

EXTRA

Trials, transactions
and the insider's guide
to the practice of law.

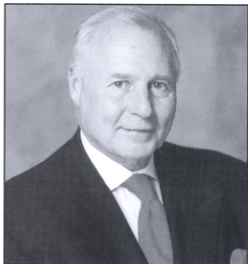
Supplement to the Los Angeles Daily Journal
and San Francisco Daily Journal

TOP 100

Thomas V. Girardi (Name Partner, Girardi & Keese, Los Angeles) — Despite his fame as the king of toxic torts, Girardi rarely raises a stink with opposing counsel. His sweet disposition earned Girardi the Lee B. Wenzel Civility Award this year from the American Board of Trial Advocates, an organization he headed in 2000.

But likability alone does not a reputation make. This year, he's championed the cause of Northridge homeowners to the tune of a \$200 million settlement for earthquake damage to their homes. He also scored \$44 million from The Walt Disney Co. for a client who fell off a ride at the Anaheim amusement park.

Even his lone miscue ended with a \$3 million malpractice settlement against O'Melveny & Myers. Next, Girardi represents New Mexico in a \$1.8 billion suit against General Electric and Chevron for polluting Albuquerque's water supply.



It's hard to imagine a lawyer with more clout than Girardi. Still, his renown is only likely to grow in the years ahead, and those in the know say he's got his eye on the national scene.

— *"It's good to be the king."*