



# Morris Polich & Purdy LLP

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## A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF OUR PRACTICE AREAS

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### Appellate Advocacy

- Over the years, MPP has earned a distinguished reputation in appellate advocacy.
- From the California Supreme Court, eight landmark opinions bear MPP's name as appellate counsel. In California's intermediate appellate courts, MPP has been counsel in 81 published opinions. And in the federal appellate courts, MPP has been appellate counsel in 18 published cases.
- It is this kind of experience and expertise that leads general counsels and other law firms to turn to MPP for their appellate matters.

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### Architect & Engineer Law

- Our Architect and Engineer Law practice is guided by experience within the design professional disciplines, giving us particular insight into the special issues and concerns raised in such cases.
- Our experience also includes: design defects in residential, commercial, and industrial buildings; contract disputes; worker injuries; drafting and negotiation of professional service contracts; errors and omissions claims for improper or inadequate design; construction administration; coordination; as well as observation and/or supervision of construction.

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### Asbestos Litigation

- MPP is a leader in asbestos litigation; one of our attorneys was a member of a defense steering committee responsible for coordinating and drafting the standard, court approved written discovery, case management orders and case evaluation forms still in use today.
- We have handled and/or monitored the handling of over 5,000 asbestos claims.
- Our cases have involved products such as thermal insulation, cement, gaskets, stucco, talc, pumps, roofing materials and textiles for industries such as the military, shipyards, refineries, residential and commercial construction.

CONTACT: Dean A. Olson  
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### Aviation & Marine Law

- Our Aviation and Marine Law practice has considerable depth of knowledge of the transportation industry and of the regulatory and liability environment in which it operates. We represent all types of transportation clients, including airlines, trucking companies, ocean carriers, aircraft and component manufacturers, banks, cargo and shipping companies, freight forwarders, corporate aviation departments, leasing companies, and repair stations.
- In general, we advise and assist our aviation clients with a wide range of general and specialized issues, including employment and environmental matters, mergers and acquisitions, entity formation, joint ventures, real estate transactions, office and hangar leases, and architect and construction contracts.
- We have advised our clients in connection with aircraft modification and certification matters, repair station compliance, government contracts, and the purchase, sale, financing, and leasing of aircraft and engines.

- We represent our aviation and marine clients before state and federal administrative agencies, as well as trial and appellate courts, in a wide range of litigation and arbitration proceedings including cargo claims, products liability, personal injury, salvage, aviation insurance, marine insurance, toxic torts, leasing and financing, employment disputes, and regulatory compliance.
- We have over thirty years of jury trial experience in federal and state courts representing carriers, aircraft owners and operators, commercial rotorcraft operators, manufacturers, fixed-based operators, pilots, mechanics and municipalities. Our vast experience as trial attorneys allows us to propose resolution strategies that avoid prolonged litigation or the possibility of being sued in the first place.

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### **Catastrophic Injury/Wrongful Death**

- MPP has a team of seasoned trial attorneys dedicated to handling, in both state and federal court, high-exposure claims arising out of: death, loss of sight/hearing/limbs, paralysis, brain injury, and permanent burns/scarring.
- Our law firm assigns such cases to dedicated trial attorneys who truly understand the emotional aspects of handling such claims in front of juries, based on their wealth of experience in confronting these unique challenges.

- Our trial lawyers have represented, and obtained summary judgments and favorable settlements for, clients in thousands of high-exposure lawsuits arising out of virtually every conceivable scenario in the areas of: residential/landlord claims, commercial property management, transportation, intentional torts, third-party criminal acts, animal owner liability, and fair/amusement park enterprises.

CONTACT: Michael P. West  
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### **Commercial Litigation**

- We represent clients ranging from Fortune 100 international and multinational corporations to small, closely-held family businesses in a wide range of industries.
- Our attorneys handle the gamut of commercial litigation matters, including unfair competition, multi-party contractual disputes, class actions, securities fraud, antitrust, officer and director liability, as well as partnership and intra-corporate disputes.

CONTACT: Gerald P. Schneeweis  
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### **Commercial Property Management**

- MPP has a long-standing history of successfully representing companies and firms involved in the ownership and management of commercial properties - our attorneys take each client's unique business philosophy into account.
- MPP provides each client with a global litigation strategy aimed at concurrently decreasing both the number of claims and the fees associated with such claims.

