HansonBridgett



Shayna Mittler van Hoften

Partner

SvanHoften@hansonbridgett.com
(415) 995-5880

Hanson Bridgett LLP
1676 N. California Blvd., Suite 620
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Firm Leadership
Public Transit & Transportation Practice Leader

Areas of Focus

- Government
- Municipal and Public Agency
- Government Ethics
- Public Transit and Transportation

Scan for expanded vCard

Shayna chairs our Public Transit & Transportation Practice Group. An engaged, knowledgeable legal advisor, she provides strategic, practical counsel to government agencies in sensitive legal and political environments.

Shayna helps clients identify and mitigate government ethics and governance challenges. She works with them to adopt and implement local revenue enhancements, negotiate intergovernmental agreements, and undertake major programs and projects. Clients rely on Shayna to ensure they comply with disability access and other civil rights laws, and to develop and abide by public agency administrative, financial and risk management best practices. Shayna also drafts all forms of legislation and regulation, and pens written and oral comments on state and federal statutory and regulatory proposals.

Shayna provides frequent training on compliance with the Brown Act, Public Records Act, and conflict of interest laws and regulations, including for compliance with AB 1234.

Shayna has been licensed to practice law in the State of California since 2004. During law school, she clerked in the San Francisco city attorney's office and for Disability Rights Advocates. Prior to attending graduate and law school, Shayna worked in state and federal government affairs in Washington, D.C.

Representative Work

Civil Rights in Public Transit. Regularly assists public transit providers comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, including working together to analyze fare and service changes with potentially discriminatory effects on minority and low-income populations, and to develop Limited English Proficiency Language Assistance Plans.

State Initiative Measure. Co-drafted Proposition 86, which sought to fund health insurance coverage for uninsured children in California by raising the state tax on tobacco products.

Publications

"Navigating the New CDL Regulatory Landscape: What Motor Carriers, Brokers, and Public Transit Agencies Need to Know," co-author, Transportation Legal Alert (January 2026)

"Governor Plans to Lift COVID-19 State of Emergency, Limiting Agencies' Ability to Meet Remotely," Government Law Alert (October 2022)

"Executive Order Relaxes Brown Act Requirements Further," Government Law Alert (March 2020)

"The Brown Act," *In the Loop with the Hanson Bridgett Government Group* Video Alert (June 2017)

"New Year, Renewed Board," *CA Special District. Volume 12, Issue 1* (January–February 2017)

"Why Take 8 Steps When You Can Get There In 4? The FPPC's New Conflict of Interest Regulations for Public Officials in California," *Public Law Journal* (March 2016)

"Conflict of Interest Regulations," *In the Loop with the Hanson Bridgett Government Group* Video Alert (June 2015)

"Ask the Experts: The Brown Act," *California Special Districts Association Magazine* (April 2015)

"New Gift Rules Effective January 1, 2012," Government Law Alert (December 2011)

Presentations

"Legal Updates and Perspectives," panelist, APTA TRANSform & EXPO (September 2026)

"Route to Transit Ballot Success: What to Ask Your Lawyer and When," panelist, APTA's Center for Transportation Excellence (May 2026)

"Local Ballot Measures," moderator, APTA Legal Affairs Seminar (March 2026)

“DOT and CDL Compliance Now: Practical Steps to Reduce Driver and Transportation Liability,” Hanson Bridgett Transportation Webinar (January 2026)

“Demystifying the DBE Interim Final Rule: A Deeper Dialogue with the Experts,” panelist, WTS International (October 2025)

“Career Transition Opportunities in State and Local Government,” panelist, GSPP Alumni Panel (August 2025)

AB-1234-compliant Local Government Ethics Law Trainings, approximately 65 sessions (2006-2023)

“Establishing A Federal Compliance Program for Federal Funded Transportation Projects,” co-presenter, APTA 2023 Legal Affairs Seminar (April 2023)

“ADA Accessibility Issues,” co-presenter, American Public Transportation Association (April 2022)

“A Revenue Cornucopia: One Special District’s Comprehensive Approach to Raising Revenue,” co-presenter, California Special Districts Association Webinar (August 2020)

“Going to the Ballot” Association of California Healthcare Districts (February 2018)

“Going to the Ballot?: Restrictions on the Use of Public Funds for Political Purposes,” California Special Districts Association Conference (September 2017)

“Understanding Public Service Ethics Laws and Principles (AB 1234 Training),” co-speaker, Co-sponsored by the Institute for Local Government, CSAC Annual Conference (November 2016)

