



Doug Rothen

Partner

San Diego

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Overview

Douglas Rothen is a distinguished trial attorney recognized for his dynamic advocacy and unwavering commitment to clients nationwide. As a partner at DiCello Levitt, Doug's practice is focused on single-event catastrophic injuries and sexual abuse litigation.

Doug has secured numerous significant verdicts and settlements, achieving justice and substantial compensation for victims of traumatic brain injury, paralysis, amputation, catastrophic orthopedic loss, severe sensory impairments, and wrongful death. He has obtained multiple seven- and eight-figure awards, including a more than \$25 million settlement in product defect cases, a \$14.5 million personal injury settlement involving a cycling accident, and a \$9 million award for defective roadway design where pedestrians were struck by an errant vehicle. He was also part of the landmark \$114 million settlement against the prison in Dublin, California, in which each victim was awarded an average of \$1.2 million.

In his advocacy for survivors of sexual abuse, Doug has secured landmark settlements and verdicts in complex cases against powerful entities and individuals. Most recently, Doug was Liaison Counsel in a historic \$4 billion settlement for survivors of sexual abuse in Los Angeles County's juvenile detention and foster care systems—the largest payout of its kind in U.S. history. He represented over 2,000 individuals subjected to sexual abuse, assault, and harassment while incarcerated in California jails and prisons, addressing systemic abuses such as those at the Federal Correctional Institution in Dublin, within the Los Angeles County juvenile justice system, and at various women prisons in California, all known as sites of rampant misconduct.

A respected leader within the legal community, Doug has been an active member of the American Association for Justice, holding key leadership roles to influence legislation protecting vulnerable populations. Additionally, his service with the Consumer Attorneys of California (CAOC) and Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles (CAALA) reflects his commitment



to ensuring fair treatment for victims of corporate misconduct. He also has authored numerous articles in prominent legal journals and magazines on topics ranging from workers' compensation to rights of sexual abuse survivors to the use of experts in product liability cases.

Practice Areas

CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS LITIGATION

ENVIRONMENTAL LITIGATION

MASS TORT LITIGATION

PERSONAL INJURY

PRODUCT LIABILITY

Education

California Western School of Law, J.D. University of Michigan, B.A.

Representative Matters

John Roe v. County of Los Angeles. Served as Liaison Counsel in a \$4 billion settlement of a mass tort involving juveniles who were subject to rampant sexual misconduct while in custody or foster care with the County of Los Angeles. This is the largest sexual abuse settlement of its kind.

Represented multiple plaintiffs against a confidential kitchen appliance manufacturer. Achieved more than \$25 million in settlements for defectively manufactured and designed personal blender that exploded, resulting in burns and lacerations.

Montes v. 4 Same Day Transportation et al. Contributed to securing a \$14.5 million settlement for a client who was struck from behind while riding his bicycle by a logistic broker who was carrying pharmaceutical drugs. Argued up-chain distribution liability for a nondelegable duty to deliver goods.

Falcon v. Cal Trans. Facilitated a \$9 million settlement in roadway design cases involving six pedestrians who were stuck while waiting for a bus on a station platform when an errant vehicle jumped the sidewalk.

Minors v. David Blancas et al. Achieved a more than \$7 million settlement for children who were subjected to various forms of sexual misconduct over 25 years by a teacher and coach of the Monson Sultana School District, which failed to properly screen him for hiring and failed to supervise him.



Awards & Honors

Top 25, Products Liability, *The National Trial Lawyers* (2022-2025)

Top 100, Civil Plaintiff, *The National Trial Lawyers* (2022-2025)

Publications & Presentations

Bylines

“Childhood Abuse Survivors Face a Federal Deadline That Makes No Sense,” *Daily Journal*, March 31, 2026

“Community Outreach Defeats SB 832, Creating A Win for Sex Abuse Survivors,” *Daily Journal*, April 23, 2025

“California Court Decisions Bolster Victim Rights for Sex Abuse Victims,” *Daily Journal*, September 18, 2024

“What New Federal Child Sex Abuse Law Changes for Plaintiffs,” *Law360*, December 5, 2022

“Body Brokers Unlawfully Profit Off of Vulnerable Members of Society,” *Daily Journal*, September 1, 2021

“For Sexual Misconduct, A Higher Standard for Law Enforcement,” *Daily Journal*, May 12, 2017

“Jurors Imposing Liability Against Employers: A Case Study,” *Daily Journal*, September 29, 2016

“Employer Expands Responsibility for Worker Commutes,” *Daily Journal*, August 31, 2016

“Non-Delegable Duty of Logistics Broker Carriers in California,” *Daily Journal*, March 16, 2016

“The Power-Press Exception to Workers’ Comp Exclusive Remedy,” *Advocate Magazine*, November 17, 2015

“Are You Liable for Serving Alcohol to a Drunken Driver?” *California Lawyer*, July 2015

“Courts Wrangling With Contours of Social Host Liability,” *Daily Journal*, February 10, 2015

Media Commentary

Mentioned, “On the Move – DiCello Levitt,” *Daily Journal*, April 18, 2025

Quoted, “DiCello Levitt Adds ACTS Law Catastrophic Injury Atty In Calif.,” *Law360*, April 16, 2025

Admissions & Memberships



Bar Admissions

California

Maryland

Michigan

Texas

Court Admissions

U.S. District Court, Central District of California

U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California

U.S. District Court, Northern District of California

U.S. District Court, Southern District of California

Memberships

American Association for Justice

Consumer Attorneys of California, Board of Directors

Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles