

Brooke E. Washburn

Associate Attorney

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Practice Area(s): Business and Commercial Litigation, Construction

Overview

Brooke Washburn practices civil litigation throughout California state and federal courts, with an emphasis on construction law matters. Brooke represents private owners, public entities, developers, general contractors, subcontractors, design professionals, and sureties on a wide range of issues within the construction industry, including, complex litigation and construction defect matters.

In her litigation practice, Brooke has gained practical experience defending construction professionals from pre-litigation dispute resolution through trial. In addition, she has represented clients with licensing disputes, insurance claims, OSHA citations, and landlord tenant matters. Brooke has litigated both commercial and residential construction claims and obtained a defense verdict for a client with potential liability exposure in excess of \$2 million.

Prior to joining Murphy Austin, Brooke served for eight years as the Senior Counsel at Wolfe & Wyman LLP, where her practice focused on insurance defense of general liability matters, with a specialty in complex construction defect disputes.

Brooke graduated with her Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science, with minor in Gender and Multicultural Studies from California State University, Chico. While she was a student at CSU, Brooke was a Moot Court Champion, a director of the Community Legal Information Center, a member of Pi Sigma Alpha, and a player with the women's soccer team. She received her Juris Doctor degree from New England School of Law in Boston and was a Merit Scholar. During law school, Brooke was a student lawyer with the Public Interest Law Clinic representing indigent clients, member of the Women's Law Caucus and The New England Innocence Project, which focused on providing pro bono representation to people seeking assistance with wrongful convictions.



Memberships

- Sacramento County Bar Association, Construction Section
- Women's Lawyers of Sacramento
- Endowment Fund for El Dorado County
- Sierra Moms

Bar Admissions

- State Bar of California
- State Bar of Nevada
- United States District Court, Eastern District of California
- United States District Court, District of Nevada
- United States, Bankruptcy

Representative Matters

- Successfully defended a complex construction defect action as second chair through trial and appeal.
- Represented general contractors, architects, designers, and subcontractors in complex civil litigation matters in Federal and State Courts in both California and Nevada.
- Successfully resolved, through summary judgment and adjudication, numerous cases on statute of limitation/repose defenses, Calderon Act compliance, Right to Repair Act compliance, express contractual obligations, negligence, and breach of contract claims.
- Represented clients in both California and Nevada Federal Bankruptcy adversary proceedings related to fraud, violations of automatic stays, discharge and reorganization.
- Litigated complex construction matters involving construction defects, product claims, negligent supply/installation, license violations, OSHA citations, construction work-place injury, and construction safety obligations.
- Represented clients in disputes involving contractor's licensing requirements and violations.
- Successfully resolved a contractor's licensing dispute with attorney general's office.
- Represented clients in complex construction arbitration disputes, pre-litigation process, and mediation and special master proceedings.
- Regularly draft, review and revise construction contracts and negotiated settlements.
- Successfully defended matters involving personal injury claims, landlord tenant disputes, workers' compensation actions, and event security requirements.
- Regularly defend and represent clients in percipient witness and expert depositions.

Court, Eastern District

- United States Bankruptcy Court, District of Nevada

Education

New England School of Law,
Boston, Massachusetts

J.D., 2005

Merit Scholar, 2002–2003; Dean's List, 2 semesters; Team Member, Mock Trial

California State University, Chico,
Chico, California

B.A., Political Science, 2002

Moot Court Champion, 2001,
Member of Women's Soccer Team,
Phi Sigma Alpha, and Gamma Phi Beta

Leadership

- Volunteer, Unravel Pediatric Cancer (2017 – present)
- Pro Bono Attorney, Justice and Diversity Center, San Francisco (2007 – 2009)