

**May 6, 2025 Press Release**  
**California Academy of Appellate Lawyers Announces**  
**New Officers and Two New Members**

The California Academy of Appellate Lawyers is pleased to announce that it elected its officers for the 2025-2026 year and admitted two new members at its May 4, 2025 meeting: Neil Sawhney and Claudia Ribet.

The new officers are:

- Sean M. SeLegue of Arnold & Porter, San Francisco, President;
- Benjamin G. Shatz of Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP, Los Angeles, Vice President;
- Judith E. Posner of Benedon & Serlin, LLP, Woodland Hills, Treasurer; and
- Nathaniel P. Garrett of Jones Day, San Francisco, Secretary.

Mr. Sawhney is the director of appellate advocacy at the ACLU of Northern California. He received his B.A. from Harvard College and his J.D. from Stanford Law School. After law school, he clerked for Marsha Berzon of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and Goodwin Liu of the California Supreme Court.

Ms. Ribet is Counsel at the Complex Appellate Litigation Group. She is a Certified Appellate Law Specialist and a Certified Family Law Specialist by the State Bar of California. Ms. Ribet received her B.A. with high honors from Oberlin College and her J.D. from Antioch Law School.

Founded in 1972, the Academy is the nation's oldest lawyers' organization dedicated to appellate practice. Our members are California lawyers with substantial appellate experience, who are elected to membership after rigorous scrutiny of their reputation, character, and appellate advocacy skills. Academy members are frequently counsel of record in the most complex and highest-impact cases before the California Supreme Court, California Courts of Appeal, and federal appellate courts.

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More information about the Academy appears on its website at [www.CalAppellate.org](http://www.CalAppellate.org).