



## Madeline R. Weissman Associate

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### Practice Areas

CEQA / NEPA | Groundwater Law | Land Use | Real Estate | Real Property & Land Use Litigation | Regulatory Law & Business Permitting | Water Law | Water Quality Law

Madeline Weissman uses her background in litigation, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and water law to advise public agencies and private clients on regulatory and land use entitlement issues governing real estate developments, renewable energy facilities, applications for and compliance with water quality permits, and ground and surface water issues throughout California.

Madeline assists clients in a wide variety of land use and environmental matters, including compliance with the Brown Act, local planning and zoning laws, and compliance with state and federal laws governing stormwater and wastewater quality. Clients also rely on Madeline for her litigation experience handling writs of mandamus matters for CEQA and land use issues.

Prior to joining Downey Brand, Madeline practiced at a national firm based in Los Angeles where she primarily served as general counsel to several of the largest sanitation and water districts in Southern California. She also externed in the San Francisco Superior Court, providing her insider experience with complex litigation.

## Experience

- General counsel to Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts, focusing on Brown Act compliance, inter-agency litigation regarding landfill remediation and land use planning, and wastewater permit compliance and litigation
- Litigation representation to Southern California Coastal Water Research Project
- Transactional counsel to Irvine Ranch Water District
- Counsel to San Diego Water Authority regarding LAFCO and annexation issues
- Land use and real property litigation for BNSF Railway, focusing on easement issues
- EIR preparation and review for public agency clients

- Real property litigation for private clients

## Professional & Community Service

- Los Angeles County Bar Association, Environmental Law, Real Property, and Barristers Sections, Member, 2018-2020
- California Lawyers Association
- California Association of Sanitation Agencies

## Education

- J.D., University of California, Hastings College of the Law, 2018
- B.A., Spanish and Psychology, University of Oregon, Robert D. Clark Honors College, 2014

## Honors & Rankings

- Editorial Board, *Hastings Constitutional Law Quarterly*, 2016-2018
- Externship, Judge A. James Robertson II, Superior Court of San Francisco, 2016
- Dean's Scholarship, University of California Hastings College of the Law, 2015-2018
- Presidential Scholarship, University of Oregon, 2010-2014

## Publications

- *President Biden Issues Executive Order Addressing Climate-Related Financial Risk*, Environmental, Energy & Climate Change Law and Regulation Reporter, Volume 1, Number 10, July 2021
- *Biden Administration renews focus on federal PFAS regulation*, Daily Journal, May 26, 2021
- *Governor Newsom Issues Executive Order to Conserve 30 Percent of California Lands*, California Land Use Law & Policy Reporter, Volume 30, Number 3, December 2020

## Blogs

- *Good News for California Housing: SB 7 Extends Expedited CEQA Review to Small-Scale Infill Housing Projects*, May 28, 2021
- *CEQA Plaintiffs Beware: Meritless Lawsuits May Be Subject To Counter-Claims for Malicious Prosecution*, May 21, 2021