



Dana J. Dunwoody

Partner

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PRACTICE AREAS

- Litigation

INDUSTRIES

- Climate Change and Clean Technology
- Energy
- Fashion, Apparel and Beauty
- Financial Services
- Hospitality
- Retail

OVERVIEW

Mr. Dunwoody is the managing partner in the San Diego office of Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton, and a member of the firm's Business Trial Practice Group.

Areas of Practice

Since 1985, Mr. Dunwoody's practice has focused on five areas of complex litigation, arbitration and trial work: business, including: (1) disputes involving the hospitality industry; (2) a wide variety of class action defense including unfair business practices, false advertising, securities, wage and hour, and independent contractor misclassification; (3) contract litigation primarily in the context of business or real estate disputes; (4) real property litigation, including CEQA and land use in addition to traditional disputes concerning development agreements, partition, and purchase and sale issues; and (5) intra-corporate and partnership disputes.

In respect of his hospitality practice, Mr. Dunwoody has developed significant expertise in disputes concerning hotels, resorts, and golf courses in his representation of international management companies, hotel owners and funding sources. Mr. Dunwoody is a member of the International Society of Hospitality Consultants (ISHC).

Mr. Dunwoody co-chairs the firm's Hospitality Practice Group and chairs the Class Action Retail Team.

EDUCATION

- J.D., University of California, Berkeley, Boalt Hall, 1985, Associate Editor for the Industrial Relations Law Journal
- B.A., University of California, San Diego, 1981

CLERKSHIPS

- Judicial Extern for the Honorable Laughlin E. Waters of the United States District Court for the Central District of California

EXPERIENCE

Prior to joining Sheppard Mullin, Mr. Dunwoody worked for 15 years in a boutique trial firm he founded in San Diego known as Mazzarella, Dunwoody & Caldarelli LLP. Prior to that, Mr. Dunwoody was associated with the San Diego office of Allen, Matkins, Leck, Gamble & Mallory, San Diego's Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps, and Los Angeles's Cox, Castle & Nicholson.

Representative Clients

Nordstrom; Saks Fifth Avenue; JCPenney; Hilton International; Promus Hotels, Inc.; Four Seasons Resort Owners Association; Greystone Hospitality; Eurohypo AG; Platinum Equity; Lennar; Allied Waste; NRG Energy, Inc.; Morrison & Foerster, LLP; Heritage Golf Group; and others.

HONORS

- Southern California Super Lawyer, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010
- San Diego County Top Attorneys, 2010
- Best Lawyers In America, 2011

MEMBERSHIPS

- Former Chair, Executive Committee of the then 12,000 member Litigation Section of the California State Bar.
- Editor-In-Chief, Litigation Section's newsletter, 1990-1994.
- Board member, Association of Business Trial Lawyers of San Diego.
- Trial Master, American Inns of Court.
- Super Lawyer, Top Attorneys and Best Lawyers in America- peer review honors granted to only the very top of each legal specialty.

ARTICLES

- Top Attorneys 2010, *San Diego Daily Transcript*, July 21, 2010
- One of three authors on the annual Lexis/Nexis publication called *California Federal Civil Rules: with local commentary*.
- One of three consultants on the Lexis/Nexis publication called *Matthew Bender® Practice Guide: California Contract Litigation* originally published in 2005, and still in current publication.
- One of Eight members of the LexisNexis California Advisory Board for Legal Publications.
- Served as a Consulting Editor for CEB's "Action Guide" series.
- Co-authored a chapter on Alternative Dispute Resolution, Mediation and Arbitration of hospitality disputes in "Hotel Investments: Issues & Perspectives"- 4th Edition.
- Edited portions of CEB's "Effective Use of ADR in California"
- Written numerous other articles on legal topics and topics affecting the hotel industry.

SPEECHES

- Frequent lecturer and panelist in continuing education programs sponsored by the California Continuing Education of the Bar (CEB), the Association of Business Trial Lawyers (ABTL), the National Institute of Trial Advocacy (NITA), American Conference Institute (ACI), Corporate Counsel Exchange and other organizations, where he has taught classes on class actions, trial, and deposition techniques and strategies.