

## THE RECORDER

ALM | LAW.COM  
CALIFORNIA  
LEGAL AWARDS  
2024



### REAL ESTATE LAWYER OF THE YEAR FINALISTS: Hilary Strong, Latham & Watkins



Courtesy photo

Hilary Strong, with Latham & Watkins.

Hilary Strong is a partner with Latham & Watkins.

#### **What's your proudest professional achievement of the past year and why?**

My proudest professional achievement of the past year is that I've been able to continue the mentoring work that has been a big part of my career at Latham. I have the opportunity to help colleagues at every level do better in their careers. It speaks well of the collaborative nature of Latham's culture and requires a lot of individual dedication on everyone's part in order to make time for others in the midst of voluminous client work. Keeping that going through the past year hasn't been easy, but it's been well worth it.

#### **What advice would you give to new attorneys specializing in real estate law?**

Don't be afraid to ask lots of questions. The more you ask, the more you learn, and no matter how experienced you are, there is never a wrong time to admit you need

to learn more. Life is a constant learning process; embrace asking questions and get into that habit early.

#### **How is the practice of real estate law changing?**

Real estate law is becoming more complex and involves multiple markets, regulations, and sources of capital within one transaction. Deals today more often require several different specialized areas of expertise, such as both commercial and residential legal issues and working with larger groups of deal sponsors and participants. It's challenging and exciting to see how market pressures are driving new innovations in real estate deals, and being on the legal side gives you the chance to influence how markets better handle these deals in the future.