

Forty UNDER 40

G. CHARLES "CHIP" NIERLICH

PARTNER, GIBSON, DUNN & CRUTCHER LLP

In 40 words: A complex commercial litigator, Nierlich's practice focuses on defending class actions and antitrust, unfair competition and deceptive trade practice claims. He successfully defended client Cytosport, makers of protein drink Muscle Milk, allowing it to retain its trademark and name though it doesn't contain "milk."

Age: 39

Hometown: Claremont

Education: B.A., Claremont McKenna College; J.D., Harvard Law School

First job: After law

school, I clerked for the Hon. Morris S. Arnold of the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. My first job was as a teacher's aide for a computer class in the summer between 8th and 9th grade.

Word that best describes you: Determined

Second office: Home



For which organizations do you volunteer:

Claremont McKenna College; various pro bono legal matters

Favorite cause: Ending hunger

Favorite escape: Backpacking

Guilty pleasure: Summer blockbuster movies

Greatest professional accomplishment:

Winning the first appeal that I argued.

Stress relief: Wine tasting

Favorite sport/club in which you participated: Tennis

Favorite quote: "Luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity." — Lucius Annaeus Seneca

As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up: Race car driver

Best advice you ever got: Never get discouraged.

Work hours per week: 60-plus

Computer: Mac and PC

Phone: Apple

Goal by 40: Learn to scuba dive.