



## Kristen L. Chic

### Counsel

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Kristen Chic’s practice centers on complex commercial disputes and product liability litigation, including defending nationally recognized clients in state and federal court across the United States.

A member of the Tucker Ellis Trial Department, Kristen currently represents and defends product sellers, designers and manufacturers, insurers, employers, and service providers in state and federal courts in a range of product liability/catastrophic injury and complex business litigation matters, including claims involving professional negligence, breach of contract, and fraud. In the product liability arena, she represents one of the largest elevator manufacturers and servicers in the nation and is known for her depth of knowledge and ability to work with nationally known experts. She also has represented high-profile clients ranging from one of the largest worldwide retailers in a Prop 65 matter to California’s largest county in quiet title litigation. Kristen also is designated panel counsel for some of the nation’s largest title insurers.

Her extensive experience, breadth of knowledge, attention to detail, and diverse practice enables Kristen to get the job done right for each client she counsels. She has been referred to by national clients and in-house counsel alike as “the best to work with” and “extremely effective and strategically focused.”

Growing up near the Eastern Sierras instilled a love of the outdoors. When Kristen steps away from her practice, she enjoys hiking, skiing, and biking with her family in the Mammoth Mountain area. Staying home is an adventure too: with two sons and three small dogs (affectionately named the “mini buffalos”) roaming the house, there’s always an abundance of love, laughter, and mischief underfoot. Kristen is grateful for all of the things in life that keep her sharp and on her toes, both personally and professionally.

### **Education**

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- Loyola Law School, Los Angeles (J.D., 2014); externship with Hon. Maureen A. Tighe, United States Bankruptcy Court, Central District of California; externship with the Tax Appeals Assistance Program
- University of California, San Diego (B.A., 2006); semester abroad at Peking University

### **State Admissions**

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- California, 2014

### **Federal Admissions**

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- United States Bankruptcy Court, Central District of California
- United States District Court, Central District of California
- United States District Court, Southern District of California
- United States Bankruptcy Court, Southern District of California
- United States District Court, Eastern District of California

### **Service Areas**

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- Mass Tort & Product Liability
- Business Litigation
- Real Estate
- Labor & Employment

## Experience

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- Serves as national counsel for leading elevator manufacturer and servicer in personal injury cases
- Serves as national counsel for leading plumbing manufacturer in product liability cases
- Serves as lead counsel for Ports-servicing entities
- Obtained complete dismissal, with \$0 payout, of valve-manufacturer-client through strategic negotiations with opposing counsel involving Fed. Rule. Civ. Proc. 14(a) claims by plaintiff and defendant/third-party plaintiff seeking indemnification after tank ruptured, causing over \$1,000,000 in water damage to government building; litigation venued in Oregon federal district court
- Obtained complete dismissal, with \$0 payout, before hearing on trustee-client's demurrer to complaint alleging breach of contract, negligent misrepresentation, and fraud against client in case involving a plaintiff's employee stock ownership plan
- Obtained favorable settlements for clients in multimillion-dollar construction litigation and trade secret misappropriation litigation
- Obtained summary judgment in favor of employer-client with national presence on all nine causes of action in disability discrimination, retaliation, wrongful termination, rest break, unpaid wage, and waiting time penalty case; litigation venued in Southern California
- Obtained stipulated judgment entered in favor of client within several months of litigation, quieting title to large multimillion-dollar reserve through strategic research and negotiation with adverse parties; stipulated judgment included \$0 payout from client to quiet title against all adverse claims to property
- Defended nationally recognized title and escrow company and its officers in multi-party professional negligence action, resulting in extremely low-dollar settlement for client and complete dismissal of client from lawsuit
- Represented one of the largest worldwide retailers in designated complex litigation regarding acrylamide levels in snacking foods under the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Action of 1986 (i.e., Proposition 65), resulting in \$0 liability settlement of retailer-client and dismissal of client from action
- Successfully demurred to multiple iterations of complaint involving multimillion-dollar commercial property located in downtown Los Angeles, including against claims of breach of fiduciary duty, quiet title, and claims under the Uniform Partnership Act

## Publications & Events

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### SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- "State of the Law: Legal Insights into Independent Counsel Appointments," Los Angeles County Bar Association (November 2023)
- Title Insurance Matters, Los Angeles County Bar Association (November 2023)
- "State of the Law: Legal Insights into Independent Counsel Appointments," Tucker Ellis In-House Counsel Summit (October 2023)

### **In the Community**

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- State Bar of California
- California Law Association
  - » Real Property Law Section
- Los Angeles County Bar Association
- California Women Lawyers
- Teach Democracy (Formerly Constitutional Rights Foundation) Mock Trial Program
  - » Attorney Volunteer Scorer