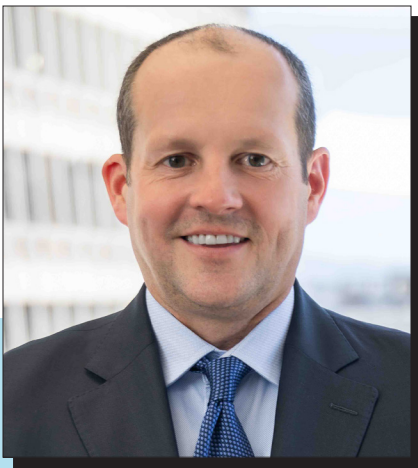


Daily Journal

SEPTEMBER 17, 2025

Top 100 Lawyers 2025



Paul T. Llewellyn

Lewis & Llewellyn LLP
San Francisco

Paul Llewellyn has built his career on an unlikely foundation: childhood dreams inspired by a 1980s television drama. Having practiced for more than 25 years across two continents, he traces his path to California litigation back to watching “L.A. Law” as a boy in England.

“I learned that law could be a noble profession, where lawyers worked with passion and conviction on behalf of their clients,” Llewellyn said. “The show had such an influence on me that by the age of 10, my dream was to be a litigator in California.”

That childhood ambition materialized into a career spanning both sides of the At-

lantic. Llewellyn began practicing in 1998 as an English barrister before moving to California in 2001, where he has established himself in business litigation and civil lawsuits representing survivors of sexual abuse.

In 2023, Llewellyn took on American Airlines in multiple jurisdictions after a male flight attendant secretly filmed young girls using airplane bathrooms over nine months. The firm represents three families across North Carolina and Texas, with one case reaching a confidential settlement and two remaining pending. *Jane Doe v. American Airlines, Inc.* 3:23-CV-819 (W.D. N. Carolina, filed Dec. 1, 2023; 3:25-CV-00593 (W.D. N. Carolina, Aug. 6, 2025); D-1-GN-24-000786, 261st Judicial District, Travis County, TX, filed March 24, 2025).

The American Airlines litigation drew national media attention, particularly when the airline’s former counsel blamed a 9-year-old victim. “American Airlines’ former Texas counsel blamed our 9-year-old client for being filmed, arguing she knew or should have known she was being filmed,” Llewellyn said, referencing coverage that included CNN and other major outlets.

Llewellyn has also tackled complex commercial disputes across international forums. His firm secured a victory for Santa Barbara Polo Club in a trademark dispute with Lifestyle Licensing, owner of the Beverly Hills Polo Club trademark, following a four-day arbitration hearing. *Santa Barbara Polo Club, et al. vs. Lifestyle Licensing B.V., et al.*, 2:21-cv-7989 (C.D. Cal., filed Oct. 6, 2021).

The case involved proceedings across multiple jurisdictions, including the English High Court and California federal court.

In another matter, Llewellyn represented Top Agent Network in an antitrust lawsuit against the National Association of Realtors, challenging rules that would disadvantage private real estate listing networks. *Top Agent Network, Inc. v. National Association of Realtors, et al.*, 3:20-cv-03198 (N.D. Cal., filed May 11, 2020).

The case, which drew support from the U.S. Department of Justice through an amicus brief, successfully reversed a district court dismissal at the 9th Circuit level.

“In these cases, I took on deep-pocketed opponents across multiple jurisdictions — including international forums — while managing intense media scrutiny and protecting client privacy,” Llewellyn said. “As always, the key was staying relentlessly prepared while also staying agile to navigate the twists and turns inevitable in any litigation.”

Llewellyn also penned “Unshackled: Reimagining the Practice of Law,” which became an Amazon bestseller in its first week. “I truly believe the legal profession is long overdue, a wake-up call,” he said.

From television-inspired dreams to international litigation, Llewellyn’s career reflects both personal ambition and professional evolution. “Happily, I found out that the practice of law is just as exciting as that 10-year-old back in England thought it would be,” he said.