



Newsletter

## LAPD Sued for Discrimination and Retaliation; Officer Alleges She Was Stalked by Assistant Chief Alfred Labrada

Our firm filed a governmental claim (the precursor to a formal lawsuit) against the LAPD on behalf of an officer who alleges she was harassed when a Deputy Chief surreptitiously placed an Apple tracker on her car, and then was discriminated and retaliated against after filing a report that she was being stalked by the Chief. Despite assurances that her complaint and internal investigations would be kept confidential (which they are required to be), the Plaintiff was contacted by multiple officers throughout the department within 24 hours asking, "Are the rumors true?" This matter was covered by multiple media outlets such as [CBS News](#), [Los Angeles Times](#), [MyNewsLA](#) and more.

## KEEPING YOU INFORMED ON LEGAL MATTERS

### Court Upholds \$2.8M Verdict for Riverside Police Officer in Ticket Quota Retaliation Case

On Oct. 27, the trial court upheld the \$2.8M verdict we secured on behalf of Riverside Motor Officer Shawn Casteel following a month-long trial against the City of Riverside. Casteel, who bravely spoke out against unlawful citation and arrest quotas, remains vindicated. We are now filing our motion for attorney fees as allowed by the whistleblower statute, which will add significant value to the overall recovery, pushing the total close to \$4 million.

### From Crisis to Recovery: Navigating Life-Altering Personal Injury and Product Cases (On and Off The Job for You and Your Families) Since 1994!

Personal injury cases involve a variety of incidents that can end up costing you and your family extensive medical bills, lost wages and personal trauma. We continue to educate clients on PI issues so they understand their rights and can make informed decisions. Learn what happens if you're injured by a faulty product while on the job working.



Follow [@FirstRespondersLaw](#) on Instagram to learn more about topics such as:

- How [IOD and Personal Injury claims](#) directly affect each other.
- [Sam Browne-itis](#) – what it is and why your department must provide reasonable accommodation.
- [Two critical elements](#) for an employment discrimination case.
- How the [Firefighter Bill of Rights](#) can protect you if you're being subjected to an interrogation or potential discipline.
- [Why does justice make sense to juries](#) but not to the elected officials who are supposed to protect you?
- How ["ticket quotas"](#), defined as *any* requirement concerning the number of arrests or citations, is unlawful.
- When is a [public employee's speech](#) protected – or not?
- Two ways you [qualify as a whistleblower](#) under California law.

## PURSUING JUSTICE FOR FIRST RESPONDERS

**\$13.1M VERDICT**

Two Male Officers Discriminated and Retaliated Against on Basis of Their Sex

**\$10.1M VERDICT**

LAPD Captain Discriminated and Retaliated Against

**\$4.3M VERDICT**

23-Year LAPD Veteran Suffered Disability Discrimination and Retaliation

**\$3M SETTLEMENT**

Six City of Los Angeles Firefighters Blew the Whistle on Unsafe LAFD Practices

**\$2.8M VERDICT**

Riverside Officer in Ticket Quota  
Retaliation Case

**\$2.1M VERDICT**

Female LAPD Officer Retaliated Against

**\$1.5M SETTLEMENT**

LAPD Disability Discrimination and  
Retaliation Lawsuit

**\$1.3M SETTLEMENT**

Discrimination and Retaliation Lawsuit  
Against the City of Los Angeles

## GIVING BACK TO

ORGANIZATIONS MAKING A DIFFERENCE



**GRANTING  
SCHOLARSHIPS FOR  
CHILDREN OF FIRST  
RESPONDERS**

We are thrilled to announce the first recipients of the McNicholas & McNicholas First Responder Scholarship: a high school student and a college student with First Responder parents. Each recipient will receive a lump-sum payment of \$15,000 to support their educational endeavors. BOLO for next year's offering...we will be doing it again!



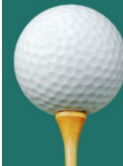
**CONTRIBUTION TO  
SUPPORT OUR  
NATION'S FALLEN AND  
THEIR FAMILIES**

Our firm made a financial contribution to [Honoring Our Fallen](#), which is dedicated to serving our nation's fallen and the families these heroes have left behind by providing comprehensive support, especially during the dignified transfer of remains.



