



Speaker Biographies

**Ryan Baron**

Ryan Baron is a member of BB&K's Environmental Law & Natural Resources practice group. He focuses on energy and environmental issues with a particular focus on stormwater regulation. He practices before a number of federal and state agencies and advises on project development and transactional issues. Ryan is a member of the Public Law Section Executive Committee for the State Bar, co-chair of the Policy & Permitting subcommittee for the California Stormwater Quality Association, and a member of the board of directors for Sustain OC.

**Bart Brizzee**

Bart Brizzee graduated from California State University Los Angeles with a degree in Business Management and received his J.D. from the J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University. He was in private practice for twenty-one years, litigating general business disputes that included real property, mining and environmental matters. He has served as an arbitrator, mediator and pro tem judge for the San Bernardino County courts, and was the President of the San Bernardino County Bar Association. He joined San Bernardino County Counsel in 2006 and currently advises the County Land Use Services Department.



Jeb Brown

Bio of James E. "Jeb" Brown Jeb is a Riverside native who graduated from Cal State University, San Bernardino with a Bachelor of Science in Political Science in 1989. He obtained his Juris Doctor from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law, in 1992. He is licensed to practice law before all of the Courts of the State of California as well as the United States District Court, Central District of California, Southern District of California, Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the United States Supreme Court. Jeb began his career as an associate with the law firm of Fidler and Bell, (now Orrock, Popka, Fortino, Tucker and Dolen) in Riverside, where he represented numerous public entities in both state and federal court. He was hired in January, 1995 by the Riverside City Attorney's Office as a Deputy City Attorney. Jeb was the principal deputy in the Litigation Services Section and was involved in all aspects of representing the City of Riverside in tort defense litigation matters, personnel advisory services and general risk management issues. Most notably, Jeb worked closely with the Riverside Police Department in providing police legal services including responding to major incidents involving potential City liability. In May, 2001, he left the City of Riverside to work at the municipal law firm of Burke, Williams & Sorensen. While there, he represented numerous public entities including the Cities of Hemet, Santa Clarita, Compton, El Segundo and Alhambra. In August, 2002, he returned to the Riverside City Attorney's Office as Supervising Deputy City Attorney for the Litigation Services Section. Jeb supervised four attorneys, one legal assistant and two legal secretaries. In addition to supervising the Litigation Services Section, Jeb also served as the Legal Advisor to Public Safety (Police and Fire), provided advice on employment issues and represented the City and its employees in both state and federal court. Jeb regularly provided training on various legal issues to the Riverside Police Department. Jeb also represented the Riverside Police Department and its officers in civil rights cases. In 2014, Jeb left the City of Riverside to become Assistant County Counsel for Riverside County where he supervises 23 attorneys. His primary focus remains on representing public safety departments including the Probation Department, Fire Department and Sheriff's Department. Jeb is a Past President and board member of the Leo A. Deegan Inn of Court and the Inland Empire Federal Bar Association. He is an adjunct professor at Laverne School of Law (Civil Rights, First Amendment, Federal Courts and Conflict of Laws). Jeb was a Lawyer Representative to the Ninth Circuit (2007-10) and currently serves the Federal Court as an Attorney Settlement Officer. Finally, Jeb has been a speaker for the League of California Cities, Federal Bar Association, California County Counsel's Association, University of Laverne Law School Civil Rights Symposium, Los Angeles County Bar Association, Americans for Effective Law Enforcement and the American Jail Association.

**Jim Brown**

Jim Brown is the co-chair of Sedgwick LLP's Employment and Labor Practice Group in the San Francisco office. He is an experienced trial attorney and has spent his 29 years of practice representing both private businesses and public entities throughout California. The public entity work includes disability access issues, disability discrimination, wrongful termination, harassment claims, as well as leave of absence/return to work compliance. Mr. Brown routinely provides advice and counsel to management concerning best practices as well as pre-dispute guidance on potential or threatened claims. His practice includes all administrative agency forums, grievance and arbitration proceedings, as well as litigation and trial in California State Court, California Federal Court, as well as the Court of Appeal and the Ninth Circuit.



