

Nina Marino

FOUNDING PARTNER



Nina Marino
CERTIFIED SPECIALIST, CRIMINAL LAW, CALIFORNIA STATE BAR BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION

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FEATURED PRACTICES

- BUSINESS & FINANCIAL CRIMES
- PUBLIC CORRUPTION
- HEALTHCARE FRAUD
- MONEY LAUNDERING
- INTERNATIONAL EXTRADITION
- SENTENCING

Nina Marino co-founded Kaplan Marino, PC with partner Richard Kaplan in 1998 to create a platform for the firm's then-burgeoning white-collar practice. Since then Nina has devoted her practice exclusively to white-collar and complex criminal defense achieving global recognition for her successful representation of individuals. Nina Marino recognized by Chambers USA, says, "Nina Marino has cultivated an excellent reputation in the market for her skillful representation of senior executives in white-collar criminal litigation." Forbes Advisor says, "Nina Marino is frequently recognized as one of the best criminal defense attorneys in California." Clients say, "she is dogged in getting to the bottom of things, but she's smart and flexible. She is very focused on her clients' interests, and she is really top-notch."

LEGAL AND CIVIC LEADERSHIP

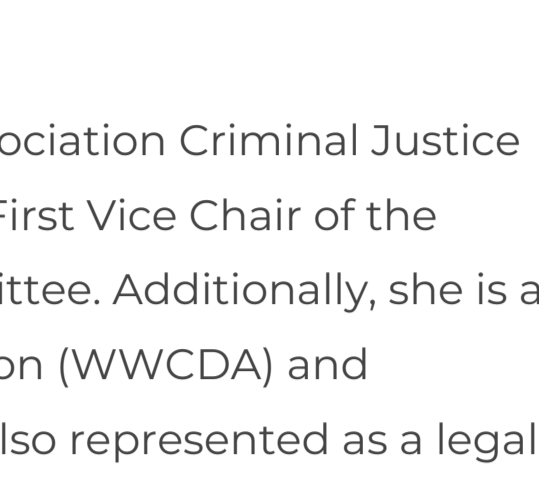
With over three decades of advocacy for women's issues, Nina has significantly contributed to reshaping the gender composition of the ABA's educational programming and frequently speaks at both domestic and international forums. She regularly authors articles and treatises on criminal law and international extradition, including a recent chapter on international extradition in the ABA's International Litigation Strategies and Practice (Third Edition).

Nina is an active member of the planning committee for the National Institute on White Collar Crime, the premier conference in the U.S. where the Department of Justice announces its annual policies on white-collar crime. She also co-chairs the London White Collar Crime Institute and regularly speaks at the Southeast White Collar Crime Conference in Braselton, Georgia. Nina serves on the Executive Board of CSLA, a nonprofit focused on creating college pathways for underrepresented youth and is involved with the Women's Leadership Council in Los Angeles and the Women in Leadership Advisory Board at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

White Collar Talks

A sought-after commentator, author, and speaker, Nina has led discussions at various national and international conferences on topics ranging from international criminal investigations and public corruption to unconscious bias in expert testimony and issues related to virtual currencies and international extradition. She co-hosts the podcast "White Collar Talks with Nina and Joe," which delves into pertinent white-collar issues through guest interviews.

[Listen to the Podcasts](#)



Advancing Criminal Defense Law

As a prominent member in the criminal defense bar, Nina Marino has been honored with the American Bar Association Criminal Justice Section's (CJS) Charles English Award, the highest accolade for excellence in criminal justice. She serves as the First Vice Chair of the Section, the Director for Continuing Legal Education, and the founder of the Women in White Collar Subcommittee. Additionally, she is a founding member and City Leader of the Los Angeles Chapter of the Women in White Collar Defense Association (WWCDA) and established the Criminal Justice Section of the Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles (WLALA). Nina has also represented as a legal representative and was the Appointed Chair of the Ninth Circuit Lawyer Representatives for the Central District of California.

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[TEAM MEMBERS >](#)

RECENT NOTABLE MATTERS

Stunning Defeat for United States Attorney's Office

In a stunning defeat for the United States Attorney's Office, after a ten-week jury trial where the government called 41 witnesses to the stand, it took less than twelve hours for jurors to return not guilty verdicts on all counts for a CEO of a prominent engineering firm in Honolulu. The United States Attorney's Office sought to portray campaign donations to the Honolulu prosecutor's office as bribes. [Nina Marino](#), argued to the contrary, persuasively demonstrating day after day the lack of evidence to substantiate the charges and that the campaign donations were just that: campaign donations and not bribes.

Dismissal of Workers Compensation Fraud Case

Secured the complete dismissal of workers comp fraud case filed against an attorney charged in an illegal referral and kickbacks scheme. Over the course of more than six years, Marino challenged by demurrer each charging instrument and succeeded, leaving the District Attorney with little choice other than to recharge using a different mechanism. After the final dismissal of the case, the Court ordered the dismissal with prejudice, foreclosing the District Attorney the ability to recharge. The District Attorney did not appeal the decision.

Probation Granted for 46 Counts of Misappropriation

Achieved Probation for doctor charged with 46 counts of misappropriation of public funds, embezzlement, and conflict of interest in relation to his management of two hospitals in Central California. Marino was the fourth attorney to represent the client. After intensive negotiations lasting over several months, Marino negotiated a probationary sentence.

Probation Granted for 6 Year Tax Evasion

Probation granted for husband and wife who failed to file and pay taxes for more than 6 years despite living a lavish lifestyle and receiving countless notices. Despite the losses more than \$2.5M, 6 criminal felony charges and an aggravated white collar crime sentencing enhancement which mandates a state prison term, Marino negotiated probationary sentences for both clients, with the wife pleading only to a misdemeanor.

Probation Granted in 39 Count Felony Complaint

Probation granted to tech startup consultant who was charged in a 39 Count felony criminal complaint with defrauding four start up executives by receiving payment for consulting and not providing services. The client was also charged with multiple counts of false personation and an aggravated white collar crime enhancement which mandates a state prison sentence. Marino filed a demurrer to the criminal complaint which resulted in the dismissal of the allegations made by one of the four victims. Marino then focused on the work product performed by her client. Marino was able to establish that two of the remaining three purported victims received work product for their payment to the client opening the door for Marino to negotiate a resolution where the client would pay restitution only to the remaining purported victim, his felony plea to a single count was reduced to a misdemeanor and dismissed in a single day leaving him with no criminal record.

Probation Granted for Federal Charge

Probation granted for family of restaurateurs charged federally with failure to pay taxes. All told there were six members accused. After five years of investigation and negotiation, only three of the seven members were charged and pursuant to creative plea negotiation all received probation.

Federal Case Dismissed against Luxury Bag Designer

Federal Case dismissed against luxury bag dealer charged with customs violations. Our client was an importer/exporter of luxury designer handbags. She was accused of the illegal importation of 100s of luxury bags worth more than half a million dollars as part of an international scheme in which false customs declarations were submitted in the importation of hundreds of Hermes bags from Europe and Asia, cheating the government out of significant duties. But the case began collapsing once we conducted our own investigation and litigated the actual falsity of the declarations which ultimately challenged the materiality requirement for the false statement regarding the bags' actual values to Customs, a highly technical issue. Marino argued that the bags still would have entered the United States even if there were no false statements and thus the crimes, as charged, did not actually occur. On Jan. 26, U.S. District Judge Jeffrey S. White of the Northern District of California approved the government's request to fully dismiss its criminal charges, bringing an end to nearly six years of litigation and negotiation.

Case Dismissed for Workers Compensation Fraud

Case dismissed against businessman charged with workers compensation fraud for failure to pay workers compensation premiums for his employees. The charges alleged losses exceeding half a million dollars. Marino researched and investigated the issue and presented compelling evidence to the District Attorney. After consideration of that evidence, the LA District Attorney dismissed the case.

Probation Granted in 27 Count Insurance Fraud

Probation granted in an insurance fraud case charging 27-counts despite prosecutor's view that the client was one of the main masterminds in an 18-defendant felony insurance fraud scheme. After effectively presenting the deficiencies in the case to the District Attorney's Office, the prosecution changed their opinion of the client's role in the overall scheme. A deal was reached wherein the client would pay full restitution and receive probation. Later, due to COVID and the impact the pandemic had on the client's business, the deal was renegotiated so the client could pay only part restitution and still receive probation. The initial offer by the District Attorney's Office was 8 years.

Probation Granted in \$150 Million Insurance Fraud

Probation granted for tax preparer indicted for multiple counts of money laundering, capping, and tax fraud in a \$150M insurance fraud scheme. Over the course of several years, a series of hearings on motions to dismiss were filed and heard that strategically dismantled the case. Ultimately, all of the laundering counts (10 total), all the capping counts (2 total), and all the tax fraud counts (4 total) were dismissed by the court. Faced with the likelihood of having the final single conspiracy count dismissed, the District Attorney's Office dismissed the case in its entirety only to refile a severely-scaled-down criminal complaint charging only the money laundering and conspiracy counts. After exposing the weaknesses in the prosecution, the case was resolved for a \$5,000 restitution payment and two years' probation.

ACCOLADES

CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS BAND 3 LEADING LAWYER, WHITE-COLLAR CRIME & INVESTIGATIONS, 2024
 FORBES ADVISOR, BEST CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYERS IN LOS ANGELES, 2024
 BEST LAWYERS® IN AMERICA, 2019-2025
 US NEWS AND WORLD REPORT, 'BEST LAWYERS IN AMERICA', 2019-2024
 LAWDRAGON 500 LEADING LITIGATORS IN AMERICA, 2023-2024
 DAILY JOURNAL TOP WHITE COLLAR ATTORNEY, 2020-2024
 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SUPER LAWYER, 2004-2023
 INSPIRATIONAL WOMEN AWARD NOMINEE, 2023
 'LEGAL VISIONARY' BY LOS ANGELES TIMES, 2021, 2023, 2024
 NATION'S LEADING LAW FIRMS BY CHAMBERS USA, 2021-2024
 LA BUSINESS JOURNALS 'WOMEN OF INFLUENCE', 2019, 2023, 2024
 TOP LAWYER IN AMERICA BY LAWDRAGON, 2023

TOP 50 WOMEN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SUPER LAWYERS LIST, 2023
 INSPIRATIONAL WOMEN AWARD NOMINEE, 2022
 TOP BOUTIQUE LAW FIRM IN CALIFORNIA, 2022
 TOP 100 LAWYERS BY THE LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL, 2022
 'WOMEN OF INFLUENCE-ATTORNEYS' BY LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL, 2022
 'TOP WOMEN LAWYERS' CALIFORNIA BY DAILY JOURNAL, 2016, 2018-2022
 WHO'S WHO LEGAL-VVWL BUSINESS CRIME DEFENSE, 2022
 LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL 'MOST ADMIRABLE LAW FIRMS', 2020
 LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL 'LEADERS IN LAW' AWARDS, 2020
 LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP AWARDS, 2020

MANAGING PARTNER AWARD AT THE WOMEN INFLUENCE & POWER IN LAW AWARDS, 2020
 CALIFORNIA LAWYERS ASSOCIATION SOLO AND SMALL FIRM SECTION 'EXCELLENCE IN PRACTICE', 2020
 LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL 'TOP WOMEN ATTORNEYS', 2020
 INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY EXPERT-WHITE-COLLAR CRIME LAW AWARD, 2020
 THE NATIONAL LAW JOURNAL LIST OF 'ELITE BOUTIQUE TRAILBLAZERS', 2019
 LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL 'LEADERS IN LAW', 2019

LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL 'MOST INFLUENTIAL WOMEN ATTORNEYS', 2018
 AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION, CRIMINAL JUSTICE SECTION 'CHARLES ENGLISH AWARD', 2017
 LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL 'MOST INFLUENTIAL LAWYER', 2015

MEDIA MENTIONS

"Nina is a really tenacious, hard-working defender who gets fantastic results for her clients." "She is truly unique in her field." Cited in [Reviews for the firm's strengths](#).
 - Chambers USA

"Nina Marino is frequently recognized as one of the best criminal defense attorneys in California."
 - Forbes Advisor

"Nina is a rockstar. As a true trial lawyer, she has handled considerable amounts of both state and federal cases. On top of this, she is a real thought leader in the industry-pure excellence all around." Cited in [Reviews for the firm's notable practitioner](#).
 - Chambers USA

NINA MARINO QUOTED IN LAW360 ARTICLE "TRUMP'S POTENTIAL WITNESS COULD BE DEFENSE 'DYNAMITE' - 2024

NOT GUILTY: EX-HONOLULU PROSECUTOR KEITH KANESHIRO, BUSINESSMAN DENNIS MITSUNAGA AND OTHERS WALK IN BRIBERY CASE - 2024

'VINDICATED': EX-CITY PROSECUTOR, CAMPAIGN DONORS FOUND NOT GUILTY IN FEDERAL BRIBERY - 2024

NINA MARINO QUOTED IN SALON ARTICLE REGARDING DONALD TRUMP DOCUMENTS CASE - 2023

NINA MARINO QUOTED IN SALON ARTICLE: LEGAL EXPERTS WARN TRUMP'S THREATS COULD RESULT IN "MISTRIAL"; JUST ONE JUROR "CAN NULLIFY THE LAW" - 2023

