



Gilliam F. Stewart

SENIOR COUNSEL

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OVERVIEW

With nearly 15 years of experience in toxic tort litigation, Gilliam partners with clients to secure the best results possible.

Gilliam loves nothing more than taking on a client's problem, finding a resolution, and achieving a win in both business and legal terms. He has devoted his career to toxic tort litigation and has defended clients against allegations of chemical exposure for almost 15 years. His analytical mind was drawn to the multiple layers to mass tort cases, and he's fascinated by the combination of medical and legal arguments required for an effective defense. Gilliam's primary focus has long been asbestos cases; however, he also has experience with benzene, silica, and other chemicals.

Gilliam handles cases from inception up to trial and has also been brought in on appeals, including before the California Supreme Court. He has served as both local California counsel and as a member of national coordinating counsel teams for major multinational clients, and he is extensively familiar with the intricacies of client defense in traditionally plaintiff-friendly jurisdictions. Gilliam thrives on the challenge of developing solid, strategic arguments that will sway judges in these areas.

Alongside his work with traditional toxic tort litigation, Gilliam consults on regulatory compliance and defends enforcement actions under California's Proposition 65. He works frequently with existing firm clients who have questions about the state law and represents manufacturers, distributors, and retailers across the country who do business in California.

Industries

Manufacturing
Technology
Transportation

Services

Asbestos Litigation
Litigation & Alternative Dispute Resolution
Proposition 65
Toxic Tort

HUSCH BLACKWELL

Trusted by clients for his diligent, proactive advocacy, Gilliam prioritizes relationships with clients, often representing the same companies for many years. He values truly getting to know the in-house counsel, risk managers, compliance specialists, and insurers he works with and aims to serve as a full partner to client companies.

Experience

- Litigated toxic tort and personal injury cases from intake to resolution, including through the appellate process.
- Authored appellate briefs for the California Supreme Court and Court of Appeal, and argued before the Court of Appeal.
- Served as national coordinating counsel for multinational companies, advising on strategic responses to litigation threats.
- Worked closely with in-house counsel, risk managers, and compliance specialists to develop litigation strategies, coordinate discovery responses, and budget for liability risk exposure and defense costs.
- Consulted on regulatory compliance and defended enforcement actions under California's Proposition 65 for manufacturers, distributors, and retailers.
- Handled contract dispute negotiation and resolution, claims of unfair competition, false advertising, and violations of the California Consumer Legal Remedies Act.
- Personally conducted numerous depositions of plaintiffs, lay witnesses, and expert witnesses.
- Achieved outright dismissals of toxic tort cases on many occasions following successful negotiations, saving clients the expense and burden of further litigation.

Recognition

- *Super Lawyers* Rising Star, 2013-2017

Education

- J.D., University of San Francisco School of Law
 - *University of San Francisco Law Review*, Staff Member
- B.S., Villanova University

Admissions

- California
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of California



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