

Daily Journal

JULY 30, 2025



MARK T. QUIGLEY

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Mark T. Quigley, a partner at Greene Broillet & Wheeler LLP, has more than three decades of experience in labor and employment advocacy for workers facing discrimination, retaliation or wrongful termination.

He joined the firm as a law clerk in 1982 and got his JD in 1985. "Never looked back," Quigley said.

His employment law practice took a turn toward whistleblower retaliation cases in 2014 when he negotiated a \$10 million settlement with the University of Califor-

nia Regents for the chairman of UCLA's orthopedic surgery department.

Robert Pedowitz said he was pressured to step down after complaining about outside payments to doctors that compromised care. *Pedowitz v. The Regents of the University of California et al.*, BC48-4611 (L.A. Super. Ct., filed May 11, 2012).

"Whistleblower retaliation cases keep me in business," Quigley said.

In 2023 he obtained a \$39 million jury verdict in another such case by an oncologist turned whistleblower at UC San Diego against the Regents. *Murphy v. The Regents of the University of California*, 37-2020-00032541 (S. Diego Super. Ct., filed Sept. 16, 2020).

Quigley's streak of big wins continued this year with a \$5.8 million jury verdict in May for Dr. Mark Linskey, a UC Irvine neurosurgeon, who alleged he was demoted and reassigned in retaliation for raising concerns about patient safety and leadership practices at the university. *Linskey v. The Regents of the University of California*, 30-2020-01147285-CU-OE-CJC (O.C. Super. Ct., filed June 4, 2020).

It was the second time Quigley has sued on Linskey's behalf. UC Irvine first retaliated against him more than a decade ago for raising safety issues and, in 2019, won a \$2 million verdict plus \$1 million in fees and costs. *Linskey v. The Regents of the University of California*,

30-2016-00860934-CU-OE-CJC (O.C. Super. Ct., filed June 29, 2016).

"The retaliation against Dr. Linskey continued after the first judgment, and the second case was virtually a repeat of the first," Quigley said.

And he's not done. "We're going back to court in July to ask the judge to reinstate Dr. Linskey to the hospital's residency program, which they refused to do after the first trial. It's beyond me why, because the evidence in his favor is overwhelming."

In another win over the Regents last year, Quigley obtained a \$3.9 million settlement for a top UCLA physician and administrator who was wrongfully terminated after raising significant patient safety concerns.

A state appellate panel reversed a trial judge's summary judgment in favor of UCLA, reviving the case and leading to the deal. The panel found that the judge misapplied the burden-shifting test that governs such cases. *Sheer v. The Regents of the University of California*, 76 Cal.App.4th 904 (2022).

Quigley has trials upcoming in two more whistleblower cases in Alameda and San Diego counties against the UC Regents.

"Time and again, the Regents hammer the guy, not the bad actors," Quigley said. "They better take a course or two themselves."