



## ATTORNEY PROFILES SENIOR PARTNER

### C. D. Michel

Mr. Michel is CEO and Senior Partner at Michel & Associates, P.C. His practice focuses on adversarial litigation and regulatory compliance advice in the fields of firearms law, civil rights, land use, and environmental law. He has been lead counsel in over 50 jury trials.

Mr. Michel is recognized as one of the leading authorities on California and federal firearms law in the country. For over two decades he has played a significant role in advocating and defending individual civil and constitutional rights, and particularly Second Amendment rights, and in helping to shape related legislation. He has been instrumental in crafting some of the most important legal challenges to legislation that infringes on rights guaranteed by the Constitution.

Mr. Michel represents many of the most prominent shooting sports and self-defense civil rights associations in the world, including the National Rifle Association (NRA) and the California Rifle and Pistol Association (CRPA), and has represented many different clients in high profile cases that garnered significant media attention. He is a regular commentator and frequent contributor to national media discussions, and has appeared as a spokesperson for the NRA, CRPA, other associations, and individual clients on dozens of video and radio interviews and in hundreds of newspaper articles.

Mr. Michel is an Adjunct Professor at Chapman University Fowler School of Law in Orange, California, where he teaches firearms law and law practice management. He is the author of the book *California Gun Laws – A Guide to State and Federal Firearm Regulations*. He has also published numerous articles and editorials in the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Daily Journal*, and many other state and national newspapers.

Mr. Michel began his career with a coveted judicial clerkship with United States District Court Judge William J. Rea in Los Angeles. He worked as a criminal prosecutor for the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office as well as for several Southern California cities, and as an advocate with the Los Angeles Federal Public Defender's office. Mr. Michel also practiced environmental and general civil litigation as an attorney at the renowned international law firm of O'Melveny & Myers, LLP. While at O'Melveny, Mr. Michel represented all manner of clients, from individuals to multinational corporations. His varied experience included representing Exxon Corporation in connection with the Exxon Valdez oil spill, and serving as Staff Counsel to the "Christopher Commission" investigating the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) in the wake of the Rodney King incident under the leadership of former Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

Mr. Michel graduated near the top of his class from Rutgers University in New Jersey in 1980 and then from Loyola Law School in Los Angeles in 1989, again near the top of his class. In law school he won two prestigious awards for trial advocacy and writing skills, one through the United States Supreme Court.

Mr. Michel has been profiled in recognition of his work in numerous newspaper, magazine, radio, TV and social media platforms.

## **MANAGING PARTNER**

### **Joshua Robert Dale**

Mr. Dale manages the law firm and is also its lead trial attorney. He practices civil litigation with an emphasis on employment, commercial, and firearms matters. He has extensive alternative dispute resolution training, including experience as a panel neutral for the Los Angeles County Superior Court's Alternative Dispute Resolution panel.

Mr. Dale's employment law experience includes counseling employers on business practices, prosecuting and defending wage-and-hour and employment discrimination claims, and providing biennial sexual harassment training to managers. He has extensive experience in all aspects of California's Fair Employment and Housing Act and federal Title VII litigation against employers.

Mr. Dale has also handled matters involving disability discrimination under the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Fair Housing Act, commercial disputes, real estate investment trust litigation, non-profit corporate governance matters, municipal liability litigation, and civil rights actions. Mr. Dale has tried many matters at the trial court level, has argued matters in front of the California Court of Appeal, and supervises appeals of fundamental civil rights issues in federal courts of appeal.

Mr. Dale's community participation and legal work have earned him plaudits and awards from local business leaders, Congressmen, and community organizations. He has been ranked by his peers on multiple occasions as being in the top two-and-a-half percent of all California lawyers with ten years or less of practice.

Mr. Dale previously was a partner in a law firm in Newport Beach, California. His prior representations include defending commercial businesses from hazardous chemical and mold exposure claims and defending government agencies in employment and contract dispute claims.

Mr. Dale graduated from California State University at Fullerton with a B.A. in Communications in 1997. In 2000, Mr. Dale graduated with cum laude honors from the Pepperdine School of Law with a J.D. and a Certificate in Dispute Resolution.

## **PARTNERS**

### **Anna M. Barvir**

Anna Barvir practices civil litigation with an emphasis on constitutional law and civil rights matters. Her expertise includes legislative analysis, firearms litigation, civil rights advocacy, and general civil litigation. She also assists clients with firearms-related regulatory compliance, including federal firearms licensing and California dangerous weapons permitting.

Ms. Barvir has worked on a number of high-profile cases in constitutional law and self-defense civil rights. Most recently, she assisted in litigating *Peruta v. San Diego*, a challenge to San Diego's strict "good cause" policy for obtaining a permit to carry a concealed firearm. On appeal, the Ninth Circuit recognized the right to bear arms for self-defense extends beyond the home and the county's policy violates the Second Amendment.

