

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.

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 and regularly contributes a risk management article to the San Francisco Bulletin, a monthly legal periodical. 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
- University of California, Hastings
College of Law | 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

Program Chair

- The Bad Consequences of an Investment Gone South, and How to Protect Yourself" presented at the ABA Standing Committee on Lawyers' Professional Liability, Fall 2014 National Legal Malpractice Conference
- "Young Professionals Roundtable: Managing the Tri-Partite Relationship" presented at the ABA Standing Committee on Lawyers' Professional Liability, Fall, 2014 National Legal Malpractice Conference

Recent Presentations/Publications

- Speaker, Legal Malpractice and Ethics: 2019 In Review, Bar Association of San Francisco, Legal Malpractice Section, San Francisco, CA January 22, 2020
- Author, Insurance 101 For Law Firms, Daily Journal, March 27, 2020
- Speaker, Insurance 101 For Law Firms, Bar Association of San Francisco, Legal Malpractice Section, San Francisco, CA October 3, 2019
- Speaker, Emerging Claim: Failure to Notify, ABA Young Professionals Event, Chicago, IL, June 6, 2019
- Speaker, Fee Agreements: Lawyers' Most Effective Tool To Manage Expectations, Protect Themselves and Get Paid, Continuing Education of the Bar-University of California, Webinar, March 4, 2019
- Speaker, Risk Management and the New Rules of Professional Conduct, Bar Association of San Francisco, Legal Malpractice Section, San Francisco, CA January 29, 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, 2018 Bay Area Bankruptcy Judges' Conference, 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