PRACTICES
Public Law

EDUCATION
J.D., Pepperdine University, School of Law, 2005

M.A., Pepperdine University, Straus Institute of Dispute Resolution, 2005

B.S., Pepperdine University, Seaver College, 2002

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 Southern District of California

AFFILIATIONS
Association of California Water Agencies – Legal Affairs Committee (2014 – 2025)

League of California Cities – Public Records Act Committee (2010)

League of California Cities – Municipal Law Handbook Committee (2006 – 2009)

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Joanna Hoff is a partner in Burke's Public Law practice group. Prior to joining Burke, Joanna was Deputy General Counsel for the Imperial Irrigation District where she was responsible for all legal matters affecting the District's water department and its 3.1 million acre-feet consumptive use entitlement. Joanna's work with the District included day-to-day operational and transactional matters, as well as multifaceted programs, such as the development, implementation and defense of water supply management and distribution plans, and the implementation of water conservation programs for the nation's largest agricultural-to-urban water transfer. She had a pivotal role in the defense of the District's water rights in multiple cases spanning a decade. Joanna was instrumental in the development of several federal and state agreements ranging from federal water conservation agreements, interstate and intrastate agreements within the Colorado River Basin for river operations and water storage, and agreements with the California Natural Resources Agency and California Department of Water Resources for Salton Sea restoration projects. Joanna's practice with the District included environmental compliance and permitting during project and program development and the implementation of ongoing complex environmental monitoring and mitigation programs.

Joanna has an extensive understanding of federal, state and local regulatory agencies and processes and has assisted clients through the maze of those regulatory processes while simultaneously coordinating involvement with environmental groups and other stakeholders. She is recognized for developing pragmatic solutions to complex problems in the highly charged water law arena. Joanna has served public agency clients for 20 years leading to expertise in local government laws, real property, land use and water law, Colorado River law ("Law of the River") and environmental laws, including the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and state and federal Endangered Species Acts.

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