She was also an integral part of the *Parker v. California* litigation team that successfully overturned three controversial state laws regulating the sale of ammunition in California as unduly vague in violation of due process. Thanks in large part to Ms. Barvir's appellate advocacy, the trial court's decision was upheld by the Fifth District of the California Court of Appeal. The case is currently before the California Supreme Court.

In 2009, Ms. Barvir graduated *magna cum laude* from Whittier Law School, earning her Juris Doctor and Certificate in Legal Writing. During law school, she served as Executive Editor of the *Whittier Law Review* and Treasurer of the Student Bar Association. Notably, her student-written article was selected for publication in the *Whittier Law Review* and, upon graduation, she was awarded the Whittier Law School Dean's Citation Award for outstanding leadership and service to the law school community.

### **Sean A. Brady**

Sean Brady's practice includes municipal law, legislative advisement, constitutional law, civil rights advocacy, self-defense civil rights litigation, firearm related regulatory compliance advice, and general civil-business litigation. Mr. Brady has worked on high-profile cases in most of these areas. The most recent was a challenge to three state laws regulating ammunition, which Mr. Brady and other attorneys for Michel & Associates, P.C. were successful in having struck down. Mr. Brady's passion for firearms and protecting the liberties of people to own and use them – as well as protecting all civil liberties – brought him into these legal practice areas.

Prior to joining Michel & Associates, P.C., Mr. Brady worked in his family's construction business. Over his many years in the construction industry he worked his way up from basic manual labor, to operating heavy earth-moving equipment, to being involved in every aspect of managing a construction project from planning and permitting through completion. Mr. Brady's experience in the construction industry gives him an invaluable real life perspective in helping clients with construction and business related legal matters.

Mr. Brady received his bachelor's degree in language studies in 2004 from the University of California at San Diego. Mr. Brady can read, write, and speak Spanish proficiently. He attended Western State College of Law, earning his J.D. in 2008. As President of the Western State chapter of the Federalist Society, Mr. Brady organized the First Annual Second Amendment Celebration, an event that continues to provide law school students, many of whom are first-time shooters, an opportunity to be introduced to the world of firearms.

Mr. Brady is a native of Long Beach, California. He attended the same high school as his parents and two of his grandparents. He is now a husband and parent himself. Mr. Brady is an avid surfer, fisherman, and diver. He enjoys target shooting, soccer, and spending time with family and friends to the tune of country and mariachi music. Mr. Brady has a voracious appetite for education and culture. And, as a young man, he worked in construction, warehouses, restaurants, catering services, and beach life guarding to finance his travels around the world – from Japan to Ireland to Costa Rica – as well as his university life. Mr. Brady brings this depth of real-world experience, along with his strong work ethic, to bear for his clients in every legal matter he is involved in.

**W. Lee Smith**

Mr. Smith specializes in environmental, land use and insurance law. His environmental law practice emphasizes cost-recovery litigation under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), the Hazardous Substance Account Act (State Superfund), and related regulatory provisions and common law theories of recovery. Mr. Smith has extensive experience in dealing with defending PRP groups in Superfund sites, representative clients in matters involving federal, state, and local regulatory agencies including the EPA, DTSC, RWQCB, AQMD, as well as local health departments, hazardous materials divisions, public works departments, fire departments, and sanitation departments. In this capacity, Mr. Smith advises and represents clients on regulatory compliance issues, permits, and enforcement orders. In addition, Mr. Smith has experience in CEQA, NEPA, Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, Endangered Species Act, Polanco Redevelopment Act, land use regulations, water law, toxic torts, natural resources, contracts and transactions, business and corporate law matters. Mr. Smith has also served as Special Counsel to bankruptcy trustees representing bankruptcy estates in legal matters pertaining to environmental and insurance issues. Mr. Smith's insurance practice includes bad faith litigation and coverage issues.

With his environmental and business background, Mr. Smith is uniquely qualified to advise and represent clients in real estate transactions, including Brownfields properties and the purchase and sale of properties contaminated or potentially contaminated with hazardous substances or hazardous wastes.

Mr. Smith began his legal career at the Department of the Navy, Office of General Counsel, Western Area Counsel Office, Environmental and Water Law Divisions. He distinguished himself in complex litigation while at the San Diego law firm of Chapin, Fleming, McNitt, Shea & Carter in the environmental department where he worked extensively on *Aguilar v. Pacific Gas & Electric, et al.*, subsequently made famous by the movie "Erin Brockovich."

In 1995 Mr. Smith graduated cum laude with a bachelor's degree in political science from California State University San Marcos. He earned his law degree from California Western School of Law in 1997. While in law school, Mr. Smith worked as a Research Assistant for Law Review and clerked for the Department of the Navy where he worked extensively on environmental and water law matters.

