Supplement to the Los Angeles and San Francisco
Daily Journal
JANUARY 28, 2015

# TOP FIVE ASSOCIATES TO WATCH

*They are young, earnest and talented. Here are a few lawyers who we believe will be on a lot of people's lists in the next few years.*

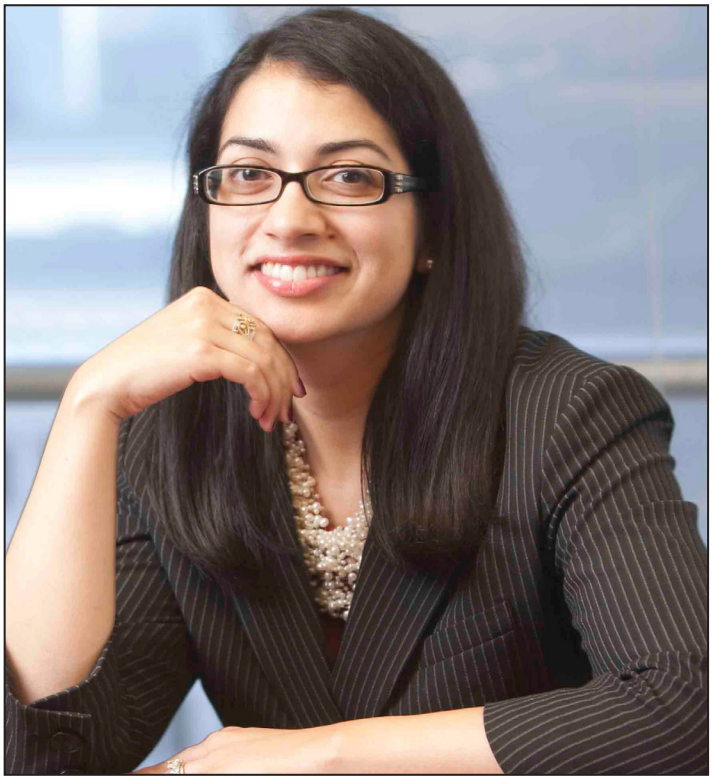
## Ruby Kazi

FIRM
**McManis Faulkner**
*San Jose*

PRACTICE TYPE : **litigation**

SPECIALTY : **civil litigation**

AGE: **37**



The big headlines in Ruby Kazi's career so far came from her work on the four-person trial team that won vindication for former Stanford University PhD student Rahinah Ibrahim, mistakenly placed on terrorist watch lists. At a week-long bench trial in San Francisco, Kazi and colleagues forced government admissions that their client posed no national security threat. The judge ordered her name cleared.

Kazi, not averse to puns, said "the lion's share" of her recent work has involved her defense of Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus in animal harassment cases filed by animal rights activists. Kazi, who was promoted to provisional partner status in early January, won a defense verdict for the circus in a 2013 federal jury trial in San Jose and is slated for a similar trial on nearly identical issues in February.

"I call myself the ringmaster," Kazi said. "And the cases lead to plenty of circus jokes, some involving clowns."

Her deep trial preparation ethic led the firm to place Kazi on its new case committee. There she ensures that each client team fits well with new clients.

"No matter who my clients are, individuals or businesses, I make every effort to develop relationships so that I can better know their legal needs," she said.

**— John Roemer**

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