HUSCH BLACKWELL

Bridget A. McKinstry

SENIOR COUNSEL

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OVERVIEW

Bridget helps businesses protect their interests when litigation threatens their products, operations, or reputation. With more than two decades of litigation experience in state and federal courts, she focuses on product liability defense and represents businesses in a range of premises liability and commercial disputes.

Her product liability practice spans diverse products and industries. She has defended automotive and component parts manufacturers, distributors, and manufacturers of consumer and industrial products. She also represents manufacturers and distributors in toxic tort matters, including claims involving silica and other environmental and occupational exposures. Bridget represents trucking companies, property owners, and other businesses in premises liability and commercial disputes and provides rapid response following serious commercial vehicle accidents. In these matters, she works with clients, investigators, and experts to preserve evidence, assess potential claims, and position matters for efficient resolution.

Bridget has substantial trial experience, including serving as first and second chair in multi-week jury trials. She has played a hands-on role at every stage of trial, from jury selection and witness examinations to developing evidentiary presentations and preparing and arguing motions in limine and trial briefs. She develops litigation strategies tailored to the issues and objectives of

Industries

Manufacturing
Transportation

Services

Commercial Litigation
Complex Torts (CXT)
Litigation & Alternative Dispute Resolution
Product Liability
Toxic Tort

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each matter and works closely with technical experts to address scientific, regulatory, and causation issues.

Her litigation work also informs her role as an educator. Bridget has developed and presented programs for insurance adjusters on evaluating claims and cases, as well as Minimum Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) programs for fellow attorneys.

Clients value Bridget's strategic, collaborative approach and her focus on finding the best path forward. She prioritizes open communication and productive relationships with clients, co-counsel, and opposing counsel, knowing when to pick her battles and when pursuing a matter through trial is necessary to achieve the client's objectives. She brings fresh eyes and creative thinking to each matter, developing a strategy that reflects the client's goals and the unique people, issues, and dynamics involved.

Recognition

- Appointed to State Bar Committee on Administration of Justice, 2003-2006

Education

- J.D., Southwestern Law School
    - CALI Award for Excellence, Maritime Law
    - Southwestern Women's Law Association, Board of Governors, Alumni Chair
- B.A., St Mary's College
    - English
    - Honors
    - Dean's List - Scholar Athlete, Crew

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Admissions

- California
- U.S. District Court, Central District of California
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of California
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of California
- U.S. Supreme Court

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*Contact Bridget to set up an in-person consultation by appointment in the Oakland office.

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