

THE **RECORDER**

TOP VERDICTS

April 25, 2011 | ESSENTIAL CALIFORNIA LEGAL CONTENT

California's Million Dollar Verdicts

BARTKOZANKEL

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BartkoZankel is proud to be listed in the Recorder's Top Verdicts for 2010, with two successful federal jury verdicts in 2010, both led by Rob Bunzel: in *Vectren Communications Services, Inc. v. City of Alameda*, we obtained a \$1.9 million plaintiff's verdict in a complex municipal revenue bond dispute; in *Advanced Microtherm v. Norman Wright* we defended an antitrust attempted monopolization trial with broad industry impacts that spanned 7.5 weeks, where the jury deliberated only 3 hours before returning a unanimous defense verdict on liability that eliminated \$34 million in claimed damages.

Congratulations to BartkoZankel trial attorneys Rob Bunzel, Griff Towle, Michael Abraham, Jack McLean, and Howie Miller — and to trial specialists Dana Marie Sanchez & Lindsay Carson!



Bartko, Zankel, Tarrant & Miller
900 Front Street, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94111
(415) 956-1900
bztm.com

BartkoZankel is a mid-sized San Francisco, California law firm that has been in business for over 35 years. The firm's practice emphasizes complex business litigation, financial institution litigation, white-collar criminal defense and all aspects of real estate transactions and litigation. Other practice areas include intellectual property litigation, franchise & distribution transactions and litigation, as well as corporate & business formation.

