



Robert Khuu

Partner

Orange County

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PRACTICES

Public Law

EDUCATION

J.D., University of Akron, School
of Law, 2009

B.A., Political Science,
University of California, Irvine,
2005

ADMISSION

State Bar of California

Robert Khuu is a Partner with the Firm. He currently serves as the Assistant City Attorney for the City of Rialto and General Counsel for the El Dorado Countywide Oversight Board. He previously served as the City Attorney for the City of Perris; Assistant City Attorney for the cities of Perris, Grand Terrace, Cypress, and Banning; and Deputy City Attorney for a number of cities throughout California.

Robert regularly advises elected and appointed officials, navigating delicate issues with politically-divergent boards. In particular, he presents clear advice that addresses both the legal and practical impacts of agency activities. In providing advice, Robert focuses on clients' long and short term objectives in relation to the law's impact on those objectives and, most importantly, finds ways to achieve them wherever possible. He focuses on providing legal advice that is practical, workable in the real world, and client-centered.

Robert provides legal counsel covering the full range of laws affecting local governments, such as Public Official Conflicts of Interest (e.g., Political Reform Act and Government Code Section 1090, AB 1234 ethics training), the Brown Act, the Public Records Act, land use and planning, public agency procurement and contracting (including related indemnification provisions), easements and license, Election Law, RDA Dissolution (including Successor Agency dissolution) and public works. Robert is experienced in preparing public agency templates for professional services and public works agreements. He also prepares and drafts local laws, policies, procedures and resolutions.

Robert is an expert in Election Law, including ballot measures (e.g., cannabis regulations, taxes, etc.), citizen initiatives, recall, special and regular elections, and districting (e.g., Fair Maps Act). He is experienced in drafting and negotiating agreements for complex transactions, such as the transfer of a water/sewer utility from one public agency to another. Robert also has extensive experience in public agency revenue generation, including taxes, cost recovery fees, and Propositions 26 and 218.

INSIGHTS

An Overview of Ethics Laws Governing Municipal Officials in California

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Robert has prepared ballot measures and related election documents for several California cities. In particular, he has drafted and prepared tax measures, such as business license taxes, transactions and use taxes, and cannabis taxes. He has also provided advice on and reviewed informational materials prepared in relation to such measures.
- Robert drafted and negotiated an agreement transferring a city's water and sewer utility to a public utility. This agreement addressed matters such as real property transfers, easements, and licenses; environmental liability; indemnification obligations of each party; distribution of system assets, such as computer equipment.
- He regularly provides advice on public official conflicts of interest that are both complex and urgent with a focus on preventing potential conflicts and avoiding appearance of conflicts.
- Robert has drafted form and single-use contracts for client use, including both professional and public works agreements. Related to this, he has negotiated and advised on these agreements, including indemnification provisions and waiver of standard provisions.
- Robert has provided advice to successor agencies to redevelopment agencies in the wake of redevelopment dissolution. In particular, he has assisted a successor agency in completing its duties under the Redevelopment Dissolution Laws and, consequently, dissolving the successor agency.
- He has significant experience in all aspects of public agency procurement, such as competitive bidding, bid protests, and contract negotiation.
- Robert has provided practical and legal counsel on land use and development for projects ranging from industrial to commercial to residential projects.