

Daily Journal

COVER STORY

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TOP 100

California's Leading Attorneys of 2010

EDITOR'S NOTE

The Daily Journal's annual list of the 100 most influential lawyers in California has always been encompassing. The counselor to corporate boards sits alongside the prosecutor chasing down dangerous criminals, the consumer plaintiffs' lawyer next to the land use lawyer, and so on. The purpose of this list is to recognize the elite lawyers across all practices in California — those men and women who are making the most impact on the legal profession and on society right now.

— David Houston
Editor

Los Angeles and San Francisco Daily Journals



Michael W. Bien

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Rosen, Bien & Galvan

San Francisco

Constitutional and civil rights law

Earlier this month, a three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals agreed with Bien and his co-counsel that the state of California is responsible for ensuring that its disabled prisoners are accommodated even when they are housed in county lockups. Bien has tangled with the state over prison conditions for years. One of his highest-profile cases, in which he represented prisoners in a successful effort to prove that overcrowding was causing unconstitutional conditions in the delivery of mental and medical health care, is now before the U.S. Supreme Court. Bien also does work on voting rights cases and handles commercial litigation.