

Legal Recruiting, Built for Southern California

I built my career headhunting lawyers in Canada. Now I'm expanding that practice into Los Angeles. Backed by a leading national legal search firm, I'm building relationships with the lawyers, firms and companies that shape this market — including the people you won't find by posting a job.

TREVIN SEWELL, PARTNER • SMITH LEGAL SEARCH



THE FIRM BEHIND ME

I am a Partner at Smith Legal Search, one of the leading and truly national legal recruitment firms in Canada, independently owned and built on unparalleled market insight. It's a platform trusted by Managing Partners, General Counsel, and top practitioners to build powerful teams and solve the talent problems facing the legal market.

I've brought that platform to Southern California. Behind me stands our Managing Partner, Warren Smith — recognized by LawDragon (2023–2026) as one of the top 100 global strategists in the legal industry — and the research, reach, and rigor of a national firm behind every search I run in SoCal.

Top 100

LawDragon global legal strategist, 2023–2026

The Passive Market

The best lawyers aren't applying. My research reaches them directly, before they're on anyone's list.

Cross-Border

international reach across the U.S. & Canada

Read for Fit

I assess how a lawyer will perform on your team, not just what their resume says.

Retained & Passive

Full retained search, or talent when you need it

Discreet by Design

Confidential, relationship-driven searches that protect candidate and client alike.

WHY WORK WITH ME



Trevin Sewell

Partner

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Vancouver, BC & Los Angeles, CA

I am a Partner and legal headhunter with Smith Legal Search, based between Vancouver and Los Angeles. I lead our British Columbia practice and am building SLS's presence across Southern California. I have built my practice placing lawyers with firms and in-house legal teams in Canada, and I'm now bringing that same relationship-driven approach into SoCal: knowing people, telling the truth, and matching for fit rather than pushing resumes off a job board.

My roots run up the coast. I grew up in British Columbia and built my search practice there, while my wife practised law in Los Angeles before we spent several years in Canada. I now split my time between Vancouver and L.A., giving clients a single point of contact across both markets.

What you get is a candid read on the market, real intelligence on the candidate landscape and compensation, and a shortlist built around how a lawyer will actually perform on your team.

SoCal

based & recruiting
in the market

30+ yrs

combined firm
experience

30

days to
first interviews

100%

confidential,
relationship-driven

WHAT MAKES ME DIFFERENT

I read people differently

Before becoming a headhunter, I worked as a counsellor. That background changes what I notice, what I ask, and how I assess whether someone will actually fit and perform — not just what is on paper.

I reach the passive market

The lawyers worth hiring are rarely applying. I find and approach them directly and discreetly, before they are on anyone else's list.

I give you the truth

A straight read on the candidate, the market, and the comp — even when it costs me the placement. No spin, no pressure.



There is another side to the recruiter. See the person behind the practice — my story, my values, and how I work — at trevinsewell.com

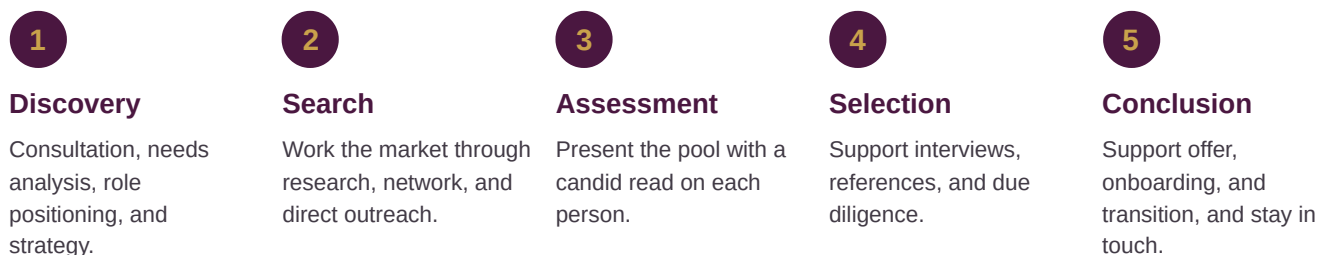
A DIFFERENT KIND OF SEARCH

What sets me apart is the range behind every search. I work within a national search firm whose research platform tracks essentially every lawyer in North America — so when a role benefits from a wider net, I already have it.

- ◆ **On the ground.** I know the West Coast markets, their firms, and their talent, and I recruit in person.
- ◆ **Firm-backed research.** A data platform tracking essentially every lawyer in North America stands behind every search — not a solo desk working a Rolodex.
- ◆ **Discreet by default.** Confidential, relationship-driven searches — nothing goes to market that should not.
- ◆ **Fit over paper.** I calibrate for leadership style and culture, and give you my honest read on every candidate.

HOW I WORK

My brand promise is thirty days to interview. Once we confirm the scope of the role and the ideal candidate, I run a focused, exhaustive search and bring you a shortlist ready to interview within thirty days.



Exclusive Searches

RETAINED

When the hire is critical, I run a dedicated, retained search: a focused, exhaustive campaign to identify, approach, and assess the full market for the role, with my thirty-days-to-interview commitment behind it.

Passive Searches

NEED-BY-NEED

You don't always need a mandate to benefit from the network. I keep a live bench of strong, discreet talent in my orbit, and make introductions on a need-by-need basis when someone worth meeting fits your team.

THE PASSIVE MARKET

**The lawyer who will change your team
is not answering a job post.**

They're known, understood, and introduced at exactly the right moment. That's the entire job — and it's the one I do.

ROLES I PLACE

Across private practice and in-house, at every level of seniority:

Private Practice	In-House
◆ Junior Associates ◆ Mid-Level Associates ◆ Senior Associates ◆ Income Partners ◆ Equity Partners ◆ Group Moves ◆ Cross-Border Moves ◆ Pivoting In-House	◆ Legal Counsel ◆ Senior Legal Counsel ◆ Corporate Counsel ◆ Director, Legal ◆ Assistant General Counsel ◆ General Counsel ◆ Compliance & Privacy Officers ◆ VP & SVP, Legal

This isn't about filling a req. It's about finding the right lawyer for the team you're building.

A BIT ABOUT ME



Trevin Sewell

Partner

I'm a legal headhunter based between Los Angeles and Vancouver, leading Smith Legal Search's British Columbia practice while building our presence in Southern California. My approach combines direct headhunting and market research with a strong read on people, temperament, and fit — the things that determine whether a placement actually works.

Before legal search, I worked as a counsellor and coached competitive hockey. Both shaped how I work today: listen first, understand the person behind the resume, be direct when something doesn't fit, and stay involved after the hire is made.

Let's Talk

Planning a legal hire in Southern California, or want a candid read on the market and comp? You'll get real candidate profiles and an honest assessment — not a sales pitch.

Trevin Sewell · Partner · trevin@smithlegalsearch.com · 604.226.8644

There's another side to the recruiter. Get to know me at trevinsewell.com

Let's build your legal team.

LOS ANGELES • VANCOUVER | CALGARY | TORONTO • SMITHLEGALSEARCH.COM

