



Leonard Polyakov

Partner

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Leonard “Len” Polyakov is a partner at the Newport Beach office, practicing in the area of business and commercial litigation. In almost 30 years of practice, Len has represented clients in complex business, construction defect, real estate, land use, commercial torts, trade secrets, intellectual property, escrow, and American with Disabilities Act cases. He helps clients, large and small, many of which have been with him for many years.

Litigator means taking cases to trial and, in the last several years, Len has tried several high profile cases, obtaining extraordinary results for the firm’s clients, including a complete defense verdict for a builder accused of defective construction. In another case, following a nine-months-long jury trial and a multi-year appeal, Len’s developer client was awarded its litigation costs. Len has also tried a number of other cases involving land use, eminent domain, property damage, and unfair business practices.

In addition to litigation, Len provides advice to clients regarding business and real estate transactions as well as risk management and insurance issues. Whenever possible, he tries to resolve disputes in the most efficient and economical manner, often utilizing alternative dispute resolution procedures, such as mediation or arbitration. Len uses his extensive trial experience to obtain favorable resolutions, while minimizing clients’ costs.

In his spare time, Len enjoys hiking, golfing, and riding his road bike. He counts his one-day Rim to Rim hike across the Grand Canyon as his biggest athletic achievement.

Services

- Business Litigation
- Construction Litigation
- Coverage & Bad Faith Litigation

- Risk Avoidance, Transfer & Management
- Real Estate Litigation

Professional Affiliations

Orange County Bar Association

Languages

- Russian

Admissions

- California, 1989
- U.S. District Court, Central District of California
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of California
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of California

Education

- University of Southern California Gould School of Law (*J.D.*, 1989)
- University of California, Los Angeles (*B.A.*, 1986)

Successes

Anti-SLAPP

Represented developer in litigation matter involving the development of land in Northern California. Case was voluntarily dismissed by the plaintiff following successful demurrer and special motion to strike (anti-SLAPP).

National Homebuilder – Construction Litigation

Newmeyer Dillion partners, Philip Kopp and Leonard Polyakov, successfully defended a national homebuilder in a construction defect lawsuit involving the owners of 71 homes. Plaintiffs' counsel asked the jury to award the homeowners more than \$24 million in damages. At the conclusion of a trial that lasted more than six months, the jury returned verdicts totaling less than one percent (1%) of the amount requested.

Private Developer – Real Estate Litigation

Newmeyer Dillion partners, Philip Kopp and Leonard Polyakov, negotiated a multi-million dollar settlement on behalf of their client, a private real estate developer, in a breach of contract lawsuit against a land seller over property contaminated with asbestos.

Shareholder Dispute

Advised majority shareholders of international petroleum company in dispute with minority shareholders and officers that resulted in successful removal of self-dealing officer and discovery of evidence supporting further misconduct that would have led millions of dollars in additional liability.