

California Business Disputes and Commercial Trials



King & Spalding's California-based commercial trial lawyers are recognized for their ability to win the most difficult, high-stakes cases.

EXPERIENCE WHEN IT COUNTS

We are seasoned trial lawyers who can go the distance when the opposition refuses to be reasonable. We try—and win—cases before judges, juries, and arbitrators in California and in courts throughout the nation. Among them, our partners have led 270 trials and arbitrations—including “first-chairing” 140 jury trials to verdict.

We understand that litigation is not your business, but a cost that comes with doing business. We pursue legal solutions that, wherever possible, avoid the distraction and expense of drawn-out litigation. When trial is inevitable, however, our considerable experience means that our clients are not forced to accept an unreasonable settlement on the eve of trial or switch trial counsel to perform “battlefield triage” at the eleventh hour. In our experience, the settlement value of a case is directly related to the lawyer's ability and willingness to go to trial. Opposing counsel know we do not blink.

STRENGTH IN CALIFORNIA AND BEYOND

Our California business disputes team is comprised of 25 partners and 42 lawyers in total. More than half of our partners, and 27 of our attorneys overall, are former judicial clerks, including 14 attorneys who clerked for a federal Court of Appeal and two who clerked for the United States Supreme Court. Complimented by a bench of over 500 disputes lawyers in 18 global offices, we help our clients manage their most challenging cases in jurisdictions around the globe.

Ranked among the top three “Powerhouse” firms for complex commercial litigation and named an “Awesome Opponent” for being among the 10 most feared law firms in litigation
BTI CONSULTING (2020)

Seven Tier 1 rankings and ranked in 15 Dispute Resolution categories—the most of any AmLaw 25 firm
LEGAL 500 (2020)

STRATEGIC CASE MANAGEMENT

Our strategic focus includes effective case management. We start with a lean core team so each lawyer thoroughly understands the case and strategy, with the lead trial lawyer providing leadership to the team and advice to the client. The firm's global footprint and breadth of expertise allows us to add attorneys and other resources as the needs of the case require, wherever the venue may be. For those cases involving e-discovery or otherwise requiring extensive document production and review, we are supplemented by our own 120-lawyer Discovery Center to manage discovery expertly, efficiently, and cost-effectively, consistent with the firm's high standards.

PRACTICE AREAS

King & Spalding's deep bench of California commercial trial lawyers offer expertise in all aspects of business litigation. Our business disputes, class action, securities, financial services, and real estate litigators are regularly called upon to handle the most pressing high stakes and bet-the-company cases. Likewise, our data privacy, trade secret, antitrust, unfair competition, and employment attorneys have litigated some of the highest profile verdicts and rulings in the industry, while our technology teams are known for achieving outstanding results for clients whose businesses require them to navigate an often-uncertain legal landscape. With deep ties to the media, entertainment, and fashion industries, our California lawyers have decades of experience litigating copyright, trademark, and trade dress disputes, earning superior outcomes that protect our clients' intellectual property rights. We have long been leaders in environmental, healthcare, and pharmaceutical and life sciences litigation, earning "Practice Group of the Year" distinctions for many years. Our team also includes experienced former government litigators, including multiple former AUSAs and the former Acting Assistant Attorney General for the DOJ's Civil Division, the Department's largest litigating division. And our appellate attorneys—led by our many former law clerks—work closely with our trial teams, assisting us in vigorously representing our clients at all levels.

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

King & Spalding's California litigators have earned national acclaim, individually and collectively. Leading industry publications including *ChambersUSA*, *Legal500*, *Benchmark Litigation*, *Corporate Counsel*, *The Daily Journal*, *Lawdragon*, *SuperLawyers*, and the *Los Angeles Business Journal* have recognized our attorneys as among the top in their field. Our partners have been named to prestigious lists

*Ranked Tier 1 for
U.S. General
Commercial
Litigation*
BENCHMARK LITIGATION
(2019)

*Named #1
International
Arbitration
Practice Worldwide*
GLOBAL ARBITRATION
REVIEW (2020)

*Ranked second
among AmLaw 100
firms, by number of
consumer protection
class actions
handled from 2016
to 2018*
LEX MACHINA
CONSUMER
PROTECTION
LITIGATION REPORT
(2019)

*Ranked second
among defense firms
in securities class
action retentions*
LEX MACHINA
SECURITIES LITIGATION
REPORT (2018)

including Top 100 Lawyers in California, Top 10 Copyright Lawyers, Law360 MVP, Top 100 Women Lawyers in California, Most Influential Women Lawyers, Top 500 Lawyers in America, and Top 40 Lawyers Under 40.

REFLECTING OUR COMMUNITIES: OUR COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY

Our commitment to diversity and inclusion is yet another way in which we stand out from our competition, and our commercial litigation team reflects the communities in which we practice. More than 60% of our attorneys—including more than half of our partners—are women, people of color, and/or identify as LGBTQ. Each of our 10 women partners is a first-chair trial lawyer, lead class action defense counsel, and/or lead appellate counsel.

Our commitment to diversifying the legal profession and our achievements in doing so have been recognized by many prominent bar organizations, including the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, the LGBT Bar Association, and the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity, which awarded King & Spalding one of its inaugural Compass Awards in 2018. King & Spalding has earned a top score of 100 percent on the Human Rights Campaign Corporate Equality Index for the past eight years in a row, including the coveted distinction of being one of the “Best Places to Work for LGBT Equality.”

REPRESENTATIVE CLIENTS

Alden Torch Financial • Allergan • American Honda Motor Co., Inc.
American Income Life Insurance • Andell Inc. • Arlo • AstraZeneca
Audi AG • BP • Bristol Myers Squibb • Cal-Maine Foods, Inc. • Chevron
Chosen Foods • CIT • Clark Construction • Clearway Energy Inc. • Clover Health
ConocoPhillips • Cubesmart • Dolby Laboratories • Eaze
Evergreen Marine Corp. (Taiwan) Ltd. • Everport Terminal Services Inc.
Fiat Chrysler Automobiles • Flexicare • Ford Motor Co. • The Gap, Inc. • Getac
Google, Inc. • Hensel Phelps Construction • Hope Pharmaceuticals • Hyundai
Impax Laboratories, Inc. • Jushi • Kia Motors America • Lyft • Mattel, Inc.
Netgear • NortonLifeLock • NRG Energy • NSO Group • OUTFRONT Media
Persona/Nestle • Porsche AG • Postmates • PricewaterhouseCoopers
Public Storage • RD Legal Funding • Sealed Air • Shell • ShopStyle • Skechers
Spanx • Subaru Corp. • Sutter Health • Texaco • TSMC • Varian Medical Systems
VF Corp. • ViacomCBS • VNG • Warner Bros. • Weedmaps

Thirteen of the firm’s current lawyers are Fellows of the prestigious, invitation-only American College of Trial Lawyers, widely considered to be the premier litigation, trial practice and ethics association in the United States

Over the past six years, King & Spalding has handled cases seated in 15 different countries, including in all of the world’s major arbitral seats.

Our dedicated Discovery Center is led by a Chambers-ranked partner in both international and domestic e-discovery and is ranked Tier 1 by The Legal 500.

ABU DHABI	CHARLOTTE	GENEVA	MOSCOW	RIYADH	TOKYO
ATLANTA	CHICAGO	HOUSTON	NEW YORK	SAN FRANCISCO	WASHINGTON, D.C.
AUSTIN	DUBAI	LONDON	NORTHERN VIRGINIA	SILICON VALLEY	
BRUSSELS	FRANKFURT	LOS ANGELES	PARIS	SINGAPORE	

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