## A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF OUR PRACTICE AREAS (CONTINUED)

- Our services include evaluating each client's hiring/training procedures, risk management protocol concerning the investigation of new claims, and contracts with multiple third-party vendors in order to increase the chance of successful tenders of defense and indemnification.
- Our lawyers have successfully represented clients in the commercial property field in a myriad of claims arising out of premises liability scenarios: injuries associated with alleged dangerous conditions on property, potential liability for the criminal actions of third parties, claims of false arrest, disputes concerning landlord/tenant lease compliance, and disagreements with third-party vendors regarding contractual responsibilities.

CONTACT: Michael P. West  
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### Construction Law

- Our Construction Law practice has tried, arbitrated, and mediated hundreds of construction claims and disputes.
- Many of our construction attorneys have studied and/or practiced within the construction industry, some as registered architects and engineers, allowing them to apply unique knowledge to construction matters.
- We have a wide range of experience, including: review and drafting of contracts; delay claims; claims of defects; mechanics' liens; and stop notice issues.
- We assist in disputes arising before, during or after construction.

CONTACT: Theodore D. Levin, P.E.  
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### Copyright & Trademark

- MPP has a team of attorneys that specialize in trademark, copyright and trade secret cases in both federal and state courts.
- We advise clients on a full range of trademark and copyright issues related to procurement, registration, licensing and infringement, involving music, internet content, art, photographs, images, promotional literature, architectural plans, and more.

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### Corporate Transactions

- Our Clients: we represent domestic and international businesses, ranging from family businesses to Fortune 100 companies, in a broad range of industries including: apparel, aviation, banking, entertainment, food and beverage, health care, high-tech, insurance, internet services, manufacturing, media and public relations, real estate development and services, restaurants, and retail chains.
- Our Approach: our goal is to provide our clients with both the specialized legal skills needed to deal with particular problems and a high level of experience in business transactions and management issues. Our combination of expertise and experience increases our value to clients both as advisors and as integral members of their business team.
- Business Counseling: our attorneys have served as inside and outside general counsel for a number of companies. As a result, we have extensive expertise in counseling clients through the

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growth phase of their businesses and in the coordination of all legal affairs, including negotiations with customers, senior and lower-level employees, investors, lenders, and suppliers. We seek to understand our clients' industries and their specific business needs, and to prevent unforeseen problems and costly litigation.

- **Mergers & Acquisitions:** we have represented numerous domestic and international clients in acquisitions and dispositions of businesses, assets, and business segments. These transactions have been structured as stock and asset purchases, mergers, tender offers and joint ventures, and have involved public and private companies which operate in a variety of industries.
- **Financing:** we have extensive experience representing borrowers and lenders in secured and unsecured financings, including: lines of credit, asset based financing, factoring and similar credit facilities, project financings for projects and acquisitions.
- **Licensing:** we are able to assist our clients in all aspects of implementing, licensing, and merchandising programs, including preparing and enforcing licensing agreements, avoiding inadvertent franchisor status, exploiting ancillary properties, and the protection and enforcement of trademark and other proprietary rights.
- **Real Estate:** we are active in the residential, industrial and commercial real estate fields, and have been involved in major projects throughout the United States. We are experts in all aspects of the acquisition, development, leasing and financing of real property, including the syndication of real property investments and the formation of joint ventures.

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## **Employment Law**

- We represent employers of all sizes, in all aspects of employment litigation, and have successfully tried employment cases.
- We have experience in numerous areas, including: discrimination; public policy wrongful termination claims; wage and hour questions; hiring and firing decisions; leaves of absence; retaliation; defamation; claims of harassment; workplace violence; stock option disputes; and disability suits. Our services also include review of employment contracts and handbooks.
- We minimize exposure before litigation ensues, (reducing our clients' cost of doing business), and we handle issues promptly, efficiently, and with mutual respect and cooperation.
- We familiarize ourselves with all aspects of our clients' operations, and provide individual counseling and training to supervisors and managers.
- We track all legal and legislative issues affecting the employment relationship, and we keep abreast of both factual and legal developments affecting each pending case.