RANK	CASE	DATE	COURT	TYPE OF ACTION	HEADLINES	COUNSEL	AWARD
39	Schwartz v. Leeds	8/12/2010	Los Angeles County	Premises Liability: Slip and Fall	Woman slipped on wet stairs, fell down entire staircase	P: Silvio Natale, Los Angeles, CA of Nelson & Natale LLP; Daniel L. Nelson, Los Angeles, CA of Nelson & Natale LLP	\$4,565,000
40	Farag v. Advance Auto Parts	12/13/2010	Los Angeles County	Products Liability: Asbestos	Mechanic alleged exposure to car parts caused mesothelioma	P: Simona A. Farrise, Los Angeles, CA of Farrise Firm, P.C.	\$4,355,687
41	Kennedy v. Cummings	4/9/2010	San Diego County	Motor Vehicle: Motorcycle	Trucker involved in fatal crash didn't have commercial license	P: Guy D. Levy, San Diego, CA of Guy Levy & Associates; Otto L. Haselhoff, Santa Monica, CA of Law Offices of Otto L. Haselhoff	\$3,859,000
42	Vargas v. Paramount Scaffold Inc.	6/8/2010	Los Angeles County	Motor Vehicle: Work Zone	Flagman said trucker entered zoned-off lane, ran over his foot	P: Bruce C. Fishelman, Santa Monica, CA of Randolph & Associates; John H. Petersen, Santa Monica, CA of Randolph & Associates; Donald C. Randolph, Santa Monica, CA of Randolph & Associates	\$3,711,794
43	Parlen v. Smart-Vasquez	8/16/2010	Sacramento County	Motor Vehicle: Phantom Car Defense	Salesman alleged car crash caused permanent injuries	P: Hank G. Greenblatt, Sacramento, CA of Dreyer Babich Buccola Wood, LLP; Catia G. Saraiva, Sacramento, CA of Dreyer Babich Buccola Wood, LLP	\$3,652,593
44	Mitchell Engineering v. City and County of San Francisco	9/30/2010	Federal	Constitutional Law: Due Process	Construction company said it was wrongfully removed from project	P: Michael Betz, San Francisco, CA of Allen Matkins Leck Gamble Malory & Natsis LLP; Robert Moore, San Francisco, CA of Allen Matkins Leck Gamble Malory & Natsis LLP	\$3,600,000
45	Garcia v. Cornejo	6/10/2010	Alameda County	Motor Vehicle: Tractor-Trailer	Plaintiffs blamed rig operator for three-vehicle collision	P: Salim Khawaja, San Diego, CA of Law Office of Salim Khawaja; J. Jude Basile, Cambria, CA of The Basile Law Firm	\$3,568,488
46	Primex Farms, LLC v. Chapparral Farms Inc.	3/25/2010	Fresno County	Contracts: Breach of Contract	Parties traded arguments over contracts to deliver pistachios	P: Walter W. Whelan, Fresno, CA of Law Offices Walter W. Whelan APC; Brian D. Whelan, Fresno, CA of Law Offices Walter W. Whelan APC	\$3,460,043
47	Lefforge v. Covenant Care of California, LLC	8/19/2010	Orange County	Medical Malpractice: Failure to Monitor	Patient: Morphine overdose caused heart attack, brain injury	P: Ted B. Wacker, Newport Beach, CA of Robinson, Calcagnie & Robinson; Jennifer Turner, Long Beach, CA of Wilkes & McHugh, P.A.; Kimberly A. Valentine, Long Beach, CA of Wilkes & McHugh, P.A.;	\$3,189,005
48	City of Compton v. Westchester Industrial Medical Services	10/6/2010	Los Angeles County	Fraud	City: Defendants submitted false workers' comp invoices	P: Tina Fisher, Los Angeles, CA of Martin & Martin, LLP; Galen Gentry, Los Angeles, CA of Martin & Martin, LLP; Aeva D. Martin, Los Angeles, CA of Martin & Martin, LLP	\$3,148,619
49	Martinez v. Brownco Construction Co.	4/29/2010	Los Angeles County	Construction: Accidents	Demolition company blamed for electrical explosion at factory	P: Albro L. Lundy, Hermosa Beach, CA of Baker, Burton & Lundy; Victor L. George, Torrance, CA of Law Offices of Victor L. George	\$3,106,000
50	Beijing Tong Ren Tang (USA) Corp. v. TRT USA Corp.	9/2/2010	Federal	Contracts: Fraud	Defense: Chinese medicine manufacturer fraudulent	D: J. James Li, Palo Alto, CA of LiLaw	\$3,081,341
51	Buica v. Talent Ventures of California Inc.	2/26/2010	Los Angeles County	Intellectual Property: Trademarks	Actor asserted rival company used his trademarked name	P: Lincoln D. Bandlow, Los Angeles, CA of Lathrop & Gage LLP	\$2,702,962
52	Field Properties v. Gomes Partnership	11/5/2010	Contra Costa County	Contracts: Breach of Contract	Seller misrepresented facts about lessees, plaintiffs alleged	P: Clifford R. Horner, Walnut Creek, CA of Horner & Singer, L.L.P.; Matt Urdan, Walnut Creek, CA of Horner & Singer, L.L.P.	\$2,700,000
53	Sanchez v. Strickland	7/18/2010	Tuolumne County	Motor Vehicle: Tractor-Trailer	Suit: Lights were out on trailer involved in fatal crash	P: John N. Demas, Sacramento, CA of Demas & Rosenthal, LLP; John M. O'Brien, Elk Grove, CA of John M. O'Brien & Associates, P.C.	\$2,575,569
