

Daily Journal

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TOPWOMEN LAWYERS

The Daily Journal's Annual List of
Leading Women Lawyers in California

Sascha Henry

**Sheppard, Mullin, Richter
& Hampton LLP**
Los Angeles

Practice Type:
Litigation

Specialty:
Business



Henry honed her investigative skills as much as her lawyering skills this year.

In one big case, she represented a Los Angeles property developer who was being sued by a real estate brokerage company. The plaintiff brokerage company sought \$5 million in alleged commissions on a large-scale condominium project in Los Angeles' fashion district.

The problem was the contract was years old, and the brokerage company had decamped to South Korea. Along with one associate, Henry sifted through hundreds of documents and took depo-

sitions of the plaintiffs in South Korea via Skype.

Henry's client, the property developer, contended that the plaintiffs had never obtained a brokerage license, which voided the contract. A Los Ange-

les County Superior Court judge agreed and dismissed the lawsuit with prejudice. *Khan Development Company, Inc. v. Bral*, BC463434 (filed June 13, 2011).

The case is currently on appeal before the 2nd District Court of Appeal.

"It was a really interesting case because there aren't that many cases that look into the mortgage broker licensing requirements here in California," Henry said.

Henry splits her time between class action defense and commercial disputes. This year, she represented the real estate developer, an insurance company, a mortgage broker and a restaurant. She handles roughly nine cases at a time. In other matters, Henry defeated class certification on behalf of restaurant chain Chipotle Mexican Grill Inc. over alleged mislabeling of natural food.

The Colorado native is a Sheppard Mullin devotee, having worked for the firm for the entirety of her nearly 17 years in law practice. She attributes her loyalty to the responsibilities and opportunities afforded her as an associate, and later the flexibility given her as a new mom. Said Henry, "I enjoy the team environment."

— Emily Green