Tim Coates

Greines, Martin, Stein & Richland LLP Managing Partner Tim Coates is one of the leading appellate attorneys in the country. Over the past thirty years Tim has briefed and argued over 250 appeals in the state and federal appellate courts, including five cases in the United States Supreme Court. Tim has been recognized as the "go to" lawyer for appeals and related law and motion proceedings in major cases for governmental entities in the areas of civil rights, environmental regulation, employment and general tort liability. Reuters news agency named Tim one of the "Top Petitioners" in the United States Supreme Court based on his success in having review granted in that court, and the Los Angeles Daily Journal recognized Tim as one of the top 100 attorneys in California in 2011, 2012, and 2013 based on his success in the Supreme Court. In addition, Tim has received the prestigious California Lawyer of the Year award, for his United States Supreme Court work. Tim has been named a Southern California Super Lawyer in the area of appellate practice from 2007-2016, and has also been named in The Best Lawyers In America (Appellate Law) (2014-2016).



Deborah Fox

Deborah Fox is the Chair of Meyers Nave's First Amendment and Trial and Litigation Practice Groups. She is one of California's foremost experts on First Amendment issues affecting the public sector, with a specialty focus on cases involving the convergence of First Amendment, land use, and zoning laws and regulations. Deborah has handled a broad range of First Amendment litigation on matters that attract intense media attention, including vending and solicitation/panhandling ordinances, news rack restrictions, billboard and sign ordinances, public forum issues, parade and park regulations, adult use regulations, and matters relating to the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act. Deborah is particularly skilled at advising on the development of constitutionally sound time, place and manner restrictions, and defending litigation challenging these types of rules and regulations. Deborah recently authored an amicus brief on behalf of the League of California Cities, the California State Association of Counties and the American Planning Association California Chapter in the high-profile *Lamar Central Outdoor, LLC v. City of Los Angeles* First Amendment related billboard case. In a landmark opinion in June 2016, the Second Appellate District upheld the ability of California cities and counties to continue using the onsite/offsite and commercial/noncommercial distinctions as a regulatory tool in their sign codes. Deborah is "AV" rated by Martindale-Hubbell and is a Fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America. She is named among Martindale-Hubbell's list of "Top Rated Lawyers in Land Use and Zoning," "Register of Top Rated Lawyers: Women Leaders in the Law," "Register of Preeminent Lawyers," and inaugural "Bar Register of Preeminent Women Lawyers." Deborah has also been named, twice, as one of California's "Top Women Litigators" by the Daily Journal.



Heidi Harmon

Mayor Heidi Harmon came to the central coast 30 years ago as a college student, and like many, she found the charm and community irresistible. She stayed to make a life and raise her family in San Luis Obispo. After graduating from Cuesta and Cal Poly she worked as an early childhood educator in SLO for many years. The more she got to know the young people and families in our area, the more of her time and energy she gave to the community to make it even better for future generations. She is an experienced community organizer, climate change activist and public speaker. As the Director of SLO 350 ,a point person with Protect SLO- Stop Oil Trains and a board member of the League of Women Voters Heidi has focused on the big picture and dedicated herself to public service. She has a track record of success impacting positive change through coalition building, policy advocacy and public education. In November 2016 she was elected as Mayor of San Luis Obispo. Heidi is committed to creating innovative housing solutions, revitalizing the unique culture of our downtown, and enhancing community resilience through energy efficiency and sustainability. She keeps the voice and concern of local citizens at the forefront of everything she does, and believes each person and perspective deserves the right to be heard.



Christi Hogin

Partner at the public law firm of Jenkins & Hogin, LLP. Past President of the City Attorneys Department and true believer in local government.

**Lauren Isaac**

Lauren Isaac is the Director of Business Initiatives for the North American operation of EasyMile. Easymile provides electric, driverless shuttles that are designed to cover short distances in multi-use environments. Prior to working at EasyMile, Lauren worked at WSP where she was involved in various projects involving advanced technologies that can improve mobility in cities. Lauren wrote a guide titled "Driving Towards Driverless: A Guide for Government Agencies" regarding how local and regional governments should respond to autonomous vehicles in the short, medium, and long term. In addition, Lauren maintains the blog, "Driving Towards Driverless", and has presented on this topic at more than 75 industry conferences. She recently did a TEDx Talk, and has been published in Forbes and the Chicago Tribune among other publications.

