

Jean L. Bertrand

San Francisco, California
Of Counsel

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Areas of Practice & Industry Specialties

Litigation



Jean Bertrand is an experienced litigator in the Firm's San Francisco office. She focuses her practice primarily on commercial litigation, real estate litigation and toxic torts, drawing on her substantial trial and appellate experience to help her clients achieve successful outcomes. Her over 40 years of experience includes dozens of jury trials, several arbitrations, and multiple appellate arguments. As an archrival once said, "Jean knows her way around a courtroom."

Ms. Bertrand's enviable record of wins ranges from commercial real estate cases to defenses of asbestos product liability cases to prosecuting insurance coverage cases. Her peers have recognized her experience and deep bench of knowledge by naming her to leadership positions in the State Bar of California, Commercial Real Estate Women and the American College of Mortgage Attorneys.

Ms. Bertrand has been recognized by *Super Lawyers* from 2017-2023, and has been named to the *Best Lawyers in America* list from 2017-2024.

Publications

- Don't Expect to Finish What You Started, (*Chapter 5 Author*) in *From the Trenches: Strategies and Tips from 21 of the Nation's Top Trial Lawyers*, 2015

Presentations

- Speaker, "Evidence: Objecting to Expert Opinion Testimony at Trial," Continuing Education of the Bar, University of California, September 27, 2018
- Speaker, "Evidence: Objecting to Expert Opinion Testimony at Trial," Continuing Education of the Bar, University of California, February 23, 2016
- Speaker, "The Meaning of Rights of First Offer and First Refusal in a Commercial Lease, and Other Interesting Contract Issues," 2015 California State Bar Real Property Law Section Annual Retreat, May 1, 2015
- Speaker, "Has the News of the Death of the Billable Hour Been Greatly Exaggerated?," 2013 American Bar Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, August 8, 2013
- Speaker, "Ethics: Alternative Fee Arrangements," Windy City Litigation Management Conference, Chicago, June 17, 2011
- Speaker, "Breaking Free from the Billable Hour: Making Alternative Fee Arrangements Work for Your Practice," American Bar Association Law Practice Management Webinar, June 16, 2011
- Panelist, "Expanding Your Circle of Influence," When She Speaks: Women in Leadership Series, San Francisco, May 19, 2011

Education

Ms. Bertrand earned her J.D. *magna cum laude* and *order of the coif* at the University of Michigan Law

School, where she was a member of the *Michigan Law Review*, She earned her B.S. in History *with high honors* at the University of Michigan.

Bar Admissions

- California

Court Admissions

- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Central District of California
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California

Community

- American College of Mortgage Attorneys, Former Regent
- Commercial Real Estate Women – San Francisco, Former Board of Directors Member
- State Bar of California, Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluation (2009-2011)
- State Bar of California, Real Property Law Section, Past Chair
- State Bar of California, Committee on Administration of Justice, Past Chair
- State Bar of California, Committee on Rules and Procedures of Court, Past Chair