

# JOHN VLAHOS

## PARTNER

John, a name partner in the firm, served as managing partner from 1980 to 1985 and again from 1988 to 1997. He specializes in civil, business, governmental and appellate litigation in state and federal courts. John has been chief litigation counsel for the firm's major public agency clients for more than 30 years. He has also served as president of the San Francisco Performing Arts Library and Museum and as president of Lamplighters Music Theatre (formerly Opera West Foundation).

### CHILDHOOD:

John grew up in Tracy, California, which at that time was a farming town. He moved to the Bay Area when he was 10 years old and has lived in the area ever since, attending UC Berkeley for his undergrad and Hastings for Law School.

### FIRST JOB:

Working as a part-time clerk at the National Shirt Shop while he was in High School. No longer open, the National Shirt Shop was located in Oakland.

### FAVORITE THING ABOUT BEING AN ATTORNEY:

The ability to help people solve problems in diverse areas of personal and business life.

### LEAST FAVORITE PART OF THE JOB:

Electronic discovery. And discovery in general.

### FAVORITE WAY TO SPEND FREE TIME:

Reading, spending time with his grandkids (he has six ranging in age from 13 months to 13 years), travelling, learning foreign languages (currently he is studying Italian), hiking, playing tennis and being outside.

### FAVORITE CAUSE:

UC Berkeley and the Lamplighters. He was a member of the Lamplighters for more than 20 years.



### IF YOU WEREN'T A LAWYER YOU WOULD BE...

Acting in musical theatre.

### FAVORITE BOOK:

A number of Shakespeare plays, led by *Hamlet*, *The Tempest*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. He also loves *Of Mice and Men*, by John Steinbeck.

### FAVORITE BAY AREA DESTINATION:

The Palace of the Legion of Honor.

### WHAT IS SOMETHING MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU?

John is the press box play by play announcer at Cal home football games. He also compiled, wrote and edited histories for the UC Berkeley song book.

**FAVORITE MOVIE:**

*Singing in the Rain, The Wizard of Oz, The Name of the Rose, and more.*

**FAVORITE RESTAURANT:**

Chez Panisse in Berkeley. He also likes North Beach Restaurant for more casual fare.

**WHAT BOOK ARE YOU READING RIGHT NOW?**

*Wolf Hall: A Novel*, book one of the Thomas Cromwell trilogy, by Hilary Mantel.

**LAST PLACE YOU VACATIONED:**

Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany and Austria.

**WHAT DO YOU CONSIDER TO BE YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT?**

Survival.

**WHAT IS A GOAL YOU HAVE THAT IS YET TO BE ACHIEVED?**

Survival!