Mr. Smith has been recognized by Southern California Super Lawyers Magazine as one of the top environmental attorneys in Southern California.

## **SPECIAL COUNSEL**

**Matthew D. Cubeiro**

Mr. Cubeiro's primary practice areas include firearm regulatory compliance and litigation. He also assists with local ordinance issues, legislative analysis, civil rights advocacy, and general civil litigation.

Before joining Michel and Associates, Mr. Cubeiro volunteered at the Orange County District Attorney's Office Insurance Fraud Unit, where he received a certificate of honorable service for his work on a high-profile criminal case that gained national media attention.

One of Mr. Cubeiro's primary responsibilities at Michel and Associates is tracking all ongoing firearm related litigation in the United States at both Federal and State Court levels, including

over 300 ongoing cases nationwide. He also serves as the attorney responsible for answering any firearm related questions California residents may have in navigating the complex California firearm regulatory environment.

In addition to practicing firearms law, Mr. Cubeiro is dedicated to the advancement of education and safety for all firearm owners. He is certified by the National Rifle Association as an instructor in Pistol, Rifle, Personal Protection in the Home, Personal Protection Outside the Home, and Metallic Cartridge Reloading disciplines. He is also a certified by the National Rifle Association as a Range Safety Officer.

Mr. Cubeiro is a graduate of Western State University where he received his Juris Doctorate with honors and Certificate in Criminal Law Studies. Before law school, he earned his Bachelor of Arts in business administration with honors from Chapman University.

## **ASSOCIATE ATTORNEYS**

### **Tiffany D. Cheuvront**

Tiffany Cheuvront practices civil litigation and corporate governance law, and comes to the firm with 17 years' experience working in the non-profit and regulatory fields. Over the years, Ms. Cheuvront has written and provided testimony on issues at the local, state, and federal levels of government she has served on many different policy committees including a National Tribal Budget Council and a gubernatorial appointment for work on child welfare and mental health issues.

Ms. Cheuvront graduated from Trinity Law School in 2017 where she was a member of the National Moot Court Team, was Senior Research Editor of the Trinity Law Review, and was awarded the Golden Gavel for best oral argument in the school. Ms. Cheuvront also served as Vice President of Student Education for the Student Bar Association.

Ms. Cheuvront interned for the Pacific Justice Institute, and served as an extern for the Judicial Extern Program in the Orange County Superior Court. Ms. Cheuvront also served as a student board member for the Orange County Women Lawyers Association.

### **Alexander A. Frank**

Mr. Frank's practice is focused on firearms regulation and constitutional rights. Prior to joining Michel and Associates, Mr. Frank was an associate at a large financial services defense firm.

Mr. Frank graduated cum laude with a degree in International Relations from the University of Southern California. He is also a graduate of Loyola Law School, Los Angeles, where he earned first honors in multiple classes.

### **Konstadinos T. Moros**

Mr. Moros practices general civil litigation. Prior to joining Michel and Associates, Mr. Moros practiced employment law in San Diego where he guided hundreds of clients through employment claims, including dozens of government employees who needed counsel in navigating the complex EEOC and MSPB Complaint Processes. Cumulatively, Mr. Moros assisted his clients in achieving millions of dollars in settlements.

Mr. Moros received his bachelor's degree in political science from the University of California, San Diego in 2011. In 2014 he earned his Juris Doctorate from California Western School of Law. He is an activist and advocate for maximizing our Constitutional and natural rights.

## OF COUNSEL

### **Jason A. Davis**

Jason Davis has over 33 years of experience in the California firearms industry. He spent the early part of his career as a representative for several of the nations' leading firearm manufacturers, gaining more than 13 years of practical business and manufacturing experience in the firearms industry before going to law school. This practical experience serves Jason well as counsels sporting goods retailers, firearm manufacturers, dealers, collectors and trade associations in California's firearms, air gun and other weapons-related regulatory compliance matters, including litigation.

From setting up firearms dealers and manufacturers with appropriate licenses, permits, and design classifications from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms and California Department of Justice, to challenging the laws that regulate the industry, Mr. Davis' combination of technical firearms knowledge and legal understanding has made him a prominent figure in the California firearms industry. Mr. Davis has been particularly recognized for successfully guiding clients through the development, design, marketing, and regulatory approval of novel designs of firearms and accessories.

Mr. Davis is a Technical Member of the Association of Firearm Toolmark Examiners, is a Certified Firearms Specialist, and has been approved and appointed by the San Diego California Superior Courts to serve as a Special Master.

In 2009, the California Law Revision Commission issued their Final Report to the California Legislature, which directed them to "study, report on, and prepare recommended legislation by July 1, 2009, concerning the revision of the portions of the Penal Code relating to the control of deadly weapons ...." In that Final Report, the Commission recognized Mr. Davis for his role, stating that "the Commission is especially grateful to Jason Davis . . . , who faithfully attended the Commission's meetings to represent the views of gun owners. . . ."

