

Attorney Profiles

Kurt U. Campbell

Klinedinst
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Shareholder and Chief Real Estate Officer, KLINEDINST PC

Kurt U. Campbell is the head of Klinedinst's Real Estate, Construction and Land Use practice group. Kurt U. Campbell's extensive litigation, transactional, negotiation and strategic business planning experience have earned him a reputation of excellence throughout California. He represents a wide variety of corporate clients including Fortune 500 companies, developers, general contractors, design professionals, subcontractors, and real estate professionals. Mr. Campbell has achieved Martindale Hubbell's highest rating for legal ability and ethical standards, and has been named to the San Diego Super Lawyers® list since its inception in 2007, four years running. In 2009 and 2010, Kurt was honored by his peers as a San Diego Top Attorney and featured in the *San Diego Daily Transcript*.

During his 16 years of practice, Kurt has successfully handled every aspect of residential construction litigation. He has represented large numbers of subcontractors, design professionals, general contractors, and a limited number of developers. For more than a decade Kurt has also handled complex commercial projects. These projects include high-rise, in-fill, mid-rise, large condo conversion projects, skilled nursing facilities and retirement communities. Kurt's practice area in this regard involves not only the litigation of defects associated with these projects, but the initial project contracting and risk allocation within these contracts associated with the indemnity obligation, additional insured obligations as well as the allocation of deductible obligations related to shared policies.

Additionally, he has extensive experience in the WRAP arena, including acquisition, analysis, and litigation of these policies on significant projects. This experience has afforded him a unique "cradle to grave" perspective on commercial high-rise, mixed use, and residential high-rise construction projects. Kurt has excelled at advising clients with regard to the construction of these projects, disputes related to the completion, delay and/or associated lien claims. His focus on risk management through review of construction contract drafting helps reduce and spread risk where appropriate.

Furthermore, Kurt's real estate law practice includes commercial and residential lease agreements and complex real estate transactions. He has also helped clients locate and obtain construction and property acquisition financing. As a licensed California real estate broker and Realtor®, Mr. Campbell is a successful real estate investor in commercial, retail and residential properties. His experience with purchasing and managing residential, commercial and retail properties affords him a unique perspective when representing clients on real estate and leasing issues.

Mr. Campbell is involved with many professional associations in California including the Building Industry Association, Associated General Contractors and San Diego Defense Lawyers, and regularly speaks at a variety of programs and events. His case management, mediation, arbitration and trial skills

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Practice Areas

Professional Liability
Employment & Workers'
Compensation
Broker E&O
Property Management E&O
High-Rise Construction,
Commercial and
Residential
Construction
Real Estate
Business
Architects and Engineers
Transportation
Environmental
International Law
Product Liability
Mold and Indoor Air Quality

Admitted to Bar

California and U.S. District
Court, Southern District of
California (1994)

Education

Heidelberg University,
Germany (1988-1989)
San Diego State University
(B.A., *cum laude*, 1990)
University of San Diego
School of Law (J.D., 1993)

Languages

English, German

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provide clients with valuable insight geared toward the most efficient and cost-effective resolution of both litigation and transactional matters.

Over the course of his career, he has successfully practiced in a broad array of practice areas, including:

Construction:

Contracting, SB-800 claims, development, risk management, insurance issues, design professional representation, defect work, material suppliers, construction accidents, forensic analysis, business counseling, delay lien and payment issues, and condo conversion defense

High-Rise Construction:

Representation of general contractors, owners and subcontractors, EIFS cladding system, podium deck waterproofing, fenestration issues, leakage at planter systems, elevator issues/accidents, skilled nursing facilities, and retirement communities

WRAP Projects:

Defense of residential/mixed use and converted projects, under-insured projects, carrier exhaustion issues, material and product supplier issues, secondary coverage issues, and is a cooperative resolution/litigation cost reduction specialist

General Liability:

Complex injury cases, construction and crane accidents, catastrophic truck collision cases, premises liability defense, wrongful death and injury cases, inadequate security premises liability, landlord/owner strict liability and severe injury cases related to animals

