Buchalter

Paula B. Hernandez

Orange County, California
Attorney

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Areas of Practice & Industry Specialties
Litigation; Latin America Practice

Paula Hernandez is an attorney in the Firm's Orange County office and a member of the Litigation practice group. Ms. Hernandez's practice focuses on commercial and real property litigation. She also has experience defending clients in matters related to ADA and Unruh Civil Rights Act and mortgage lending and servicing. Ms. Hernandez has managed and favorably resolved cases for a variant of clients, with experience in all stages of litigation, including taking a case through to bench trial. Ms. Hernandez also has extensive experience in land use, handling a wide range of cases involving legal issues related to environmental, zoning, real estate, and property law.

Professional Involvement

- Vice-President, Hispanic Bar Association
- Board Member, Adventist Attorneys Association
- Member, Riverside Bar Association

Representative Matters

- Serves as environmental and land use legal counsel to a national retailer for the acquisition, entitlement, development, operations and/or expansion of over 200 stores and warehouse facilities throughout California, in addition to numerous other Fortune 500 companies.
- Successfully worked with the California Department of Toxic Substances Control to develop a response plan for the redevelopment of a 302-acre brownfield site in coordination with multiple agencies.
- Proactively developed guidance and client compliance strategies related to recent regulations and legislation including: California's Proposition 65 amendments; California Senate Bill 334 (2021) related to correctional facilities; Los Angeles County's "Green Zones" Ordinance; South Coast Air Quality Management District's Rule 2305 (Warehouse Indirect Source Rule); and a variety of local ordinances including moratoria and "big box" ordinances.
- Assisted a major beverage company with environmental due diligence for future manufacturing plant sites and operational environmental compliance matters.

Publications

- California Third District Court of Appeal Affirms State Water Board's Authority to Regulate Unreasonable Water Use through Temporary Emergency Regulations and Curtailment Orders Without Prior Evidentiary Hearing, *California Water Law & Policy Reporter* , September 18, 2020
- California Department of Water Resources Awards $47 Million in Grants for Groundwater Sustainability Project, *California Water Law & Policy Reporter* , April 21, 2020

- Natural Resources Defense Council Files Suit Against Various Counties and Cities for Failure to Comply with California Water Regulations, *California Water Law & Policy Reporter* , February 15, 2020
- California Kicks Off Water Year 2020 with Strong Start, *California Water Law & Policy Reporter* , November 17, 2019
- California Legislators Reject Water Tax but Approve Funding for Safe and Affordable Drinking Water, *California Water Law & Policy Reporter* , June 1, 2019
- State Lawmakers Propose Several Sweeping Environmental Measures this Year on Single-Use Plastic, Wastewater Reuse, and More, *California Water Law & Policy Reporter* , May 21, 2019
- Full Reservoirs and Dense Snowpack: A Look at California's Water Supply for the Rest of the Year, *California Water Law & Policy Reporter* , May 13, 2019
- Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Issues Notice Accepting Utah's Application for Lake Powell Pipeline, *California Water Law & Policy Reporter* , March 5, 2019
- Prompted by the Oroville Dam Crisis, California Department of Water Resources Orders Inspection of Nearly 100 California Dams, *California Water Law & Policy*, September 19, 2017
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Reverses Decision to Extend Air Quality Deadline After 15 States Sue, *California Water Law & Policy*, September 5, 2017
- Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Authorize Department of Public Works to Study Use of Parcel Tax for Funding Stormwater Capture Projects,, *California Water Law & Policy*, July 11, 2017
- Opposing Counsel: Michael H. White, *The Riverside Lawyer,*, March 12, 2017

Education
Ms. Hernandez earned her J.D. with honors, *cum laude*, from Pepperdine University School of Law and a Certificate in Dispute Resolution from the Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution. While in law school, Ms. Hernandez served on the *Pepperdine Law Review* and competed on the Pepperdine University Moot Court Team. She received the Dean's Excellence Scholarship, the CALI Award for Criminal Law, and was a member of Phi Delta Phi Honors Society and the Dean's List. She earned her B.S. with high honors, *magna cum laude*, from La Sierra University.

Bar Admissions

- California

Community

- Mock Trial Attorney Coach, Citrus Valley High School

Languages

- Portuguese
- Spanish