



John C. McCarron

Partner / Co-Chair, Food & Ag Group

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Practice Areas

Class Action Defense | Complex Business Litigation | Employment Litigation | Food & Agriculture | Food & Agriculture Litigation | Food Safety & Labeling | Products Liability | Proposition 65 | Regulatory Law & Business Permitting

For nearly three decades John McCarron has focused his practice on assisting clients with complex business disputes.

He has successfully tried cases in state and federal court, in arbitrations, and in administrative hearings. John is known for his practical and cost-effective approach to litigation and his aptitude in providing innovative solutions to sophisticated disputes. One of John's unique strengths is his ability to guide clients through the ever-changing regulatory issues facing business owners in California.

John's practice is primarily focused on crop damage, food labeling, and business litigation. He has extensive experience defending class actions involving employment issues, unfair competition claims, and false advertising. As a partner in the firm's food and agriculture practice group, John regularly represents businesses and trade associations that are part of California's enormous food and agriculture industry. He has an intuitive understanding of the myriad of issues facing California's food and agriculture companies, and clients turn to him for efficient, effective results.

Experience

Representative Crop Damage Experience

- Successfully represented several wine grape growers in resolving claims collectively worth several million resulting from an herbicide drift event.
- Representing organic blueberry grower in two herbicide drift events.
- Representing avocado grower in an accidental herbicide application claim.
- Representing pistachio grower in a claim involving allegedly defective rootstalk.

Representative Business and Employment Litigation Experience

- Defending a fertilizer manufacturer against product liability claims relating to damage to almond trees.
- Co-Counsel representing the California Association of Egg Farmers involving legal and regulatory issues pertaining to statutes imposing size dimensions on egg laying hen enclosures.
- Served as Co-Counsel in successfully defending a national food company against Proposition 65 and unfair competition claims.
- Represented a natural gas company against claims by former employees alleging breach of contract. Obtained defense verdict at trial that was upheld on appeal.
- Represented a partnership in a dispute with former employee involving claims of breach of contract, fraud and business torts. Obtained defense verdict against the partnership, and obtained a substantial verdict on behalf of the partnership.
- Served as Co-Counsel in representing the State of Alaska in gas royalty litigation against three major oil companies that resulted in a favorable settlement for the State.
- Represented the State of Alaska in a corporate income tax case against a multi-national oil company that resulted in a favorable settlement for the State.

Representative Class Action Experience

- Successfully defended a large food processing company in class arbitration asserting violations of unfair competition laws and business torts. Won a hearing on claims brought on behalf of one class and defeated class certification of another class.
- Successfully defended a California egg producer in a class action involving allegations of false advertising. After extensive discovery, settled the case favorably prior to certification of a class.
- Successfully resolved wage and hour class actions against a national auto parts retailer and against a car repossession company.

Professional & Community Service

- Western Plant Health Association
- Sacramento County Bar Association, Civil Litigation Section

Education

- J.D., Notre Dame Law School, 1987
- B.A., University of Illinois, 1983

Honors & Rankings

- AV Preeminent[®] Rating by Martindale-Hubbell[®]
- *Sacramento Magazine*, Top Lawyer, Business Litigation, Food & Agriculture Law, General Litigation, Class Action/Mass Torts, Nonprofit Organizations, 2015-2019

- Clerkship, Judge James Singleton, Alaska Court of Appeals, 1987-1988

Speaking Engagements / Events

- *Pesticide Drift: Compliance, Liability, and Protection*, Co-presenter, 10th Annual Spray Safe Program, February 6, 2019
- *Pesticide Drift: Compliance, Liability, and Protection*, Co-presenter, Yuba-Sutter Farm Bureau, March 28, 2018
- *Dealing with Unwanted Solicitors*, Presenter, California Grocers Association Webinar, November 4, 2015

Publications

- *A New Twist of False Advertising Lawsuits*, California Grocer, Issue 5, October 2013

Legal Alerts

- *Pistachio Bushy Top Syndrome - Down The Legal Rabbit Hole In Search Of A Remedy*, May 6, 2015