

# Daily Journal

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## Top Women Lawyers

This supplement is devoted to recognizing excellent lawyering and leadership skills among women attorneys in California. To pick a list of 75 litigators and 25 corporate transactions and regulatory specialists, editors at the Daily Journal reviewed hundreds of nominations from law firms, public agencies, nonprofits and universities. Women are helping major litigation and deals and on the cutting edge of regulatory work. They are leaders and rainmakers in their law firms in numbers never seen before.

— The Editors

### Karen E. Silverman

Latham & Watkins LLP, San Francisco

**PRACTICE TYPE:** litigation and regulatory

**SPECIALTY:** antitrust

Silverman said she's a longtime Star Wars fan, so she was a natural to advise Lucasfilm Ltd. on the antitrust implications of its \$4.05 billion acquisition by the Walt Disney Co. The deal included the space opera franchise plus consumer products, animation, visual effects, and audio post production.

"I was delighted that Lucasfilm asked me to come in and oversee the regulatory piece" of the negotiation, she said.

Also on Silverman's crowded calendar: global competition matters arising from transactions, alleged cartels, pricing and distribution issues, as well as consumer protection and privacy concerns.

The 48-year-old managing partner of the firm's San Francisco office is the lead antitrust lawyer advising car sharing company Zipcar on its \$500 million acquisition by Avis Budget Group Inc. And when office products manufacturer and distributor Avery Dennison Corp. sold its office and consumer products business to CCL Industries Inc. for \$500 million, Silverman led the antitrust team for Avery.

In another case of advising a company as it was sold to another, Silverman advised vitamin and nutrition maker Schiff Nutrition International Inc. in its \$1.4 billion acquisition by Reckitt Benckiser PLC, a British multinational consumer goods company. That deal involved regulatory complexities and a bidding war when Reckitt topped an initial \$1.2 billion offer from German rival Bayer Healthcare LLC.

Looking back at a hectic year, Silverman saw a sellers' market. "There were an unusual number of sell-side deals



this past year," she said. "There's no real pattern, and of course I'm prepared to do either side, but it's an interesting lineup."

— John Roemer