



Gregory L. Dillion

Founding Partner

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Greg is one of the founding partners of Newmeyer Dillion, which grew from three attorneys to over 70 lawyers in Newport Beach and Walnut Creek, California, and Las Vegas, Nevada. Greg prides himself in helping not only to build a law firm with a first-tier reputation and an A list of clients, but one that embraced culture, diversity, inclusion, teamwork, collaboration and an integrated and holistic approach to client representation and service long before it became popular.

Greg believes client service is key. This means establishing a relationship of trust, confidence, affinity and loyalty. It also means delivering timely, excellent, efficient and cost-effective results. To help achieve this, Greg makes himself available to clients around the world and around the clock. Greg represents public and private entities and individuals in complex and high stakes business, insurance coverage, real estate and construction disputes. He also advises on insurance policy placement and review; risk avoidance, transfer and management; and alternative dispute resolution methods, techniques and enforceability. Greg has had an active trial and appellate practice. He has helped defeat and defense multi-million dollar claims and suits and obtained eight-figure verdicts and judgments and hundreds of millions of dollars in settlements. He also has argued and helped obtain published decisions at the California Supreme Court and state and federal appellate levels that have changed the course of California law and practice.

Services

- Appellate
- Business Litigation
- Construction Litigation
- Coverage & Bad Faith Litigation
- Insurance Policy Review & Placement
- Intellectual Property - Trademarks & Licensing

- Privacy & Data Security
- Real Estate Litigation
- Real Estate Transactions
- Risk Avoidance, Transfer & Management

Awards & Recognition

- Charter Fellow, Construction Lawyers Society of America
- Named Orange County Insurance Law "Lawyer of the Year" by Best Lawyers in America[®]
- Named Orange County Real Estate Litigation "Lawyer of the Year" by Best Lawyers in America[®]
- Twice Named Orange County Construction Law "Lawyer of the Year" by Best Lawyers in America[®]
- Twice Named Orange County Construction Litigation "Lawyer of the Year" by Best Lawyers in America[®]
- Named America's Top 100 High Stakes Litigators[®] for Southern California
- Named by Best Lawyers in America[®] in Insurance Law, Construction Law, and Commercial Litigation, Real Estate Litigation and Construction Litigation
- Rated AV[®] Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review for over 25 years.
- Recipient of the American Diabetes Association Father of the Year Award
- Recipient of the Boy Scouts of America, Orange County Council Construction Industry Good Scout Award
- Selected to Super Lawyers list of California Top 50 Orange County Lawyers for over 11 years
- Selected to Super Lawyers list of Top 100 Southern California Lawyers
- Selected as a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation
- Selected as Fellow of the American College of Coverage and Extra-contractual Counsel
- Selected as a Fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America
- Recipient of the "Legends Of An Era" award at West Coast Casualty's 27th annual Construction Defect Conference

Professional Affiliations

- Member, Trial Law Institute
- Member, Diversity Law Institute

- American Bar Association
- Fellows of The American Bar Association
- Association of Trial Lawyers of America
- Building Industry Association Orange County Chapter
- Cornell University Real Estate Council
- Fellow of the American College of Coverage Counsel
- Orange County Bar Association

Charitable & Civic Involvement

Greg is a supporter of numerous charities and non-profit organizations including: The American Cancer Society, Boys Scouts of America, The City of Hope, Interval House, Joyful Child, The Catalina Conservancy, Orangewood Foundation, The Shea Center, The Catalina Cowboy Heritage Foundation, Surfing Heritage, Cultural Center and the Los Caballeros cowboy riding group. He currently is on the board of the Orange County Bar Association Masters Division, University of California, Irvine School of Law Board of Visitors and the Surfing Heritage and Culture Center and is a past board member of the American Diabetes Association, Father of the Year Council and the Orange County Boy Scouts of America as well as others.

Admissions

- California
- Colorado
- Texas
- U.S. District Court, Central District of California
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of California
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of California
- United States Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit

Education

- University of Texas School of Law(with honors, J.D.)
- Cornell University(Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, B.A.)

Matters

Aas v. Superior Court

California Supreme Court decision establishing the economic loss rule that there is no recovery in tort for defects that have not caused damage to property other than the product itself.

Professional Liability Insurance Coverage Litigation

Litigated a multi-million dollar claim on behalf of a policyholder against a Professional Liability insurer, in Complex court and in the California Court of Appeal. Ultimately first-chaired the trial.

Landlord Policyholder

Successfully obtained excess insurer funding for settlement of a multi-million dollar personal injury claim on the eve of trial, avoiding the need for the client to participate in a distressing trial.

Builder Insurance Bad Faith Claim

Successfully litigated multi-million dollar claim on behalf of a builder policyholder in Texas Federal Court.

Appellate – Complex Business Litigation

Drafted multiple opposition briefs on appeal and in response to petition for writ of supersedeas, defending a default judgment obtained by the client. Assisted in preparation of and presentation of

Insurance Coverage and Broker Malpractice

Recovered millions of dollars from the insurer of a small business arising from a fire that caused pollutants to flow into the public sewer system, and recovered an additional million from its insurer.

Elimination of Real Property Encroachments and Easements

Cleared up dozens of golf course encroachments and claimed exclusive and non-exclusive easements by neighboring property owners.

Breach of Commission Suit

Recovered a commission finder's fee for a client that produced a ready, willing and able buyer for a large residential/commercial project.

