

JUNE 19, 2006

THE 100 MOST INFLUENTIAL LAWYERS IN AMERICA

For the first time in six years, *The National Law Journal* offered its take on the country's most influential lawyers. They reviewed piles of nominations from readers and conducted their own research, looking for attorneys outside the government with the clout to make big things happen. They were looking for lawyers who had a national impact in their fields and beyond, especially over the past five years—lawyers who have the power to shape public affairs, launch industries, shake things up and get things done.



Arthur Bryant

51, Public Justice, Oakland, California

A near-fatal car accident in 2002 sidelined him for six months while he underwent several major surgeries, but Bryant made a full recovery and remains one of our pre-eminent public interest attorneys; within the past two years he launched the Class Action Preservation Project to protect the public's right to its day in court, and the Access to Justice Campaign to challenge incursions made against people's legal rights in the name of the "war on terror"; litigation strategist who in 2002 quarterbacked a 9-0 Supreme Court victory in *Sprietsma v. Mercury Marine*, overcoming federal pre-emption arguments to pre-

serve the plaintiff's right to sue over a fatal boat-propeller accident; used the courts to enforce female athletes' Title IX rights and to fight mountaintop-removal coal mining in West Virginia.

In addition to Bryant, *NLJ* named 12 other members of the Public Justice family in its list of 100 attorneys who have had the greatest national influence since 2000: Frederick M. Baron, Steve W. Berman, Elizabeth Cabraser, Michael Ciresi, Morris S. Dees, Jr., Michael D. Hausfeld, W. Mark Lanier, William Lerach, Brian Panish, Michael Ratner, William B. Schultz, and Brad Seligman. We congratulate them all.

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