

# ANNUAL HALL OF FAME AWARDS DINNER

JUNE 9, 2011

Millennium Biltmore Hotel  
Gold Room

## Honorees



LAWRENCE P. GRASSINI



HON. MARGARET MORROW



JAMES R. ROBIE



## CIVIL ADVOCATE AWARD: Lawrence P. Grassini

**L**arry Grassini was born in Flushing, New York and graduated from St. Bonaventure University in Olean, New York. He earned his J.D. in May 1970 from the Columbus School of Law at Catholic University of America in Washington, DC, married his wife Sharon and immediately traveled west in their Volkswagen bus where he started practicing personal

injury law in North Hollywood.

Over the last 40 years, Larry has tried over 125 jury trials and has had 11 verdicts in excess of \$10 million. He has achieved many of the nation's largest, affirmed and paid damage awards, trial verdicts and judgments affirmed on appeal. His successful verdicts include the largest personal injury verdict in the history of the United States; the largest jury verdict in the history of California and the largest personal injury judgment ever awarded against the City of Los Angeles.

In the late 1980s, Larry won a landmark \$17 million punitive damages award against Metromedia Inc. after the network destroyed all videotapes of television shows starring ventriloquist Paul Winchell after Winchell refused to give up syndication rights. After 14 years of litigation, the California Court of Appeal affirmed what was then the highest punitive damage award in the history of California and the U.S. Supreme Court rejected Metromedia's challenge to the award.

Larry Grassini has been listed as one of the *Best Lawyers in America* since its inaugural volume in the book published by Woodward/White, Inc. *Best Lawyers* selected Larry as Southern California's Best Personal Injury Lawyer this year. He was also named as one of 18 of the most respected Plaintiff Personal Injury lawyers in *California Lawyer*, the official publication of the state bar and was listed in *Los Angeles Magazine* as one of the top 25 lawyers in the state.

Larry Grassini is the past president of CAALA (then known as LATLA) and was twice honored as the Association's Trial Lawyer of the Year. He was recently inducted into the CAALA Hall of Fame. Larry was selected by *Verdictum Juris* (jury publication) as the Plaintiff Trial Lawyer of the Year in an unprecedented three times. He is a member of the Inner Circle of Advocates, a nationally recognized organization consisting of the top 100 trial lawyers in the United States and is a fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers.