

Richard Kaplan

FOUNDING PARTNER



Richard Kaplan

[LinkedIn](#)
[vCard](#)
[PDF Bio](#)

FEATURED PRACTICES

- CRIMINAL DEFENSE
- WHITE-COLLAR DEFENSE
- FRAUD
- DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
- VEHICULAR OFFENSES
- VIOLENT CRIMES
- NARCOTICS
- SEX OFFENSES
- SENTENCING

Co-founding Kaplan Marino, PC in 1998 with Nina Marino, Richard pioneered a transformative approach to white-collar defense. His distinctive perspective, honed outside governmental constraints, challenges conventional legal paradigms with innovative defense theories and compelling evidence that resonate persuasively with prosecutors and judges alike.

LEGAL AND CIVIC LEADERSHIP

Richard Kaplan's leadership spans prestigious roles such as former President of the Beverly Hills Bar Association and Chair of its Solo and Small Firm Section. He also chaired the State Bar of California Solo and Small Firm Section and received the Excellence in Practice Award in 2020. His influence extends to the national level, having served on the Executive Council for the National Conference of Bar Presidents and the 2000 Rampart Independent Review Panel established by the Los Angeles Board of Police Commissioners.

Renowned in High-End Legal Circles

Richard Kaplan stands at the pinnacle of criminal defense law, trusted by discerning clients in big law, elite legal boutiques, and governmental spheres. With over 36 years of unparalleled expertise, Richard has garnered acclaim for his adept handling of complex legal challenges, often achieving outright dismissals. His clientele includes esteemed lawyers, referred by judges and political figures who recognize his mastery in mental health aspects of defense. Richard is sought after for his profound insights into factual intricacies, making him a coveted consultant among legal peers. Confidentiality is the cornerstone of his practice, underpinning his trusted relationships with colleagues and clients alike.

Authority in Legal Education

A sought-after speaker, Richard addresses audiences on a range of legal topics, from ethical dilemmas in civil disputes to the implications of domestic violence, AI, and cryptocurrency in law. His engagements include prominent platforms such as the State Bar of California Annual Meeting, the ABA National Institute on White Collar Crime, and various ABA conferences.

Innovative Strategies in Criminal Defense

Richard Kaplan's practice excels in safeguarding the interests of high-net-worth individuals, entrepreneurs, entertainers, and corporations facing serious criminal allegations. His pioneering negotiation strategies have resulted in numerous favorable outcomes, including acquittals, no-charges-filed resolutions, probation terms, and record expungements. He maintains robust partnerships across legal spheres, facilitating alternative defense approaches supported by a network of experts in psychology, medicine, and treatment modalities.

Navigating Complex Legal Landscapes

Richard's advocacy extends to navigating heightened prosecutorial scrutiny, such as building code violations post-Ghost Ship tragedy. Representing prominent property owners, including hotels, family offices, and REITs, he addresses multifaceted legal challenges with insights that transcend conventional real estate compliance.

TEAM MEMBERS >

RECENT NOTABLE MATTERS

Healthcare Fraud Dismissal

We represented an individual who was accused of receiving \$775,000 in illegal kickbacks for prescribing and dispensing allegedly unneeded medications. This prosecution was part of the larger Landmark case which alleged a multimillion-dollar fraud. After executing search warrants, the prosecution viewed attorney-client privileged documents. After more than five years of litigation, the Orange County District Attorney's office agreed to dismiss the case.

World Champions Son's Matter Declined

We represented the son of a world-champion boxer who was stopped while waiting in the valet line at a nightclub. The police searched his vehicle without his permission and a loaded firearm was discovered. Before the filing of charges, we presented to the prosecution that the search of the vehicle was without probable cause and therefore illegal. No charges were filed.

Revenge Porn Case Dismissed

We represented an individual who was accused of sending salacious photos of an ex-girlfriend to her employer. The allegation was more than three years old. We brought a motion citing the unreasonable and unjustified delay in prosecution and alleged our client was prejudiced. We prevailed on the motion and the case was dismissed.

Conviction Vacated Due to Failure to Advise on Immigration Consequences

We represented a client who was convicted of Operating a Drug House under Health and Safety Code 11366. At the time of the plea, his attorney failed to advise him of the immigration consequences of the plea. We obtained a declaration from the attorney confirming our client's recollection. A motion to Vacate the Plea was filed; the court granted it; and the case was dismissed.

Musician Battery Case Dismissed

We represented a professional musician who was accused of a battery against a female employee at an industry event. After more than a year of negotiations, the case was dismissed.

University Senior Accused of Date Rape Results in No Charges

We represented a university senior who was accused of sexually assaulting a girl he dated during his freshman year. The allegation was brought more than two years had passed. After a thorough investigation that obtained statements from multiple witnesses disputing the accuser's account, no charges were filed.

University Professor Battery Allegation Declined

We represented a university professor who was accused of assaulting a shuttle driver at LAX. We immediately disputed the allegation and requested any video of the incident. After learning the surveillance cameras on the bus that day were not operational the matter was referred to a city attorney office hearing. No charges were filed.

Entrepreneur Arrested at Airport With a Loaded Firearm

We represented a businessman who was charged with bringing a loaded firearm through a secure area at an airport. He was traveling with his family and had spent a holiday with his terminally ill father. He gathered many of his father's personal items to take back to his home in Texas. The gun he learned to shoot as a child was one of the heirlooms. Most of the items went home in a container but the weapon was inadvertently placed in his computer bag. While passing through TSA security with his family the gun was discovered. He told TSA his story and they cited him and allowed him to return home. Six months later the DA charged him and refused to dismiss the case. The judge granted him diversion and after he completed a gun safety class the case was dismissed.

An intoxicated Woman Who Refused to Wear a Mask on an Airplane was Arrested

We represented a woman who was arrested for being intoxicated on an airplane and refusing to wear a mask. She was pulled off the plane and arrested. No charges were filed.

Businessman Accused of Assaulting His Partner and a Security Guard and Possessing a Gun

We represented a business owner who was accused of assaulting his partner, a security guard and illegally possessing a firearm. After investigation and explaining there was a deeper business dispute behind the allegations, no charges were filed.

COVID 19 Regulations Violations

We continue to represent people accused of violating COVID regulations in homes and businesses. To date, Kaplan has succeeded in having all charges dismissed.

Family 911 Call for Help Ends in Arrest

We represented a man arrested for interfering with and assaulting a police officer after his family called 911 because another family member had a seizure and died. The case was dismissed.

Venice Beach Self-Defense

We represented a former Navy Seal who was accused of assault in front of his home in Venice Beach after observing a trespasser urinating in a doorway. After a thorough investigation and presentation to the LAPD, the DA declined to file charges.

\$500,000 Embezzlement Allegation

We represented an individual in an investigation in which he is accused of misappropriating approximately \$500,000 from a religious institution. After a thorough investigation and discussions with representatives of the alleged victim, no criminal charges were filed.

Multiple Sexual Assault Allegations End With Probation

We represented an individual who was accused of sexually assaulting three women while they were intoxicated. None of the women knew each other, and each brought the allegations to different law enforcement agencies. The client spent three days in custody after entering a plea to one felony count of assault and one misdemeanor count of Sexual Battery and was placed on probation.

Death of Officer Nets Four-Year Sentence

We represented an individual who was driving with alcohol and drugs in his system and ran a red light causing an accident with another vehicle, and killing the driver, an off-duty police officer. The client has entered a plea to vehicular manslaughter and was sentenced to four years at halftime. The client has been released from custody.

