

# California LAWYER

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MARCH 2011

## 2011 CLAY AWARDS

We honor 45 lawyers for their extraordinary achievements in 2010

IN NAMING THE CALIFORNIA LAWYER ATTORNEYS OF THE YEAR, WE RECOGNIZE LAWYERS THROUGHOUT the state whose outstanding work had a significant impact in 2010. They include state and federal government attorneys, law professors, public-interest lawyers, and attorneys from large international law firms. Their practice areas range from antitrust law and civil rights to intellectual property and transactional law. Their victories include: winning an appellate court ruling to zone land for affordable housing, achieving the first successful court challenge to the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy, and obtaining a \$1.3 billion jury award in a copyright infringement case. The awards identify 27 achievements in 23 areas of legal practice, reflecting the breadth and depth of the work performed by California lawyers. Congratulations to all the winners. -BY THE EDITORS OF CALIFORNIA LAWYER

### DISABILITY LAW



LAURENCE W. PARADIS  
Disability Rights Advocates, Berkeley



MARY-LEE KIMBER SMITH



JOSÉ R. ALLEN  
Skadden, Arps, Slate,  
Meagher & Flom,  
San Francisco

ALLEN, PARADIS, AND SMITH secured a \$1.1 billion settlement—the largest of its kind in the nation—from the California Department of Transportation, pledged for upgrading access for people with disabilities. The settlement resolves two class actions against Caltrans alleging it denied effective access to 2,500 miles of sidewalk, overpasses and underpasses, and commuter parking facilities. Caltrans agreed to improve its sidewalks and facilities over the next 30 years by removing barriers, resurfacing uneven and broken pavement, and upgrading and installing curb ramps. Caltrans must also follow federal and state accessibility guidelines when undertaking new construction. The work on improvements began in July, with an initial funding of \$25 million that will be stepped up over time. The trio of attorneys partnered on the settlement with the AARP Foundation, based in Washington, D.C.

