

GRANT STIEFEL

ATTORNEY FEE CONSULTANT

A QUALIFIED FEE EXPERT

424.223.8252



grant@litigationlimited.com



grantstiefel.com



Los Angeles, CA



Grant Stiefel, Esq. is an attorney, testifying fee expert and legal fee consultant who has personally reviewed and audited nearly \$1 billion in law firm billings over the past decade. Many of **the world's leading law firms turn to Mr. Stiefel** for his clear, concise and effective trial testimony and expert analysis in the field of attorneys' fees.

Mr. Stiefel provides cost-effective expert consulting and trial testimony in connection with attorney-client fee disputes, fee motions, and litigation with attorney fees as a component of damages. **He has testified as a fee expert in more than 45 lawsuits** in federal court, California state court, JAMS/AAA arbitrations, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, State Bar courts, and attorney-client fee arbitrations.

Moreover, Mr. Stiefel is uniquely qualified among legal fee experts in that **he was a successful trial lawyer for more than a decade at two of the world's largest law firms**, has obtained favorable jury verdicts, and managed the defense of Fortune 500 companies in complex, multi-jurisdictional high-stakes litigation in California state and federal courts.

RECENT TRIAL COURT SUCCESSES

Grant Stiefel was the testifying expert in support of class counsel's fee application in *Jones v. Wells Fargo*, a California class action. **Mr. Stiefel's persuasive testimony regarding the reasonableness of the fee request and proposed lodestar multiplier led the trial court to award more than \$25 million in attorneys' fees to class counsel.**

The district court for the Central District of California adopted and approved Grant Stiefel's methodology for identifying and quantifying block-billed, vague and redacted billing entries and slashed a prevailing plaintiff's \$4.8 million fee award by more than sixty percent in *CNS v. Planet*.

In *Vides v. ABM Janitorial Services*, the prevailing plaintiff claimed more than \$1.5 million in fees. **Grant Stiefel's expert analysis convinced the trial court that the requested rates were unreasonable and that the litigation was overstaffed and over-conferenced.** The court reduced the award by more than 65 percent to less than \$500,000.

In *MMM Holdings v. Reich*, a successful anti-SLAPP defendant moved for over \$700,000 in mandatory attorneys' fees. Although defendant had prevailed at both the trial and appellate levels, **Grant Stiefel's expert testimony showed that the fee request was block-billed, overly redacted, padded with excessive attorney conferencing and improperly staffed.** The Orange County trial court agreed and cut the statutory fee award by more than 75 percent.

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EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
SCHOOL OF LAW
J.D. 2000

- *Highest Honors*: Law, Language & Ethics; Copyright Law; Constitutional Law II
- *Honors*: Constitutional Law, Professional Responsibility, Real Estate Transactions, Business Organizations, Criminal Law, Pre-Trial Advocacy; Taxation; Corporate Crime Seminar; Directed Research; Dissertation
- *Honors Journal*: Staff Editor, *Southern California Interdisciplinary Law Journal*
- *Elected by Student Body*: Vice-President, Student Bar Association (1998-2000), Class Representative (1997-98)

UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
Psychology & Linguistics
B.A. 1994

- *Honors*: Presidential Scholar (1990-94), National Merit Scholar (1990-94), Dean's List (1990-1994)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

LITIGATION LIMITED

Los Angeles, California
(2012-Present)

Grant Stiefel, Esq. is an attorney fee consultant, testifying expert and the principal of Litigation Limited, a boutique legal auditing firm. Mr. Stiefel has assisted clients and courts nationwide by providing expert trial testimony on legal fee issues, including the reasonableness of legal fees:

- Mr. Stiefel has qualified and testified as a legal fee expert in **over 45 lawsuits**, including disputes in federal district courts, California trial courts, JAMS/AAA arbitrations, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, State Bar court, and attorney-client fee arbitrations
- His methodology for reviewing, auditing and evaluating legal invoices has been **cited, approved and adopted by state and federal courts**. *Courthouse News Svc. v. Planet*, Case No. CV 11-08083 SJO (C.D. Cal. 2016); *MMM Holdings v. Reich*, Case No. 30-2015-00822123-CU-BT-CJC (Cal. Sup. Ct. 2018)
- Mr. Stiefel is a member of the California State Bar and is unique among fee experts in that he was a trial attorney for more than a decade at two of the world's largest law firms
- Because he uses **consistent, court-approved methodologies**, Mr. Stiefel is able to effectively testify on behalf of fee-seeking or fee-opposing parties

As an independent fee auditor and consultant, Grant Stiefel also assists corporate clients with the review and management of law firms and fees:

- Mr. Stiefel advises clients on the selection and management of counsel for complex, multi-jurisdictional litigation and has audited hundreds of millions of dollars in legal fees
- He helps clients develop and implement outside counsel guidelines and internal auditing procedures
- Mr. Stiefel is a California State Bar-approved continuing legal education instructor on attorneys' fees issues who has trained hundreds of executives and in-house lawyers

GRANT STIEFEL, ESQ.

