



Gregory A. Ellis

Of Counsel

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Gregory is a seasoned trial lawyer with extensive experience representing high-profile clients including national financial institutions, professional sports franchises, and corporations and their officers in diverse civil litigation matters at both the trial and appellate levels, in state and federal courts throughout the United States.

Gregory is a civil litigator with extensive experience in both state and federal court, whose practice includes breach of contract, real estate, business tort, banking, securities fraud, and intellectual property disputes as well as the defense of personal injury and class action matters. He has represented clients successfully at all stages of litigation, including at trial and on appeal.

Gregory has represented a diverse group of clients, including a professional sports franchise, a major national bank, and several technology and pharmaceutical companies. He played a substantial role at trial in a fraud and breach of contract case in the Superior Court of San Francisco County, which resulted in a multimillion-dollar decision in favor of his client, an internet-based charity. Gregory has also helped obtain early dismissals of several putative class action cases against a national bank.

Key Matters

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

A sample of Gregory's representative matters include:

- Obtaining a defense verdict in federal court in Fresno in an action for breach of a licensing agreement in the beverage industry, and successfully winning an affirmance of the verdict in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals;
- Defeating the claims of lead plaintiffs in a putative class action by establishing, at a bench trial on mental capacity, that the lead plaintiffs had sufficient capacity to enter into arbitration agreements;
- Defending a nationwide drug rehabilitation provider against multiple actions in multiple states alleging various personal injury and misrepresentation claims;
- Serving as lead counsel on behalf of multiple outside directors of an optical communications company in a group of consolidated shareholder derivative actions, which resulted in a favorable settlement;
- Successfully briefing appeals (1) reversing the denial of an anti-SLAPP motion in a wrongful death case, which resulted in a favorable settlement; and (2) affirming the grant of a demurrer in the client's favor in a multimillion-dollar dispute over a claimed real estate joint venture;
- Successfully defending a major manufacturer and supplier of medical equipment, defeating a motion for preliminary injunction, which led to a swift dismissal of the action;
- Obtaining dismissals at the pleading stage for a major international chemical company and a major wireless communication company, respectively, in toxic tort and wrongful death actions;
- Serving as lead counsel on behalf of a biomedical testing company in a breach of contract action, which resulted in a favorable settlement;
- Representing an Internet media corporation as part of a multinational litigation team that successfully settled cases in both California and the UK arising out of a merger; and
- Representing a national construction and fabrication company in a multi-party CERCLA environmental remediation case involving a former steel mill site in Los Angeles.

Activities

Gregory serves on the Governing Board of the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council. He also served on the *Southern California Interdisciplinary Law Journal* board from 1998 to 1999.

Credentials

EDUCATION

Gregory earned his law degree from the University of Southern California, graduating in 1999 after serving on the *Southern California Interdisciplinary Law Journal*. While in law school, Gregory served as an extern for the Hon. Ronald S.W. Lew in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California. He graduated *cum laude* from the University of Southern California in 1996 with a B.A. in political science and a minor in American history.

Following law school, he served as a law clerk for the Honorable Manuel L. Real in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California. He is admitted to the bars of California and New Mexico and multiple federal district and appellate courts.

ADMISSIONS

- California
- New Mexico

CLERKSHIPS

- USDC - Central District of CA for the Honorable Manuel L. Real

Related Insights & News

NEWS

Supreme Court Holds that Trial-Level Proceedings Must Be Stayed Pending Arbitration Appeals

JULY 19, 2023

NEWS

2020-2021 Pro Bono Impact Report

2020-2021

IN THE MEDIA

Winston & Strawn Aids UC Students In Test Score Case

JUNE 20, 2021

PRO BONO IN ACTION

Winston Negotiates Settlement with University of California that Ends the Use of ACT and SAT Scores in Admission and Scholarship Decisions

MAY 14, 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
- Intellectual Property
- Securities, M&A & Corporate Governance Litigation
- Appellate & Critical Motions
- Financial Services
- Professional Services
- Media & Entertainment
- Sports