

Environmental Law Section | Executive Committee Roster | 2026

Anna Nguyen
Chair



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Anna works with clients on environmental, land use, and real estate law issues, specializing in land acquisition, redevelopment, and environmental cleanup and litigation. She handles a broad range of environmental matters from toxic torts to Superfund cleanup on the federal, state and appellate levels throughout California, Washington, and Oregon. She also manages development projects, focusing on due diligence, regulatory compliance and permitting, and insurance procurement and coverage determination. Anna navigates clients through the regulatory maze to achieve site closure and facilitate ground-breaking through building occupancy.

Jon-Erik W. Magnus
Vice-Chair



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Jon-Erik represents a wide variety of clients in all aspects of environmental and regulatory matters throughout California and Washington. This includes litigation, agency negotiations, and administrative proceedings. Jon-Erik regularly counsels clients with respect to Clean Water Act/storm water compliance and all varieties of regulatory matters, from greenwashing claims to compliance in connection with air district rules. He helps clients navigate rules applicable to doing business in the City and County of San Francisco.

Laurie Berger
Treasurer



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Laurie Berger is Special Counsel with Silicon Valley Law Group where she specializes in environmental regulatory compliance and litigation. Laurie represents manufacturers, developers, property owners and electronics companies. Her areas of expertise include hazardous and solid waste, Proposition 65, due diligence, vapor intrusion, land use, underground storage tanks, military base closure and reuse, municipal and hazardous waste landfills and conflict minerals.

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Hina Gupta
Secretary



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Hina Gupta helps public agencies and private clients navigate land use entitlements, environmental compliance issues, and litigation related to CEQA, NEPA, the California Coastal Act, and the state planning and zoning laws on a variety of infrastructure, energy, industrial, institutional, residential, and commercial projects throughout California. Before becoming an attorney, Hina worked as an environmental consultant preparing CEQA and NEPA documents for several high-stake development, infrastructure, and transit projects.

Sean Herman
*Immediate – Past
Chair*



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Sean represents public agencies and private businesses involved in complex environmental and land use matters, with a focus on regulatory compliance and related litigation involving surface and groundwater quality and use. His work often involves the Clean Water Act, Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, SGMA, CEQA, Endangered Species Act, RCRA, and CERCLA. Outside the office, Sean is an adjunct professor at Golden Gate University School of Law, where he helps teach administrative law and environmental law moot court.

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Melissa Allain
Member



Allain Law

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Melissa is an attorney and ADR neutral based in San Francisco Bay area, with 35+ years of experience including environmental matters, cross-border and other commercial transactions, litigation, and corporate governance.

Stuart I. Block
Member



Allen Matkins

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Stuart is an environmental partner in the San Francisco office and co-leader of the firm's Contaminated Sites Practice. During his more than 30 years of practice, Stuart has counseled clients on the investigation, cleanup, management, purchase, and sale of hundreds of environmentally impacted properties in California, including former industrial facilities, shopping centers, gas stations, dry cleaners, military bases, rail yards, marinas, and landfills. Stuart also has extensive experience in negotiating and resolving disputes concerning environmental liabilities, and the placement of and recovery under environmental insurance policies.

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Ladd Cahoon
Member



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Ladd helps clients buying, selling and cleaning up impacted real estate, assessing and allocating responsibility and liability, obtaining insurance coverage, and pursuing appropriate parties to pay. Ladd defends clients in government agency enforcement actions, and negotiates workable resolutions. Where necessary, Ladd defends clients and pursues responsible parties in litigation. Areas of practice include contaminated property, landfills, water quality, stormwater, wetlands, USTs, CEQA, and Prop 65.

Karen Donovan
Member



East Bay Municipal Utility District

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Karen's practice focuses on land use, water rights, water quality, and administrative law and public agencies. She is an attorney with the S.F. Bay Conservation and Development Commission, focusing on enforcement. Karen has extensive experience with CEQA and NEPA and the state and federal Endangered Species Acts, and she previously represented several water districts throughout the state.

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Louise Dyble
Member



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Louise has wide experience in helping businesses navigate complex regulatory landscapes, assisting clients facing issues related to environmental compliance and permitting, air emissions, water quality, waste management, and environmental mitigation and remediation. Louise advocates for clients facing regulation or enforcement by the U.S. EPA as well as state agencies, including the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), the Department of Toxic Substances Control, the State Water Quality Control Board, and the South Coast Air Quality Control District.