ATTORNEY FEE CONSULTANT

BAR ADMISSIONS

State of California
Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals
Northern District of California
Southern District of California
Eastern District of California
Central District of California

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS & CERTIFICATIONS

National Association of
Legal Fee Analysts

Claims and Litigation
Management Alliance
Professional Liability Committee
Audit Committee

California State Bar
Attorney-Client Fee Arbitrator
Los Angeles County Bar Assn.
San Fernando Valley Bar Assn.

Judge Pro-Tem
Superior Court of California
for Los Angeles County

A.M. Best Certified Attorney
Fee Practice Group

California State Bar Certified
CLE Provider
Provider No. 16342

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE [CONTINUED]

K&L GATES LLP

Los Angeles, California
(2004-2012)

Head of Southern California Toxic Tort Defense Practice
Senior Associate / Associate

- Headed the Southern California toxic tort defense practice for the world's fifth-largest law firm
- Counsel of record and lead trial counsel on hundreds of eight-figure personal injury and wrongful death claims
- Supervised and managed a multi-jurisdictional litigation portfolio with an aggregate settlement value of over \$3 billion
- Obtained favorable jury verdicts and dismissals as first and second chair trial counsel
- Supervised teams of lawyers and law firms across the nation as coordinating counsel for multi-jurisdictional litigation
- Reviewed millions of dollars in fees and costs on a monthly basis from dozens of law firms and offices
- Trained lawyers, paralegals and staff in ethical billing practices
- Developed custom case management, billing and calendaring systems for Fortune 500 clients
- Successfully argued dozens of motions to dismiss and motions for summary judgment in high-value cases
- Defended multi-state Attorneys General investigation
- Litigated motions for attorneys' fees
- Representative clients (as lead trial counsel/attorney of record) included Schneider Electric, Crane Co., World Wrestling Entertainment, Macquarie Bank, Samsung Electronics America, Calgon Carbon Corporation, Black Entertainment Television and TransUnion

GRANT STIEFEL, ESQ.

ATTORNEY FEE CONSULTANT

REPRESENTATIVE LAW FIRM CLIENTS

Reed Smith
McDermott Will and Emery
Jones Day
Sheppard Mullin
Sidley Austin
Dykema Gossett
Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe
Littler Mendelson
Cappello Noel
Overton Lyman & Prince
Morrison & Foerster
Buchalter Nemer
Stroock Stroock & Lavan

REPRESENTATIVE CORPORATE CLIENTS

Citibank NA
Aegon USA
Transamerica Corporation
One West Bank
AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals
Verizon Wireless
East West Bank
Capital Dynamics
JAKKS Pacific
University of Alberta
SEACOR
Heidelberg USA
Sinclair Broadcasting
Capital Power
New Hampshire Insurance Co.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE [CONTINUED]

AKIN GUMP STRAUSS HAUER & FELD, LLP

Los Angeles, California, 1999-2004

Associate Attorney

- Defended consumer class actions, unfair competition and antitrust claims, including California's *In re Structured Settlement Litigation*
- Drafted and argued numerous successful summary judgment motions, motions for attorneys' fees, anti-SLAPP motions, discovery motions and motions to dismiss
- Representative clients included Kia Motors, Samsung Telecommunications America, Thane International, Univar USA and Ready Pac Produce

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- "Recent Developments in Block Billing"
J.D. Supra (article)
- "Ten Things You Need to Know About Law Firm Billing"
(article, live seminars and online presentations)
- "The Client's Guide to Law Firm Billing"
HG Experts (article)
- California State Bar MCLE Presentations on Law Firm Billing
(live seminars and online presentations)
- "Analysis: John Doe No. 1 v. Patrick Cahill and Julia Cahill"
e-Commerce Law Reports, Volume 5, Issue 6
(article)

PERSONAL

Grant Stiefel lives in Southern California and Colorado with his wife and dog. Before law school, in the days of analog, he was a professional songwriter, producer and musician