

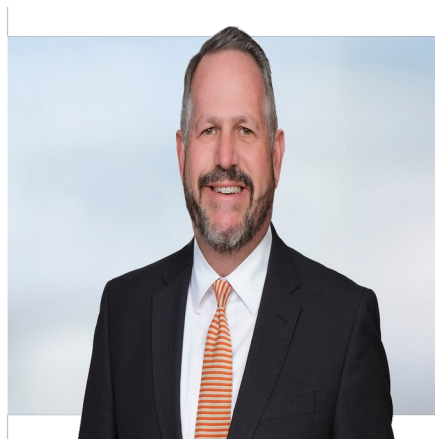
Kent J. Schmidt

Partner

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Kent represents clients in a wide variety of complex litigation matters primarily in California, but also around the country.

As a Partner in the Southern California office, Kent's practice includes virtually all types of general business litigation, with emphases in unfair business practices, trade secret litigation, consumer class actions, consumer data privacy, product liability, securities litigation, shareholder disputes, commercial disputes, Prop 65 (environmental) claims, and labor/employment matters. He is a zealous and creative courtroom advocate, equally accustomed to representing plaintiffs and defendants.

In addition to his general business litigation practice, Kent is an experienced First Amendment lawyer, representing clients on both sides of defamation cases and other matters involving free speech, including California's unique anti-SLAPP statute.

A significant part of Kent's practice is using his two-plus decades of commercial litigation experience to advise companies on how to avoid litigation claims. In this prophylactic aspect of his practice, Kent advises on compliance policies and defensive strategies. He regularly speaks and writes on these topics, including in his recently-released book, *Avoiding and Managing U.S. Litigation Risks: A Comprehensive Guide for Business Owners and the Attorneys Who Advise Them* (Globe Law and Business 2021) and SharkCast, a related podcast. (More information available at litigationrisks.com.) Kent's government and internal investigation work has included white collar crimes ranging from the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act to SEC insider trading violations, as well as a variety of internal investigations relating to corruption and corporate fraud.

Having spent his entire legal career at Dorsey, Kent most values the opportunity to collaborate with others throughout the firm's many offices who have unique practices and experiences, combining his litigation experience with his partners' expertise.

Education

- William Howard Taft University, Witkin School of Law (J.D., 1998)

Bar Admissions

- California

Select Experience

Recent and Ongoing Work

- Defeated anti-SLAPP challenge brought by a homeowner association in response to client's lawsuit and affirmed unanimously by the appellate court. (Orange County Superior and California Court of Appeal 2018-20).
- Defeated class action claims brought against beverage distributor and senior executives alleging violation of California consumer deception statutes with respect to label and advertising statements. (U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California 2020).
- Lead counsel for a Korean public company which became a minority shareholder in a U.S. biomedical research venture. Commenced a lawsuit in Delaware Court of Chancery asserting both direct and derivative claims for breaches of fiduciary duty, aiding and abetting breaches of fiduciary duty, contract theories and outlining the self-dealing of corporate insiders and co-venturer research university. The case was settled along favorable terms within a few months of the filing. (Delaware Court of Chancery and California Superior Court 2018).
- Represented trucking company in litigation in a protracted dispute with landlord and tankwashing service provider. Case settled on favorable terms a few weeks before trial. (U.S. District Court for the Central District of California 2018).

Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court for the Northern, Eastern, Central and Southern District of California
- U.S. Court of Appeal for the Ninth Circuit

Professional Affiliations

- Member, Association of Fellows and Legal Scholars of the Center for International Legal Studies.

Accolades

- Recognized as a "Stand-Out Lawyer" by Thomson Reuters, 2024
- Contributed more than 50 Challenge pro bono hours, 2021
- Contributed more than 100 Challenge pro bono hours, 2020
- Named *Partner of the Year* — One of six partner recipients selected by associates in the firm based on mentoring efforts throughout the year, 2010
- Listed as a *Southern California Rising Star* by Southern California Super Lawyers, 2005 - 2007

SharkCast

July 15, 2026

PFAS for Food and Agribusiness Companies

March 31, 2026

Effective Collaboration Between In-House and Outside Counsel

February 24, 2026

Employment Claims in the UK and US, A Comparison of Two Common Law Regimes

December 11, 2025

How Cybersecurity Standards and False Claims Act Heighten Litigation Risks

September 24, 2025

How AI is Reshaping US Copyright Law

August 25, 2025

Heightened Employment Litigation Risks in the Era of Social Backlash

July 7, 2025

Litigation Risks Arising from Hidden or “Junk” Fees

February 18, 2025

The National Advertising Division’s Connection with Identifying and Avoiding Consumer Litigation Risks

January 8, 2025

Understanding the Intricacies of Internal Investigations

December 12, 2024

Key Strategies for Employers to Avoid Pitfalls in Employment Law

September 5, 2024

The Nuances of Antitrust Law

July 29, 2024

Dealing with Hostile Adversaries in Contentious Litigation

July 1, 2024

Navigating the New FTC Rule Against Non-Compete Provisions

June 20, 2024

The Tidal Wave of Website Privacy Class Actions and Mass Arbitration Claims

May 2, 2024

Climate Change Disclosures – How Regulatory Compliance Leads to Future Litigation Risks

Insights

March 31, 2026

Effective Collaboration Between In-House and Outside Counsel

February 24, 2026

Employment Claims in the UK and US, A Comparison of Two Common Law Regimes

December 11, 2025

How Cybersecurity Standards and the False Claims Act Heighten Litigation Risks

October 16, 2025

CARB Seeks Public Comment and Delays Rulemaking on California Climate Reporting Laws, While Statutory Deadlines Loom

September 26, 2025

How AI is Reshaping US Copyright Law

August 25, 2025

Heightened Employment Litigation Risks in the Era of Social Backlash

July 7, 2025

Litigation Risks Arising from Hidden or “Junk” Fees

May 6, 2025

Federal Court Curbs California’s Proposition 65, Giving Some Relief to Businesses Selling Products in California

February 18, 2025

The National Advertising Division’s Connection with Identifying and Avoiding Consumer Litigation Risks

January 8, 2025

Understanding the Intricacies of Internal Investigations

December 12, 2024

Key Strategies for Employers to Avoid Pitfalls in Employment Law

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The Nuances of Antitrust Law

July 29, 2024

Dealing with Hostile Adversaries in Contentious Litigation

July 25, 2024

**US Mass Arbitrations Present New Challenges Prompting Re-Examination of Class
Action Waivers**

July 1, 2024

Navigating the New FTC Rule Against Non-Compete Provisions