



## Christopher I. Rendall-Jackson Counsel

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### Practice Areas

Air Quality & Climate Change | CEQA / NEPA | Endangered Species |  
Environmental Enforcement Defense | Environmental Remediation & Due  
Diligence | Land Use | Recycled Water | Water Law | Water Quality Law

Christopher Rendall-Jackson draws on his experience with environmental law, white-collar defense, and securities enforcement and litigation to assist clients with multifaceted environmental litigation and enforcement matters.

In addition to litigation between private parties, Christopher has handled matters being prosecuted by or challenging the Department of Justice, the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Environmental Protection Agency, the California Public Utilities Commission, the Regional Water Quality Control Boards, and the California Air Resources Board. Christopher's pro bono practice has focused on criminal defense both in state and federal courts, where his efforts have contributed to the dismissal of numerous state convictions and the dismissal of two federal indictments related to alleged multimillion-dollar fraudulent schemes.

While in law school, Christopher was an articles editor for the *Harvard Environmental Law Review*, represented clients in court as a student attorney through the Emmett Environmental Law and Policy Clinic at Harvard Law School, and was a research assistant to Harvard Law School Professors David Rosenberg and Jack Landman Goldsmith. After law school, Christopher clerked for the Honorable Jon P. McCalla of the United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee. After his clerkship, Christopher spent several years as a litigation associate at an international law firm.

Prior to attending law school, Christopher was a professional ballet dancer for 14 years and rose to the rank of principal dancer with Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre. Christopher continues to be a part of the arts community through his pro bono work as well as by teaching and coaching young dancers.

## Experience

### Energy and Utilities

- Represented municipality in successful challenge to a proposed consolidation in a general rate case pending before the California Public Utilities Commission.
- Represented agency regarding a desalination project in proceedings pending before the California Public

Utilities Commission.

- Represented municipal water district granted party status regarding issues related to data sharing in proceedings pending before the California Public Utilities Commission.
- Represented municipal utility district in federal litigation related to the reclamation of a power-transmission line.
- Briefed and argued successful motion for summary judgment, which was opposed by the Office of the Massachusetts Attorney General, before the Massachusetts Superior Court regarding licensing for the installation of rooftop solar panels.

## **California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

- Represented joint-powers authority in the successful defense of multiple CEQA challenges to a flood-control project in the trial and appellate courts.
- Represented private developer regarding multiple CEQA challenges to a project that includes residential, commercial, and civic components, including successful settlement of claims related to compliance with rules and regulations applicable to wildfire protection.
- Represented ranchers in CEQA challenge to a project to create an estuary and enhance a slough on adjacent land.

## **Environmental**

- Represented fireworks distributor in successful defense of alleged perchlorate contamination in groundwater.
- Represented municipality in successful demurrer to writ challenging the scope of authority of the Regional Water Quality Control Board.
- Represented special district in environmental audit performed by third-party consultant to identify and implement areas of improvement.
- Represented trade associations for publicly owned treatment works in challenge to an attempt by the EPA to circumvent rulemaking procedures.
- Represented former drycleaning facility regarding remediation and site closure in matter being pursued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

## **White Collar and Other Litigation**

- Represented agency in dispute related to the construction of a pipeline under the Santa Ana River.
- Defended corporate client in federal appeal of action brought by the United States regarding the origin of the Moonlight Fire.
- Briefed successful action to enforce arbitration award on behalf of a labor union before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.

- Conducted internal investigation regarding potential insider trading at a major international bank and represented the bank during subsequent SEC inquiry.
- Represented senior executive of a large Japanese company investigated in connection with the Department of Justice's price-fixing investigation.
- Represented multinational corporation regarding litigation pending before the Tokyo District Court to enforce an arbitration award in Japan.
- Obtained dismissal of a federal indictment on the eve of trial for a pro bono client charged with money laundering in connection with a failed multimillion-dollar real-estate development.
- Obtained dismissal of a federal indictment on motion to dismiss for a pro bono client charged with conspiracy and wire fraud in connection with an alleged multimillion-dollar fraudulent mortgage scheme.
- Obtained dismissal of prior criminal convictions in multiple state courts on behalf of a pro bono client.

## Professional & Community Service

- Conference of California Public Utility Counsel (CCPUC)
- Power Association of Northern California
- Bar Association of San Francisco
- American Bar Association
- Led efforts to develop arts-related pro bono opportunities at prior firm resulting in pro bono engagements with prominent arts institutions across the country

## Education

- J.D., Harvard Law School, 2012
- B.A., *summa cum laude*, University of Pittsburgh, 2008

## Honors & Rankings

- Clerkship, Chief Judge Jon P. McCalla, United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee, 2012-2013

## Publications

- *Litigating BP's Contribution Claims in Publicly Subsidized Courts: Should Contracting Parties Pay Their Own Way?*, Vanderbilt Law Review, Vol. 64, No. 6, November 2011

## Blogs

- *California Supreme Court Set to Review Companion Groundwater Cases and Resolve When County-Issued Well Permits May Be Treated As Ministerial and Not Subject to CEQA*, November 27, 2018

- *A Rare Decision on Preclusion in the CEQA Context*, May 15, 2017
- *Limitations on Subsequent Review Under CEQA*, May 4, 2017