

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2005

# Making Mentors

Attorney Edith  
Matthai, right, with  
her mentor, lawyer  
Janice A. Ramsay

# TOP 75 WOMEN LITIGATORS

**Ellen L. Darling**  
Costa Mesa

**Place of birth:** Tucson

**Law school:** University of San Diego  
School of Law

**Law firm:** Snell & Wilmer

**Practice area:** Product liability, especially pharmaceutical, medical device, automotive and motorcycle litigation

**Recent big case:** Darling and her colleague, Hoot Gibson, successfully defended Allergan Inc. in the first trial involving Botox. Irena Medavoy, the wife of Hollywood producer Mike Medavoy, claimed she suffered life-altering intractable headaches and fibromyalgia following her treatment with Botox for cosmetic purposes and for her migraines. After six weeks of trial, the jury rendered a defense verdict.

**People would be surprised to know that:** "I attend skateboarding camp, ballet classes, bodysurfing camp, soccer games, swimming lessons, art classes and baseball games ... with my two young children, Paxton and Tessa."

**Mentor:** "My dad stands out as being my most influential mentor. He has guided me through my successes and difficulties, both personally and professionally. I have also had several wonderful mentors throughout my career at Snell & Wilmer. They each took the time to help me through whatever issue I was facing, to be brutally honest with me — even if that was hard to hear — and to make me a better attorney."

**Mentoring:** "I have mentored, and continue to mentor, several female associates at Snell & Wilmer. As a female litigator with children, I want to share my experiences with them and help them figure out how to best balance their career with their personal lives."



— Kenneth Davis