

Gary Kessler

Partner



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Education

Loyola University School of Law, J.D.,
1980

- Board of Editors, Loyola Law Review
- St. Thomas More Law Honor Society
- Loyola Honorary Scholarship for Excellence in the Study of Law

University of California, Berkeley, B.S.,
1977, *Summa Cum Laude*

- Phi Beta Kappa

Bar Admissions

- California
- Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals
- United States District Court (C.D. Cal.)
- United States District Court (S.D. Cal.)

Practice Areas

- Litigation
- Real Estate
- Construction Defect
- Homeowners Associations
- Employment

COMMON INTEREST DEVELOPMENTS

Gary has two decades of experience representing homeowners associations in matters spanning the full spectrum of common interest development law, including matters relating to governing document drafting and enforcement, vendor contracts, Davis-Stirling Act interpretation, community association elections, as well as board member duties and responsibilities.

PROFESSIONAL CID ACTIVITIES

Gary is active in the State Bar of California's Common Interest Development subsection, and served a member of the State Bar's working group on the California Law Revision Commission's Tentative Recommendation for simplification of the Davis-Stirling Common Interest Development Act. Gary has been named to the Community Association Institute's Amicus Committee, which reviews important appellate cases across the United States relating to homeowner associations. Additionally, Gary was a speaker on common interest development law at the 2010 California State Bar Convention, served as Chairman of the Community Association Institute-GLAC's Publications Committee, and was Editor-in-Chief of CAI's Focus Magazine as well as the HOA Insider Newsletter.

EMPLOYMENT LAW

Gary has extensive experience handling employment law matters, including EEO/discrimination complaints, employee discipline problems and workplace privacy issues. His background in employment matters includes service as a hearing officer for the Los Angeles Civil Service Commission, as well as the representation of litigants in labor-related arbitrations, administrative proceedings, and federal and state court lawsuits.

APPELLATE LAW

Gary enjoys analyzing and writing about complex legal issues through his appellate work. Judicial opinions in seven of his appellate cases have been certified for publication by the California Court of Appeal, and he is proud to have served as a member of both the California State Bar's Committee on Appellate Courts and the Los Angeles County Bar Association's Appellate Courts Committee.

HEARING EXAMINER/ARBITRATOR/MEDIATOR

Additionally, Gary has served as a hearing examiner for the City of Santa Monica, the Los Angeles Police Commission, the Orange County Employees Retirement System, the San Bernardino County Employees Retirement Association, and the Better Business Bureau. He has also served as a Judge Pro Tem for the Los Angeles Municipal Court, and has been a member of the Los Angeles Superior Court's panel of arbitrators and mediators.