

# PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

## HIRINGS, PROMOTIONS, BOARD MEMBERS AND SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS IN SAN DIEGO



**LEGAL**  
New Hire



**Liann Sabatini**

One of San Diego's fastest growing law firms continues to expand with the addition of highly respected criminal defense attorney Liann Sabatini in August, 2022. A proud San Diego public defender the first 10 years of her career, Liann's arrival further solidified the firm's commitment to helping good people regain control of their future when charged with a crime.

Specializing in the art of trial, Ms. Sabatini has tried over 50 cases to verdict, has been the lead counsel for over 2,000 felony cases, and is known in the legal community for her effective and zealous advocacy, her ability to command respect in any courtroom and negotiation she enters, and to obtain incredible results for her clients.

**Liann can be reached at [Liann@dpshapiro.com](mailto:Liann@dpshapiro.com)**



**LAW & REAL ESTATE**  
New Hire



**Priya Huggett**

**CGS3 Grows Partnership with Addition of Priya Huggett**

Crosbie Gliner Schiffman Southard & Swanson LLP (CGS3), a San Diego-based commercial real estate law firm, recently announced the addition of its newest partner, Priya Huggett. Previously general counsel of Brixton Capital, a private real estate investment firm with more than \$1 billion in assets, she joins CGS3's acquisitions and dispositions, finance and commercial leasing practice groups and will be based in the firm's San Diego office.

With more than 20 years of experience in all facets of commercial real estate – including acquisitions, dispositions, development, leasing, finance and operations covering multifamily, retail, residential, hospitality and office assets – Huggett's practice emphasizes a variety of corporate/commercial and real estate transactions, particularly private equity, joint ventures, mergers and acquisitions and commercial contracts including vendor and licensing contracts.

She was also general counsel and executive vice president for Kelly Investment Group and senior vice president/general counsel for Sea Breeze Properties, LLC.

Active in the community, she currently serves on the board of directors for the New Children's Museum. Additionally, she has provided pro bono legal services for Casa Cornelia, a public interest law firm that provides free legal services to victims of human and civil rights violations.

She holds Bachelor of Arts degrees in criminology and political science from Simon Fraser University and earned her LLB from University of British Columbia.

CGS3 is a highly regarded new generation commercial real estate law firm with practice areas covering the full commercial real estate life cycle, including finance, acquisition/disposition, entity formation, tax, development, land use, leasing, distressed asset workouts and dispute resolution

**For more information, visit <http://www.cgs3.com>.**

**Snell & Wilmer**

Committed to being your perfect fit.®

**LAW**  
New Hire



**Christopher Franich**

Christopher Franich has joined Snell & Wilmer's San Diego office as an intellectual property attorney who concentrates his practice in patent prosecution, intellectual property portfolio counseling and transactions, and USPTO proceedings. He has developed and executed strategies for several clients ranging from startups to Fortune 500 companies across an array of technologies, including medical devices, instrumentation, software, machine-learning, artificial intelligence, electro-mechanical, imaging, electro-mechanical, business methods, composite structures, consumer goods generally, and design patents. Chris also has experience developing and managing domestic and international patent portfolios both before and after acquisitions.

**Christopher Franich can be reached at [cfranich@swlaw.com](mailto:cfranich@swlaw.com) or 858.910.4782.**

To place your announcement online, please go to [sdbj.com/people-on-the-move/](http://sdbj.com/people-on-the-move/)

## llumina

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global life science powerhouses, announced earlier this month (Oct. 11), aims to improve efficiencies in pharma pipelines by leveraging identification of genetic variants.

San Diego-based Illumina Inc. (NASDAQ: ILMN), a global leader in DNA sequencing and array-based technologies, will team with British-Swedish multinational pharmaceutical and biotech firm AstraZeneca (NASDAQ: AZN) to evaluate whether a combined framework of AI and genomic analysis technologies can increase the yield and confidence of target discovery to find promising new drugs.

