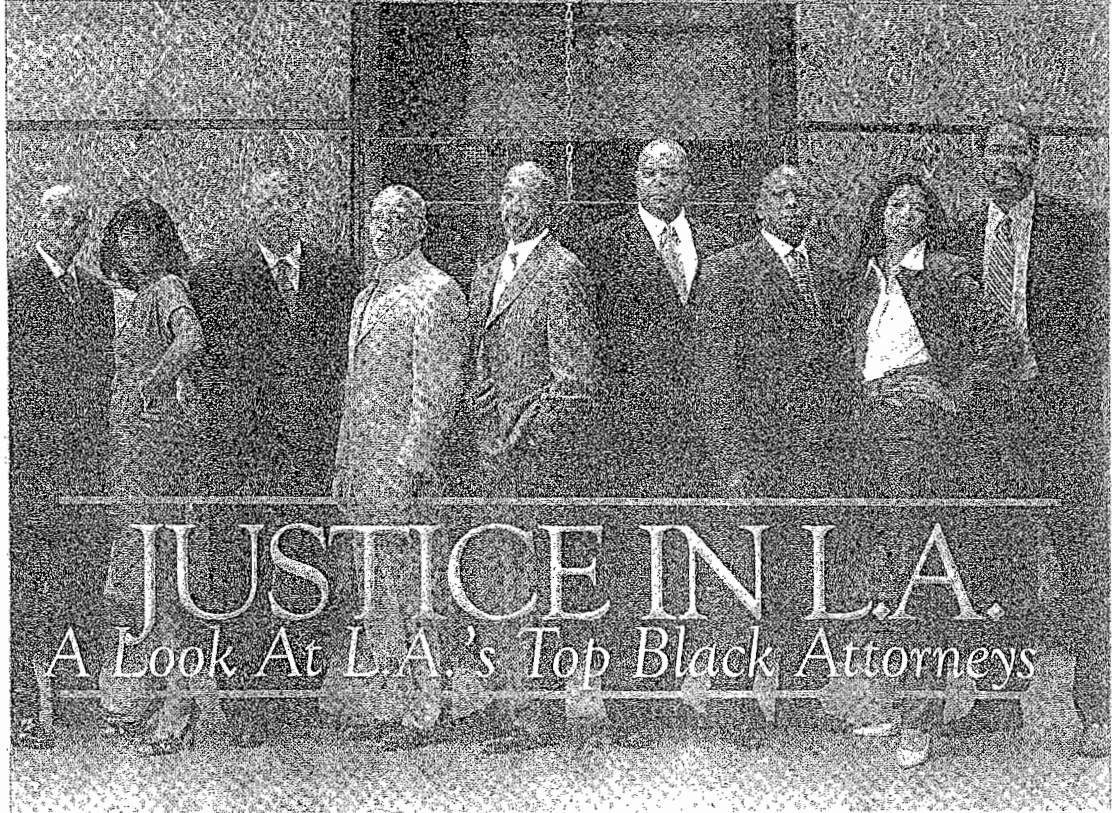


L.A. FOCUS On The Word

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JUSTICE IN L.A. *A Look At L.A.'s Top Black Attorneys*

JOHN E. SWEENEY

The Law Office of John Sweeney

John Sweeney is one of just a handful of lawyers who can claim boasting rights to the Million Dollar Advocate Forum. To become a member, you have to have a million dollar or better verdict in a civil case. Sweeney has several, including one of the city's largest elder abuse settlements on record and a \$2.4 million verdict in the 1985 Baldwin Hills fire that scorched 53 homes and left three dead.

And while very few have ever gotten a not guilty verdict in a death penalty case, Sweeney did just that in "People Vs. Ross Temple" (thought to be a slam-dunk for prosecutors).

Other high profile clients for the Dorsey High graduate who specializes in criminal law and large tort cases include the Gap Band, comedian Chris Tucker, Wynton Marsalis, and Inglewood beating case victim, Donovan Jackson.

Earlier this summer, he won a racial discrimination suit against Universal Films brought by a former assistant director to John Singleton fired off the set of "2 Fast 2 Furious".

The L.A. native who climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro on his 50th birthday, was hired by Johnnie Cochran at the D.A.'s office after graduating from law school. When Cochran left to start his own firm, Sweeney went with him and worked alongside Cochran on some of L.A. county's high profile civil rights cases.

"I have a burning passion for justice and civil rights and have taken the mantle as one of the top lawyers in the state of California for the African American community as an honor."