

Daily Journal

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TOP WOMEN LAWYERS

The Daily Journal's Annual List of
Leading Women Lawyers in California

Lucinda Starrett

Many attorneys can point to a thick book of business as evidence of their success. All Starrett needs to do is point at the Los Angeles skyline.

As the leader of Latham's Energy and Infrastructure Siting and Defense Practice, Starrett has led the firm's successful efforts in scoring some of Southern California's biggest landmark projects over the last few years, representing a combined investment of over \$1 billion.

Construction's now underway on Ten Thousand Santa Monica, a \$50 million residential high-rise tower in Century City Starrett helped secure city approvals for developer Crescent Heights. Their proposed Palladium Residences plan culminated in an unanimous vote of approval from the Los Angeles City Council in March.

Starrett also represents the owners of the city's Major League Soccer franchise, the Los Angeles Football Club, and currently serves in an

advisory role on the group's new soccer stadium in Exposition Park.

She's also Latham's lead representative with Westfield LLC, handling all permit matters for its million square foot mixed-use retail project known as the Village at Westfield Topanga in the Warner Center area of Los Angeles.

Because project approval is a public process, Starrett says the biggest challenge in her job is the pushback from local stakeholders who are concerned about change. Being able to anticipate their concerns over things like traffic or construction management and addressing them ahead of time can help a project move forward more smoothly. Working closely with the ever-busy public agency teams is also critical, as it ensures they have all the information they could need for a thorough administrative record.

"All this takes time, which is why the process of seeking project approvals in California often stretch over multiple years," Starrett said. "But



Latham & Watkins LLP

Los Angeles

Practice Type: Energy and Infrastructure Project Siting and Defense Real estate development

with a commitment to transparency of information and proactive problem-solving, we can achieve success.

— Steve Crighton