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Stephen J. Kaufman Named one of Los Angeles' Most Influential Leaders

LOS ANGELES – September 8, 2016 – The *Los Angeles Business Journal* has named political attorney [Stephen J. Kaufman](#), founder of Kaufman Legal Group, to its inaugural, “The Los Angeles 500,” a directory of the city’s most influential people.

Published in August, “The Los Angeles 500” is comprised of business and civic leaders throughout Los Angeles who are shaping its future. Kaufman is joined on the list by such luminaries as director/producer J.J. Abrams; Clippers owner Steve Ballmer, the former CEO of Microsoft; the Reverend Gregory J. Boyle, founder of Homeboy Industries; businesswoman Arianna Huffington; and Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas.

“We have endeavored to shape your get-things-done directory, a guidebook to the people in town who make an impact,” said Matthew A. Toledo, publisher and CEO of the *Los Angeles Business Journal*. “Building a region such as ours takes talents of all kinds—dealmakers, financiers, visionaries, grinders.”

The *Los Angeles Business Journal* determined who was worthy of inclusion by reviewing its own reportage and by consulting influencers.

“Our editors looked for people whose quiet presence in the area belies the influence they hold,” Editor Jonathan Diamond wrote in explaining the *Business Journal*’s methodology. “We looked at institutions outside our traditional coverage areas - universities, arts organizations, nonprofits – and solicited advice and guidance from well-connected friends and associates.”

The *Los Angeles Business Journal* noted that Kaufman is a recognized authority in the field of campaign finance and election law, and an expert in voting systems and election procedures, having served as a recount attorney for the Gore-Lieberman campaign in Florida after the 2000 presidential election.

Kaufman founded Kaufman Legal Group in 1996. The leading political law firm, with offices in Los Angeles and Sacramento, represents elected officials, candidates, PACs, labor unions, corporations, non-profit organizations, ballot measure campaigns, political parties, major donors, lobbying firms and government agencies on a wide variety of campaign finance, election and governmental ethics matters.

Kaufman, previously one of California Law Business magazine’s top 20 attorneys under 40, is a past recipient of the California State Bar's Wiley W. Manuel Award for his commitment to pro bono legal services.

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