

# Karen L. Bizzini

Partner, Los Angeles Office

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## PRACTICE GROUPS

- Litigation
- Insurance

## EDUCATION

Harvard Law School, J.D., 1984

University of Southern California, B.S., *summa cum laude*, 1981

## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Karen L. Bizzini is a partner in the Los Angeles office. She specializes in insurance coverage and general business litigation. She has extensive trial, arbitration/mediation, and appellate experience. She regularly defends insurance companies in bad faith and contribution lawsuits, and also provides advice on a variety of coverage issues. She has defended insurers in first-party homeowner actions involving earthquake and mold claims. She also has tried civil lawsuits involving entertainment, bankruptcy, and franchise law. She often represents individuals and small businesses in contract disputes and counsels them on insurance issues.

Karen's litigation practice includes matters before California state and federal trial and appellate courts. She has appeared as counsel of record in state courts in Washington, Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, Oregon, Iowa, and New York, in the Northern District of Georgia, the District of Utah, the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and the District of Kansas.

Karen excels at successfully resolving lawsuits by dispositive motion, or by achieving other significant rulings that shape the litigation. In one case in the District of Kansas, she obtained a ruling in her

client's favor that the crime-fraud exception to the attorney-client privilege applied, which required the opponent to produce hundreds of documents that it had withheld as privileged.

Karen has published numerous articles on the topics of insurance, reinsurance, and litigation, and co-authored a chapter for the [New Appleman Insurance Law Practice Guide](#), titled "Analyzing Insurance Policies".

Karen has represented many pro bono clients during her career. Most recently, as a volunteer with the Inner City Law Center, she represented a female Army veteran in a benefits appeal. She thoroughly reviewed her client's voluminous military and medical records, performed comprehensive research of her client's service-related medical conditions, worked with her client's friends to supplement the case file, and argued her client's benefits appeal before the Veteran's Administration. She obtained an award that increased her client's monthly VA benefits from \$450 to \$3,084, and paid retroactive VA benefits of more than \$120,000.

## COMMUNITY

Karen is an active leader in many organizations. She created and chaired for four years the American Cancer Society's Attorneys Committee for the Los Angeles Region, which raised more than \$600,000 for local cancer programs, research, and scholarships under her leadership. For 25 years, she regularly volunteered for the American Cancer Society's "Just for Kids" program. She served for 11 years on the Board of Directors of No Limits, a non-profit speech and language center and theater troupe for deaf children. She has been a Chancellor's Associate at the University of California at Merced for 10 years.

Karen regularly mentors law students and recent law school graduates.

In 2008, she established a college scholarship in her name at Atwater High School. She has awarded 17 scholarships to female graduates since that time.

## EVENT

• Musick Peeler welcomes Karen L. Bizzini as a Partner in our Los Angeles office. 08.08.2019

## ADMISSIONS & PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Karen is admitted to the State Bar of California. She also is admitted to the United States District Court for the Northern, Eastern, Central and Southern Districts of California, and to the Ninth and Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals.

She is an active leader in many professional organizations. She is a Lifetime Member of the Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles (WLALA), and served on its Board of Governors for six years. She served for 11 years on the WLALA Public Action Grant Foundation Advisory Counsel, and for one year

as President.

She served a three-year term on the State Bar of California's Committee on Women in the Law, and was Vice-Chair of that Committee for one year.