

Lee L. Kaster



Practice Focus

- Commercial
- Toxic Tort
- Insurance
- Long Term Care Malpractice
- Asbestos
- Pharmaceutical
- Commercial Design
- Trade Secrets

Academic Distinctions

- CALI Award for Excellence (Highest Class Score) in Civil Procedure and Torts
- Amjur award (Highest Class Score) in Negotiation/Settlement

Representative Clients

- American Cyanamid Company
- AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP
- Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
- Cytec Industries Inc.
- D Aircraft Products, Inc.
- The Dow Chemical Company
- Fiberite Inc.
- Texaco Inc.
- Unocal Corporation

In Brief

Mr. Kaster is a litigator with substantial experience handling cases involving design defects, alleged trade secret misappropriation, commercial disputes, toxic torts, insurance coverage and “bad faith” and long term care malpractice. Prior to joining the firm, Mr. Kaster was an associate at a major national law firm.

Associate

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Representative Matters

COMMERCIAL DESIGN

Mr. Kaster is presently representing a major oil refinery in a design defect action against an engineering firm arising from the defective design of a steam piping system at the refinery.

TRADE SECRETS

Mr. Kaster is currently defending Chevron U.S.A. Inc. in a trade secret misappropriation case involving industrial hose assemblies.

INSURANCE

Mr. Kaster has successfully defended numerous insurance coverage and “bad faith” actions involving commercial liability, homeowners and auto policies. Mr. Kaster obtained a dismissal in the trial court of a major commercial liability insurer in a coverage action involving the insured’s fabrication of defective pre-stressed concrete siphons for a major aqueduct and went on to successfully defend the judgment on appeal.

LONG TERM CARE MALPRACTICE

Mr. Kaster has successfully defended numerous long term care facilities (both skilled nursing facilities and residential care facilities for the elderly) in actions alleging improper care, including claims under California’s “elder abuse” statute.

PHARMACEUTICAL

Mr. Kaster obtained a voluntary dismissal in an action against AstraZeneca LP alleging the death of a fetus as a result of in utero exposure to an ACE inhibitor.

TOXIC TORT

Mr. Kaster is presently defending Chevron U.S.A. Inc. and Unocal Corporation in a product liability wrongful death action arising from alleged benzene exposure.

ASBESTOS

Mr. Kaster represents Chevron U.S.A. Inc., Cytec Engineered Materials Inc., Fiberite Inc., The Glidden Company, Hewlett-Packard Company, Texaco Inc. and Unocal Corporation in asbestos product liability and premises liability actions throughout California.

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

Mr. Kaster is representing a paint manufacturer in a breach of warranty and negligent misrepresentation case brought against it by the owner of a Central Valley grain facility and its painting contractor arising from a grain silo painting project.

He also recently represented Chevron Environmental Management Company in a breach of contract action brought against it by a soils remediation contractor in connection with the clean-up of hydrocarbon contaminated soil at a former Chevron service station in Southern California.