.

- *Lebed v. Himber Entertainment, Inc. et al.* – Los Angeles County Superior Court

Trial counsel for a leading talent manager on breach of contract, conversion, and fraudulent conveyance actions against the management company for whom she formerly worked. Obtained a jury verdict with significant monetary damages in client's favor following a one-week jury trial.

- *Fidelity National Financial, Inc., et al. v. Colin H Friedman, et al.* – California Central District Court

Part of trial team defending the Swiss branch of an international financial institution against RICO violations and fraudulent conveyance claims. Obtained a complete defense verdict following a one-week jury trial.

- *Entertainment League Productions, LLC v. JME, Inc. et al.* – Los Angeles County Superior Court

Lead counsel for an entertainment company in a breach of contract and fraud action against a vodka manufacturer and its principal. Obtained a \$3,100,000 judgment in favor of client against each of the named defendants.

Intellectual Property Litigation

- *Stiletto Television, Inc. v. Hastings, Clayton & Tucker, Inc.* – California Central District Court

Lead counsel for singer Barry Manilow, through his holding and management company, defending copyright claims to two concert movies he created. Defeated plaintiff's claims in full on summary judgment, obtaining a complete defense judgment.

- *Hastings, Clayton & Tucker, Inc. v. Princess Cruise Lines, Ltd., et al.* – California Central District Court

Lead counsel for singer Barry Manilow, through his holding and management company, asserting copyright infringement and Lanham Act claims against a popular cruise line and its content provider. The case settled subsequent to the filing of a Federal action.

- *Kirker Enterprises, Inc. v. Genosco* – New Jersey District Court

Defended a nail polish manufacturer in a patent infringement action. Successfully moved to transfer the matter to California Central District Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1404(a). Obtained a global settlement subsequent to that transfer.

Trust, Estate, and Palimony Litigation

- *Covert v. Harris* – California Central District Court

Lead counsel for plaintiff in post-marital palimony action involving the scion of a large, generational estate. Obtained a global settlement subsequent to defeating defendant's Rule 56 motion for summary judgment.

- *In the Matter of the Mark Hughes Family Trust, dated September 3, 1987, as amended.* – Los Angeles County Superior Court

Litigation counsel for the beneficiary of a trust valued at greater than \$350,000,000. The matter has been described as the largest probate litigation in Los Angeles County and saw the suspension and removal of the co-trustees of the subject trust on the motion of the beneficiary.

- *Inman v. Phillips et al.* – Los Angeles County Superior Court

Lead counsel for an heiress of advanced age in an action under the Elder Abuse and Dependent Adult Civil Protection Act against two acquaintances. Obtained injunctive relief invalidating purported conveyances following an evidentiary hearing against one defendant and entered into a settlement at mediation with the other defendant.

Other Notable Matters

- *Gardner v. San Francisco Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Pride Celebration Committee, Inc.* – San Francisco County Superior Court

Lead trial counsel for individual shot by a third-party assailant at the 2013 San Francisco Pride Festival. Settled during *voir dire* after defeating defendant's motion for summary judgment.

- *Atton v. San Francisco Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Pride Celebration Committee, Inc.* – San Francisco County Superior Court

Lead trial counsel for individual shot by a third-party assailant at the 2015 San Francisco Pride Festival. Settled at mediation after defeating defendant's anti-SLAPP Motion.

- *Perry v. Brown* - Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals

Authored a Brief of Amicus Curiae on behalf of Love Honor Cherish In Opposition to Petition for Rehearing En Banc in this landmark litigation that ultimately invalidated Proposition 8 and restored marriage equality in California.

Awards / Honors

- Selected as a *Super Lawyer's* "Rising Stars" (2012-2015)
- Selected as a California - Southern "Super Lawyer" (2020)