

Michael L. Wachtell

Los Angeles, California
Shareholder

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Areas of Practice & Industry Specialties

Trade Secrets & Employee Mobility; Litigation; Intellectual Property Law; Multi-Level Marketing; Alternative Lenders; Hospitality Industry Law; Religious & Non-Profit Organization Law; Fiduciaries, Receivers & Trustees; Title Insurance & Escrow



Michael Wachtell has a broad base of experience in complex commercial, corporate and business transactions and litigation in California and Nevada. While devoting a substantial portion of his practice to commercial litigation and receivership matters in state and federal courts, Mr. Wachtell also focuses on complex commercial transactions, real estate, intellectual property, film finance, labor, securities, and environmental law. During his years of practice, he has developed an extensive background and expertise in real estate, real estate and film finance, hospitality law, banking, commercial and secured transactions, mergers and acquisitions, securities, insurance, proprietary rights, environmental, patent and trademark law, trade regulation matters, and debtor-creditor representation.

Most recently, Mr. Wachtell has been lead counsel in film finance disputes for clients involving amounts in dispute well over \$100M, has been lead counsel for a Federal Court appointed Receiver in a major mortgage fraud case and a Receiver in a State Court fraud receivership involving low income tax credit developments. Mr. Wachtell is also currently serving as a Receiver in a state regulatory receivership and as corporate counsel to several privately held companies.

Mr. Wachtell has and continues to serve as a Court appointed receiver, referee, provisional director, and arbitrator and mediator in connection with complex business cases. He also is on the Mediator/Arbitrator panel of Alternative Resolution Centers in Los Angeles and formerly served as an arbitrator for the American Arbitration Association. He currently serves as a director of the Los Angeles/Orange County Chapter of the California Receivers Forum and is a past member of the board of the Forum's statewide parent organization. Mr. Wachtell also serves as a co-founder of an independent hotel company which owns and operates more than 8 hotel properties in several states. Mr. Wachtell lectures extensively in his fields of specialty to clients, bar associations, and trade organizations.

Mr. Wachtell is a member of the Los Angeles County and American Bar Associations and various other trade organizations related to his fields of practice. He serves as an active member of the American Bar Association Real Property Section, Hotel and Hospitality Subcommittee. He also lectures extensively in his areas of practice and actively participates in various charitable, civic and religious organizations and is a member of the firm's Board of Directors. Mr. Wachtell is AV Preeminent rated and recognized as a 2013 Top Rated Lawyer in the area of Bank & Finance by *Martindale Hubbell*, and has been selected by *Super Lawyer Magazine* as one of Southern California's Super Lawyers five times from 2006 to 2010.

Mr. Wachtell is admitted to the State Bars of California, Nevada, Virginia, the District of Columbia, and is licensed to practice before the United States Patent and Trademark Office. He also holds a California real estate broker's license.

Publications

- U.S. Supreme Court Upholds Validity of Department of Labor's Interpretation on Overtime Pay for

Mortgage Loan Officers, *Buchalter Nemer Lender Alert*, March 2015

Presentations

- Co-speaker, "Protecting America's Intellectual Property," USC Davidson Conference Center, sponsored by the USC Marshall Alumni Association, September 29, 2012
- Co speaker, "The Changing and Evolving Landscape of Real Property Receiverships: Commercial Real Estate Concerns, Legal Authority for Receiver to Sell Real Property and Special Servicer Restrictions," Receiver's Forum Event , August 18, 2011
- Speaker, "Turning Dirt into Gold: Opportunities and Issues in Commercial Real Estate Workouts, Restructurings and Bankruptcies," L.A. Bankruptcy Forum, October 4, 2010

Education

Mr. Wachtell earned his J.D. with *honors* at George Washington University School of Law in 1968, where he was a member and contributor to *The George Washington Law Review*. He received a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering at the City College of New York in 1964.

Bar Admissions

- California
- Nevada
- Virginia
- U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
- U.S. Tax Court

Court Admissions

- District of Columbia