

Commercial Litigation - A Closer Look



The Law Offices of
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Welcome to the Law Offices of Paul J. Steiner

Welcome to our website. We hope this introduction will give you good reason to contact us to discuss your legal matters.

Paul J. Steiner has been practicing law throughout the San Francisco Bay Area for over 45 years. He has extensive experience advising and representing individuals, for-profit and non-profit businesses in matters involving a wide range of civil disputes in state and federal courts and has been peer rated 'av' (highest rating for legal ability and ethical standards) by Martindale-Hubbell for over 30 years. The firm and staff are highly experienced and dedicated to excellent service.

Our attorneys provide advice on avoiding and resolving disputes without litigation as well as smart representation in litigated matters through trial and appeal. Mr. Steiner is a trained mediator and has substantial experience as an arbitrator and as an advocate in these types of proceedings. We constantly strive to provide wise counsel and zealous advocacy while employing classic values including respect, dedication, and judgment drawing on our considerable experience. Our work is focused, efficient and effective. Our fees are fair and competitive. We will make flexible financial arrangements to meet various needs. We provide a free consultation to initially assess your matter.

A sampling of some of the matter types we handle include disputes involving contracts, torts, personal injuries, professional negligence, real estate, and business matters. Paul Steiner has served as general counsel, litigation counsel and outside counsel for several businesses in a variety of fields, has experience with administrative agencies and non-profits and is a trustee of a real estate trust.

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Commercial legal disputes happen all the time. You might get into an argument or be accused of misconduct by an employee. Someone with whom you conduct business might breach your contract agreement or you might question the validity of the contract all together. Regardless what brings about the dispute, commercial litigation is used to address and resolve the issue. One of the most important aspects of commercial litigation is finding an experienced attorney familiar with, and understands your type of dispute.

Most business owners secure the services of a business attorney. Should any legal action or controversy arise that involves their business, the problem is resolved with litigation through a commercial lawsuit. Commercial litigation requires the assistance of a business lawyer that is familiar with your business and able to act in its best interest.

What is Commercial Litigation?

Commercial litigation is the merging of business and law. It addresses just about every area of business conflict. It deals with settling disputes, as opposed to other areas of business law. For instance, a business attorney might draft a contract, but not defend that contract on his client's behalf in court. If you have an attorney willing to write, review, and defend a contract, make sure he or she has sound litigation experience with your type of matter.

Most business attorneys will do everything possible to settle disputes outside of the courtroom. This saves their clients time and money, and protects the reputation of their client's business. Commercial litigation attorneys are more than just knowledgeable about business law; they are sound strategists that are familiar with the businesses, the alternative ways of resolving disputes and have experience doing so while keeping the overall best interests of their clients in mind.

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The average business attorney is able to settle a majority of disputes, but the best attorneys help their clients avoid the disputes in the first place. They are skilled at resolving conflict before it develops into full-blown litigation. That is why seeking legal advice as soon as a problem arises can often save thousands of dollars by allowing efficient and effective action to be taken before the parties harden their positions beyond amicable solutions can be found. Whenever a client is able to settle a dispute for a few thousand dollars, versus several million dollars in litigation, it is considered a success for the client.

Alternatives to Litigation



Let's assume one of your suppliers breached a contract it had with you. The supplier stopped providing raw materials for your company's use. Though you could drag out the resolution and claim your company was victimized, you can also resolve the issue outside of court by mediation, arbitration or other non-litigation methods. This saves time and money, and could even save the business relationship. Mediation, for instance, allows the parties to structure a settlement to include many other components beyond the mere payment of money, which is the limited type of payment available in court.

Many legal disputes are avoided based on the sound advice offered by a business litigation attorney. It might come as a surprise to learn that many businesses fail because they receive shoddy legal advice. Your attorney should have the knowledge and experience to guide you through a legal dispute and to prevent you from getting into one whenever possible. He or she should advise you how to handle problems pre-emptively and then advise you whether litigation or an out-of-court settlement is in your best interest.

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The Law Offices of Paul J. Steiner – A Smart Choice.

The San Francisco Law Offices of Paul J. Steiner has been representing clients in the San Francisco Bay Area with their personal and business law needs, including contract, tort and general civil litigation matters for more than 45 years. The practice uses the invaluable combination of good judgment, substantial experience, and dedication to obtain excellent results for clients, no matter the circumstances.

The majority of Paul's practice is dedicated to serving individual and business clients with a broad range of services, ranging from contract disputes, tort, including professional negligence claims to general consultations on personal and business law matters. He is also experienced in various forms of alternative dispute resolution as an advocate and a neutral.

Paul works with individuals, and large and small businesses, as well as nonprofits in a variety of legal areas, including litigation and appeals involving contracts, torts, including personal injury matters. The staff is well versed in litigation and in alternative dispute resolution. This process utilizes mediation, arbitration, neutral evaluation, judicial reference and collaborative law to resolve legal disputes. It facilitates discussions where both parties can come to an agreement without litigation, reducing court costs, shortening time, providing privacy and confidentiality for the dispute, and allowing each party to have a say in the final outcome of a case.

To learn more or to schedule a consultation with Paul, contact him at 415.981.6100 or by email at paul@sfpaulaw.com.

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