



Gena B. Burns

Partner

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PRACTICES

Employment Law and Litigation

Public Law

Workplace Investigations

EDUCATION

J.D., University of California,
Hastings College of the Law,
2010

B.A., University of California,
San Diego, 2003

ADMISSION

State Bar of California

United States Court of Appeals
for the Ninth Circuit

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

California Public Employers
Relations Association

Pronouns: she, her, hers

Gena Burns is a partner in Burke's [Labor and Employment](#) and [Public Law](#) Practice Groups. Gena provides municipal law services to public agencies throughout California.

Gena's practice includes providing advice to department heads and public agency officials, serving as lead labor negotiator for public entity negotiations, and advising and representing employers on discipline issues. She has drafted contracts, resolutions, ordinances, administrative policies, and employee handbooks. She regularly advises municipal clients on labor and employment matters, open meeting laws, and the California Public Records Act.

She has represented clients in both state and federal court, as well as in administrative settings. She has successfully handled cases before the Public Employment Relations Board and the National Labor Relations Board. Gena conducts complex workplace investigations in both the private and public sector. Gena also oversees and advises clients on investigations conducted by outside neutral investigators.

Gena enjoys delivering training on a variety of legal matters, including social media for public agencies and officials.

Gena currently serves as Deputy City Attorney for the City of Coronado, the City of San Clemente, and is counsel for several commissions.

Gena graduated *cum laude* from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law. While in law school, she was a member of the UC Hastings Business Law Journal and studied at the University of Leiden in the Netherlands.

PUBLICATIONS

2025 LEGAL TRENDS

Legal Trends 2024

City Attorneys Association of
San Diego

2023 Legal Trends

2022 Legal Trends

2021 Legal Trends

The California Municipal Law Handbook

Harsh Lessons From the Rule 26 Trenches

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

Gena obtained a favorable published ruling from the Fourth Appellate District Court of Appeal in *Southcott v. Julian-Cuyamaca Fire Protection*, 32 Cal.App.5th 1020 (2019).