BURKE, WILLIAMS & SORENSEN, LLP



Elizabeth A. Mitchell

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Elizabeth Mitchell handles all legal issues confronted by local governmental agencies and special districts from advice regarding board and legislative actions, administrative policy implementation, open meetings, election laws and effective government to claims avoidance, mitigation and processing, negotiations, advisory and transactional law, labor and employment law, water law, public contracts, insurance matters, liability issues, litigation management, real estate, leases, easements, development agreements, housing projects, land use, environmental law, civil rights, regulatory compliance, code enforcement, public works, infrastructure and facilities management, rate setting, and municipal finance. Admitted to the California State Bar in 1999, Elizabeth utilizes her extensive background as a trial attorney in civil litigation and business transactions to help public agencies, municipalities, special districts, joint power authorities, non-profits and businesses avoid potential future legal problems before they arise. She has been focusing on public interest law since 2015 but also has a complex transactional practice.

Before joining the firm, Elizabeth was a partner in the litigation department of one of San Diego's premiere mid-size business defense firms. Her sophisticated trial practice included international and multi-district civil litigation in state and federal court, contract disputes, torts, unfair competition and trade secret cases, intellectual property, creditors' rights, environmental causes, large corporate bankruptcies and American with Disabilities Act claims, among others. She also has experience with all aspects of transactional and corporate advice, contracts, negotiations, compliance and strategic planning, leases, franchises, acquisitions and other complex corporate work. Elizabeth also spent time at a boutique plaintiff's class action firm pursuing high profile public interest cases including privacy and constitutional rights, labor and employment law, health care and technology, false advertising and the Lanham Act. Before law school, she served as a legislative intern for the majority chairman of the House of Representative's Education Committee.

PRACTICES

Public Law

Real Estate and Business Law

EDUCATION

J.D., magna cum laude, University of San Diego School of Law, 1999

B.A., summa cum laude, Boston University, 1996

ADMISSION

State Bar of California

United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

United States District Court for the Southern District of California

United States District Court for the Northern District of California

United States District Court for the Central District of California

United States District Court for the Eastern District of California

AFFILIATIONS

City Attorneys Association of San Diego

California Special Districts

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Association

San Diego County Bar Association

Lawyers Club of San Diego

Elizabeth is the former City Attorney for the City of San Clemente and currently serves as General Counsel for Vista Irrigation District, the Assistant City Attorney for the City of Solana Beach, the Assistant City Attorney for the City of Coronado, Assistant General Counsel for Clean Energy Alliance, and the Assistant General Counsel for SBCS Corporation, putting her diverse background to work for local government, special districts, non-profits and businesses throughout California.

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