

Douglas C. Straus

San Francisco, California
Shareholder

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Areas of Practice & Industry Specialties

Litigation; Real Estate; Appellate Law; Class Actions



Doug Straus is a member of the Litigation Practice Group in the Firm's San Francisco office. He focuses his practice on high-stakes commercial litigation in the areas of financial services, real estate development and lending, solid waste management and healthcare. Mr. Straus represents both private and public sector clients in dispute resolution in business, real estate, and public sector conflicts.

As a skilled litigator, Mr. Straus has prevailed in jury trials, court trials and arbitrations involving tens of millions of dollars. He views himself as a problem solver and, despite his consistent successes in trial, his goal is always to obtain the most favorable outcome for his clients as quickly and efficiently as possible. This means Mr. Straus focuses on all paths for helping clients to settle or otherwise resolve legal disputes while minimizing the expense and uncertainty of protracted litigation. But, where appropriate, Mr. Straus is a superior advocate for his clients in all legal forums.

He has attained an AV rating, the highest rating available, from *Martindale-Hubbell*, and has been identified as one of San Francisco's Top Rated Lawyers™.

Representative Matters

- Partnership/LLC Litigation – Prevailed at trial to successfully protect LLC Members and Managers from effort to oust them from multi-hundred million dollar real estate project and instead helped them recover tens of millions of dollars in damages and equitable relief.*
- Hospital Ownership Business Dispute – Helped public entity client recover possession and ownership of community hospital together with tens of millions of dollars in damages from previous hospital operator through a combination of lawsuits, mediations and arbitrations.
- Mortgage Lending/Financial Institutions – Has successfully defended mortgage servicers, banks and financial services companies in hundreds of mortgage fraud, Homeowners' Bill of Right, RESPA, TILA, debt collection and other statutory, tort and contract claims involving millions of dollars.*
- Government Contracting Verdict – Helped franchisee defeat government claim for tens of millions of dollars in damages and instead obtained a jury finding that the franchisor had acted wrongfully and owed money to the franchisee.
- Business Tort Verdict – Acted as plaintiff's counsel in a business torts case involving claims of misappropriation of partnership assets. Obtained a multimillion-dollar verdict on client's behalf.*
- Business Fraud – Obtained a defense jury verdict on behalf of Fortune 500 client in extremely sensitive high-stakes trial involving allegations of business fraud.*
- Medicare Reimbursement – Prevailed at the appellate level on behalf of hospital client to compel government payment of large MediCal claim. *
- Hospital Development – Defended a healthcare district against a quasi-public legal challenge to development plans for a new \$400 million, community hospital.*

- Solid Waste Management – Represented a recyclables processor who was delivered garbage instead of recyclables from a solid waste collection company. Obtained a multimillion-dollar award in arbitration on behalf of the client.*
- Waste Collection Rates – Prevailed over city authorities on behalf of the client, a garbage company. Convinced the judge the city abused its discretion in its treatment of the client.*
**Matter from a previous firm*

Education

Mr. Straus earned his J.D. from the University of California, Berkeley School of Law in 1980 and his B.S. *highest distinction*, from Northwestern University in 1977.

Bar Admissions

- California

Court Admissions

- United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- United States District Court for the Central District of California
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of California
- United States District Court for the Northern District of California
- United States District Court for the Southern District of California