“Developing Policies to Promote Social Responsibility, Equity, and Engagement,” moderator, CTA Annual Conference (November 2016)

“Glass Ceiling 2.0: Innovative Programs Closing the Gender Gap,” co-speaker, WTS-SF South Bay (June 2016)

“Government Ethics Academy,” co-speaker, Santa Clara University’s Markkula Center for Applied Ethics (May 2016)

“Completing Statement of Economic Interest - Form 700”, co-speaker, CSDA live webinar (March 2016)

“Since When does the FPPC Have Jurisdiction over Government Code Section 1090? A New Day for 1090 Advice and Enforcement,” co-speaker and moderator, County Counsels’ Association

Land Use Study Section (December 2015)

“Federal Transit Administration Lessons Learned / Problem Areas in Compliance,” moderator, Title VI Workshop (October 2015)

Government Conflict of Interest Rules: “The only thing constant is change,” co-speaker and moderator, County Counsels’ Association Annual Conference (September 2016)

“Welcome to the Fishbowl: An Interactive Government Ethics Workshop,” co-speaker, 2015 Annual CSDA Conference (September 2015)

“Finding Your Voice: Strategic Communication,” co-speaker, Watermark Her Voice Series (June 2015)

“Conflicts of Interest: Statutory and Regulatory Update,” County Counsels’ Association Land Use Study Section (April 2015)

“Conflicts of Interest: Statutory and Regulatory Update,” Port of Oakland Port Attorney’s Office (March 2015)

AB-1234-compliant Local Government Ethics Law Trainings, approximately 60 sessions (2006–2015)

“Projects, Procurements, Pitfalls and Plaintiffs: Smart Practices for Negotiating and Managing Public Contracts,” moderator, MMANC Annual Conference (October 2014)

“Statutory Strategies, Regulatory Reviews and Counseling Clients: An Update on Conflict-of-Interest Rules Under the PRA and Section 1090,” moderator, California Political Attorneys Association Conference (September 2014)

“Ballot Measures: Beyond the Basics,” panelist, MMANC Annual Conference (November 2013)

“Disparate Impact, Disproportionate Burden, and Major Service Change Policies,” “Public Engagement and Policy Development,” “California Government Code Section 11135 and Title VI,” “How to Complete a Fare Equity Analysis” and “How to Complete a Service Equity Analysis,” moderator; and “Submitting a Title VI Program,” presenter, Title VI Working Group Workshop (May 2013)

“An On-the-Ground Look at Transit Agency Title VI Compliance,” American Public Transit Association Legal Affairs Seminar (February 2013)

“FPPC Compliance,” Hanson Bridgett Public Agency Roundtable Series (February 2013)

“Current Issues in Public Agency Law,” County Counsels’ Association (September 2012)

“Campaign Financing, Election Law and FPPC Matters,” Northern California County Counsels (March 2012)

“Surviving Title VI: Compliance, Audits, and Litigation,” co-presenter, California Transit Association (November 2011)

“Learning to Share: Identifying the Benefits and Managing the Risks of Resource Sharing and Outsourcing in the Public Sector,” co-presenter, MMANC Annual Conference (October 2011)

Press

“From Planning to Polling: Legal Insights for Transit Ballot Measures,” APTA.com (May 2026)

“Transportation Cases To Watch: Midyear Report 2025,” *Law360* (August 2025)

“Trump DOT Pick Puts Highway, Road Rebuilds Back In Focus,” *Law360* (November 2024)

“Trump Win Puts Emissions Regs On Chopping Block,” *Law360* (November 2024)

“Hanson Bridgett Leads Legal Support for California’s Transition to Zero-Emission Buses,” *Daily Journal* (September 2024)

“3 Issues Buttigieg’s DOT Will Tackle In The Biden Years, ” *Law360* (February 2021)

“Biden Mask Mandate Fills Gap, But Enforcement Still Murky,” *Law360* (February 2021)

“New Year, Renewed Board,” *CA Special District Volume 12, Issue 1* (January–February 2017)

Honors & Awards

MMANC Service Award (2011–2013)

MMANC Booster Award (2010)

Professional Affiliations

American Public Transportation Association, Vice Chair of the Legal Affairs Committee, present

Education

J.D., University of California, Berkeley School of Law (2004)

M.P.P., University of California, Berkeley (2003)

B.A., Pomona College (1997)

Admissions and Courts

California

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

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