

With Honors

L.A. Attorney Awarded for Success Despite Adversity

Aulana L. Peters, former partner at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher in Los Angeles, will receive the 2008 Horatio Alger Award this week in Washington, D.C. She will share the award with Hadi Makarechian, chairman and CEO of Capital Pacific Holdings Inc., a California real estate development company.

The award is given annually by the Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans, whose mission is to honor the achievements of outstanding individuals who have succeeded in spite of adversity. Peters and Makarechian also will be named lifetime members of the association, a position shared by talk show host Oprah Winfrey, writer Maya Angelou, baseball great Hank Aaron and others.

Peters worked at Gibson Dunn from 1973 to 1984 before President Reagan appointed her a commissioner on the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. She returned to Gibson Dunn in 1988 and retired in 2000.

Gibson Dunn Honored for Preserving L.A.'s History

The Los Angeles Conservancy, an organization that works to preserve Los Angeles' architectural history, has presented its annual President's Award to Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher for its role in preserving historic buildings in the greater Los Angeles area. The conservancy noted the firm's 20 years of pro bono legal assistance, including a fight to preserve the Ambassador Hotel, which was demolished. The firm also helped the conservancy secure funding to preserve historic schools throughout the city.

— Jill Redhage