

# Susan J. Field

Partner, Los Angeles Office

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## PRACTICE GROUPS

- Insurance
- Litigation

## EDUCATION

St. John's University School of Law, J.D., 1978

State University of New York at Albany, B.A., *cum laude*, 1974



## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Susan J. Field is a partner in the Firm's Los Angeles office. Her practice principally involves representing insurers in complex insurance disputes on a broad range of issues arising under primary and excess policies and reinsurance coverages, with particular emphasis on general liability coverage claims involving environmental and other long-tail liabilities, personal and advertising injury coverage and errors and omissions insurance and the "bad faith" issues arising from such disputes. In that capacity, she provides insurance coverage counseling, and represents insurers as plaintiffs, as defendants and in the increasing number of inter-insurer disputes.

Ms. Field's substantial litigation practice includes matters before the California state and federal trial and appellate courts. She has also appeared as counsel of record in courts outside of California, including those in Arizona, Hawaii and Nevada. A significant part of Ms. Field's practice includes mediation, both as an advocate for her clients and as a mediator. She has spoken and written extensively on insurance issues.

## RECOGNITION

Ms. Field was selected a Southern California Super Lawyer in the Insurance coverage specialty area by *Los Angeles Magazine* each year from 2007 through the present.

Ms. Field was chosen as a recipient of the Judicial Edition of 2020 AV Preeminent, for the highest rating in legal ability and ethical standards, selected by the Bar and the Judiciary. She was recipient in 2019 as well.

## PUBLICATIONS

### INSURANCE POSTINGS

- Only the "Good Faith" Early Bird Gets the Worm 01.09.2019
- Rescission Repeat: Be Careful What You Ask 08.14.2017
- Rescission Was On California Courts' Minds In May 06.22.2017
- SLAPP Happy: A String of Cases Addressing California's Anti-SLAPP Statute 08.22.2016

### INSURANCE NOTES

- Insurer's Duty To Pay Independent Counsel Fees Is Limited To Fees That Are "Reasonably Necessary And Reasonable In Amount," And Court Applies "Genuine Dispute" Doctrine To Fee Dispute 08.05.2011
- Court Applies "No Stacking" Of Primary Limits And "Horizontal Exhaustion" On Individual Insurer Basis 06.08.2011
- Attorney-Litigants' Recovery Of Own Fees Is Limited 06.08.2011
- Administrative Adjudicative Proceeding Deemed "Suit" Where That Term Was Not Defined In The Policy 12.01.2010
- Insurer Waived Subrogation Against Treating Physician By Failing To Apportion Damages In Settlement 10.06.2010
- Punitives of Ten Times the Compensatory Damages Held Unconstitutional 04.07.2010
- Prior Publication Exclusion Barred Coverage for Trademark Infringement Claim 12.15.2009
- Inquiry Notice Held Sufficient for Equitable Contribution 09.16.2009
- Supreme Court Makes "Sudden and Accidental" Pollution Exclusion Harder To Apply 03.16.2009
- U.S. District Court Rules Tort Liability Does Not Exist For Breach of Reinsurance Contracts 05.09.2008
- Insurer Had Standing To Enforce Settlement Agreements Of Claims Against Its Insured, A Suspended Corporation 08.16.2007
- An Insurer Without Prior Notice Had No Liability To Coinsurer, And A Cease-And-Desist Demand Gave Notice Of A Potential Claim Under A Claims-Made Policy 10.11.2006
- Supreme Court Decides *Powerine Oil Co. v. Superior Court (Powerine II)* And *County Of San Diego v. Ace Property & Cas. Ins. Co.* 09.01.2005

- The Absolute Pollution Exclusion Applies To "Silica" Claims 06.01.2005

## DECISIONS

- OneBeacon America Insurance Company v. Fireman's Fund Insurance Company 08.19.2009
- *United States Fire Insurance Company v. Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton*, 171 Cal.App.4th 1617 (2009) 03.13.2009
- *Otay Land Company v. Royal Indemnity Company*, 169 Cal.App.4th 556 (2008) 12.09.2008
- *Royal Indemnity Company v. United Enterprises, Inc.*, 162 Cal.App.4th 194 (2008) 04.23.2008
- Westoil Terminals Co., Inc. v. Industrial Indemnity Company 07.11.2003
- Buena Vista Mines, Inc. vs. Industrial Indemnity Company 02.28.2001
- San Gabriel Valley Water Company v. Hartford Accident And Indemnity Company 08.09.2000

## NEWS

- Musick, Peeler's Susan Field Named Los Angeles Business Journal Woman of Influence 04.20.2022
- Seven Musick Peeler Attorneys Named to 2022 Southern California Super Lawyers Lists 01.24.2022
- Read Susan Field's latest Insurance Law Blog 01.09.2019
- Read Susan Field and Joelle Berle's latest posts on our new Insurance Blog. 08.24.2017
- Partners Susan J. Field and Jennifer Kokes obtain unanimous arbitration opinion in favor of insurer client on "related claims" issue in "Claims-Made" Policy 11.12.2015
- Susan Field spoke at the ABA Construction Law Forum 09.05.2014
- Susan Field and Larry Tabb Speak at Lloyd's 05.22.2013
- Seventeen Attorneys Designated Super Lawyers or Rising Stars for 2013 02.20.2013
- Thirteen Partners Named Southern California Super Lawyers for 2012 02.16.2012
- Susan Field Presents at Attorney Fees Conference 12.08.2011
- Eleven Musick Peeler Partners Honored as Super Lawyers for 2011 03.02.2011
- Twelve Partners Selected as Southern California Super Lawyers 02.22.2010
- Susan Field, Lawrence Tabb and Stephen Green obtain favorable decision in conflict of interest case 03.13.2009
- Susan Field and Stephen Green prevail in appellate case 12.05.2008

## EVENT

- Musick Peeler Attorneys Selected As 2020 Super Lawyers and Rising Stars 06.25.2020

## ADMISSIONS & PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- State Bar of California
- United States District Court for the Southern, Central, Eastern and Northern Districts of California
- United States Court of Appeal for the Ninth Circuit
- Ms. Field has been admitted pro hac vice in other jurisdictions, including Nevada and Hawaii, where

she has appeared before the trial and appellate courts