



Ashley M. Boulton Senior Associate

621 Capitol Mall | 18th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

916.520.5254 | Direct
aboulton@downeybrand.com

Practice Areas

Complex Business Litigation | Construction Litigation | Environmental Enforcement Defense | Environmental/Toxics Litigation | Food & Agriculture | Food & Agriculture Litigation | Food Safety & Labeling | Proposition 65 | Real Property & Land Use Litigation

Clients facing a broad range of legal challenges rely on Ashley Boulton to achieve effective results.

Through her strong analytical and advocacy skills, Ashley assists clients in both the private and public sector with a wide variety of commercial litigation matters, including those involving real estate, contract, construction, shareholder, and business disputes. She supplements her litigation practice with an environmental background, giving her the ability to represent clients navigating complex state and federal environmental litigation matters. Ashley has experience in all phases of civil litigation, including discovery, pre-trial motion practice, and trial preparation in both state and federal court. This experience has prepared her to effectively and efficiently obtain the solutions her clients seek.

Experience

Business Litigation Experience

- Experience in all phases of civil litigation, including discovery, pre-trial motion practice, and trial preparation, in both state and federal court.
- Advise and represent clients in wide variety of commercial litigation matters, including real estate, contract, construction, shareholder, and business disputes.
- Manage all aspects of percipient and expert discovery, including propounding and responding to written discovery, managing extensive document productions, and preparing for and defending depositions.
- Assisted in representing multi-national rental car corporation in prosecution of claims related to defective design and construction of fuel system. Case settled favorably before trial.
- Successfully defended financial advisor clients against claims for breach of contract related to sale of financial advisory practice. Case settled favorably following successful opposition to application for writ of attachment and early mediation.

- Assisted in representation of shareholders in shareholder dispute related to buy-out provision in stock agreement.

Environmental Litigation and Regulatory Compliance Experience

- Assist in representation of clients in environmental litigation matters in both state and federal court, including complex multi-party CERCLA and Clean Water Act litigation, Administrative Procedure Act claims, and government enforcement actions.
- Research, analyze, and draft comprehensive legal memoranda advising clients on issues arising under federal and state environmental laws and regulatory programs, including CERCLA, Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, Proposition 65, CEQA, Underground Storage Tank regulations, air quality regulations, and Universal Waste regulations.
- Assisted in representation of property tenant in cost recovery litigation involving dry cleaning solvent contamination in soil and groundwater. Case settled favorably following mediation.
- Advised and represented private agricultural landowner against enforcement action under the Clean Water Act involving alleged destruction of wetlands.
- Research and assist in advising clients on various water quality issues, including issues relating to NPDES permits, general and individual waste discharge requirements, and CWA Section 404 permits. Assist in defending against and settling such suits.
- Assist with advising clients regarding environmental due diligence in property transfer and investigation situations.
- Draft transactional documents affecting landowners of contaminated property and surrounding property owners, including deed restrictions and site access agreements.

Professional & Community Service

- Sacramento Public Library Foundation, Board of Directors, 2015-present
- C.K. McClatchy Law and Public Policy Academy, Senior Project Advisors Program, Co-Chair, 2015-present
- Urban Land Institute, Forums Program, 2017
- Central Valley Clean Water Association
- Sacramento County Bar Association, Civil Litigation Law Section, 2015-present
- Women Lawyers of Sacramento, 2013-present
- Florin Law Academy, Mentor, 2013-2014
- *McGeorge Law Review*, Former Comment Staff Writer, Legislative Staff Writer, Primary Managing Editor and Primary Articles and Symposium Editor

Education

- J.D., with great distinction, Environmental Law, University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law, 2012

- B.A., with honors, University of California at Santa Barbara, 2008

Honors & Rankings

- *Sacramento Business Journal*, Best of the Bar, 2019
- Order of the Coif
- Order of Barristers

Publications

- *Environmental Regulation Update*, California Grocers Magazine, December 2013
- *Regulatory Developments: Food and Drug Administration Proposes New Water Quality Standard for Agricultural Water*, Co-author, California Water Law and Policy Reporter (October 2013), October 2013
- *The Food Safety Modernization Act: Impact on Food Importation*, California Grocer, Issue 4, September 2014
- *Old Habits Die Hard: Reforming the Learned Intermediary Doctrine in the Era of Direct-to-Consumer Advertising*, 43 MCGEORGE L. REV. 433 (2012), Author, January 2012

Legal Alerts

- *California Adds Ten Years and Hundreds of Millions of Dollars to Cleanup Underground Storage Tank Sites*, October 7, 2014
- *New FDA Requirements for Gluten-Free Food Labels*, August 12, 2014
- *U.S. Supreme Court Upholds State Law Claims Cut Offs for Contamination Damages*, June 1, 2014
- *Watch for New Impacts from the Latest Environmental Justice Screening Tool*, April 29, 2014
- *Legal Update: EPA Issues Revised Enforcement Guidance To Address Leaseholder Concerns About Contaminated Property*, February 2013
- *OEHHA's Cumulative Impacts Efforts Likely to Affect Agricultural Communities*, January 2013