

## Jennifer A. Becker, Partner

LONG & LEVIT LLP

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### Summary of Qualifications

Jennifer Becker is an experienced trial lawyer with 30 years of practice handling professional liability and ethics matters involving attorneys, architects, engineers and accountants. She is Certified as a Legal Malpractice Specialist by the State Bar of California.

She began her career as a plaintiffs' lawyer focusing on legal malpractice claims. Ms. Becker joined Long & Levit in 1999 where her unique perspective has served to effectively defend attorneys in legal malpractice actions, and provide counsel on their ethical responsibilities. She has also expanded her practice to include the defense of construction defect, personal injury, commercial litigation, and other professional liability claims. Ms. Becker is skilled as both a litigator and negotiator.

Ms. Becker also provides risk management and ethics advice to her attorney and architect clients based on her many years of handling professional liability disputes.

Ms. Becker enjoys speaking and writing about Professional Liability issues. She presents on the topic of risk management and ethics at local bar associations, and has been Editor-In-Chief of the firm's Professional Liability Update publications since 2001. Ms. Becker was appointed to the California State Bar's Committee on Professional Rules and Conduct for a three year term commencing October 2012. Ms. Becker has been the chair Legal Malpractice Committee of the Bar Association of San Francisco since 2014.

### Academics & Admissions

#### *Academics*

- Hastings College of The Law, San Francisco, California, J.D., 1985
- University of California Berkeley, Berkeley, California, B.A. with high honors, English Literature, 1981

## **Admissions**

- State Bar of California, 1985
- Certified Specialist, Legal Malpractice, 2012

## **Presentations**

- *Traps and Pitfalls for Real Estate Attorneys*, Bar Association of San Francisco, April 2015
- *The Color of Money: Alternative Litigation Funding*, California State Bar Committee on Professional Rules and Conduct, Annual Ethics Symposium, April 2015
- *The Top Developments from the Past Year Impacting the Law of Lawyering*, Santa Clara County Bar Association, January 2015
- *Legal Malpractice and Professional Ethics: Recent Developments*, Bar Association of San Francisco, January 2015
- *Blogging, Tweeting and the New Frontier of Attorney Advertising: How to Stay Within the Ethical Bounds*, California State Bar Annual Meeting, 2014
- *Representing a Bernie Madoff or Charles Ponzi*, California State Bar Committee on Professional Rules and Conduct, Annual Ethics Symposium, April 2014
- *2013 in Review: Key Developments in Professional Liability*, Bar Association of San Francisco, January 2014
- *Ethics: The Estate Planner Roadmap to Navigating Conflicts*, State Bar of California's Annual Taxation Conference, November 2013
- *Conflicts 201, Beyond the Basics*, California State Bar Annual Meeting, October 2013
- *Ethical Risk Management*, Bar Association of San Francisco and Berkeley Albany Bar Association, September, 2013
- *Ethically Lawyering Opposite a Pro Per*, Sonoma County Women Lawyers Association, May, 2013
- *Attorney Fee Payments - New Options, Old Ethics*, Bar Association of San Francisco Solo and Small Firm Practice Section, March, 2013
- *Ethical Risk Management for the Family Law and Trusts and Estates Attorney*, California State Bar Annual Meeting, October 2012
- *Ethical Risk Management for Attorneys*, presentations to Local Bar Associations: 2011 to present

- *Smart Practice Not Malpractice*, program presented to lawyers throughout California including Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Sacramento 2003-2004
- *Steering a Safer Path: Risk Management for Lawyers*, presented to lawyers throughout California including Monterey, Sacramento, San Francisco and Los Angeles, 2000-2002
- *Avoiding Attorney Liability to Non-Clients in the Transactional, Litigation and Estate Planning Settings* presented to Santa Clara County Bar Association, January 2002

## Publications

- *A Judge Bribed is Justice Denied*, Los Angeles - San Francisco Daily Journal, July 25, 2014
- *Ethical Duties to Third Parties*, California State Bar Journal, April, 2014
- *Zealous Advocacy Loses Ground*, Los Angeles - San Francisco Daily Journal, October 11, 2013
- *The "No Contact" Rule – Trickier Than You Think*, California State Bar Journal, May, 2013
- *Editor-in-Chief, Professional Liability Updates*, 2001 to the present
- Author of over 100 Professional Liability Updates [www.longlevit.com/blog/](http://www.longlevit.com/blog/)

## Professional & Civic Involvement

- Wiley W. Manuel Award for Pro Bono Legal Services awarded by the State Bar of California, 2003, 2004, 2005
- Member, California State Bar Committee on Professional Rules and Conduct, 2012 – 2015
- Chair, Legal Malpractice Section, Bar Association of San Francisco, 2014 -
- Volunteer attorney, Bar Association of San Francisco
- "Lawyers in the Library" Alameda County Bar Association