



Top 75 Women Litigators

How They Got There

The state's trial elite talk about the turning points in their careers and recent cases. Page 4

From left,
Joan M. Haratani,
Elizabeth J.
Cabriner and
Jan Nielsen Little

Photo by Xiang Xing Zhou

Adela Carrasco
Los Angeles

Place of birth: Los Angeles

Law school: Boalt Hall

Law firm: Rosen Saba

Practice area: Business litigation

Last year, Carrasco and partner James R. Rosen represented the plaintiff in the fraud and legal malpractice case of Billy Blanks against law firm Seyfarth Shaw.

After a two-month trial, the jury awarded Carrasco's client \$38 million in damages, the fifth largest verdict in California for 2005.

The case turned a corner in the plaintiff's favor when the court ruled as a matter of law that the defendant's conduct had fallen below the standard of care.

Carrasco, who focuses on legal malpractice cases as well as business litigation, graduated from Stanford University and Boalt Hall.

A turning point in her career came in 2002 when she took on a tenants' rights case and negotiated a \$2.1 million confidential settlement on behalf of her clients. The experience enabled Carrasco's clients to purchase their own homes and



Carrasco to use the law to make a positive impact in people's lives.

"You're essentially their voice," she said. "You give them a voice."

Carrasco is hard at work defending an appeal of the Blanks case.

— Sarah Garvey