



Thomas D. Jex

Partner

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PRACTICES

Education Law

Public Law

EDUCATION

J.D., cum laude, Brigham Young University, J. Reuben Clark Law School, 1999

B.A., English, California State University, San Bernardino, 1996

ADMISSION

State Bar of California

United States District Court for the Central District of California

United States District Court for the Southern District of California

AFFILIATIONS

League of California Cities, City Attorney's Department Nominating Committee, 2014

League of California Cities, City Attorney's Department Brown Act Committee, 2010-2012 and 2021 to present

League of California Cities, Environmental Quality Policy Committee, League Partner

Pronouns: he, him, his

Thomas Jex is a partner with the firm and serves as the City Attorney for the City of Wildomar, Town Attorney for the Town of Yucca Valley, and provides special counsel services for the Jurupa Unified School District.

Tom serves as a trusted advisor to [public](#) agency governing bodies, commissions, and staff on a wide array of municipal legal issues, including the Brown Act, Public Records Act, conflict of interest laws, planning and zoning laws, contracts, and constitutional issues, among others. He delivers advice to clients in a manner that is understandable and contains practical guidance that can be readily applied in the real world. Tom provides advice on both legal compliance and risk assessment, understanding that many situations faced by public agencies do not have clear cut answers.

Tom regularly advises elected and appointed officials, navigating delicate issues with politically-divergent boards. He clearly presents the impacts of legal constraints on agency activities. Tom takes time to understand the agency's long- and short-term goals and how the law affects those objectives, finding ways to achieve them whenever possible. He focuses on crafting legal advice that is practical and workable.

Tom augments his practice by serving as a member of the Brown Act Committee of the League of California Cities – City Attorney's Department. He has served as an adjunct professor for the University of California Riverside Extension where he taught courses on the Public Records Act and Redevelopment Law.

Tom lived for two years in Quito, Ecuador and is proficient in Spanish.

INSIGHTS

Public Law Update – Permitting Curbside Electric Vehicle Charging Stations (AB 2427)

Liaison

Public Law Update – Expedited Review of Hydrogen-Fueling Station Permits (SB 1418)

Public Law Update – New Conservation Element Requirement to Consider Wildlife and Habitat Connectivity (AB 1889)

Two New CEQA Exemptions for Contracts to Provide Services to Persons Experiencing Homelessness and for Junior Accessory Dwelling Unit Ordinances

Join Us at the CalCities Annual Conference and Expo this October!

General Conflict of Interest Laws Under the Political Reform Act

Understanding California’s Ethics Training Requirements for Local Officials (Known As AB 1234)

Public Law Update – AB 1307: Noise By Residential Occupants On Other People Is Not A Significant Effect For Purposes Of CEQA

PUBLICATIONS

Court of Appeal Rejects City’s Reliance on Setback Standard Under Housing Accountability Act

AB 361 Extends Local Agency Meeting Teleconferencing Options Past September 30th

Public Records Act’s Catchall Exemption Applies to COVID-19 Outbreak Location Information

Protected: Increased Limits on Campaign Contributions and Gifts to CA Officials, Candidates

Appeals Court Rules Governor Newsom’s Use of Emergency Powers Was Constitutional

A Refresher on General Conflict-of-Interest Rules

Bill Summaries: Animal Protections

SB 288 – CEQA Exemption for Alternative Transportation Projects

Changes to Public Generally Exception and New Requirement for Posting of Campaign Disclosure Documents Filed in Paper Format

Bill Summaries | AB 2231 and AB 2311

Housing Roundup: New Housing Bills Signed by Governor Newsom

Recent Legislation Affecting Scooters, Skateboards and Parking Penalties

AB 992 | The Brown Act & Social Media

COVID-19 Updates for Employers

Protecting Our Water and Environmental Resources v. County of Stanislaus

Santa Monica’s At-large Method of Elections Does Not Violate the California Voting Rights Act

Local Public Agencies Must Ensure Emails and Other Documents Are Retained Throughout CEQA Process and Override Automated Deletion

Policies

Local Special Taxes Proposed by Voter Initiative Subject to Majority Voter Approval

FPPC Disclosure Revisions to Close Conflict of Interest Loophole

National Lawyers Guild v. City of Hayward: No Cost for Redaction of Bodycam Footage in Response to CPRA Request

National Lawyers Guild v. City of Hayward: No Cost for Redaction of Bodycam Footage in Response to CPRA Request

Navigating the Brown Act During a Period of Local Emergency Due to COVID-19

Zoning Ordinance Did Not Violate the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act (RLUIPA)

Are you Compatible? Second Appellate District Considers Incompatible Offices and Finds Offices of Mayor and Board Director are Incompatible

Brown Act: The Importance of Sticking to Your Agenda

Brown Act: Avoiding Violations by Responding to Cease and Desist Letters

Using The "Committee Exception" To Exclude Public Comment At Special Meeting Violates Brown Act

Access to Private Entity Records is Not Enough to Compel Disclosure Obligations Under CPRA

RECOGNITIONS

Volunteer Lawyer of the Year – Inland Empire Latino Lawyers Association, 2005