CONTACT: Beth A. Kahn  
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## **Environmental Law**

- MPP has more than 30 years experience representing clients in environmental litigation and regulatory matters. We represent clients in environmental damage, product liability and toxic tort litigation across the country.
- We also advise on environmental compliance and enforcement matters in the areas of air pollution, water quality and

## A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF OUR PRACTICE AREAS (CONTINUED)

contaminated property. This work includes negotiations with environmental agencies at the local, state and federal levels.

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### Federal Civil Rights & Government Liability

- MPP understands the legal environment in which public officials, law enforcement officers, public entities and their special districts operate.
- We have represented public entities for over 30 years in such diverse areas as negligent performance of contracts, assault and battery, false arrest, intentional torts, taking of property, "Monell" doctrine claims, dangerous conditions, violation of ministerial obligations, failure to discharge mandatory duties, and inverse condemnation.
- Our extensive experience in this area encompasses frequent representation of federal and local law enforcement officers, including in civil rights jury trials in both federal and state courts.

CONTACT: Richard Tolles  
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### Fraud

- We are experts in investigating and litigating suspected fraud in all types of insurance claims.
- We have successfully represented clients in bad faith litigation throughout the United States.

CONTACT: Craig G. Kline  
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### Homeowner/Landlord Liability

- We handle a wide range of homeowner liability law claims tendered by homeowners for third-party damages arising out of multiple scenarios, including: premises liability/dangerous conditions, defamation, parental supervision, sexual assault/rape, intentional torts, third-party criminal assaults, and claims arising out of injured workers hired to perform tasks on the property.
- Our firm has established itself as a leader in landlord liability law, representing residential landlords against claims asserted by tenants for: breach of the warranty of habitability, breach of rental contract, wrongful eviction, and mold exposure; these claims are typically accompanied by claims for: payment of back rent, medical expenses/pain and suffering, attorneys' fees, and punitive damages.

CONTACT: Michael P. West  
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### Insurance Coverage

- We are one of the nation's leading law firms in the litigation of insurance coverage disputes, with decades of experience and long-standing success.
- We have played a leading role in shaping California insurance law, and have achieved success in important state and federal appellate decisions.
- Our experience includes: bad faith claims arising from construction defects; environmental damage; drug and chemical exposures; fire and theft losses; earthquake damage; investigation of first-party property claims; aviation and marine claims; and subrogation.

CONTACT: Jeffrey S. Barron  
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### **Jewelry, Fine Arts & Other Specialized Risks/Specie**

- Extensive knowledge and experience is required to handle legal matters in this area, due to the specialized nature of the risk insured, the sophistication of the market and the often complex nature of the claims.
- Our expertise and high level of technical knowledge in this area allows us to act for and advise many insurers who underwrite these risks throughout North America and Europe.
- We handle claims in a range of categories within this area, including, but not limited to: fine arts, private collections, art dealers, museums, antiques, precious metals, stones, transit losses, securities, coins, and other valuable possessions.

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### **Lawyers' Professional Liability**

- In addition to trial 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 MPP's broad range of practice areas, our attorneys have instant access to expertise in virtually any kind of legal malpractice claim.
- We have experience with: securities law; trusts, wills and estates; corporations and partnerships; family law; defamation; entertainment law; criminal law; medical malpractice; and much more.

- We take an active role in the issues that are important to members of the professional liability community, notably through speaking and writing opportunities.

CONTACT: David L. Brandon  
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### **Life Sciences**

- For over 25 years, we have represented clients in this industry as national, regional and local counsel.
- Our experience in the areas of pharmaceuticals and biologics includes clinical trials and active pharmaceutical ingredients for the treatment of a variety of disorders.
- Our experience in the area of medical devices includes: robotics; silicone breast implants; intraocular lenses; latex gloves; lasers; cardiac devices; x-ray devices; apnea monitors; surgical instruments; and wheelchairs.