**Michael Jenkins**

Michael practices municipal law at the law firm of Jenkins & Hogin and serves as city attorney for Hermosa Beach, Rolling Hills and West Hollywood, and interim city attorney for Goleta. He is a regular presenter at League conferences and educational seminars. Michael is a former President and Director of the City Attorneys Department.

**Barbara Kautz**

Barbara E. Kautz is a partner with Goldfarb & Lipman LLP and practices extensively in the areas of land use, affordable housing, CEQA/NEPA compliance, and real estate. Prior to joining Goldfarb & Lipman LLP, she worked as a professional planner for 30 years was the Community Development Director and Assistant City Manager for the City of San Mateo, California. She speaks frequently at conferences regarding housing issues and is a Fellow of the American Institute of Certified Planners and past editor of the Land Use chapter in the Municipal Law Handbook. She formerly served on the Board of Directors for the League of California Cities and the California Chapter of the American Planning Association. Ms. Kautz received her law degree summa cum laude from the University of San Francisco, holds a Master of City Planning from the University of California, Berkeley, and is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Stanford University.

**Craig Labadie**

Craig is a sole practitioner who serves as contract City Attorney for the City of Albany. He also advises the City of Walnut Creek on land use matters and is counsel to several Redevelopment Dissolution Oversight Boards located in Alameda, Contra Costa, and San Mateo Counties. He was the City Attorney in Concord from 2000 to 2011. His duties in that position included advising the Local Reuse Authority for the Concord Naval Weapons Station on the ongoing transition of that closed military base to civilian use. Before that, he was managing partner for the Oakland office of the McDonough, Holland & Allen law firm, serving as contract City Attorney for several Bay Area cities and providing outside counsel services in the areas of land use and environmental law. He has been actively involved in the League of California Cities and served on its Board of Directors in 2013-2015. He was President of the City Attorneys Department in 2006-2007 and previously was President for the Contra Costa City Attorneys Association and the Bay Area City Attorneys Association, Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Continuing Education of the Bar, and a member of the Executive Section for the Public Law Section of the State Bar.

**Mark E. Mandell**

Mark E. Mandell is a California Municipal Revenue Law specialist with more than fifteen years experience assisting cities that seek to impose or administer taxes, fees, assessments, and other financial matters. He earned his JD at Boalt Hall School of Law at UC Berkeley and has a BA in History and Sociology from UC

**James Moose**

James G. Moose is the senior partner in the Sacramento-based law firm of Remy Moose Manley, LLP, which emphasizes environmental law, land use and planning law, wildlife law, water law, integrated waste management law, initiative and referendum law, and administrative law generally.

**Sean Patterson**

Sean Patterson is a senior associate with the law firm of Sedgwick LLP. Based in San Francisco, Mr. Patterson has more than thirteen years' experience defending public agencies and corporations in complex civil litigation. He is admitted and has extensive experience practicing in state and federal court, and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. His practice includes the representation and defense of public agencies, judicial officers and state officials in civil rights actions involving allegations of violation of constitutionally protected rights (e.g., discrimination/ denial of services, denial of due process). Mr. Patterson has direct experience defending these agencies and individuals through trial and appeal, in response to claims for disability discrimination and denial of services. Represent and defend companies and insurers in complex litigation, with an emphasis on product liability litigation (including toxic tort and general product liability claims). He also represents and has extensive experience defending corporations in product liability and mass tort litigation.

**Jennifer Petrusis**

Jennifer is a shareholder of the Firm and a member of RWG's Litigation Department. Jennifer concentrates on the representation and counseling of public entities in a variety of litigation contexts including police liability, dangerous conditions of public property, civil rights, personal injury, inverse condemnation, contract disputes, indemnity, actions to recover delinquent taxes, and other public entity litigation. The sampling below illustrates Jennifer's expertise and activities. Jennifer's practice is primarily devoted to defending cities and peace officers in lawsuits alleging constitutional rights violations, police liability, personal injury, and other torts. Jennifer also advises police departments on policies and procedures, represents police departments in Pitchess Motions, and assists police departments in responding to Public Records Act requests and to subpoenas and other discovery requests. Jennifer is also experienced in the petition process used to obtain the court's authorization to retain and destroy confiscated deadly weapons.

