



Deirdre Joan Cox

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PRACTICES

Construction Law
Employment Law and Litigation
Litigation
Public Law

EDUCATION

J.D., Golden Gate University
School of Law, 1994
B.A., summa cum laude Golden
Gate University, 1991

ADMISSION

State Bar of California
United States District Court for
the Central District of California
United States District Court for
the Eastern District of California
United States District Court for
the Northern District of
California
United States District Court for
the Southern District of
California

AFFILIATIONS

American Bar Association
California Women Lawyers
Bar Association of San Francisco

For over twenty years, Deirdre Joan Cox has practiced in the construction and public contracting field. Joan's practice involves representing public agencies in complex construction matters, including strategizing development and procurement approaches, drafting construction documents, including performance and payment bonds and parent guarantees, advising clients during the course of construction, claims review and analysis, and claims resolution, including mediation, arbitration, and litigation. She assists in the resolution of issues that occur at the intersections between funding, design, acquisition, and construction. She serves as special counsel to a number of local agencies and general counsel for the Olivehurst Public Utility District. She has extensive litigation experience in state and federal court. Her efforts, from a project's early stages through trial and beyond, allow public agencies to deliver public projects on time and on budget.

Her experience includes multi-million dollar projects for cities, counties, and other municipalities, including hospitals, community college, school and special districts, and other commercial facilities in myriad bond funded projects, individual projects, and capital improvement programs. She has particular experience in lease revenue bond financing, Mello-Roos bonds, public private partnerships, and other financing mechanisms.

Joan has extensive experience working with public entity clients to develop construction project manuals: "front-end" construction documents for all types of public works projects using delivery methods that involve competitive bidding utilizing lowest responsive, responsible bidding and "best value" concepts for traditional hard bid / design-bid-build, design-build, construction manager at risk, and lease-leaseback delivery mechanisms. She also drafts contracts for architects, engineers and other professionals.

Her work includes preparing the project documentation including drafting, negotiation, structuring of delivery and procurement approaches and risk evaluation. She also assists public entity clients in administering the bidding process and facilitating the defense and

Contra Costa County Bar
Association

Alameda County Bar
Association

Women Lawyers of Alameda
County

National Association of Women
in Construction

handling of bid protests, subcontractor listing, project setup, and related issues that arise during the bidding / proposal process including attending hearings and assisting in preparing findings and conclusions.

Joan also has experience in inverse condemnation and California land use, development and CEQA law, having represented both private and public entities in connection with flood control disputes, water rights, and environmental impact review/mitigated negative declaration issues.

Joan received her J.D. with honors from Golden Gate University School of Law. She served as a Settlement Commissioner for the Alameda County Superior Court, a fee arbitrator and a private mediator. She taught contract law at East Bay Law School for ten years. She has also taught Public Finance and Law & Economics at Golden Gate University. Joan currently serves as Mayor of the City of Sausalito.