John Epperson
Member



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John has wide experience in environmental, health and safety law, regulatory compliance, transactions, permitting and entitlements, administrative enforcement, cleanups, cost recoveries, agency oversight, and renewable energy projects. His practice includes the Clean Water Act, RCRA, CERCLA, green chemistry and sustainability, Proposition 65, and OSHA investigations, inspections, and enforcement. He is an adjunct professor at Golden Gate University School of Law and a former member of the Executive Committee of the California Bar's Environmental Law Section.

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Desean Garnett
Member



**Office of Regional
Counsel**

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Desean Garnett is a Supervisory Attorney-Advisor at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, where he leads and advises on enforcement and counseling matters under the Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act. His practice focuses on enforcement involving public water systems and permitting under the Underground Injection Control program, including Class VI permits for carbon sequestration. He also regularly counsels program offices on complex issues arising under federal Indian law, the National Historic Preservation Act, and the National Environmental Policy Act.

**Pejman
Mosheregh**
Member



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Pejman is an attorney at Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP, where he represents clients in litigation concerning energy and environmental disputes, and in myriad regulatory proceedings concerning utility and transportation regulation. Prior to joining Morgan Lewis, Pejman served in the California Public Utilities Commission's Enforcement Division, where he spent eight years investigating and enforcing various violations of the Public Utilities Code in adjudicatory proceedings before the Commission.

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**Chris Rendall-
Jackson**

Member



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Chris has significant experience in federal and state courts, including high-profile Superfund (CERCLA) litigation, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) writ litigation, and complex commercial litigation. He also provides product counseling and litigates product claims, including Proposition 65 and federal and state PFAS standards and reporting requirements; counsels on environmental due diligence for real estate transactions; counsels on air quality and permitting; and practices before the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC).

Claire Sayler

Member



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Claire is a professional geologist specializing in hydrogeological characterization, contaminated site investigation and remediation, and litigation support. She addresses client needs on large and complex projects by applying her specialized technical knowledge and building interdisciplinary teams. Claire's hydrogeological characterization experience includes conceptual model development, groundwater modeling, and contaminant fate and transport evaluation. She supports site investigation and remediation through remedial system and fieldwork oversight, well network design and evaluation, and regulatory report preparation. She also has experience managing expert report production and client communications for litigation projects.

Justin Zucker

Member



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Justin A. Zucker's practice focuses on land use and environmental law, assisting property owners and developers in all stages of the land use and entitlement process. Justin has expertise counseling clients with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance, planning and zoning laws, including the State Density Bonus Law, Housing Accountability Act, SB 423, SB 330, Housing Element Law, and Subdivision Map Act, affordable housing laws, water rights, and code enforcement.

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Megan V. Unger

***Barrister
Representative***



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Megan works closely with clients to help them navigate the continually evolving environmental regulatory landscape. Her experience includes advising clients on compliance and enforcement defense, including permit compliance, and defense of enforcement actions brought by various California state and local regulators. Megan has assisted clients throughout the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) project review process and corresponding litigation. She maintains a broad waste management practice, including a focus on federal, and California state and local air, water, and solid waste compliance and enforcement issues. Megan also supports tech sector clients across all aspects of their operations, including data center construction, operation, and permitting.

James R. Arnold

Advisory Member



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Jim is in the process of retiring and is not accepting new clients.

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**Catherine
Johnson**

Advisory Member



Environmental General Counsel



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Catherine's practice at Environmental General Counsel is focused on remediation of contaminated sites (with special expertise in vapor intrusion), EPR packaging requirements under SB 54, and Proposition 65 compliance plans.

Alison Torbitt

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Alison focuses on brownfield remediation and environmental compliance, dispute resolution, and transactional due diligence, counseling a large range of manufacturers, developers, and financing parties to find solutions to environmental risk and liabilities, including an in-depth knowledge from her former work as an ecotoxicologist on the latest science from emerging contaminants (PFAS) to vapor intrusion attenuation factors. She thinks strategically about ESG and sustainability, identifying risks and innovations to tackle climate change, aging infrastructure, and the need for more housing.

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Jon Welner

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Jon represents clients in all areas of environmental and land use law. He is also the Chair of the firm's Prevailing Wage Practice Group and is recognized as one of the foremost prevailing wage practitioners in the State. Jon serves on the Advisory Board of the Environmental Law Section of the California Lawyers Association, and is a Councilmember of the Town of Tiburon.