San Diego Daily Transcript

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Top Attorneys 2009



Robert Gerber

Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP

Education

Law School/Year: Harvard Law School, 1988 Other Graduate School/Year: Master of Public Policy, University of Michigan, 1985 College/Year: University of Michigan, 1984

Bar Admissions

California; U.S. District Court, Southern, Central and Northern Districts of California

Practice Areas

Business Litigation; Intellectual Property; Legal Malpractice; Patent, Trademark & Copyright

Major Cases

I have worked on a number of major cases for Taylor Made Golf Co., including trade secret cases, patent and invention cases and false advertising cases. I also won a ground-breaking Ninth Circuit decision in a pro bono case, *Hernandez-Montiel v. INS*, 225 F.3d 1084 (9th Cir. 2000). The case established that persecution on the basis of "sexual identity" was sufficient to establish grounds for prohibiting deportation in immigration asylum cases. The case was cited in the recent gay marriage cases decided by the California Supreme Court. **John D. Tishler** Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP

Education

Law School/Year: J.D., Yale Law School, 1992 College/Year: B.A., Cornell University, 1989

Bar Admissions California

Practice Areas

Corporate Business, Technology

Major Cases

I represent public companies including Northrop Grumman, Lenovo, Bridgepoint Education and Overland Storage in public and private financings, mergers and acquisitions, securities compliance and corporate governance. I also represent a number of startups and more mature public companies in a variety of industries including defense and government contracting, life sciences and clean technologies.

Significant transactions have included representation of SiliconSystems in its acquisition by Western Digital Corp.; the Special Committee of Pomeroy IT Solutions in the company's pending sale; RF Magic in its merger with Entropic Communications; Ebert Composites in its strategic partnership with Martin Marietta Composites; and Carolina Precision Plastics in various acquisitions and strategic transactions.



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Professional Background

I am a partner in the Corporate Practice Group of Sheppard Mullin. I served on the firm's Strategic Planning Committee and played a significant role in opening the firm's Silicon Valley office in April 2008.

Before moving to San Diego in 1998, I practiced at a boutique corporate firm in Denver, Colo., that later became the Denver office of Ballard, Spahr, Andrews & Ingersoll.

Professional Affiliations

I am an adjunct professor at University of San Diego School of Law, where I co-teach "Deals" with professor Frank Partnoy. I have written and spoken for numerous organizations and publications, including The Corporate Governance Advisor, TheCorporateCounsel.net, UCSD - Rady School of Management, the San Diego Chapter of the California Society of CPAs, the San Diego Software Industry Council, The Aji Network and the San Diego Chapter of the National Association of Stock Plan Professionals.

Personal Affiliations

I share this recognition with the terrific group of partners, associates and staff at Sheppard Mullin. I could not do what I do without their support and dedication.

Personal Background

I grew up in Northbrook, Ill., and graduated Glenbrook North High School, infamous for a 2003 hazing incident. The "powderpuff" girls' football game was a ritual in the years I was at Glenbrook North, but I was not cool enough to know about it, let alone be invited. I was cool enough to attend a number of seminar shows by bands including R.E.M., Echo and the Bunnymen, Sonic Youth, the Smiths, the Replacements, Soul Asylum and Husker Du. I earned my B.A. in economics from Cornell University, then attended Yale Law School. My career kept proceeding west until I finally made it to San Diego in 1998.

I am married to Patricia Miller Tishler, a woman who is "Top" in everything she does. We have four wonderful children: Daniel (21), Christian (18), Cameron (almost 4) and Alison (<2). I spend my spare time keeping young by keeping up with the kids.

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Professional Background

I clerked from 1988-89 for the Hon. Rudi M. Brewster (Ret.). I then began my work with Sheppard Mullin, where I became a partner in 1997 and have continued my practice since that time. Among other administrative positions I have held, I am chair of the Pro Bono Committee of the entire firm.

Professional Affiliations

I am the incoming president of the J. Clifford Wallace Inn of Court and a master in both that inn and the Louis M. Welsh Inn of Court. I am an adviser to and former chair of the Legal Ethics Committee of the San Diego County Bar Association. I am a former member of the Judicial Nominations Evaluation Committee of the State Bar, as well as a former chair of the Litigation Section of the state bar.

Personal Background

I grew up in Michigan, and am an avid University of Michigan sports fan. I am married to Michelle Gerber and we have four children, Alex, Taylor, Paige and Alyssa.