Business Litigation Counseling:

Contractual disputes, risk management, formation of business entities, unfair business practice claims, business acquisitions, confidentiality agreement disputes, trade secrets, strategic business planning, non-compete agreements and payment disputes

Environmental Law:

Counseling clients in compliance with state and environmental laws, defense of clients relating to environmental issues, and complex negotiations with various administrative agencies

Products Liability/Class Actions:

Complex drug cases, exposure cases, catastrophic injury cases, large risk products cases, and class actions regarding strict products liability

Errors and Omissions:

Defense of real estate professionals in a wide array of legal disputes surrounding transactions, acquisitions, financing, brokerage, view rights, easements, property disputes, fraud and fraudulent disclosure cases

Mr. Campbell received his law degree from the University of San Diego School of Law. He has been licensed to practice law in California since 1994,

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has been a shareholder at the firm since 1999 and an equity shareholder since 2000. Kurt currently serves on the firm's Executive Committee.

Martindale-Hubbell® Rating

AV® - Highest rating for legal ability and ethical standards.

Recognition and Awards

Recognized in the San Diego edition of *Super Lawyers*® for excellence in Construction/Surety (2007) and Construction and Real Estate Litigation (2008 and 2009)

Recognized as a Top Attorney in San Diego County - Real Estate Litigation by the *San Diego Daily Transcript* (2009 and 2010)

American Jurisprudence Award in Water Rights Law



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Professional and Community Affiliations

San Diego County Bar Association (Construction, Environmental Law and Land Use Sections)

The State Bar of California

American Bar Association

Building Industry Association of San Diego County

San Diego Association of Realtors®

California Department of Real Estate, Licensed Real Estate Broker (2002)

CBIA Alternate Director and CBIA Construction Defect Reform Task Force

Associated General Contractors

San Diego Defense Lawyers

International Law Society

Treasurer, University of San Diego Appellate Moot Court Board (1992-1993)

San Diego Bankruptcy Forum

Publications and Interviews

"Expert Insights: Construction/Real Estate," *The San Diego Daily Transcript* (May 6, 2010)

"When Projects Go Awry, in Steps 'CSI' of Construction Defects," *The San Diego Business Journal* (September 28, 2009)

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“Legal Showdown Looms Over Hilton Mold Tab,” *The Honolulu Advertiser* (April 27, 2003)

Publications and Interviews (Cont.)

“SB 800: A Step In The Right Direction; *Jimenez v. The Superior Court of San Diego County*: Two Steps Backward,” *BIA Builder Magazine* (February 2003)

“Up Close,” *BIA Builder Magazine* (July/August 2002)

“Legislation on Construction Dispute Litigation,” *BIA Builder Magazine* (December 2001)

Speaking Engagements

Spring 2010 USLAW Network Client Conference, Topic: “It Isn’t Easy Being Green: Green Litigation Update & Insurance Coverage Issues In Green And Sustainable Design Construction Panel” (April 16, 2010)

California Western School of Law, Topic: “Exploring Options Panel” (October 23, 2008 and September 24, 2009)

“WRAPs: Are They All They’re Cracked Up to Be?” Building Industry Association (December 12, 2006)

“Handling Construction Defect Claims, Strategies and Tactics - Developing and Managing High-Rise CD Cases,” 8th Annual Key West Seminar (October 2004)

“Potential Economic Risks Effectuated by Indoor Mold Standards,” The Conference on the Strand: Risk Management of Indoor Mold Standards (October 2003)

“Lawsuit Abuse in San Diego County Exposed,” Citizens Against Lawsuit Abuse (CALA) (June 2003)

“SB 800 Concerns Customer Service - The Key to Avoiding Litigation,” Building Industry Association (January 2003)

“Tips for Effective Mediation” (June 19, 2002)

“Construction Defect Nuts And Bolts” (October 2001)

“Indoor Air Quality Claims: Mold and More,” Midwest Environmental Claims Association 8th Annual Conference (October 2000)

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