

## Kurt G. Whitman - Associate



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**Carlsbad, California 92009**

**BAR ADMISSIONS**

State Bar of California, 2011

State Bar of Minnesota, 2012

**COURT ADMISSIONS**

U.S. District Court, Southern District of California, 2018

U.S. District Court, Central District of California, 2014

U.S. District Court, District of Minnesota, 2013

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

November 2011 to August 2015:  
Associated with Dorsey & Whitney LLP

September 2015 to July 2018: Associated  
with Cox, Castle & Nicholson LLP

August 2018 to November 2018:  
Associated with Dillon Miller & Ahuja,  
LLP

November 2018 to the present:

**Summary of Practice**

Mr. Whitman has substantial experience in real estate, land use, and environmental issues in California and throughout the U.S., including extensive experience in civil and administrative litigation from pre-trial to trial to appeal. His practice encompasses advocacy, transactional, and compliance-oriented matters.

As a litigator, Mr. Whitman handles diverse types of disputes, including overseeing and assisting with settlement, trial, and appeal preparation and strategy for state and federal court matters; drafting pleadings, briefs, and motions; conducting and facilitating full litigation discovery, including e-discovery; and appearing at court hearings and alternative dispute resolution proceedings. Besides substantial experience in the areas of land use, real estate, and environmental litigation (including CEQA and NEPA), Mr. Whitman's litigation practice includes business/commercial, regulatory, and public law litigation.

As a transactional attorney, Mr. Whitman assists clients in navigating complex development processes in various jurisdictions, including overseeing and assisting with the processing and securing of permits, approvals, and entitlements, and related environmental review, for residential, commercial, and industrial projects throughout California. Mr. Whitman also drafts, negotiates, and advises on real estate transactional documents, including development, easement, access, and indemnity agreements.

Mr. Whitman also serves clients in a compliance-oriented role and has experience in regulatory areas such as environmental, product safety, energy development, telecommunications, and education law, among others. Mr. Whitman has likewise served as outside counsel to municipalities, public education institutes, and other government entities. Mr. Whitman proudly serves clients across multiple industry areas, including real estate, manufacturing, construction, energy, agriculture, and education. In doing so, he has practiced in front of the Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Food and Drug Administration, United States Department of Agriculture, Federal Aviation Administration, California Department of Toxic Substances Control, various California Regional Water Quality Control Boards, as well as numerous other federal, state, and local agencies across the U.S.

Prior to becoming an attorney, Mr. Whitman enjoyed a nine-year career as a professional educator in Wisconsin and Arizona. While at the University of San Diego School of Law, Mr. Whitman worked as a legal intern for the San Diego Unified School District; as a research/teaching assistant for the Lawyering Skills (legal writing and oral advocacy) program; and as a judicial extern to the Honorable M. Margaret McKeown, Circuit Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth

Associated with Gatzke Dillon & Ballance  
LLP

## EDUCATION

University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire (B.A.  
English and Education, *magna cum laude*,  
1999)

University of San Diego School of Law  
(J.D., *cum laude*, 2011)

Circuit.

Outside the office, Mr. Whitman enjoys spending time with his family and competitive running.

## Memberships/Community Affiliations

State Bar of California (Section Member: Real Property Law,  
Environmental Law)

Minnesota State Bar Association

San Diego County Bar Association (Section Member: Environmental  
Law/Land Use Law, Real Property Law, Civil Litigation)

Los Angeles County Bar Association (Section Member: Real Property)

United States Running Streak Association (Premier Member)

San Marcos Youth Baseball (Manager/Head Coach)

## Reported Opinions

*Richland/Wilkin Joint Powers Authority v. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*  
38 F. Supp. 3d 1043 (D. Minn. 2014)

## Awards/Honors

Southern California Super Lawyers Rising Star, 2016–2018

North Star Lawyer, Minnesota State Bar Association (for significant pro  
bono contributions), 2012–2014

Order of the Coif, University of San Diego School of Law, 2011

Honored Educator, Eau Claire (WI) Area Chamber of Commerce, 2001

## Publications

*A Refresher on CEQA Streamlining Processes*, SoCal Real Estate  
(August 2018) (co-authored).

*“Most Likely Descendants” Regulations Enter Approval Process*  
(February 2017).

*Emergency Groundwater Management Regulations Now in Effect* (July  
2016).

*The California Environmental Quality Act in 2015 - Summary of New  
Court Decisions, Statutory Changes and Proposed CEQA Guidelines  
Amendments* (February 2016) (co-authored).

*Dealing with Special Zoning Issues*, Practical Guide to Zoning and Land  
Use Law, National Business Institute (April 2014).

*Challenging or Appealing an Administrative Zoning Decision*, Practical  
Guide to Zoning and Land Use Law, National Business Institute (April  
2014) (co-authored).

*No Password for You: California Enacts Social Media Privacy Laws*

*Affecting Employers and Postsecondary Educational Institutions* (September 2012) (co-authored).

*CFTC and SEC Propose New Identity Theft Red Flags Rules* (May 2012) (co-authored).

Contributing author to Chapter 120, *Energy and the Environment*, in David J. Muchow & William A. Mogel, *Energy Law & Transactions* (5th ed. 2012).

*Investing in Arts Education to Advance California's Creative Industry*, California Alliance for Arts Education (2011).

## Speaking Seminars and Conferences

*Zoning and Land Use Law Seminar*, National Business Institute, Bloomington, Minnesota, Speaker. *Subjects: Dealing with Special Zoning Issues* (presenter); *Challenging or Appealing an Administrative Zoning Decision* (co-presenter). April 8, 2014.