**CELEBRATING  
LAFD STATION 11 AS  
"BUSIEST STATION IN  
THE NATION"**

Partner [Matthew McNicholas](#) met with LAFD Station 11 to thank the firefighters for their service and [celebrate their recognition](#) as the "Busiest Station in the Nation." He also handed out the Firefighter Bill of Rights which gives first



**SPONSORING GOLF  
FUNDRAISERS TO BENEFIT  
FIRST RESPONDER  
NON-PROFITS**

We proudly sponsored several golf tournaments this year, including:

- [Newton Community Youth Activities League's 22nd Annual Golf Tournament](#) "Golf for Kids" [Benefit](#)

responders the strongest on-the-job protections in California. [Contact our office](#) to receive a free copy of the FBOR.

- LAPPL's [41st Annual Chief Daryl F. Gates Golf Tournament](#)
- Los Angeles Mounted Police's [1st Annual Foundation Golf Tournament](#)
- UFLAC Fire Foundation's [Annual Charity Golf Tournament](#)

## RECOGNITION FOR OUR COMMITMENT TO CLIENTS

**Daily Journal**  
Top Labor & Employment  
Lawyers



**LOS ANGELES  
BUSINESS JOURNAL**  
Leaders of Influence:  
Labor & Employment Attorneys

We are honored to have obtained [numerous awards](#) for our achievements in personal injury and employment law matters.

- *Best Law Firms®* - Tier 1: Labor & Employment Law, Personal Injury, Product Liability and Mass Tort / Class Actions
- *TopVerdict* Top 20 and Top 100 Labor & Employment Verdicts 2022
- *Benchmark Litigation* Litigation Stars
- *Best Lawyers* and *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch*
- *Jim Brovelli Award* Outstanding Contributions to University of San Francisco Athletics' Basketball Program



**Best Lawyers®**



American Board  
of Trial Advocates



## EMPLOYMENT LAWYERS FOR FIRST RESPONDERS IN CALIFORNIA

Our labor and employment lawyers are proud to represent first responders when they need protection. We put our years of experience in fighting discrimination, retaliation and harassment to work on behalf of the people who keep our communities safe. Hear more from Partner [Matthew McNicholas](#) below.



### Representing Sworn at the Following Agencies

1. Berkeley Fire Department
2. California Highway Patrol
3. Calimesa Fire Department
4. Compton Fire Department
5. Glendale Fire Department
6. Los Angeles Fire Department
7. Los Angeles Police Department
8. Palo Alto Police Department
9. Pasadena Fire Department
10. Riverside Police Department
11. San Bernardino County Fire Department
12. San Bernardino Police Department
13. San Diego Fire Department
14. San Joaquin County Sheriff Department
15. Santa Barbara Sheriff Department
16. Ukiah Police Department
17. Whittier Police Department
18. Willits Police Department

The image shows a map of California with 18 numbered green location markers. The markers are distributed across the state, with some in the north (1, 14, 16, 18), some in the central and southern regions (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 17), and one in the south (13). The background of the map area features a city skyline at sunset.

# ABOUT MCNICHOLAS & MCNICHOLAS, LLP

For more than three decades, McNicholas & McNicholas, LLP has represented firefighters, police officers, sheriffs' deputies and other government agency members around the state.



## Personal Injury

- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Spinal Cord Injury
- Wrongful Death
- Motor Vehicle Accidents
- Burn Injury
- Amputation Injury
- Construction Accidents



## Product Liability

- Defective Fire Extinguishers
- Defective Machinery
- Defective Press Machines
- Defective Vehicles
- E-Cigarettes



## Wildfire Litigation

- Coastal Fire (Laguna Beach Fire)
- Blue Ridge Wildfire
- Bobcat Wildfire
- Silverado Wildfire
- Dixie Wildfire



## Employment Law

- Employment Discrimination
- Firefighter Claims
- Police Officers / Sheriffs' Deputies Claims
- Sexual Harassment
- Wage & Hour Claims (FLSA)
- Wrongful Termination

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