

Steven G. Churchwell

Sacramento, California
Of Counsel

P (916) 945-5168
F (916) 930-0151
schurchwell@buchalter.com

Areas of Practice & Industry Specialties

Government, Regulatory & Administrative Law



Steve Churchwell is a member of the Government Affairs, Regulatory and Administrative practice group in Buchalter's Sacramento office. Mr. Churchwell represents corporations, trade associations, nonprofits, Indian tribes and public agencies in compliance matters, enforcement defense and related litigation. He has served as lead counsel for state and local ballot measure committees since 1988. He has many precedential appellate wins, including two 7-0 victories in the California Supreme Court.

Mr. Churchwell practices in the areas of political law, conflicts of interest, state agency regulation and rulemaking, and government contracts.

His positions in government were:

- General Counsel, California Fair Political Practices Commission
- Chief Counsel, Cal-OSHA Appeals Board
- Legal Counsel, Office of Administrative Law
- Legislative Intern

Mr. Churchwell received the highest rating of AV® by *Martindale-Hubbell* and was selected as a Northern California Super Lawyer the past ten years (2013-2022). He is a Past President of the California Political Attorneys Association and helped develop methodology used by the Ethisphere Institute to rank the World's Most Ethical Companies. Mr. Churchwell was named by the National Law Journal to its "2013 Pro Bono Hot List." Most recently, Mr. Churchwell was recognized as one of *Sacramento Magazine's* 2021 Top Lawyers in the areas of Government Contracts, and Legislative & Governmental Affairs.

Publications

- A Trial Court Misinterpreted the 'Germane to a Common Theme or Purpose' Test in Holding That Prop. 22 Violated the Single-Subject Rule, *The Recorder*, December 22, 2021
- 2022 Filing Requirements and Contribution Limits for California "Major Donors", December 16, 2021
- In Invalidating Prop. 22, Court Overlooked Basic Constitutional Law, *The Daily Journal*, October 15, 2021
- Buchalter COVID-19 Client Alert: COVID-19 Infection May Be an OSHA Recordable Work-Related Illness, *Buchalter Client Alert*, September 16, 2021
- Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Safety Rules to be Revised, May 14, 2021
- Buchalter COVID-19 Client Alert: Cal-OSHA Wins First Round in Major Court Challenge to its COVID-19 Emergency Regulation, *Buchalter Client Alert*, February 26, 2021

Education

Mr. Churchwell earned his J.D. from the University of Tennessee, where he served as Articles Editor for the Law Review. He earned his B.A. *cum laude* from Vanderbilt University.

Bar Admissions

- California
- Tennessee

Court Admissions

- Supreme Court of the United States
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- U.S. District Courts (CD, ED, ND Cal.)