

CURRICULUM VITAE

Medical-Legal

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Board-certified in Plastic Surgery and Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery, with over 33 years of private practice in Irvine, California. Recognized for excellence in surgical outcomes, communication, and patient-centered care. Currently re-engaged in part-time private practice after an extended medical leave of absence and actively pursuing a medical-legal career as an expert witness and independent medical examiner in plastic and reconstructive surgery.

EXPERT WITNESS & MEDICAL-LEGAL EXPERIENCE

- More than three decades of clinical experience in cosmetic and reconstructive plastic surgery.
- Currently accepting assignments as an expert witness, independent medical examiner (IME), and consulting expert, providing independent medical examinations, comprehensive record reviews, written expert opinions, deposition testimony, and trial testimony.
- Conducted approximately 20 Independent Medical Examinations (IMEs) and provided expert depositions and courtroom testimony for both plaintiff and defense matters.
- Impeccable malpractice record: zero settlements or payments over 33 years in practice; only one frivolous claim dismissed following deposition.
- Outstanding reputation for communication and professionalism, supported by 75 out of 75 five-star Yelp reviews.
- National media experience includes six Discovery Channel episodes featuring cosmetic and reconstructive plastic surgery.
- Master of Legal Studies (MLS) with concentration in pharmaceutical and medical device law and compliance.
- Ambulatory Surgery Center ownership with CMS certification and AAAASF accreditation, and service as a AAAASF surveyor.

REPRESENTATIVE MEDICAL-LEGAL ENGAGEMENTS (PLASTIC SURGERY)

The following engagements are representative of my medical-legal practice. Many matters are confidential or remain pending and identifying information has been omitted where appropriate. Independent medical examinations and record reviews were performed in personal injury and plastic surgery matters. Details have been limited to preserve confidentiality.

- **Scald Injury IME (San Diego County, Sept. 2025) – Defense-Retained Examiner.**

Conducted independent medical examination and authored report regarding third-degree burn injury from hot liquid exposure.

- **Scald Injury IME (Los Angeles County, Jan. 2026) – Defense-Retained Examiner.**

Conducted independent medical examination and authored report regarding second-degree burn injury from hot liquid exposure.

- **Scald Injury IME (Los Angeles County, Mar. 2026) – Defense-Retained Examiner.**

Conducted independent medical examination and authored report regarding second-degree burn injury from hot liquid exposure. Currently scheduled for trial in December 2026.

- **Motor Vehicle Collision Record Review (Los Angeles County, Apr. 2026) – Defense-Retained Plastic Surgery Expert.**

Authored expert opinion addressing causation, medical necessity, prognosis, and future treatment following breast revision surgery allegedly related to a motor vehicle accident.

- **Facial Laceration Record Review (Orange County, July 2026) – Defense-Retained Plastic Surgery Expert.**

Reviewed records and authored an expert report addressing the nature, causation, and extent of claimed facial and forehead injuries sustained by a delivery worker. The analysis assisted the defense in distinguishing accident-related injuries from unrelated claims. Matter subsequently settled in August 2026.

- **Severe Dog Bite Injury IME (Los Angeles County Litigation, Aug. 2026) – Defense-Retained Examiner.**

Conducted an independent medical examination and record review regarding severe dog-bite injuries to the face and neck, including scarring, soft-tissue loss, contracture, and contour deformity. Evaluated causation, permanence, prognosis, and potential future reconstructive treatment. The matter settled in September 2026 before the scheduled trial.

SELECTED EXPERT WITNESS ENGAGEMENTS (PLASTIC SURGERY)

- **Stingl v. Berman (Cal. Ct. App., 4th Dist., Div. 3, 2023) – Defense Expert.**

Authored plastic surgery standard-of-care declaration (Dec. 2021). Trial court granted summary judgment; affirmed on appeal.

- **Confidential California Medical Board Administrative Matter (June 2025) – Defense Expert.**

Retained in defense of the respondent cosmetic surgeon in an administrative proceeding. Case resolved favorably.

- **High-Profile Civil Defense Case (Los Angeles Superior Court, Sept. 2025) – Defense Expert.**

Retained as rebuttal/impeachment plastic surgery expert witness; not called to testify at trial. Case concluded with favorable defense verdict.

EDUCATION

- Seton Hall University School of Law – M.L.S., Pharmacologic and Medical Device Law & Compliance, May 2024
- UC Irvine, Paul Merage School of Business – Certificate in Leadership for Healthcare Transformation, Spring 2015
- Northwestern University, Kellogg School of Management – Executive M.B.A., 1999–2001
- Pediatric Plastic Surgery Fellowship – Akron Children's Hospital (James Lehman, M.D.), 1986
- Aesthetic Surgery Fellowship – Bruce Connell, M.D., 1985
- Plastic Surgery Residency – UC Irvine School of Medicine, 1983–1985
- Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery Residency – Northwestern University, 1980–1983
- General Surgery Residency – Northwestern University, 1978–1980

- M.D. – University of Illinois School of Medicine, 1978
- B.A. – Oberlin College, 1974

BOARD CERTIFICATION

- American Board of Plastic Surgery
- American Board of Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery

CLINICAL APPOINTMENTS & PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Vice Chairman, Department of Surgery, Irvine Regional Hospital (2007–2009)
- Chief, Division of Plastic Surgery, Irvine Medical Center (1998–2007)
- President, Orange County Plastic Surgery Society (2000–2002)
- Member, American Society of Plastic Surgeons (since 1986)

PRACTICE HISTORY

- Private Practice in Plastic Surgery, Irvine, California (1986–2019)
- Medical Leave of Absence – August 2019 to February 2025 (treatment and recovery from Acute Myeloid Leukemia)
- Resumed part-time surgical practice – March 1, 2025

Reviewed September 10, 2026