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## A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF OUR PRACTICE AREAS (CONTINUED)

### Long Term Care & Health Care

- We have developed an expertise in disease etiology of the elderly to assist in early identification and analysis of the unique medical claims inherent in our practice.
- We have a wide range of experience, including: elder abuse and neglect; professional negligence; fraud; unfair business practices; wrongful death; breach of contract; licensing and regulatory issues; investigations; privacy issues under HIPAA and state laws; among others.
- We represent a wide range of providers, including skilled nursing facilities, retirement hotels, assisted living facilities, board and care facilities, adult day care facilities, hospice care providers, residential care facilities for the elderly, management companies for the providers, and consulting companies for the providers.

CONTACT: Marc S. Katz  
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### Products Liability

- MPP is one of the nation's leading products liability law specialist firms.
- We specialize in representing manufacturers, distributors and retail sellers of a broad variety of products, including: consumer goods; automobiles; herbal and dietary supplements; water transport systems; building materials and equipment.

CONTACT: Matthew L. Marshall  
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### Professional Liability

- We represent lawyers, architects, engineers, construction managers, real estate brokers/agents, insurance brokers/agents, accountants, financial advisers, and other licensed 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 and trial.

CONTACT: James M. Chantland  
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### Property Boundary Disputes/Landslides

- Our firm has specialized trial attorneys with the boundary dispute and landslide law knowledge required to handle, and in many cases resolve, the unique disputes which can often arise between adjoining landowners, including claims of: trespass, nuisance, invasion of privacy, and inappropriate management of property resulting in damage due to flooding, landslides, and destruction of trees/improvements/residences.
- MPP's attorneys have the experience required to represent property owners against claims which involve requested damages of monetary penalties, easements, injunctive/declaratory relief, punitive damages, and significant compensatory reimbursement.

CONTACT: Michael P. West  
213.417.5310  
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### Property Insurance Law

- MPP's Property Insurance Law attorneys have developed a reputation nationally and internationally for our thoughtful representation of major carriers.
- Our practice includes a full spectrum of services, such as: first-party extra contractual "bad faith" litigation, coverage advice and litigation, subrogation, catastrophic losses, mold issues, business interruption disputes, policy rescission issues, alternative dispute resolution, handling formal appraisal

hearings, conducting Examinations Under Oath, loss scene counseling and management, and representation on Department of Insurance Inquiries.

CONTACT: Stephen H. Huchting  
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Douglas K. Wood  
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## Real Estate Law

- MPP provides full-service real estate representation.
- Our transactional team provides representation to real property owners, lenders, developers, and investors in the acquisition, entitlement, development, financing, leasing and disposition of real property assets, such as: apartment buildings, commercial and residential development projects, high rise offices, hotels, industrial properties, restaurants, and retail.
- Our litigation team has extensive experience successfully representing owners, investors, developers, title companies, lenders, mortgage bankers, landlords, tenants, contractors, condominium owners, home owner associations, as well as real estate agents and brokers in complex litigation matters. Our real estate litigators take an aggressive but practical approach to our representation, and craft creative solutions to disputed issues.

CONTACT: Elizabeth A. England  
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## Sports, Leisure, Entertainment & Event Contingency

- We have extensive experience handling business transactions and litigation in the entertainment industry including music, sports, art, motion picture and television.
- We are also experts in a class of insurance in this area known as "contingency"; we handle matters dealing with non-appearance, cancellation coverage, transmission failure, prize indemnity, contract bonus, weather, moral turpitude, redemption and many other esoteric matters.
- We have handled insurance issues pertaining to major concert cancellations and sport events worldwide. Often, our expertise has had a profound effect on protecting the interests (and balance sheets) of all parties involved.

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## ABOUT MORRIS POLICH & PURDY LLP

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Morris Polich & Purdy LLP is a law firm, with offices in Los Angeles, Irvine, San Diego, San Francisco and Las Vegas, that works with its clients on a national basis. We represent clients in every state, as well as many U.S. possessions, where their cases arise. We also have a wealth of international affiliations.

Our dedication to clients, combined with extensive experience, both in the trial and appellate courts, are the qualities that distinguish us from other law firms. Our attorneys are known for their vast experience and success, and have earned the firm its reputation with the bench and bar as down to earth, practiced, sensible, skillful, professional litigators. We provide superior legal services in a manner consistent with our clients' best interests and goals. We are committed to expertise in all our areas of practice, knowing our clients' businesses and providing client service at its highest level.