"Illumina and AstraZeneca are uniquely positioned to improve the efficiency of pharma pipelines by leveraging industry-leading abilities to identify genetic variants that contribute to human disease," said Joydeep Goswami, chief strategy and corporate development officer, interim chief financial officer at Illumina. "By identifying genes that show

evidence of human disease causality, the combined framework has the potential to prioritize drug candidates with increased likelihood of approval."

Goswami said the collaboration will leverage Illumina's next generation of AI-based interpretation tools, PrimateAI and SpliceAI, in combination with AstraZeneca's analysis framework for rare variant genomic discoveries—alongside the latter's own AI tools, including JARVIS and in silico predictors like missense tolerance ratio.

As part of the research collaboration a framework combining the two companies' AI-based tools will be adopted by AstraZeneca's Centre for Genomics Research to analyze large-scale multi-omics data sets in its digital biobank. The complementary AI tools work to more confidently pinpoint genetic variants that contribute to human diseases, a critical step in the process of developing effective and safe therapies.

Slavé Petrovski, head of AstraZeneca's Centre for Genomics Research, Discovery Sciences, R&D, said: "Continuous innovation in the AI tools and frameworks that are applied to the

growing human genomics, transcriptomics, and proteomics medical research resources will enable us to answer some of the toughest questions and contribute to our aims of uncovering novel drug targets with a higher probability of success while also characterizing patient subgroups that are most likely to benefit from the treatments we discover."

Officials at both companies say AI will play a pivotal role in the future of genomic sequencing and drug discovery.

"The next generation of drug discovery lies at the intersection of human genetics and AI, making this a potentially pivotal research collaboration that combines Illumina's industry-leading ability to interpret genomes at scale with AstraZeneca's extensive capabilities in large-scale human genetics research," said Alex Aravanis, chief technology officer of Illumina.

The research collaboration focuses on the ability of a combined framework to deliver differential performance across a broad range of human diseases. Upon its successful outcome, the two companies will assess opportunities for a long-term partnership.



**Alex Aravanis**  
Chief Technology Officer  
Illumina

Founded in 1999 and based in Cambridge, England, AstraZeneca's subsidiaries include **Alexion Pharmaceuticals**, **TeneoTwo**, **Amylin Pharmaceuticals** and **Acerta Pharma**.

The pharma giant notched \$36.5 billion in product sales in 2021 and had 14 positive Phase III clinical trial readouts across nine different drugs last year, including approvals for the company's COVID-19 preventative drug Evusheld and Tezspire, an injected asthma medicine AstraZeneca developed in partnership with Amgen. ■

**Illumina Inc.**

**illumina®**

**FOUNDED:** 1998  
**CEO:** Francis deSouza  
**HEADQUARTERS:** San Diego  
**REVENUE:** \$4.5 billion (2021)  
**EMPLOYEES:** 7,825  
**STOCK:** ILMN (NASDAQ)  
**WEBSITE:** [illumina.com](http://illumina.com)  
**NOTABLE:** Illumina is the world's leading genomic sequencing company.

## Renovation

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The Canyon that infuses the recreation center with daylight and views to the plaza.

The two-story canyon runs from the new entrance at the front of the center through the new portion of the building to connect the new with the renovated older

center, ending at a 40-foot indoor rock climbing wall and a 10-foot tall bouldering wall.

From the inside, "you couldn't tell the difference from the renovated piece and the new piece," Menefee said.

Most of the activities are grouped on either side of the indoor canyon on the first and second floors, with the second floor overlooking the lower portion of

the canyon.

There are group fitness studios, yoga rooms, spin cycle spaces, nutritional planning rooms, lounging areas, a restaurant, and an Olympic weight training room toward the rear of the center.

Free weight training "is one of the hottest trends right now," Menefee said, but "you don't want this at the front door."

"It can be very intimidating," Menefee

said. "You want this to be sort of an open and inviting facility for everyone. That includes people who are highly trained and have been doing this for a long time to people who are just finding their way."

One of the more noticeable features is an indoor eighth-of-a-mile track that hugs the interior curving glass wall. "You have these amazing northeastern views," Menefee said. "It's really a beautiful part of the city." ■