Mission-Critical Change of Venue Saves the Day

Our client sought benefits due under its excess policies, and an international insurer sought to force arbitration in London. The unfriendly overseas venue could potentially leave the client juggling

News

Aug 15, 2024 - Firm News

10 Newmeyer Dillion Attorneys Named to 2025 U.S. News Best Lawyers in Multiple Practice Areas

Jan 10, 2024 - Firm News

Newmeyer Dillion Attorneys Recognized as Southern California Super Lawyers

Aug 17, 2023

10 Newmeyer Dillion Attorneys Named to 2024 U.S. News Best Lawyers in Multiple Practice Areas

Jan 25, 2023 - Firm News

Newmeyer Dillion Attorneys Recognized as Southern California Super Lawyers

Aug 18, 2022 - Firm News

11 Newmeyer Dillion Attorneys Named to 2023 U.S. News Best Lawyers in Multiple Practice Areas

Jan 20, 2022 - Firm News

Newmeyer Dillion Attorneys Recognized as Southern California Super Lawyers

Jan 29, 2021 - Firm News

Newmeyer Dillion Attorneys Named to 2021 Super Lawyer List/Greg Dillion Named to Top 50 OC Attorney List

Nov 21, 2019 - Firm News

Greg Dillion Awarded the Boy Scouts of America, Orange County Council Construction Industry Good Scout Award

Aug 15, 2019 - Firm News

Newmeyer Dillion Attorneys Selected to The Best Lawyers in America® and Orange County

Aug 13, 2019 - Firm News

Newmeyer Dillion Celebrates 35 Years, Launches New Brand

Successes

- Counsel in recovering over \$250 million from additional insurers in suits over ongoing and completed operations coverage.

- Counsel in recovering over \$200 million from direct primary, umbrella and excess insurers over policy interpretation, including deductible and SIR satisfaction, stacking of SIRs and policy limits, policy exhaustion, following form, maintenance SIRs, duty to defend and duty to settle issues.
- Counsel in converting a turnover order into a money judgment of over \$90 million, upholding it at the appellate and California Supreme Court levels.
- Counsel in recovering over \$60 million from insurers for the replacement of drywall from China.
- Counsel in recovering over \$45 million from an insurer in a suit involving pollution coverage.
- Counsel in obtaining a jury verdict against a city for over \$30 million.
- Counsel in obtaining a jury verdict against an insurer for over \$25 million in compensatory and punitive damages for failing to defend.
- Counsel in recovering over \$8.9 million in a suit against a custom home builder.
- Counsel in recovering over \$5 million against an insurer in a failure to defend suit.
- Counsel in recovering over \$2 million from an insurer in a pollution coverage dispute.
- Counsel in recovering \$1 million from an insurance broker for inadequate insurance.
- Counsel in obtaining a federal court judgment defeating a customer's attempt to establish a million dollar lifetime home improvement warranty.
- Counsel in enjoining opposing counsel from violating a confidentiality clause.
- Appellate Decisions:
 - Counsel in California Supreme Court decision establishing the economic loss rule that there is no recovery in tort for defects that have not caused damage or injury.
 - Counsel in California appellate decision establishing recovery in tort for component to component damage.
 - Counsel in California appellate decision requiring insurers to provide an immediate, full and complete defense to their additional insureds.
 - Counsel in California appellate decision preventing the enforcement of a London arbitration provision.
 - Counsel in California appellate decision affirming a Referee default judgment of over \$90 million.

Speaking Engagements

- Association of Southern California Defense Counsel
- Claims Managers Association
- Construction Super Conference
- Cornell University O. C. Business Luncheon

- DRI The Voice of the Defense Bar
- HB Litigation Conferences
- Insurance Allocation Strategies Conference
- LiMa Symposium
- Lorman Education Services
- Mealey's Insurance Advisory Council
- National Association of Home Builders
- ND Builder Update Seminar
- Orange County Bar Association Construction Section
- Orange County Bar Association Insurance Section
- Pacific Coast Building Conference
- West Coast Casualty Conference

Beyond the Office

When Greg is not in the office advocating for his clients, he is out in nature as he tries to find a balance between his passion for his work and his passion for adventuring. Greg has had the opportunity to travel across the globe and participate in many extreme adventures that only an adrenaline junkie would understand. From heli-boarding in Canada to bungee jumping off a 300 foot parasail towed behind a boat in New Zealand, Greg has tried it all. For a full list of all Greg's adventures, click [here](#)!

Publications

- A Guide To Arbitration Clauses And Their Enforceability
- A Practitioner's Guide To The FIX IT Law
- Allocation Of Liability Between Plaintiffs, Developers And Subcontractors
- Construction Defects and Insurance: Policyholder and Insurer Perspectives
- Crawford – The Carrier, Subcontractor, GC/Developer And Coverage Perspective
- Impact of Indemnity Agreements Between Insureds & Other Parties
- Insurance Coverage In Commercial Construction Disputes
- Managing A Trial
- Maximizing Potential By Minimizing Risk: A Short Course In Vertical Construction
- Meditation – An Efficient And Cost Effective Solution To Construction Defect Litigation

- New Horizons In Defect Litigation – Selected Liability Issues Arising From The Conversion And Sale Of Existing Buildings As Condominiums
- Non-Monetary Settlement Terms In The Resolution Of Construction Defect Cases
- Practical Insurance Considerations – How, When, And Why To Tender Your Defense And Indemnity To Your Insurer
- Practical Tips, Defenses, And Strategies For Developers In Construction Defect Litigation
- Risk Transfer, Avoidance, And Management
- Stacking The Deck – Reducing The Risks of Mid And High-Rise Residential
- Surviving In A Downturn, Is Litigation The Answer?
- Taking The Insured Out Of Harm's Way: The Insurer's Rights And Duties Concerning Settlement
- The Defense And Indemnity Of Additional Insureds
- The Ethical Quagmire Of The Tripartite Relationship
- Wraps, OCIPS, CCIPS The Next Generation Of Insurance For Residential And Commercial Construction