



Gary J. Wax

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Gary Wax, an appellate lawyer, represents a wide range of clients in civil appeals and in writ proceedings, including business owners, property owners, insurers, employers, public entities, film finance lenders, film producers, bankruptcy creditors, and trademark holders.

Gary also regularly provides assistance to trial counsel in proposing jury instructions and verdict forms and drafting dispositive motions and oppositions—all with a keen eye toward helping preserve the record for any future appeal. Gary takes pleasure in drafting targeted motions in limine that eliminate entire issues or experts from an adversary's case.

Before joining GMSR as an appellate lawyer, Gary worked in the film industry as a creative executive, where he acquired distribution rights for feature films such as the Oscar-nominated *City of God*. Gary now uses his appreciation for effective storytelling to deliver persuasive briefs and arguments for clients seeking to uphold or reverse their trial court judgments in California state or federal appellate courts.

Gary's top five favorite legal films of all time: *12 Angry Men*, *A Few Good Men*, *The Verdict*, *True Believer*, and *Primal Fear*. Ask Gary about the rest of his top 500 movie rankings.

Some of Gary's important published wins for his clients include:

- *Inzunza et al. v. Naranjo et al.* (2023) 94 Cal.App.5th 736
- *Carachure v. Scott* (2021) 70 Cal.App.5th 16
- *Garcia v. Holt* (2015) 242 Cal.App.4th 600
- *Adamo v. Fire Insurance Exchange* (2013) 219 Cal.App.4th 1286
- *Brown v. Mid-Century Insurance Co.* (2013) 215 Cal.App.4th 841
- *Cardio Diagnostic Imaging, Inc. v. Farmers Group, Inc. et al.* (2012) 212 Cal.App.4th 69
- *Martinez v. Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority* (2011) 195 Cal.App.4th 1038
- *Greenspan v. LADT, LLC* (2010) 191 Cal.App.4th 486

****Call or email Gary when you have ANY questions about how to file a civil appeal in California state court or the Ninth Circuit****



Education

J.D., Loyola Law School of Los Angeles (2009); Loyola of Los Angeles Entertainment Law Review (Chief Note and Comment Editor); Scott Moot Court (Best Brief).

B.F.A., New York University (1994) (Tisch School of the Arts, Film/TV).

Honors

Recognized by Best Lawyers® in *The Best Lawyers in America*® (Appellate Practice) (2025)

Southern California Super Lawyers, Appellate (2024)

Southern California Super Lawyers Rising Stars (2015 – 2019)

Bar Admissions

California

U.S. Court of Appeals: Ninth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals: Second Circuit

U.S. District Courts: Central District of California

Speaking and Involvement

Appellate Tips for Trial Lawyers, Provisors, Valley Lawyers Affinity Group

2024

Special Verdicts: Advantages & Pitfalls, Association of Business Trial Lawyers

2024

Keeping The Lid On The Policy, American Property Casualty Insurance Association

2021

MAXIM-izing Results in Any Insurance Case: How to Use the Maxims of Jurisprudence to Persuade, American Property Casualty Insurance Association

2020

CYA (Coach Your Attorneys): How to Help Your Outside Counsel Preserve the Record for an Appeal, American Property Casualty Insurance Association

2019

Is Dynamex Dynamite? Evaluating Dynamex's Potentially Explosive Effects On Tort Defendants, Employers, And The Gig Economy; Association of Southern California Defense Counsel Seminar

2019

Stop Controlling Me! Recent Legal Developments In Employee/Independent Contractor Classification In The Gig Economy, 29th Annual PCI Western Region General Counsel Seminar

2018

Experts: Can't Live With Them, Can't Live Without Them, 28th Annual ACIC General Counsel Seminar

2017

The Importance of Post-Judgment Motions, MCLE presentation the Los Angeles Law Library

2017

Reptiles, Picassos and Stealth Bombers: Tips for Combatting Plaintiffs' "Reptile" Theory and Other Aggressive Efforts to Inflate Non-Economic Tort Damages, ACIC's 27th Annual General Counsel Seminar

2016

"Secret Agents": The Coverage You Didn't Think You'd Be Providing, ACIC's 26th Annual General Counsel Seminar

2015

Paparazzi Law in a Flash: Examining California's Past, Present and Future, Loyola of Los Angeles Entertainment Law Review Symposium

2011

Professional Associations

Association of Southern California Defense Counsel (ASCDC)

Association of Business Trial Lawyers (ABTL) - Board Member and Co-Editor of ABTL Report

Los Angeles County Bar Association (LACBA)

Beverly Hills Bar Association (BHBA)

DRI - Defense Research Institute

High Impact Wins

Beaudreau v. Burnham USA Equities, Inc. et al. (Aug. 23, 2022, G059971) 2022 WL 3593351
Aug 23, 2022

Carachure v. Scott (2021) 70 Cal.App.5th 16
Oct 07, 2021

Pryor et al. v. Fitness International, LLC (Jan. 3, 2019, B287329) 2019 WL 92775
Jan 15, 2019

Garcia v. Holt (2015) 242 Cal.App.4th 600
Oct 28, 2015

Brown v. Mid-Century Insurance Co. (2013) 215 Cal.App.4th 841
Apr 02, 2013

Greenspan v. LADT, LLC (2010) 191 Cal.App.4th 486
Dec 30, 2010

Publications

MAXIM-izing Results: How to Use Maxims of Jurisprudence to Persuade

Jul 27, 2023

Experts: Can't Live With Them, Can't Live Without Them—Gary Wax's article on limiting expert testimony

Apr 07, 2022

SANCHEZ: Two Years Later

Nov 15, 2018

In Practice: 'Kurwa' Shuts a Door to an Early Appeal

Oct 17, 2013

The "Metaphysical Moment" When a Pipe Begins to Leak Is Not a "Sudden" Discharge Where Damage Only Results From a Gradual or Continuous Process (2013) 2 Verdict 13.

Sep 10, 2013

Your Skills: Between Trial and Appeal, There's a Record, S.F. Recorder

May 27, 2013

Popping Britney's Personal Safety Bubble: Why Proposed Anti-Paparazzi Ordinances in Los Angeles Cannot Withstand First Amendment Scrutiny (2010) 30 Loy. L.A. Ent. L.Rev. 133.

Apr 06, 2010

Cable Company Monopoly: Comcast and Time Warner Control the Board (2009) 28 Loy. L.A. Ent. L.Rev. 159.

Oct 08, 2009
