

BAY AREA

BRAIN TRUST

101 ACHIEVERS WHO MAKE THIS THE SMARTEST PLACE ON EARTH

PENNY COOPER, 56
CRIS ARGUEDAS, 42

Attorneys, Cooper, Arguedas & Cassman

COOPER AND ARGUEDAS range wide in their advocacy: They once heard about a United States Supreme Court victory they had won while driving back to their Emeryville office after having a client's Oakland parking ticket overturned. Routinely listed as among the smartest, most tenacious defense lawyers in the country, they often try cases separately but combine forces for the big campaigns.

Among the latter: a successful defense of Stockton real-estate millionaire/sports agent Mike Blatt, accused of the crossbow murder-for-hire of a former business associate, and the procuring of a surprisingly short sentence for Wedtech scandal figure Wayne Franklyn Chinn. "What Penny and Cris prove," says one admiring prosecutor, "is that you don't have to be male to have brass balls."



Ruth Felt, Penny Cooper, Cris Arguedas