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LEADERS OF INFLUENCE: Minority Attorneys

LOS ANGELES IS TRULY A NATIONAL LEADER WHEN IT COMES TO INFLUENTIAL PROFESSIONALS WITH MINORITY BACKGROUNDS – and the field of law is certainly no exception. There are many superb attorneys in the LA region who happen to be minorities, which is an important benchmark for an effective legal landscape. The California State Bar has reported that having a diverse legal profession positively impacts the administration of justice, ensures fairness and promotes the rule of law.

We've alphabetically listed 84 of the very best of those professionals here, along with insights and information about their careers, practice and success they've achieved. For our coverage in this issue, we have profiled those standout minority attorneys considered to be particularly impactful on the legal scene while serving as trusted advisors in the LA region. Congratulations to the attorneys who made this list and thank you for working to keep the people and businesses of Los Angeles on the right track.



MARCELLUS MCRAE

Partner; Co-Chair, Trials Practice Group
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP

Marcellus McRae has first-chaired numerous jury trials, bench trials and arbitrations in both federal and state courts. McRae has honed his litigation and white-collar criminal defense practices to focus on a wide variety of complex business disputes, internal investigations, and criminal prosecutions including defense of individuals and corporations.

Among McRae's recent highlights was his work defeating all claims by a prominent crypto investor against AT&T in a cryptocurrency theft. McRae also won an important victory in 2020 in California Court of Appeal for the City of Santa Monica in a case involving the California Voting Rights Act – a win that marked the first victory for any defendant in a California Voting Rights Act case. McRae also represented California schoolchildren in the landmark case, *Vergara v. State of California*, which asserted a state constitutional challenge to laws that prevent school administrators from hiring and retaining the most effective teachers.