



Thomas E. Marrs Partner

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Practice Areas

Complex Business Litigation | Family Law | Food & Agriculture | Food & Agriculture Litigation | Real Estate

Tom Marrs draws from extensive litigation experience to efficiently resolve complex family law matters for clients throughout California. Known for his practical approach, Tom skillfully advances his clients' interests, resulting in successful and timely resolutions.

Tom relies on his negotiation skills to assist clients in resolving disputes outside of court. When trial is inevitable, Tom utilizes his substantial litigation experience to achieve the best possible outcome for his clients.

Prior to law school, Tom worked in the biotechnology/pharmaceutical industry.

Experience

Representative Trial Experience

- Along with one other lawyer, following a three week trial where opposing parties vigorously contested liability and damages, Tom obtained a unanimous \$1.7 million jury verdict for his clients whose husband and father perished in a helicopter crash. After trial, the jury praised Tom's work, and VerdictSearch publication selected the result as California's "verdict of the week."

Representative Complex Litigation Experience

- Along with several other attorneys at the firm, Tom successfully defended a lumber manufacturer in complex high-stakes litigation arising from one of the largest wildfires in California's history. Tom took and defended depositions, was extensively involved in all aspects of expert discovery, drafted successful motions in limine, and advanced one of the key arguments that caused the court to dismiss all of the remaining claims against his client at a pre-trial hearing, effectively ending the lawsuit in his client's favor on the eve of trial. The court then awarded Tom's client millions of dollars in fees and costs. The plaintiffs' appeal is pending.

- Tom represented two members of a limited liability company in a lawsuit against the manager who misappropriated patents owned by the company, successfully removed the manager from control, and settled the case on favorable terms for his clients.

Representative Family Law Experience

- Downey Brand's family law practice is particularly sensitive to the privacy of its clients, thus the family law group does not discuss specific case results.

Professional & Community Service

- Leadership Sacramento, Sacramento Metro Chamber of Commerce, Class of 2015
- Sacramento County Bar Association, Civil Litigation & Family Law, 2011-present
- Placer County Bar Association, Civil Litigation & Family/Juvenile Law, 2018
- U.C. Davis School of Law, Food & Agriculture Law, Visiting Lecturer, 2016
- Federalist Society, University of San Francisco School of Law chapter, President, 2005-2006

Education

- J.D., *cum laude*, University of San Francisco School of Law, 2007
- B.S., Genetics, University of California at Davis, 2002

Honors & Rankings

- *Super Lawyers*, Northern California Rising Star, General Litigation, Family Law, 2013-2019
- *Sacramento Magazine*, Top Lawyer, General Litigation, Family Law, 2017-2020
- McAuliffe Honor Society
- National semi-finalist in moot court competition, Washington, D.C., 2007

Speaking Engagements / Events

- *Genetic Engineering in Agriculture: Science, Policy & Law*, Presented by the Agribusiness Committee of the California State Bar Business Law Section, June 13, 2017

Publications

- *Cause for Concern Over Organic Fertilizer Made from Food Waste?*, Western Grower & Shipper, July/August 2017