**Javan Rad**

Javan Rad is the Chief Assistant City Attorney for the City of Pasadena, and has been with Pasadena since 2005. Javan oversees the Civil Division of the City Attorney's office, and also handles a variety of litigation and advisory matters in the areas of constitutional, tort, and telecommunications law. Javan has been active in a variety of capacities for the League of California Cities' City Attorney's Department. Javan has previously served as President of the City Attorney's Association of Los Angeles County, and is currently on the Board of Directors of SCAN NATOA (the States of California and Nevada Chapter of the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors). Javan graduated in from Purdue University with a bachelor's degree in Quantitative Agricultural Economics and from Pepperdine University School of Law.

**Rachel Richman**

Ms. Richman is a partner at Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP. Ms. Richman has provided contract city attorney and general counsel services to public agencies throughout California for nearly 20 years. Ms. Richman is the City Attorney for the City of Delano and City of Rosemead; Assistant City Attorney for the City of Alhambra and Assistant City Attorney for the City of Santa Clarita and Legal Counsel to the Santa Clarita Manufactured Home Rent Control Panel. She is the former City Attorney to the City of Arvin.



Gregory Rodriguez

Gregory Rodriguez is with Best Best & Krieger's Washington, D.C. office. Greg uses his unique experience working on Capitol Hill and as in-house counsel for a transportation planning agency to provide legal and regulatory guidance concerning federal grant and contracting requirements, and monitors, counsels and advocates for clients on federal legislation, rulemakings and funding opportunities related to transportation infrastructure. He is a native Southern Californian braving the weather of the East Coast and is excited about all things policy and legal around smart cities, especially new connections through smarter transportation. Greg is a proponent of public transportation and wants to see new technologies enhance mobility for all. His practice includes providing strategic information, policy insight and legal assistance on the regulation and safe and effective incorporation of emerging transportation technologies into our transportation network, including on-demand mobility, autonomous vehicles, and drones. Greg is a member of the Transportation Research Board's Transit and Intermodal Transportation Law Committee and has authored various articles and spoken at a wide variety of conferences on legal and policy issues associated with emerging technologies, including before the Maryland Association of Counties, American Public Transportation Association, International Municipal Lawyers Association, the Arizona Roads and Streets Conference, the American Planning Association and the Eno Center for Transportation Leadership Conference. He previously served as in-house counsel for the San Diego Association of Governments, where he worked on the Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project, and is well versed on the various procurement and contracting options available to public agencies and takes a hands-on approach to ensure a successful project delivery on construction projects, including large transportation infrastructure projects. Greg has extensive public contracting experience and advises on complicated governance issues, including open meetings laws and public records requests. Before attending law school, Greg was a staff member for U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein in Washington, D.C.

Gregory Rodriguez is with Best Best & Krieger's Washington, D.C. office. Greg uses his unique experience working on Capitol Hill and as in-house counsel for a transportation planning agency to provide legal and regulatory guidance concerning federal grant and contracting requirements, and monitors, counsels and advocates for clients on federal legislation, rulemakings and funding opportunities related to transportation infrastructure. He is a native Southern Californian braving the weather of the East Coast and is excited about all things policy and legal around smart cities, especially new connections through smarter transportation. Greg is a proponent of public transportation and wants to see new technologies enhance mobility for all. His practice includes providing strategic information, policy insight and legal assistance on the regulation and safe and effective incorporation of emerging transportation technologies into our transportation network, including on-demand mobility, autonomous vehicles, and drones. Greg is a member of the Transportation Research Board's Transit and Intermodal Transportation Law Committee and has authored various articles and spoken at a wide variety of conferences on legal and policy issues associated with emerging technologies, including before the Maryland Association of Counties, American Public Transportation Association, International Municipal Lawyers Association, the Arizona Roads and Streets Conference, the American Planning Association and the Eno Center for Transportation Leadership Conference. He previously served as in-house counsel for the San Diego Association of Governments, where he worked on the Mid-Coast Corridor Transit Project, and is well versed on the various procurement and contracting options available to public agencies and takes a hands-on approach to ensure a successful project delivery on construction projects, including large transportation infrastructure projects. Greg has extensive public contracting experience and advises on complicated governance issues, including open meetings laws and public records requests. Before attending law school, Greg was a staff member for U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein in Washington, D.C.