### DIVERSITY

More than just a word, diversity truly matters to us and to our clients. In keeping with our firm culture, we recognize the importance of diversity throughout the firm, to each other and to our clients.

#### Attorneys

Percentage of Minority Attorneys: **18%**

Percentage who are:

- African-American: **1%**
- Asian: **12%**
- Latino: **3%**
- Other: **2%**

Percentage of Women Attorneys: **31%**

#### Other Firm Employees

Percentage of Minority Employees: **53%**

Percentage who are:

- African-American: **12%**
- Asian: **12%**
- Latino: **26%**
- Other: **3%**

### ATTORNEYS

We recruit highly motivated individuals with exceptional verbal and writing abilities. We ensure that our attorneys are experts in their respective areas of practice. Our attorneys also regularly attend educational programs and provide leadership in multiple local, regional and national professional organizations.

### MISSION STATEMENT

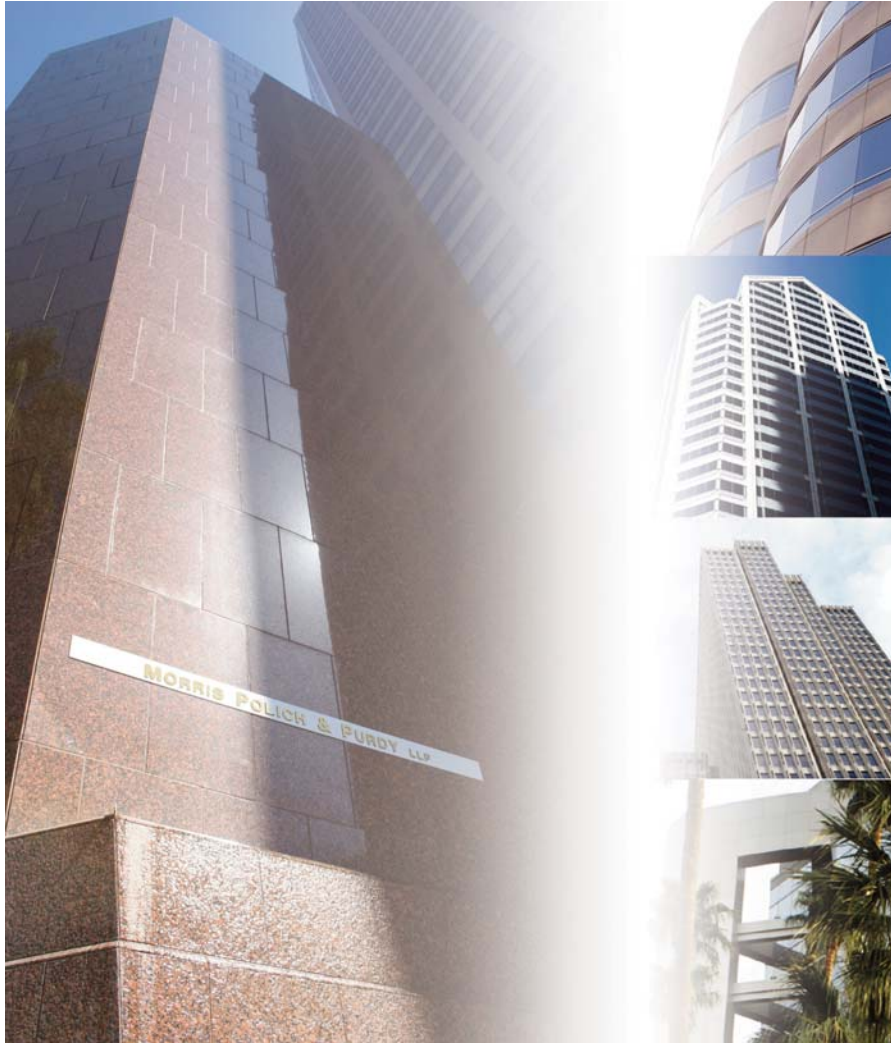
- We deliver superior performance for every client. We listen to their needs, understand their businesses, and partner with them to meet their own goals.
- We use a problem-solving framework that ensures the most creative and successful outcome.
- We are committed to leadership and management that recognize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

## OFFICE LOCATIONS

### LOS ANGELES

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Our Award-Winning Los Angeles Lobby

