



Gary A. Praglin

Partner

Los Angeles/Santa Monica

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Gary A. Praglin is a partner at Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy, LLP, where he handles complex personal injury cases, including mass tort actions involving environmental contamination of air, water and soil. These cases often involve thousands of injured victims at a time, like Gary's PG&E case, which became the subject of the hit movie *Erin Brockovich*.

Over his career, Gary has helped recover for his clients nearly *one billion dollars* in jury verdicts and settlements.

Gary has also served in leadership on Steering Committees, past and present. Notable Plaintiffs' Steering Committees have been the Yamaha Rhino Litigation and the SoCalGas Aliso Canyon Litigation, which arises out of the largest release of methane into the environment in history.

Gary also handles *pro bono* litigation to improve the lives of others. Notable *pro bono* cases have been: an adoption; re-admission of a med student into med school, allowing him to become a doctor; and helping a young couple prevail against a slumlord on a mold issue. Gary is currently representing multiple parties against online puppy traffickers who have harmed defenseless animals and devastated innocent families.

Gary received his Bachelor of Arts from UCLA. He received his J.D. from Southwestern University School of Law.

Gary is a member of the Los Angeles County Bar Association, Consumer Attorneys of California, Consumer Attorneys of Los Angeles and American Board of Trial Advocates.

Office

2716 Ocean Park Blvd.
Suite 3088
Santa Monica, CA 90405

Practice Areas

Contamination, Toxic Torts, and
Environmental Justice

Defective Products / Mass Torts

Personal Injury & Wrongful Death

Pharmaceutical Litigation

Education

Southwestern University School
of Law, Los Angeles, J.D. 1981

University of California at Los
Angeles, B.A. English Literature
1978

Admissions

California

United States District Court of
California

Florida, Pro Hac Vice

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He is an active supporter and fund raiser for the following worldwide charities: Wildlife NOW--dedicated to preserving endangered species in Africa www.wildlifeNOW.com; and Israel Guide Dog Center for the Blind--dedicated to breeding, training and placing guide dogs around the world www.israelguidedog.org.

Honors & Recognitions

Nominee for Trial Lawyer of the Year by Trial Lawyers for Public Justice for work on the PG&E litigation (1997)

Honored as a Southern California "Super Lawyer" 2007, 2010, 2018 and 2019

Community Involvement

Invited speaker on environmental issues before the California State Legislature, LA City Schools and various continuing education programs

California Bar Association

Los Angeles County Bar Association

Consumer Attorneys of California

Consumer Attorneys of Los Angeles

American Board of Trial Advocates

Consumer Attorneys of Los Angeles Mentor

Affiliations

- California State Bar, 1981
- United States District Court, Central District of California
- Los Angeles County Bar Association
- Consumer Attorneys of California
- Consumer Attorneys of Los Angeles
- Admitted *pro hac vice* in Florida, 2015-2017
- ABOTA

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Experience

Representative Verdicts and Settlements:

- \$333 Million / Groundwater contamination trial and settlement
- \$300 Million / Groundwater contamination settlement
- \$80 Million / Air contamination settlement
- \$25 Million / Groundwater contamination settlement
- \$25 Million / Groundwater contamination settlement
- \$15 Million / Groundwater contamination jury verdict
- \$13 Million / Groundwater contamination confidential settlement
- \$9 Million / Groundwater contamination settlement
- \$3 Million / Tobacco Wrongful Death Jury Verdict
- \$2 Million / Securities arbitration award
- \$2 Million / Product Liability/Personal injury settlement
- \$1.5 Million / Securities arbitration award
- \$1.1 Million / Trucking Accident settlement
- \$1 Million / Groundwater contamination confidential settlement
- \$900K / Burn Victim Jury Verdict
- \$400K / Securities arbitration award
- \$342K / Air Contamination confidential settlement
- \$250K / Medical Malpractice settlement
- \$250K / Medical Malpractice settlement
- Numerous six figure cases settled over the past 39 years

News

Lawsuit Filed on Behalf of Three Generation Family in Carson, CA Suffering from Exposure to Toxic Levels of Hydrogen Sulfide for Over a Month
11.04.2021

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Lawsuit Filed on Behalf of Impacted Commercial Fishermen in The Orange County Oil Spill Case
10.12.2021

Major Orange County Oil Spill Class Action Lawsuit Filed on Behalf of Businesses Impacted by Oil Spill
10.07.2021

Huntington Beach Oil Spill Will Have Consequences for Years, Lawyers Say
NBCLA, 10.04.2021

Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy Announces SoCalGas Well Blowout Lawsuit has Settled for a Record \$1.8 Billion
09.27.2021

Court Orders Fraudulent Puppy Traffickers to Stop Selling Animals
07.29.2021

Class Action Lawsuit Filed Against Healthy Spot for Animal Abuse
07.12.2021

Despite Court Closures, 2020 Brought Big Courthouse Wins for Plaintiffs in the Southern California Gas Leak Cases
01.13.2021

Shocking COVID Cover-up: Hollywood Nursing Home Forges Death Certificate to Hide its COVID Problem; CPM Assists Family to Sue for Accountability
05.20.2020

Lawsuit Filed By CPM Against Fraudulent Puppy Traffickers Who Sold Sick Dogs via Craigslist
12.16.2019

Publications

The sad truth about recycling
Daily Journal, 01.2023

Blog Posts

PFAS Litigation Floods Court Dockets
Advocates for Justice, 01.07.2021