





# JOHN B. SULLIVAN

*Partner*

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John Sullivan's extensive experience in representing law firms of all sizes allows him to understand claims raised by aggrieved clients and work with firms to respond to and resolve those claims informally or, when necessary, through litigation. He has been recognized by *the Daily Journal* as one of the top professional responsibility lawyers in California.

Since joining Long & Levit in 2005, he has focused his practice almost exclusively on law firm defense. John has defended attorneys in state and federal courts, resolving claims at the pleading stage, summary judgment, mediation, trial and arbitration. During this time, he also has represented attorneys in State Bar matters, advised firms regarding partnership disputes, and prosecuted fee claims. John also counsels firms on liability and ethics issues.

John currently serves as the Chair of the San Francisco Bar Association Legal Malpractice Section. He frequently presents on professional liability topics. John also has been asked to comment for publications on California Court of Appeal decisions relevant to ethics and professional liability.

Aside from representing professionals, John has experience handling personal injury and product liability cases as well as commercial and corporate disputes. In defending claims against attorneys, John has gained in depth experience in numerous areas of law, including antitrust, class actions, water rights, federal tax, public finance, employment, and issues involving corporate governance.

John received his J.D. from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law in 2005. While at Hastings, he served as an extern for the Hon. Paul Alvarado (Ret.), San Francisco Superior Court.

## Admissions

- Member of the California Bar
- USDC: Northern District of California
- US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

## Academics

- Santa Clara University | B.S.C., Finance, 2002
- UC Law San Francisco | J.D., 2005

## Professional Affiliations

- Edward J. McFetridge Inn of Court
- San Francisco Bar Association
- San Francisco Bar Association Legal Malpractice Section
- San Francisco Barristers Club Litigation Section
- St. Thomas More Society

## Professional Recognition

- "Northern California Rising Star" in Professional Liability, Super Lawyer Magazine, 2014
- "Top Professional Liability Lawyer" in Daily Journal, 2023

## Recent Presentations/Publications

- "New Guidance Regarding the Role of Legal Assistants in Law Offices," San Francisco Daily Journal, July 5, 2023
- "Ethical Lessons for Litigators From the California Courts of Appeal," San Francisco Daily Journal, March 1, 2023
- "Don't Jeopardize Your Fee," San Francisco Daily Journal, February 15, 2023
- Speaker, "Legal Malpractice and Ethics - 2022 in Review," Bar Association of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA, January 25, 2023
- Speaker, "Case Law Updates," ABA 2022 National Legal Malpractice Conference, Seattle, WA, September 22, 2022
- Speaker, "Legal Malpractice and Ethics: 2021 in Review," Bar Association of San Francisco, Legal Malpractice Section, San Francisco, CA, January 21, 2022
- Speaker, "Legal Malpractice and Ethics: 2020 in Review," Bar Association of San Francisco, Legal Malpractice Section, San Francisco, CA, January 12, 2021
- Speaker, "Legal Malpractice and Ethics: 2019 in Review," Bar Association of San Francisco, Legal Malpractice Section, San Francisco, CA, January 22, 2020
- Speaker, "Insurance 101 For Law Firms," Bar Association of San Francisco, Legal Malpractice Section, San Francisco, CA, January 23, 2019
- Speaker, "Legal Malpractice and Ethics: 2018 in Review," Bar Association of San Francisco, Legal Malpractice Section, San Francisco, CA, January 23, 2019
- Speaker, "Wake Up to the New Ethical World: California's Revamped Rules of Professional Conduct," Northern District Bankruptcy Conference, San Francisco, CA, October 12, 2018
- Speaker, "Legal Malpractice and Ethics: 2017 in Review," Bar Association of San Francisco, Legal Malpractice Section, San Francisco, CA, January 17, 2018
- Speaker, "What Could I Have Done Differently? Tips for Avoiding Client Disputes," Bar Association of San Francisco, Legal Malpractice Section, San Francisco, CA, January 17, 2018

## Recent Presentations/Publications, cont.

- Speaker, "Indecent Contact: Ethical Challenges With Contacts With Putative Class Members," California State Bar, Litigation Section, January 27, 2016
- Presenter, "Lawyers In The Cross-Hairs: Recent Trends In Claims Against Attorneys, Related Ethical And Insurance Issues, And Defense Strategies," Bar Association of San Francisco, Legal Malpractice Section, San Francisco, CA, June 3, 2015
- "Transactional Lawyers in the Crosshairs," Article, July 22, 2015