ACCOLADES

FORBES ADVISOR, 'TOP 10 BEST CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYERS, 2024
LAWDRAGONS '500 LEADING LITIGATORS IN AMERICA,' 2024
BEST LAWYERS 'BEST LAWYERS IN AMERICA,' 2020-2025
LOS ANGELES TIMES 'LEGAL VISIONARIES,' 2021, 2023
SUPER LAWYERS, 'SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SUPER LAWYER,' 2022-2024
LOS ANGELES TIMES 'BUSINESS OF LAW' RECOGNITION ISSUE, 2021-2022

LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL, 'LEADERS OF INFLUENCE: LITIGATORS & TRIAL LAWYERS,' 2021-2022
CALIFORNIA LAWYER ASSOCIATION, SOLO AND SMALL FIRM EXCELLENCE, EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE WINNER, 2021
LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL 'TOP 100 LAWYERS,' 2022
LOS ANGELES BUSINESS JOURNAL 'LEADERS IN LAW' AWARDS, 2020

MEDIA MENTIONS

- RICHARD KAPLAN QUOTED IN FOX NEWS REPORT: HARVEY WEINSTEIN RAPE CONVICTION OVERTURNED: #METOO MOVEMENT WILL NEED TO 'ADJUST' STRATEGIES, EXPERT SAYS - 2024
- BOSTON BOMBER CASE OFFERS CLUES FOR TRUMP JURY SELECTION - 2024
- RICHARD KAPLAN QUOTED IN LAW 360 ARTICLE TRUMP, GIULIANI LEGAL WOES REMIND ATTYS TO GET PAID FIRST - 2023
- RICHARD KAPLAN DISCUSSES MINIMUM SENTENCING LAWS WITH SCRIPPS NEWS - 2023
- RICHARD KAPLAN TALKS TO THE DAILY JOURNAL ABOUT THE IMPLICATION OF THE CHARGES AGAINST ALEC BALDWIN - 2023
- RICHARD KAPLAN QUOTED IN DAILY BEAST ARTICLE ABOUT ALEC BALDWIN CHARGES - 2023
- KAPLAN MARINO'S RICHARD KAPLAN DISCUSSES THE IDAHO COLLEGE STUDENT MURDERS AND WOMAN ACCUSED OF MURDERING HER STEP FATHER ON COURT TV - 2023
- KAPLAN MARINO'S RICHARD KAPLAN DISCUSSES THE PARKLAND SHOOTING AND KRISTIN SMART CASES ON COURT TV - 2022
- RICHARD KAPLAN IS QUOTED IN THE LA TIMES DISCUSSING THE ALEC BALDWIN PROP GUN SHOOTING LEGAL RAMIFICATIONS - 2021
- RICHARD KAPLAN IS QUOTED IN AP NEWS ARTICLE REGARDING BRITNEY SPEARS CONSERVATORSHIP - 2021

READ MORE >

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS & ADDRESSES

2024

ABA LONDON WHITE-COLLAR CRIME INSTITUTE, LONDON, GB
- OCT 14, 2024

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

ABA NATIONAL WHITE-COLLAR CRIME INSTITUTE, SAN FRANCISCO, CA
- MAR 7, 2024

2024 NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF BAR PRESIDENTS, LOUISVILLE, KY
- FEB 1, 2024

[Read More...](#)

EDUCATION AND BAR ADMISSIONS

University of California, Santa Barbara, 1983
Pepperdine University School of Law, JD, 1987

Bar Admissions, California, 1998
U.S. Supreme Court, 1998
U.S. Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit, 1998
District Courts throughout the U.S.

BOARD AFFILIATIONS

Beverly Hills Bar, Board of Governors, 1991-1992, 2013-2019, 2023-Present
National Conference of Bar Presidents, Executive Council, 2018-2021
Chair, Metropolitan Bar Caucus, 2019
Beverly Hills Bar Association, President, 2017-2018
Los Angeles County Bar Association Board of Governors, 2016-2017
Chair, Solo and Small Firm Section of the State Bar of California, 2004
Beverly Hills Bar Barristers, President, 1992-1993

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Bar Association
National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
California Attorneys for Criminal Justice
Criminal Courts Bar Association
Los Angeles Criminal Courts Inn of Court