

MIDDLE MARKET DIGEST: THIS WEEK IN SOUTHWEST:

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Here's a look at this week's trends, announcements and deals that you may have missed in Southern California, Utah, Arizona and Nevada. The Southwest is starting off the year with a bang. The Arizona markets are starting off the year strong with several lease and industrial transactions

reported this week. Additionally, the Phoenix office market has remained activity with major transactions spurring interest in class-A office properties. There were also several notable transactions in Los Angeles, San Diego and Orange County. Here's a look at this week's trends, announcements and deals that you may have missed in Southern California, Utah, Arizona and Nevada.

BUILDING BLOCKS

LOS ANGELES—[Cox, Castle & Nicholson LLP](#) has reached a \$35 million settlement for client Forest Lawn Memorial-Park Association with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). The firm brought suit on behalf of Forest Lawn to remedy damage caused by Caltrans freeway construction and improper maintenance, and to ensure that future freeway construction and widening will not impact Forest Lawn's property. The Cox, Castle & Nicholson team prevailed in Los Angeles Superior Court after extensive litigation. Cox, Castle & Nicholson LLP has served as litigation and land use counsel on behalf of Forest Lawn Memorial-Park, one of the largest cemetery and mortuary operators in Southern California, for more than four years.

Experienced land use and environmental attorney David Waite, partner at Cox, Castle & Nicholson LLP, was lead counsel on the matter.