54	Stevens v. Security Contractor Services Inc.	12/1/2010	Sacramento County	Worker/Workplace Negligence	Man struck by pallet as it was being loaded onto truck	P: Clayco C. Arnold, Sacramento, CA of The Arnold Law Firm; Kirk J. Wolden, Sacramento, CA of The Arnold Law Firm	\$2,556,194
55	Saadian v. Saadian	10/22/2010	Los Angeles County	Intentional Torts: Sexual Battery	Wife claimed she contracted STD from cheating husband	P: Shaun M. Murphy, Palm Springs, CA of Slovak Baron & Empey LLP	\$2,492,000
56	Securities and Exchange Commission v. Jasper	4/23/2010	Federal	Fraud: Investment	CFO accused of illegally backdating stock options	P: Mark P. Fickes, San Francisco, CA of Securities & Exchange Commission; Robert S. Leach, San Francisco, CA of Securities & Exchange Commission; Erin E. Schneider, San Francisco, CA of Securities & Exchange Commission	\$2,320,562
57	HLC Properties Ltd. v. UMG Recordings Inc.	6/30/2010	Los Angeles County	Intellectual Property	Heirs of Bing Crosby claimed they were underpaid royalties	P: George Knopfler, Westlake Village, CA of Law Offices of George Knopfler, Mark Brodka, Malibu, CA of Law Offices of Mark Brodka; Charles D. Cummings, Los Angeles, CA of Sullivan, Workman & Dee	\$2,218,778
58	Huber v. Sharp Healthcare Corp.	9/30/2010	San Diego County	Products Liability: Medical Devices	Plaintiff alleged laparoscopic instrument caused perforation	P: Damian M. Dolin, San Diego, CA of Pettit, Kohn, Ingrassia & Lutz, P.C.; Tyler Theobald, San Diego, CA of Pettit, Kohn, Ingrassia & Lutz, P.C.	\$2,201,283
59	Lang v. Geweke Auto Mall Inc.	4/16/2010	San Joaquin County	Motor Vehicle: Rear-ender	Rear-ender injuries were so painful, they led to divorce: pltf's	P: Lawrence A. Bohm, Sacramento, CA of Bohm Law Group; Gregory R. Davenport, Stockton, CA of Law Offices of Gregory R. Davenport	\$2,175,030
60	Dell v. Bank of America, N.A.	6/30/2010	San Bernardino County	Intentional Torts: Embezzlement	Suit: Bank's failure to close account led to embezzlement	P: Beverly J. Bickel, Los Angeles, CA of Hornberger & Brewer, L.L.P.; Nicholas W. Hornberger, Los Angeles, CA of Hornberger & Brewer, L.L.P.	\$2,100,000
61	Joaquin v. Los Angeles Police Department	5/20/2010	Los Angeles County	Employment: California's Fair Employment & Housing Act	Suit: Claim against officer was retaliation for harassment complaint	P: Jeffrey A. Lipow, Encino, CA of Lipow & Harris	\$2,100,000
62	De La Cruz v. Cal-Pac Sonoma	8/2/2010	Sonoma County	Employment: Sexual Harassment	Suit: Card dealer fired after reporting sexual harassment	P: Candice Clipner, Santa Rosa, CA; Stephen M. Murphy, San Francisco, CA of Law Offices of Stephen M. Murphy	\$2,015,487
63	Carlock v. Ladd Provisions	10/22/2010	Los Angeles County	Negligence	Scuba diver said group failed to notice when he went missing	P: Scott P. Koepke, Los Angeles, CA of Law Offices of Scott P. Koepke	\$2,000,000
64	Vectren Communications Services Inc. v. City of Alameda	4/14/2010	Federal	Contracts: Breach of Contract	Telecom company sued city over cable-and-Internet deal	P: Robert H. Bunzel, San Francisco, CA of Bartko, Zankel, Tarrant & Miller, APLC; C. Griffith Towle, San Francisco, CA of Bartko, Zankel, Tarrant & Miller, APLC	\$1,900,000
65	Lilburn v. Tu	2/4/2010	San Diego County	Aviation: Helicopter	Man with minor son perished in helicopter crash during filming	P: Thomas E. Marrs, Walnut Creek, CA of Bowles & Verna LLP; Michael P. Verna, Walnut Creek, CA of Bowles & Verna LLP	\$1,786,000
66	Estate of Castaneda v. State of California	11/10/2010	Los Angeles County	Medical Malpractice: Failure to Treat	Suit alleged detainee was denied biopsy, urology consult	P: Conal F. Doyle, Beverly Hills, CA of Willoughby Doyle, L.L.P.	\$1,734,557
67	Ballaz v. City of Los Angeles	7/2/2010	Los Angeles County	Civil Rights: Police as Defendant	Journalist said officers attacked her for filming protest altercation	P: Browne Greene, Santa Monica, CA of Greene Broillet & Wheeler, LLP; Robert D. Jarchi, Santa Monica, CA of Greene Broillet & Wheeler, LLP	\$1,732,452
68	Kinetics Mechanical Services Inc. v. East Side Union High School District	10/22/2010	Santa Clara County	Contracts: Breach of Contract	Plaintiff contended it wasn't paid for unanticipated work	P: Robert A. Huddleston, Walnut Creek, CA of Huddleston & Sipos Law Group, L.L.P.; Richard A. Sipos, Walnut Creek, CA of Huddleston & Sipos Law Group, L.L.P.	\$1,720,000