

Nora E. Wetzel

Partner
San Francisco
1 California Street
Suite 3050
San Francisco, CA 94111-5432

nwetzel@bwslaw.com
D: +1 415.655.8125
T: +1 415.655.8100

Pronouns: she, her, hers

Nora Wetzel is a litigation and transactional attorney in Burke's San Francisco office with a focus in eminent domain, commercial real estate, and data privacy matters.

In her real estate practice, Nora provides eminent domain legal services to numerous cities, special districts, telecommunications companies, and utility clients. She also litigates commercial lease disputes and breach of contract claims on behalf of landlords and tenants.

In her transactional practice, she advises clients regarding their compliance with federal and state privacy laws and security breach notification laws, as well as drafts privacy policies, and negotiates contracts and advises clients on data privacy and cybersecurity related risks.

Whether in litigation or transactional matters, Nora provides prompt and efficient legal service to public entities, healthcare entities and related businesses, educational institutions, retailers, commercial landlords and tenants, business owners, property owners, developers and utilities.

Nora has jury trial and mediation experience, as well as regulatory compliance experience in connection with state attorneys general and the Office for Civil Rights of the Department of Health and Human Services.

Nora has been designated as a Certified Information Privacy Professional, United States (CIPP/US) by the International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP).

In her life outside of the law, Nora enjoys reading novels, perfume collecting, CrossFit and peloton, snowboarding, and the affection of her spunky senior chihuahua, Raisinette.

PRACTICES

Data Privacy & Cyber Security

Education Law

Eminent Domain

Litigation

Real Estate and Business Law

EDUCATION

J.D., magna cum laude, University of California, Hastings College of the Law, 2012

B.A., cum laude, Cornell University, 2007

ADMISSION

State Bar of California

Oregon State Bar

Washington State Bar

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

© 2025 Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP. All rights reserved.

the Southern District of California

PUBLICATIONS

Cyberattacks and Public Agency Response

Class Action Complaint Filed In Central District Of California Alleging Violation Of The CCPA Based On A 2019 Data Breach

10 Tips To Avoid W-2 Phishing Attacks This Tax Season: Stay Safe

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

Litigation Matters

- ***Flood Control District v. Landowners*** – 2023. Represented a Flood Control District to obtain flowage easements across highly valued industrial properties for a major dam project.
- ***State Agency v. Telecommunications Company*** – 2023. Represented a telecommunication company to protect its easement interests and related facilities across several parcels in connection with a habitat restoration project.
- ***Transportation Authority v. Condominium Association*** – 2023. Represented a transportation authority to obtain subterranean easements under condominiums for a subway project.
- ***Water District v. Landowner*** – 2022. Represented a public agency condemning property adjacent to a canal to rebuild a portion of the canal. Reached a favorable settlement on the eve of selecting a jury for trial.
- ***Public Utility v. Landowner*** – 2017. Represented a public utility condemning a portion of agricultural land across multiple parcels for a natural gas pipeline project.
- ***Plaintiff v. Home Goods Store*** – 2016. Obtained summary judgment in a lease dispute for a major corporate client after the client's landlord asserted two years into the option term of a long-term lease that the exercise of the option had carried with it a rental adjustment that would result in almost $13 million in additional rent over the option term.
- ***Plaintiff v. Home Improvement Retailer*** – July 2015. Trial Verdict – Jury. Obtained a defense verdict for the client, an international home improvements retailer that faced eviction from a property where it operates a major retail store under a long-term lease. The client was sued by its landlord in unlawful detainer for allegedly failing to pay the correct rent under a complex formula disputed by the parties for many years. After an eight-day trial, the jury found that the rent claimed by the landlord was an unreasonable estimate of the amount due, and rendered a defense verdict.
- ***Tenant v. SF High Rise Owner and Manager*** – April 2014. Appellate Ruling. Won an appellate victory for the clients, the owner and manager of a San Francisco high-rise office building, in

© 2025 Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP. All rights reserved.

California state court. Obtained dismissals of all claims through a series of motions in the trial court, and the plaintiff appealed the dismissals of six claims. The Court of Appeal affirmed all the trial court's rulings.

Contract Matters

- *City SAAS Contract* – Represented a City in connection with negotiation a SAAS contract related to a suite of Human Resources, timekeeping, invoicing and related services.
- *Joint Powers Authority Privacy Policy*. Prepared a privacy policy for a joint powers authority website.
- *Insurance Company Privacy Policy*. Prepared a CCPA compliance privacy policy relating to employee information for an insurance company.
- *City SAAS Contract* – Represented a City in connection with a SAAS contract for system administration, system management, and system monitoring activities.

Breach Matters

- *Business Email Compromise* – Assisted a police department with a business email compromise breach involving unauthorized access of information related to ongoing investigations.
- *HIPAA Breach* – Counseled and advised the client, a dental practice, regarding compliance with all state and federal regulatory schemes, including HIPAA and California state law, relating to a data breach in connection with a theft of an external hard drive affecting patients residing in over 36 different states, in conjunction with managing notification to all affected patients and pertinent government enforcement agencies. Successfully handled investigation by the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Civil Rights, without any fines or sanctions imposed on the client.
- *HIPAA Breach* – Advised the client, a major university hospital, regarding compliance with all state and federal regulatory schemes relating to a spear-phishing attack affecting financial and personal health information of employees and their dependents.
- *HIPAA Breach* – Navigated a regional hospital through a data breach caused by a break in and theft of paper and electronic records involving patient health information and financial information. Advised the client regarding compliance with all state and federal regulatory schemes, including HIPAA and California state law. Managed all required notifications including individual notice, substitute and media notice under HIPAA and California state law, notification to all pertinent state and federal regulatory agencies, and notification to card organizations and credit monitoring agencies.

© 2025 Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP. All rights reserved.