Mr. Davis co-authored an amicus brief to the United States Supreme Court on behalf of a majority of California District Attorneys and other law enforcement associations in *Heller v. District of Columbia*, the historical case determining that the Second Amendment provides an individual right to bear arms, as well as a similar brief in the *McDonald v. Chicago* case two years later. He has been involved in many high profile and precedent setting cases involving constitutional law, firearms law, and regulatory compliance issues.

Mr. Davis graduated from Loyola Law School in 2002. While at Loyola, he focused on tax and corporate law. He was the Treasurer of the Corporate and Business Law Association and a member of the International Legal Fraternity of Phi Delta Phi.

Davis graduated cum laude from the University of California, Riverside in 1999 with dual degrees in economics and history. His undergraduate writings attributing economics as a key factor in the rise of firearms litigation was accepted for publication by the University of California, Riverside's Cornerstone Journal. While studying economics, he became a member of the international economics honors society, Omicron Delta Epsilon and received numerous honors and the Chancellor's award.

**Joseph Di Monda**

Mr. Di Monda is an architect and attorney who has been recognized as one of the leading catastrophic personal injury lawyers in California. As a former chair of the City of Hermosa Beach Planning Commission and past President of the American Institute of Architects (Long Beach/South Bay Chapter) he has also been recognized as an expert in construction matters. As a member of the American Institute of Architects governmental legislation committee he has been instrumental in crafting and refining legislation related to the construction and real estate industry.

Mr. Di Monda began his legal career with a judicial externship with U.S. District Court Judge Terry Hatter in Los Angeles. He moved on to form his own practice in catastrophic personal injury, insurance bad faith and construction/real estate law. He has obtained multiple seven and eight figure settlements for his injured clients as a result of motorcycle, car and industrial accidents, and recently obtained a \$24 million dollar personal injury judgment for an injured client in the San Diego Superior Court. Mr. Di Monda has a number of appellate opinions to his name, and has argued before the California Court of Appeals on numerous occasions.

Mr. Di Monda holds a Bachelor of Science in Architecture and a Bachelor of Architecture from the City College of New York and a Juris Doctor from Southwestern University School of Law. He holds licenses to practice Architecture in New York and California and is a Member of the State Bar of California.

**Scott M. Franklin**

Mr. Franklin's current practice areas include the following types of litigation: business dispute, environmental, toxic tort, land use, employment, and public record access.

Specific aspects of Mr. Franklin's practice include: mediation, Public Records Act compliance and litigation, insurance coverage disputes, condemnation, and environmental liability under CERCLA, RCRA, HSAA, and common law claims.

Mr. Franklin received his bachelor's degree in business administration from University of the Pacific in 2000. In 2005 he earned his Juris Doctorate from Loyola Law School.

**Michael W. Price**

For the past 20 years, Michael W. Price has maintained a private practice in criminal defense. He has successfully represented clients charged with felonies and misdemeanors throughout California. He is a master negotiator and skilled trial lawyer, and excels in getting the disposition or trial result that his clients want.

Mr. Price has defended many thousands of clients, with charges ranging from shoplifting, drug possession, DUI's, and simple assaults to more serious charges such as possession of illegal weapons, Grand Theft Auto, domestic violence, hit-&-run, and homicide. Mr. Price also represents criminal appellants seeking to challenge their pleas, convictions, or sentences suffered as a result of official misconduct, misapplication of the law, or ineffective assistance of other counsel.

Whether handling a client's matter in preliminary hearing, at trial, or on appeal, Mr. Price understands the emotional toll on his clients, and uses his empathetic and compassionate nature to guide clients through a harrowing process to resolution. As with all clients, Mr. Price is equally passionate about representing clients who get caught up in California's labyrinthine firearm laws. These firearm cases hold a special significance for Mr. Price, because he is a staunch defender of the Second Amendment.

**Tamara M. Rider**

Ms. Rider is a former Associate and currently “Of Counsel” with the firm. Her practice areas include general civil and commercial litigation, labor and employment law, post-judgment collections, intellectual property, and law practice management and technology consulting.

Before associating with Michel & Associates, P.C., Ms. Rider clerked at the Anti-Defamation League, where she performed extensive legal research, writing, and motion practice on topics ranging from free speech and hate crime to discrimination.

Ms. Rider received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication Studies from the University of California, Los Angeles, in 2005. As a member of UCLA’s Women’s Swimming and Diving Team, she was awarded the Athletic Director’s Honor Roll from 2001 to 2005. Ms. Rider earned her Juris Doctor degree in 2009 from Chapman University School of Law, with an Entertainment Law Certificate.