

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Throughout our 30-year history, we have strived for success on behalf of our clients and 2013 was no exception. We are fortunate to have our work recognized by our professional peers. Our goal is to deliver more of the same to those we represent in 2014.

- The Bird Marella Team

National Law Journal's 2014
"Litigation Boutiques Hot List"

Recognized Twice for *Daily Journal's*
2014 Top Verdicts & Settlements

National Asian Pacific American Bar's
Law Firm Diversity Award

American Civil Liberties Union's
Pro Bono Award

**Bird Marella Named to National Law Journal's 2014
 "Litigation Boutiques Hot List"**

"Of the law firms spotlighted here, it's all about skill, not size...We've highlighted the special strategies and creative approaches they used in 2013 to help set precedent, right wrongs and save the day for the client." - *National Law Journal*

-- Legal Team Throws Out The Usual Playbook --

National Law Journal recognized [Bird Marella](#) for its creative approaches and unusual trial strategies employed to win cases.

In March 2013, principal [Ekwan Rhow](#) secured a \$3 million jury verdict in a trade secrets case by proceeding to trial without conducting full-blown discovery. Co-managing partner [Paul Chan](#) commented, "He thought he was able to make a ton of headway in terms of really surprising them with cross examination at trial, which they did not get a free preview of during deposition. That's what we do. We're open to thinking about how do we win at trial."

In a securities fraud case against Vitesse Semiconductor Corp. executive Eugene Hovanec, principal [Gary Lincenberg](#) used an overlooked legal venue argument to help trip up the prosecutorial juggernaut mounted by U.S. Attorney Preet Bharara in the Southern District of New York. Mr. Lincenberg was able to get six of seven charges against Hovanec dismissed during the first trial. The jury was hung on the remaining charge and again during the second trial.



[Read full article.](#)

**Daily Journal Recognizes Bird Marella Twice for
 2014 Top Verdicts & Settlements**

"Each year, the editors of *Daily Journal* recognize the largest and most significant verdicts and appellate reversals handed down in California. The attorneys in all these cases proved, yet again, that excellent trial work remains an invaluable asset." - *Daily Journal*

Top 10 Plaintiffs' Verdict by Impact

\$3 Million Jury Verdict For Elite Educational Institute

Principal [Ekwan Rhow](#) and Associate [Jessica Kornberg](#) won a \$3 million jury verdict on behalf of its client Elite of Los Angeles, Inc. against Summa Consulting, LLC, former Elite officer and director Christopher Hamilton, and a group of former employees, all of whom stole Elite's proprietary information to launch a competing business.

[Read more about case.](#)



Ekwan Rhow Jessica Kornberg

Top Defense Results

\$7.3 Million Breach of Contract Suit for Encore Capital Group

Principals [Terry Bird](#) and [Thomas Reichert](#), in conjunction with Associate [Preston Lim](#), prevailed on the dismissal of a \$7.3 million jury verdict stemming from a lawsuit brought against their client, Encore Capital Group, by the company's former General Counsel, Timothy Moser.

[Read more about case.](#)



Terry Bird Thomas Reichert

Bird Marella Awarded 2013 Law Firm Diversity Award by National Asian Pacific American Bar Association

Bird Marella received the 2013 [National Asian Pacific American Bar Association](#) (NAPABA) Law Firm Diversity Award. The inaugural award honors law firms that recruit and retain Asian Pacific American (APA) lawyers and promote them to equity partnership and firm leadership. The award also celebrates law firm successes in recognizing the potential, supporting the promise, and raising the influence of APA lawyers.



"Our firm has a well-established reputation for diversity inclusion and professional excellence within the legal field," said Bird Marella principal [Ekwan Rhow](#), who serves on the NAPABA Board of Directors and Executive Committee. "We are truly honored to be recognized for our efforts and we will continue to promote diversity within our firm."

Bird Marella attorneys demonstrate a commitment to providing elite pro bono counsel for disadvantaged minority groups on an international scale, which includes cases before the Supreme Court of the United States.

ACLU Honors Benjamin Gluck and Benjamin Lichtman with Pro Bono Award

[Benjamin Gluck](#) and [Benjamin Lichtman](#) were honored with the 2013 Criminal Justice Award by the [American Civil Liberties Union \(ACLU\) of Southern California Foundation](#) for their work on *Douglas v. Cooley & Baca*.

Mr. Gluck and Mr. Lichtman represented SoCal ACLU in a writ proceeding successfully challenging the illegal policies of the District Attorney and the Sheriff. Through these illegal policies, the Sheriff's Department and the District Attorney's Office concealed exculpatory evidence in hundreds, if not thousands, of cases. After Bird Marella filed suit, the Sheriff quickly announced that it was rescinding the illegal policy. Several months later, the District Attorney's Office gave in and also changed its policy. Under the new policies of both agencies, all defendants in Los Angeles County will be able to obtain the exculpatory evidence to which they are constitutionally entitled.



Benjamin Gluck

Benjamin Lichtman