



## INFLUENTIAL LEADERS

### INFLUENTIAL LEADERS IN SAN DIEGO

#### LAW

## Steven J. Cologne

Cologne joined Higgs, Fletcher & Mack as an executive partner in 1999, and this year assumed the role of managing partner. In addition to his complex tort and business litigation law practice, Cologne is now responsible for firm-wide operations, strategic development and client management.

His top priority as managing partner, he said, is to provide renewed energy to the firm, both internally and externally. He aims to reach markets in the region that may not yet recognize Higgs or its abilities as a full-service firm. He said Higgs is San Diego's oldest and largest law firm, with 75 attorneys in a variety of practice areas.

Within the firm, Cologne hopes to help lawyers develop deeper relationships with their clients to encourage greater use of the firm's many legal services.

Cologne said he's very proud of being recognized for his accomplishments in the courtroom as a trial lawyer. However, mentoring and leadership are also significant aspects of his professional career, and have led him to his current role as

the head of the firm.

"Being a good mentor and being the leader of a team — whether it's in trial, on a case, working in a practice group or leading my own practice and having associates, paralegals and legal secretaries as part of that team — that really has been a great foundation for me becoming managing partner," he said.

Cologne has also been a member of the San Diego County Bar Association throughout his 32-year legal career, both at the committee level and serving as executive editor of the bar's San Diego Lawyer magazine. He pointed out that a number of firm leaders have served as president of the bar association, including current president and Higgs partner Loren Freestone.

"My hope, desire and goal is to leverage that leadership to a renewed focus by the community of how Higgs has been a major contributor to the growth of the legal industry's policies, how we are important to members, and how Higgs has been a leader in this regard for a long time."

— Jennifer Chung Klam



MANAGING PARTNER

**Higgs Fletcher  
& Mack LLP**