



Jules S. Zeman

PARTNER

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OVERVIEW

Jules focuses his appellate experience across many areas including product liability, toxic tort, commercial litigation, real estate, employment and government liability.

Jules works closely with clients and trial teams, consulting on pre-trial and trial strategy, evidentiary issues, and post-trial motions, preparing and arguing complex motions which are expected to be appealed. His goal is to ensure the best pathways for clients long before the appellate process begins. On significant cases, he supports the trial team at trial by ensuring that the trial record will preserve all arguments and issues beneficial to firm clients for later appeals.

A Certified Specialist in Appellate Law by the State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization, Jules has practiced law for 41 years, focusing on appellate law for 28 of them. He served as chairman of the appellate practice group at a previous California law firm for more than a decade and has handled or supervised more than 350 matters in appellate courts nationwide. He briefs and argues cases frequently in all six districts of the California Court of Appeals, the California Supreme Court, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

In addition to litigation of product liability and environmental tort matters, Jules has represented companies in trial court and on appeal in many cases involving commercial disputes, intellectual property, employment matters, insurance coverage, professional liability, government liability, and real estate and securities fraud.

Industries

Manufacturing
Technology
Transportation

Services

Appellate
Asbestos Litigation
Class Action Defense
Complex Torts (CXT)
Product Liability
Toxic Tort

HUSCH BLACKWELL

He has handled appellate matters for companies and organizations including 3M Company, Syngenta Crop Protection, LLC, AIG, Citibank, City of Los Angeles, BorgWarner MorseTEC, Metalclad Insulation LLC, United Minerals and Properties, Inc., Honeywell International, Inc., JPMorgan Chase, Bank of America, Terex, Exxon Mobil, Pep Boys, U-Haul International, Inc., CertainTeed, Bombardier Recreational Products, Purolator Filtration Products, Maxim Crane, Air Products & Chemical, Macerich, Coleman Company, Flowserve US, Edward Valve, Peoplesoft, Hyundai, Searles Valley Minerals, Grubb-Ellis, Jon Douglas Co., Procter & Gamble, Zhongce Rubber Group, Ltd., Sichuan Tyre & Rubber Co., Ltd., Cannondale Bicycle, Glaxo Welcome (GlaxoSmithKline), DHL Express (USA), AB Ludwig Svensson, Broan-Nutone, Pacific, Gas & Electric Company, Cyprus Mines, Imerys Talc, ArvinMeritor, Inc., Health Net of California, Inc., and BBiTV.

Experience

PRIOR TO JOINING HUSCH BLACKWELL, JULES WAS INVOLVED IN THE FOLLOWING SIGNIFICANT APPEALS:

- *Poole v. Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA)* (2015) 61 Cal.4th. 1378. Successfully represented OCFA before the California Supreme Court in reversing a decision that incorrectly interpreted applicable law to require it (and other public agencies) to provide public employees with all written negative comments about them, even if reflective merely of private observations in informal notes that were not available to others and could not have impacted the employee's future employment status.
- *Hagberg v. California Federal Bank, FSB* (2004) 32 Cal. 4th 350. Successfully represented California Federal Bank, FSB (now Citibank (West), FSB) before the California Supreme Court and obtained affirmance of summary judgment, in a case holding that the privilege embodied within Civil Code Section 47(b) bars claims arising from an allegedly false report to the police regarding suspected criminal conduct.
- *Cortez v. Purolator* (2000) 23 Cal.4th 163. Represented Purolator Filtration Systems with partial success before the California Supreme Court in a case which applied the Unfair Competition Law, Business & Professions Code §17200 to a violation of the Labor Code regarding overtime wages for purposes of liability under Business & Professions Code Sections 17200 and 17500.

Experience

- *Lavie v. Procter & Gamble Co.* (2003) 105 Cal. App. 4th 496. Obtained affirmance of defense verdict for Procter & Gamble, Hoffmann-La Roche and other defendants in a case holding that the reasonable consumer standard is to be applied in the determination of whether advertisements are likely to mislead the public for purposes of liability under California Business & Professions Code, sections 17200 and 17500.
- *Searles Valley Mineral Operation, Inc. v. Ralph M. Parsons Service Co.* (2011) 191 Cal. App. 4th 1394. On behalf of global mineral company, obtained reversal of trial court's order dismissing its action to recover attorneys' fees payments it made on behalf of Kerr-McGee after indemnitor wrongfully refused.
- *Sexton v. Chino Hills Fire Protection District*, 7 Fed. Appx. 610, U.S. App. LEXIS 5354 (9th Cir 2001). Represented Fire Authority before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and obtained affirmance of summary judgment, thereby dismissing claims for violations of 42 U.S.C. § 1983, 43 U.S.C. § 1885(2), including violations of substantive and procedural due process rights, malicious prosecution and abuse of process. This was the last in a series of cases arising out of a government employee's claim that his lack of promotion to Fire Captain was based upon retaliation and other wrongful motives.
- *Clarendon America Insurance Company v. General Security Indemnity Company of America* (2011) 193 Cal. App. 4th 1311. Obtained affirmance of summary judgment upholding the plain meaning of an insurance company's "products-completed operations hazard coverage" provision and "faulty workmanship" exclusion.
- *Golden Eagle Ins. Corp. vs. Cen-Fed, Ltd.* (2007) 148 Cal. App. 4th 976. On behalf of insurer, obtained reversal of adverse judgment and instead compelled enforcement of its "Supplementary Payments Provision."
- *Mettias v. The Pep Boys Manny Moe & Jack of California* (2019) 35 Cal.App.5th 1088
- *Cardoza v. Gonsalves* (2019) 2019 WL 1771508
- *Johnson v. ArvinMeritor* (2017) 9 Cal.App.5th 234

Experience

- *Lone Star Security and Video, Inc. v. City of Rancho Cucamonga*, 827F.3d1192 (9th Cir. 2016)
- *Shoen v. Zacarias* (2015) 237 Cal. App. 4th 16
- *Chaudhry v. City of Los Angeles*, 751 F. 3d 1096 (9th Cir. 2014)
- *Julius Castle Restaurant v. James Payne* (2013) 216 Cal. App. 4th 1423
- *Dow Chemical Canada, ULC v. Superior Court* (2011) 202 Cal. App. 4th 170
- *Steffel Levitt & Weiss v. Astor Holdings* , 278 Fed. Appx. 718, 2008 U.S. App. LEXIS 165209 (9th Cir. 2007)
- *Tang v. City of Westminster*, 92 Fed. Appx. 424, 2004 U.S. App. LEXIS 1100 (9th Cir. 2003)
- *Mora v. Hollywood Bed and Spring* (2008) 164 Cal. App. 4th 1061
- *Schwab v. So. Cal. Gas Co.* (2004) 114 Cal. App. 4th 1308
- *20th Century Ins. Co, v. Schurtz* (2002) 92 Cal. App. 4th 1188
- *Roulier v. Cannondale* (2002) 101 Cal. App. 4th 1180
- *Truck Ins. Exch. v. Bennett* (1997) 53 Cal. App. 4th 75
- *Tushinsky v. Arnold* (1987) 195 Cal. App. 3d 666

Education

- LL.M., Temple University
 - Tax
- J.D., Temple University
- B.B.A., Temple University
 - Accounting/Finance

Admissions

- California
- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
- 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

*Contact Jules to set up an in-person consultation by appointment in the Los Angeles office.



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