



Elena Q. Gerli

Partner

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PRACTICES

Public Law

EDUCATION

J.D., University of California, Los Angeles School of Law, 2003

B.A., Brown University, 1990

Cornell University Diversity and Inclusion Certificate, November 2020

Cornell University Diversifying Your Workforce Certificate, April 2022

ADMISSION

State Bar of California

California Supreme Court

United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

United States District Court for the Central District of California

AFFILIATIONS

City Attorneys Association of Los Angeles County, Past President (2024)

Elena Gerli has spent her entire legal career representing public entities. Her areas of expertise include legislative drafting, housing, zoning and land use, CEQA, general plan amendments, free speech and constitutional law, complex contract negotiation and drafting, code enforcement, states of emergency, and landslides. Elena also advises her municipal clients regarding the Political Reform Act (conflicts of interest), Brown Act (public meeting laws), Public Records Act, elections laws, revenue measures and Proposition 218.

Elena currently serves as counsel for the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority and the Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena Regional Housing Trust, as well as the Assistant City Attorney for the City of Lawndale, and Special Counsel for the City of Culver City. Elena has also served as the City Attorney for the City of Suisun City and the City of Rancho Palos Verdes, and as Assistant City Attorney for the City of La Cañada Flintridge, the City of Bell, and the City of Carson.

Elena has negotiated and drafted development agreements, exclusive negotiating agreements, and disposition and development agreements on behalf of cities. She has worked on general plans and specific plans, zoning code and housing regulations, as well as affordable housing agreements.

Elena regularly handles issues related to public works construction projects, including development of notices inviting bids, reviewing bids and recommendations of award, bid protests, stop work notices, liquidated damages, and prevailing wage issues.

Elena has some experience in real estate transactions, including preparing agreements related to the purchase and sale agreements, leases, easements, and license agreements.

Elena provides AB 1234 training, and has presented multiple times at municipal conferences on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Elena is the current past President for the City Attorneys Association of Los Angeles County. Additionally, she has been an active alumna

volunteer for her alma mater, Brown University, and is currently a class leader and on the Brown University President's Council to the College, which helps advise the university president's office on emerging and complex issues.