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Daily Journal Recognizes Dubeck, Strong as 2020 “Top Women Lawyers”

November 4, 2020



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LOS ANGELES—November 4, 2020—Partners Elizabeth Dubeck and Sabrina Strong have been named to the *Daily Journal's* list of “Top Women Lawyers” of 2020. This highly competitive contest honors the top “100 women lawyers practicing and barred in California.”

The Daily Journal noted Dubeck’s ingenuity in helping guide public-private partnership transactions, where she regularly advises both public and private clients in working together to build and upgrade airports and other public facilities. “Each deal is pretty bespoke,” Dubeck told the publication. “These deals are new enough that there’s a lot of flexibility in the way to structure them. Both the challenge and the fun part of a deal is that you can come from a much more flexible and creative place.”

Some of Dubeck’s recent matters include serving as co-lead on the finance team advising American Airlines in its US\$1.6 billion planned terminal renovation at Los Angeles International Airport, as well as leading a consortium of Vantage Airport Group, RXR Realty, JetBlue Airways, and American Triple I Partners in their US\$3 billion development of a north-side terminal complex at New York’s John F. Kennedy International Airport. Dubeck often finds herself working together with colleagues on environmental, tax, bankruptcy, real estate, and finance matters. “What I like most about my practice is how collaborative it is,” she said. “Everybody is rowing in the same direction. If we get the deal done, everybody wins.”

Strong, co-chair of O’Melveny’s Consumer Class Actions Practice, was recognized for her role defending Johnson & Johnson and its subsidiary Janssen Pharmaceuticals in 3000+ cases pending in the federal MDL litigation in Ohio and in state courts throughout the country. In the nation’s first and only opioid trial to date, which was televised and covered by news outlets across the globe last year, Strong defended J&J against the State of Oklahoma’s claim for over US\$17 billion. She also served as J&J’s representative for media communications at the post-trial press conference and in multiple

interviews with *BBC*, *CBS This Morning*, *CNN*, *CNBC*, *NPR*, and *NBC's The Today Show*. Strong was also slated to try the first MDL bellwether trial in Ohio, but she and the O'Melveny team were able to settle that US\$8 billion claim for US\$20.4 million shortly before trial.

In the Oklahoma case, the Oklahoma Attorney General accused J&J of creating a public nuisance through its opioid sales and marketing, a claim that Strong contested in court. "They are using public nuisance law in a way that's never been recognized in the past hundred years of case law in Oklahoma," she told the publication. "[I] think this case implicates broader questions about the proper limits of the law, where plaintiffs seek inappropriately to blame one set of actors for complex public health and social issues."

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