

KARL S. THURMOND
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Mr. Thurmond specializes in business litigation and business law. He is a 1982 graduate of Dartmouth College and a 1985 graduate of Harvard Law School. While at Harvard Law, he was honored with the Ames Moot Court Prize based upon the performance of a team he captained and received the Williston Prize for Best Overall Contract.

Practice Areas
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Business Litigation• Appeals
Education
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A.B., Dartmouth College, 1982• J.D., Harvard Law School, 1985
Bar Admissions
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• California

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

He has handled the prosecution and defense of a broad variety of complex business litigation, including disputes involving the Unfair Business Practices Act, The Consumer Legal Remedies Act, unfair competition, real estate, securities, insurance coverage, corporate and partnership law, franchise law, trade secrets, products liability, construction law, employment, sexual harassment and wrongful termination. He also has advised clients on the purchase and leasing of real estate, purchase of businesses, and general corporate and employment matters. In addition, Mr. Thurmond has advised clients in the hedge fund and investment management businesses.

Based upon Mr. Thurmond's experience and expertise, he was recognized as a "Southern California Super Lawyer" in 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 by Los Angeles Magazine. In addition, he was invited as a panelist for the National Employment Law Council Conference (2001) and the Labor and Employment Law Symposium of the Labor and Employment Law Section of the State Bar of California (Spring, 1995).

Based upon the results he is able to garner, Mr. Thurmond has been placed upon McDonald's Corporation's list of Preferred Outside Franchise Counsel. In addition, he has been certified as a member of the Million Dollar Advocates Forum, which is limited to attorneys who have won million dollar verdicts, awards and settlements.

SPECIFIC LITIGATION EXPERIENCE

Mr. Thurmond has handled the prosecution and defense of several complex civil litigation and trial matters, including the successful defense of litigation involving the

purchase of securities in a national time-share condominium company, in which his client recovered nearly \$1 million based upon its cross-claims.

Mr. Thurmond obtained a multi-million dollar settlement against a leading publicly traded investor education company in a lawsuit in which his client alleged breach of contract, conversion, accounting and constructive trust claims.

He obtained a seven-figure settlement against a leading paint manufacturer in a suit in which his client alleged breach of contract and breach of warranty.

In a case involving seven-figure potential liability for the negligent construction of a luxury estate, Mr. Thurmond obtained the dismissal of his client without any payment or consideration.

Furthermore, Mr. Thurmond obtained a seven-figure settlement against a national investment banking firm in the prosecution of a managing director's employment and breach of contract claims.

He convinced the California Court of Appeals to uphold the summary judgment in favor of his client in a multi-million dollar dispute over the sale of a manufacturing plant and alleged breach of a co-packing agreement, resulting in the published opinion of *Copeland v. Baskin-Robbins USA, et al.*, (2002) 96 Cal.App.4th 1251.

SPECIFIC TRIAL EXPERIENCE

Mr. Thurmond has first chaired six jury trials, including the prosecution of a trial against a major insurance carrier, which resulted in a verdict in excess of \$9 million.

He also prosecuted a trial involving a nationwide recall of commercial blenders, which resulted in a jury verdict in favor of his client for breach of warranty and negligent misrepresentation.

Mr. Thurmond defended a trial involving sexual harassment and retaliation, in which the jury returned only a nominal verdict.

He first chaired a binding arbitration against a prominent investment management firm involving a dispute over the payment of commissions, at the conclusion of which his client was awarded a significant sum, in addition to recovering the majority of its legal fees.

Mr. Thurmond has second chaired a complex product liability jury trial, which resulted in a directed verdict and one of the largest sanctions awards in the State of California against the plaintiff, its insurance carrier and its counsel.

SPECIFIC CLASS ACTION DEFENSE EXPERIENCE

Mr. Thurmond avoided seven-figure liability by obtaining a dismissal in an action for the purported illegal sale of gift certificates with expiration dates.

In another case involving seven-figure liability for the purported illegal sale of gift certificates with expiration dates under the Unfair Business Practices Act and the Consumer Legal Remedies Act, Mr. Thurmond resolved the claim for five-figures.

In a class action under the Unfair Business Practices Act involving the purported illegal taxing of iced tea, Mr. Thurmond leveraged his client's defenses to convince the plaintiff to settle the seven-figure case for five figures.

In an action under the Unfair Business Practices Act based upon the unauthorized enforcement of parking regulations, Mr. Thurmond obtained the voluntarily dismissal of his client from the suit without any payment or consideration.

Mr. Thurmond recently obtained a dismissal of his client in a class action brought under the Unfair Business Practices Act alleging, among other things, violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

BAR MEMBERSHIP AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Mr. Thurmond is a member of the Los Angeles County Bar Association, the State Bar of California and American Bar Association. He is admitted before the United States District Court for the Central and Southern Districts of California.

Mr. Thurmond has been involved with several nonprofit organizations. He currently serves as President of the Board of Regents of Temple Emanuel Academy Day School (2009 – Present) and a member of the Board of Directors of Temple Emanuel (2009 – Present). Mr. Thurmond has served as general counsel and a member of Board of Directors of Watts/Willowbrook Boys & Girls Club (2001 - 2006). In addition, he has served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Dartmouth Club of Los Angeles (2004 - 2006) and was Vice Chairperson of the Class of 1985 20th Reunion Gift Committee for The Harvard Law School Campaign (2004 - Present). Additionally, he has served as a member of the Board of Directors of Reading Is Fundamental of Southern California, Inc. (1988 - 1992) and as counsel to the Black Business Association of Los Angeles, Inc. (1992 - 1998). He has served as counsel to the Committee to Elect Adam Schiff (currently Congressmen) to the California State Assembly (1991). He also served for four years as a member of the Structural Pest Control Board of the State of California (2000 - 2004).