



# LEIGH W. BURNSIDE

## TITLE

*President*

*Shareholder*

*Trust and Estate Litigation*

*Department Chair*

## PRACTICE AREAS

Appeals & Writs

Estate Planning, Trust Administration  
& Probate

Trust & Estate Litigation

## EDUCATION

B.A., Stanford University, 1994

English and French Literatures

J.D., Santa Clara University School of  
Law, 1997

Chairperson, Honors Moot Court  
Society

## ADMITTED TO PRACTICE IN

California State Bar, 1997

United States District Court, Eastern  
District of California

United States District Court, Central  
District of California

## CONTACT

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As the Chair of the firm's Trust and Estate Litigation Practice Group, Leigh regularly counsels fiduciaries in their administration of trusts and estates. She defends them in court actions brought by beneficiaries, assists them in the preparation and defense of accountings, and represents them in actions against third parties to recover assets belonging to the trust or estate. Leigh also represents beneficiaries and heirs in disputes with personal representatives and trustees. Such matters include will and trust contests, disputes over the distribution of assets, and disputes over whether the fiduciary acted properly in performing his or her duties.

Leigh's practice also includes conservatorships and guardianships, both contested and uncontested. She assists clients in determining whether a conservatorship or guardianship is warranted, represents them in court proceedings to appoint a conservator or guardian, and also advises court-appointed guardians and conservators in their role as fiduciaries.

As an extension of these services, Leigh has handled numerous trust and estate appeals, several of which resulted in published opinions finding in favor of her client.

Leigh was selected as one of only six Super Lawyers' "Rising Stars" in Northern California for her work in Estate and Trust Litigation in 2012. She has also been named as one of Northern California's "Super Lawyers," representing the top 5 percent of practicing attorneys in Northern California, every year since 2013. Super Lawyers named Leigh one of the "Top 50 Women Attorneys" of Northern California in 2016, 2018 and 2019. And most recently, Super Lawyers named her to the list of the Top 100 Attorneys in Northern California in 2018 and 2019.

## Professional Affiliations & Memberships

- California State Bar Association (Trusts & Estates Section)
- Fresno County Bar Association (Board of Directors, 2005-2008)
- Association of Business Trial Lawyers (Board of Governors, 2007-present; Treasurer 2008-present)
- Fresno County Young Lawyers Association (Board of Directors, 1999-2004; President, 2003)

