

NEWS RELEASE

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Keller/Anderle attorneys selected for prestigious
“CLAY Award”
for California Lawyer Attorneys of the Year

IRVINE, CA, MARCH 28, 2019 --- For the second year in row, and the third time over this decade, Keller/Anderle attorneys have been honored with a prestigious *Daily Journal* CLAY Award – *California Lawyer Attorneys of the Year*. All trials were jury verdicts.

This year's award was for Keller/Anderle's successful defense in *Yellowstone Women's First Step House, Inc., et al. v. City of Costa Mesa*. Keller/Anderle LLP secured a complete jury victory for the City of Costa Mesa in this federal lawsuit challenging its group home ordinance. Two sober living home operators and an industry trade group brought the suit in the Central District of California in 2014, arguing that any regulation, no matter how favorable to the disabled, was discriminatory. Other cities had lost lawsuits challenging their own ordinances, settled them, or had been intimidated into not passing ordinances at all. The [Costa Mesa City Council hired Keller/Anderle](#) in March 2018, when it was clear the City would need a complete victory at trial in order to preserve the ability to enforce reasonable regulations on group home operators. After a four-week trial before the Honorable James Selna, the eight person jury returned a unanimous verdict on all counts for the City of Costa Mesa. [Jennifer Keller](#) and [Chase Scolnick](#) were co-lead counsel

and [Anand Sambhwani](#) was second chair, backed by [Shaun Hoting](#), [Nahal Kazemi](#) and [Michael Schachter](#).

This was Keller/Anderle's third CLAY Award. The first CLAY Award was given to Jennifer Keller in 2012 for *MGA Entertainment v. Mattel*, a case she had entered as lead counsel just 12 days before trial. Ms. Keller earned a \$170 million victory for her client MGA. The second CLAY award came in 2018, when Jennifer Keller, Stephen Larson and their trial team were honored for their successful defense of San Bernardino County developer Jeff Burum during a nine-month jury trial in 2017 in *People v. Biane et al.*

About the firm: [Keller/Anderle LLP](#) is among the premier boutique trial firms in California, with a record second to none, and local, statewide and national recognition of the firm's success. The firm handles high-stakes litigation of all types including commercial, intellectual property, securities, bad faith, class actions, white collar criminal defense, and entertainment/sports. Keller/Anderle LLP attorneys have won over \$925 million in judgments, and successfully defended many other high stakes cases. Members of the firm have over 400 jury trials among them. Unique among law firms handling high profile, bet-the-company cases of such a caliber is that both name partners are women, and the firm is [100% women-owned](#).