



Matthew J. Peck

Senior Counsel

Matthew represents public and private sector clients in high-stakes litigation in state and federal courts. He focuses his practice on complex business and employee benefits litigation with an emphasis on the defense of class, representative and multiparty actions.

Matthew has broad litigation and counseling experience involving pension and OPEB issues arising under CERL, PERL and city retirement systems and, in connection with this practice, frequently provides risk management advice to public agency clients on the government claims procedures and defenses, as well as on Brown Act and Public Records Act issues. Matthew also counsels plan sponsors, plan administrators and fiduciaries in administrative claim appeals and defends them in ERISA litigation.

Matthew's business litigation practice focuses on the representation of both plaintiffs and defendants in complex business disputes involving contract, fiduciary, fraud, unfair competition and trade secret claims. Matthew also has experience defending companies in lawsuits and arbitrations brought under California's consumer protection statutes. He is a member of the Leadership Development Committee for the Northern California Chapter of The Association of Business and Trial Lawyers.

Matthew is dedicated to providing pro bono legal services and recently served as a working group member to the Blue Ribbon Panel on Fairness and Accountability in Law Enforcement which investigated allegations of racial and other bias in the San Francisco Police Department.

Publications

"Court Upholds Plan Administrator's Interpretation in Recent ERISA Case," co-author, *Employee Benefits Law Alert* (September 2019)

"Courts Split On Pension Vested Rights Analysis," co-author, *Employee Benefits Alert* (March 2018)

"*Montanile*: A Cautionary Tale For ERISA Plans," co-author, *Litigation & Dispute Resolution Alert* (January 2016)

"Proposed E-Discovery Rule To Test Document Retention Policies," co-author, *Litigation & Dispute Resolution Law Alert* (May 2015)

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Practices/Industries

Litigation & Dispute Resolution

Business Litigation

Blog Posts

"Ninth Circuit Underscores the Importance of Carefully Crafting Class Action Settlements," *HB Briefly* (March 2018)

"SCOTUS Reminds CA Courts of the Strength of Preemption Under Concepcion," *HB Briefly* (December 2015)

"Proposed E-Discovery Rule To Test Document Retention Policies," *HB Briefly* (May 2015)

Judicial Clerkships

Judicial Extern to the Honorable Thomas E. Carlson, United States Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of California

Academic Distinctions

Taxation Certificate

Phi Alpha Delta Legal Society, Member (2009-2012)

Education

J.D., University of California, Hastings College of the Law (2012)

B.A., *cum laude*, Gonzaga University (2009)

Admissions and Courts

California

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California