NINA MARINO MENTIONED IN USAHERALD ARTICLE - 2023

NINA MARINO QUOTED IN LAW360 ARTICLE "AVENATTI LOSES 'MERITLESS' 2ND CIR. APPEAL OF NIKE CONVICTION" - 2023

NINA MARINO QUOTED IN LAW360 ARTICLE "PAXTON WALKS CONSTITUTIONAL TIGHTROPE IN IMPEACHMENT CASE - 2023

NINA MARINO QUOTED IN LAW360 ARTICLE REGARDING WEINSTEIN TRIAL - 2023

NINA MARINO INTERVIEWED BY CHANCE SEALES OF SCRIPPS NEWS REGARDING ALEX MURDAUGH MURDER TRIAL - 2023

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SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS & ADDRESSES

2024

RICK KAPLAN AND NINA MARINO SPEAK AT ABA ANNUAL SOUTHEASTERN WHITE COLLAR CRIME INSTITUTE, BRASELTON, GA - SEP 5, 2024

NINA MARINO SPEAKS ON "WHITE COLLAR TALKS: THE SOUTHEASTERN WHITE COLLAR CRIME INSTITUTE - HOW IT STARTED AND WHY YOU SHOULD BE THERE" - AUG 20, 2024

FOUNDING PARTNER NINA MARINO WAS HONORED TO BE INVITED TO SPEAK AT THIS YEAR'S NINTH CIRCUIT JUDICIAL CONFERENCE. - JUL 24, 2024

JOIN THE BEVERLY HILLS BAR ASSOCIATION AND FOUNDING PARTNER NINA MARINO FOR THE PREMIERE OF "BEHIND THE VERDICT" SERIES. - JUL 18, 2024

NINA MARINO SPEAKS ABOUT HER 10-WEEK CORRUPTION TRIAL WIN TO BEVERLY HILLS BAR ASSOCIATION - JUN 27, 2024

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FEATURED PUBLICATIONS

Opioid Litigation in America – The Blame Game
 Opioid Trials and Brady Rights
 Piling On: Unresolved Issues Regarding Voluminous Discovery
 Chapter 16: International Extradition, International Practitioner's Deskbook Series: International Litigation Strategies and Practice, 3rd Edition, American Bar Association

Change Is Coming, Daily Journal
 Defending Against International Extradition from the United States, NACDL
 The Dark Side of Bitcoin, Los Angeles Lawyer
 Wanted By Interpol, ABA Criminal Justice Magazine

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EDUCATION AND BAR ADMISSIONS

Certified Specialist, Criminal Law California State Bar Board of Legal Specialization

University of LaVerne School of Law, California, JD, 1989
 University of Miami, Florida, BA, 1985
 University of London, England, 1984, 1986

Bar Admissions
 California, 1989
 U.S. Supreme Court, 1996
 U.S. Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit, 1990
 U.S. District Courts throughout the U.S.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

American Bar Association, Criminal Justice Section
 First Vice Chair, 2024–Present
 Vice Chair at Large, 2022–2024
 Special Advisor to Council, 2021–2022
 Council Member, 2019–2021
 Board Member, Standards Committee, 2017–Present
 Co-Chair Continuing Legal Education Committee, 2012–Present
 Section Officers Conference Liaison, Standing Committee on Continuing Legal Education, 2016–2017
 Founder and Co-Chair, Women in White-Collar Subcommittee, 2013–2019
 Co-Executive Director, Communication, Membership and Services Division, 2012–2019
 Vice Chair at Large, 2009–2011
 Council Member, 2005–2008
 Co-Chair, Solo and Small Firm Committee, 2007–2008
 Co-Chair, Defense Function Committee, 2001–2002
 U.S. Attorney Liaison, White-Collar Crime Committee, West Coast Chapter, 2000–2001

ACADEMIC AND EXPERT APOINMENTS

Advisory Board Member for the UCSB PaCE Extension, Women in Leadership Executive Program at University of California Santa Barbara, Professional and Continuing Education, 2022–2023

Qualified Expert in Criminal Law by the Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia in the Hague Return Proceeding of Department of Communities & Justice v. Mason BRC4399/2023

Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles

Founder and Chairperson, Criminal Justice Section, 1997–2019
 Board of Governors, 1996–2019

Women's White-Collar Defense Association

Founder and City Leader, Los Angeles, 2013–Present

CSLA, College In Five

Executive Board of Directors, Los Angeles, 2015–Present

BOARDS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Member of the CHIEF network
 Member of the Women's Leadership Council

Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals Judicial Conference Law Awards Representative
 Co-Chair, 2017–2019
 Member, 2015–2017
 Member, 2003–2007

United States District Court, Central District of California Standing Committee on Discipline
 Section Chair, 2012–2018

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