



Professional Liability

360°

Our Professional Liability Practice

Established in 1969, **Morris Polich & Purdy LLP** has a rich, prestigious history of representing all types of professionals. Our many services include loss prevention, risk management, contract review and transaction advice, as well as effective representation in all forms of litigation, including mediation, arbitration, trial, and appeal. We also represent clients in hearings before state and local agencies. Our expertise in the area of professional liability, as well as our dedication to success, has earned the Firm its reputation with the bench and bar as sensible, skillful litigators.

Our Clients

- Design and Construction professionals
- Lawyers
- Real estate professionals
- Insurance professionals
- Financial professionals
- Miscellaneous other professionals

Our Approach

We recognize that claims against professionals are unique and challenging. It is our belief that our client's intimate involvement is critical to our ability to succeed, as well as to the client's peace of mind. We partner with our clients to develop a strategy for each case, and we pride ourselves on the ability to both earn and keep our clients' trust. We strive to apply our mission statement and core values in our handling of each and every case:

Core Values

Integrity

Respect

Selflessness

Open-Communication

Proactivity

Follow Through

Excellence

Expertise

Accountability

Mission Statement

- We deliver superior performance for every client. We listen to their needs, understand their businesses, and partner with them to meet their legal and business goals.
- We use a problem-solving framework aimed at the most creative and successful outcome.
- We are committed to leadership and management that recognize and support our diversity, individual talents and strengths.
- We serve our clients and our communities by participation in professional, educational, industry, and community organizations.

A CROSS SECTION OF OUR EXPERIENCE

Design & Construction Professionals

Morris Polich & Purdy LLP has nearly 40 years of experience in full-service legal representation of design and other construction professionals. We are leaders in this field, and we have arbitrated and tried hundreds of professional liability cases to judgment or verdict. We advise and counsel design professionals in the drafting of contracts at the inception of potential projects, and on loss prevention during the course of problematic projects. We handle public and private contract disputes involving project disruption, project delays, lost profits, non-payment, and allegations of design errors and omissions. We represent all forms of construction professionals and, if necessary, efficiently and aggressively litigate matters involving design defects in commercial, residential, and industrial structures and developments, including worker injuries attributed to design errors and omissions. Some of our attorneys are licensed and practiced architects and engineers, and others have studied to become architects and engineers. This provides us with valuable insight into the special issues and concerns raised in design and construction disputes.

We represent such design and construction professionals as:

- Architects of all disciplines
- Engineers of all disciplines
- Construction managers
- Home and building inspectors

Lawyers

Morris Polich & Purdy offers a wealth of experience in the field of lawyer professional liability. At the first sign of trouble, we advise and counsel attorneys on avoiding and mitigating potential claims. In the event of an actual claim, we promptly assess our client's potential liability and explore a satisfactory resolution without the trouble and expense of litigation. If a claim turns into actual litigation, we are skillful and effective advocates for our clients. In addition to trial and appellate experience, we are particularly proud of our record of achieving early dispositive success by way of demurrer, motions for summary judgment and the California anti-SLAPP statute. Because of the Firm's broad range of practice areas – employment, business, real estate, construction, medical products and biotechnology, to name a few – our attorneys have instant access to expertise in virtually any kind of legal malpractice claim. We also provide counsel and seminars to law firms on ethical issues and loss prevention.

We have represented attorneys from such fields of expertise as:

- Plaintiff personal injury
- Insurance defense
- Employment
- Class actions
- Corporate and banking transactions
- Workers compensation
- Criminal law
- Family law
- Malpractice (plaintiff and defense)
- Trusts, wills and estates
- Business litigation
- Landlord tenant
- Bankruptcy
- Real estate
- Civil rights
- Securities

Real Estate Professionals

Our many services in this area include transaction advice, entity selection, loss prevention, risk management, contract review and transaction advice, as well as effective representation in all forms of litigation - mediations, arbitrations and trials. We also represent clients in hearings before state and local agencies such as the Department of Real Estate and Local Boards of Realtors. Examples of our loss prevention and risk management services include the early identification of common problems, as well as methods to resolve issues that arise in real estate transactions such as contract formation, disclosures, dual agency, title and escrow issues, and commission disputes.

We represent such real estate professionals as:

- Real estate brokers
- Real estate agents
- Mortgage brokers
- Title and escrow companies
- Appraisers
- Property managers
- Directors and officers of real estate companies

Insurance Professionals

Morris Polich & Purdy also has experience advising and defending various insurance professionals against, not only claims of professional negligence, but also against claims of unfair competition, misappropriation of trade secrets, unfair business practices, and interference with economic relationships. Since our inception, our firm has maintained an extensive and highly successful insurance coverage practice, and we capitalize on our in-depth knowledge of all aspects of insurance to achieve excellent results for our clients and the companies that insure them.

We represent such insurance professionals as:

- Insurance brokers (wholesale and retail)
- Insurance agents

Other Miscellaneous Professionals

Over the years, we have represented a wide assortment of other types of professionals, and we are very confident in our ability to provide excellent representation to members of virtually every kind of profession. As with most cases involving professional liability, it is crucial to identify and consult with qualified experts in the field in order to assess potential exposure for our client. As soon as practicable, we involve the appropriate expert or experts necessary to decide whether to settle or defend a claim. We have assembled an extensive list of highly qualified experts for consultation in litigation. We are also very adept at finding just the right expert to accurately evaluate and effectively testify about the conduct of our clients.

Some of the other kinds of professionals we have represented include:

- Accountants
- Industrial hygienists
- Financial advisors
- Private investigators
- Notaries
- Concierge services



**Morris
Polich &
Purdy^{LLP}**

Established 1969

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Organizations In Which We Actively Participate

- American Institute of Architects (AIA)
- American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC)
- American Bar Association Lawyers Professional Liability Consortium
- Professional Responsibility and Ethics Committee of the LA County Bar
- Professional Liability Underwriting Society (PLUS)
- Construction Management Association of America (CMAA)
- California Association of Realtors
- California State Bar-Real Estate Section
- California Geotechnical Engineers Association