



Peggy Dayton

Partner

Los Angeles
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Peggy focuses her practice on complex commercial litigation in all phases of litigation, including appeals, in both state and federal court.

She has experience with fraud actions, contract disputes, business tort matters, legal malpractice cases, class action litigation, False Claims Act (FCA) litigation, and securities matters, including actions brought by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

Key Matters

Some of the experience represented below may have been handled at a previous firm.

- Won motions to compel contractual religious arbitration requiring the plaintiff's claims to be heard under ecclesiastical law on behalf of a religious institution client. Successfully defeated a petition for writ of mandate to the California Court of Appeals, petition for review to the California Supreme Court, and petition for writ of certiorari to the United States Supreme Court seeking to overturn the order.
- Successfully represented a brand management company in a licensing dispute, prevailing in a multi-day arbitration and obtaining an award for our client of unpaid royalties.

- Successfully represented a brand management company in a breach of contract and business tort action. Following a four-day trial in federal court, the jury returned a complete defense verdict in favor of our client.
- Obtained dismissal of a 14-year, multibillion-dollar property lawsuit less than three weeks after being retained as counsel on the grounds that plaintiff failed to timely bring the case to trial.
- Successfully represented law firm and individual attorney in legal malpractice action, securing a dismissal and summary judgment on statute of limitations grounds, which disposed of the entire lawsuit on the first available motion hearing date in state court; result affirmed on appeal.
- Defeated motion for class certification of proposed class of drug rehabilitation participants in federal court.
- Helped secure partial summary judgment in FCA lawsuit, reducing potential exposure from US\$100M to less than US\$300,000, leading to successful settlement.
- Successfully represented drug rehabilitation facility in individual lawsuits in federal courts in various states resulting in favorable settlements and dismissals.
- Successfully represented individuals and sports agency in federal consumer class action case brought on behalf of purchasers of Lance Armstrong biographies alleging misrepresentations regarding use of performance-enhancing drugs by Armstrong. Following the court's granting of defendants' anti-SLAPP motions, the plaintiff dismissed all claims.
- Successfully represented CEO charged with insider trading and fraudulently reporting revenues. Following a bench trial, the court issued a complete defense verdict against the SEC.

Recognitions

Peggy was recognized in *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch*® in America, (2021–2023) in the area of Commercial Litigation and named to the 2022 list of *Best Lawyers*®: Women in the Law.

Activities

- Member, Los Angeles County Bar Association
 - Member, Phi Beta Kappa
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Credentials

EDUCATION

Peggy received her B.A., *summa cum laude*, from Duke University in 2007 where she served as the President of the Duke University Equestrian Team. She received her J.D. from Stanford Law School in 2010, where she served as the Development Editor (2009) and Co-Managing Editor (2008) of the *Stanford Journal of Animal Law and Policy*.

ADMISSIONS

- California

Related Insights & News

NEWS

2022 Pro Bono Impact Report

MAY 1, 2023

RECOGNITIONS

Winston & Strawn Attorneys Recognized in *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America* 2023

AUGUST 18, 2022

RECOGNITIONS

Winston Named to 2021 Appellate Hot List by *The National Law Journal*

AUGUST 23, 2021

RECOGNITIONS

Winston & Strawn Attorneys Recognized in *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America* 2022

AUGUST 19, 2021

RECOGNITIONS

Winston Women Recognized in the 2021 Women in the Law edition of *Best Lawyers*

JULY 1, 2021

IN THE MEDIA

Featured in the *Daily Journal*: Winston Announces Expansion in Los Angeles

FEBRUARY 18, 2021

PRESS RELEASE

Winston & Strawn Expands Los Angeles Office with Addition of 18 Attorneys

FEBRUARY 16, 2021

IN THE MEDIA

Winston & Strawn's West Coast Expansion Featured in *The American Lawyer*

FEBRUARY 16, 2021

Capabilities

Litigation/Trials

Commercial Litigation & Disputes

Class Actions & Group Litigation

Advertising Litigation

Appellate & Critical Motions

Securities, M&A & Corporate Governance Litigation

Financial Services

Insurance