



T. Matthew Hansen

Senior Counsel

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Practices & Industries

- Litigation
- Government & Regulatory
- Transactions
- Education

Overview

Matthew Hansen helps his clients meet their economic and strategic objectives. A bilingual attorney fluent in Spanish and English, he has an active practice helping individuals, couples, and families – both in the United States and abroad – navigate the complexities of estate planning, create and fund their legacies, and protect loved ones for years to come. In addition, he has extensive experience helping his corporate and public entity clients resolve a wide variety of business disputes.

Matthew works with his domestic and international clients to structure and execute intricate estate plans that meet their unique needs. What's more, because he regularly helps them resolve a broad range of disputes – such as defending and contesting wills and trusts, claims relating to competency and undue influence, and other family discord – he has developed significant skills in anticipating and avoiding the issues that can create conflicts when plans are administered. His experience extends both to probate and trust administration and litigation. He has also prepared plans with significant charitable components, and has probated a number of complicated estates, including estates requiring ancillary probates related to inherited oil and mineral rights, the estate of a Mexican film actress requiring distributions to heirs in multiple jurisdictions, and an estate with over 40 intestate heirs.

Matthew's litigation practice spans both defense and prosecution of business claims involving contracts, employment discrimination, wrongful termination, wage/hour claims, unfair competition, trade secret misappropriation, and many other areas of law. He has broad experience in civil litigation on behalf of his public entity clients, particularly with respect to the Public Records Act, Political Reform Act, and conflicts of interests statutes such as violations of Government Code section 1090. Over the course of his career he has recovered millions of dollars in favor of public entities that have suffered from public corruption.

He regularly represents real estate developers, financial institutions, multinational corporations, insurance companies, and high net worth individuals in an array of real estate, land use, public law and municipal governance, redevelopment, licensing agreements, affordable housing, transportation, and regulatory matters.

Matthew is engaged in his community, serving on the Boards of Catholic Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Los Angeles, the Planned Giving Board of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, and the Board of Governors of the City Club Los Angeles. He is an active member of the American Bar Association, where he served as the Editor of the Year in Review for its Mexico Committee, and sits on both the International Committee and the Steering Committee for the International Litigation Committee.

Memberships

- Former Editor of Publications and Year in Review of Mexico Committee, American Bar Association
- Member of International Committee, American Bar Association
- Member of Steering Committee for International Litigation Committee, American Bar Association
- Vice Chair, Catholic Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Los Angeles
- Board of Governors of the City Club Los Angeles
- Chair, Civic Engagement Committee of the City Club Los Angeles
- Member, Los Angeles County Bar Association
- Member, Hispanic National Bar Association
- Adviser on trust and estate matters for the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Education / Admissions

Education:

- J.D., The George Washington University Law School, 2003
- B.S. in Foreign Service, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service, 2000
- Extra-Mural Studies Public International Law, University of Oxford, England, Summer, 2002

Bar Admissions:

State Bar of California

Matters

Recent representations include:

- Handling the multi-year administration of a large estate with beneficiaries located both in the United States and abroad.
- Resolving a number of public corruption cases for the City of South Gate, which resulted in the recovery of millions of dollars in improper payments.
- Defending a Mexico-based company against a breach of employment contract claim filed in both Mexico and the United States, obtaining a dismissal of the lawsuit in the U.S. that was affirmed in the 9th Circuit.
- Representing a global financial institution in the successful defense against a lawsuit filed by a borrower claiming that the bank was not in fact the proper legal owner of loans purchased from Washington Mutual during the 2008 financial crisis.

Other Publications

Publications:

- Editor of the American Bar Association International Section, Mexico Committee's Year in Review, and Newsletter editor

Public Speaking:

- Matt has been a speaker at many seminars relating to public law and corporate governance.
- Guest legal correspondent for Spanish language station Univision presenting public service announcements on the importance of having an estate plan.
- Panelist at Rancho Santiago Community College for the importance of having an estate plan. The topic is generally tips on the importance of having a trust, will, health care directives, and avoiding probat