**Stacey N. Sheston**

Stacey N. Sheston is a partner in the Labor & Employment practice group of Best Best & Krieger LLP. She is also a member of the firm's Executive Committee. Prior to joining BB&K, she was a shareholder, practice group leader and chief talent officer on the management committee of McDonough Holland & Allen in Sacramento. Stacey's practice includes day-to-day employment advice, such as dealing with problem employees (including discipline and terminations), handling harassment complaints and investigations, responding to requests for disability accommodations, addressing wage and hour and leave of absence questions, responding to grievances and unfair practice charges, and drafting employment agreements, handbooks and policies. On the litigation side, Stacey represents employers in mediations, arbitrations, administrative hearings and court proceedings (including jury and non-jury trials) arising out of employment matters, including wrongful termination, breach of contract, unpaid wages, harassment, discrimination and retaliation. Stacey is a member of the State Bar of California, the Employee Relations Policy Committee of the League of California Cities, the Sacramento County Bar Association Labor & Employment Section, Women Lawyers of Sacramento, and the California Public Employers Labor Relations Association. She is also former editorial chair of, and contributor to, the Personnel Chapter of the Municipal Law Handbook (CEB 2010). From 2012 to 2016, Stacey was named by her peers as a Northern California Super Lawyer for employment and labor law. She is admitted to the U.S. District Court for the Central & Eastern districts of California and the Ninth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals. She is licensed to practice in the State of California. Education University of California, Davis, J.D. Drake University, B.A., cum laude



David Tyra

David Tyra, manager of the firm's labor and employment group, represents private and public sector employers in labor and employment law actions as well as providing advice and counsel on labor and employment issues. His practice covers all aspects of labor and employment law, including wage-hour actions, employee leave matters, workplace discrimination and harassment, work place privacy, and unfair labor practice claims. His litigation experience includes representing employers in federal and state courts at the trial and appellate levels and before numerous federal and state agencies. He is an active public speaker on employment topics, having presented numerous times before civic and commercial groups. In addition to his vast experience handling labor and employment matters, Mr. Tyra is experienced in representing owners and contractors in construction actions, including both the prosecution and defense of claims for extra work, acceleration, and delays, as well as the prosecution and defense of construction defect claims. Served as lead counsel for Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and the State of California in 38 cases filed by public employee unions challenging Governor Schwarzenegger's executive orders furloughing California state employees. Mr. Tyra successfully represented the Governor and the State at the trial court and appellate court levels, including appearing on behalf of the Governor and the State before the California Supreme Court in *Professional Engineers in California Government v. Schwarzenegger* (2010) 50 Cal.4th 989, in which the Court validated the furloughs of state employees based on the Legislature's ratification of Governor Schwarzenegger's furlough plan. Mr. Tyra's professional activities and affiliations include: • Top Lawyer, Sacramento Magazine (2017) • Northern California Super Lawyer (2010-2017) • Top 25 Sacramento Super Lawyer (2013, 2014) • "Best of the Bar," Sacramento Business Journal (2013) Academic Background J.D. University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law, 1984 B.A. University of California, Santa Barbara, 1981



Mike Washburn

Chief Mike Washburn, a 31 year veteran of law enforcement, began his law enforcement career in 1986 at the Seattle Police Department before becoming Indio's 19th Chief of Police on August 16, 2016. While at the Seattle Police Department, he promoted through the ranks to Captain and Precinct Commander where he was then assigned to the Investigations Bureau and commanded the Violent Crimes Section, which included Robbery, Homicide, CSI, and the Gang Unit. From December 2013 through March 2015, he served as Interim Assistant Chief. Chief Washburn earned a Master's Degree in the Administration of Justice from the University of Alaska Fairbanks and Bachelor of Arts Degrees from Central Washington University in both Law & Justice and Sociology. He is also a graduate of the Senior Management Institute for Police at Boston University. In 2003, he served a six-month fellowship with the Department of Justice at FBI Headquarters in Washington, D.C. as the Safe Streets Executive Fellow. Chief Washburn and his wife Kerry have been married for 30 years and have four children.