

Susan A. Ogdie



Representative Clients

- CARQUEST Corporation
- Chevron Products Company
- Chevron Shipping Company
- Coastal West Ventures, Inc.
- El Paso Gas Company
- McKesson Corporation
- Texaco Refining and Marketing Inc.
- Texaco Shipping
- Tosco Refining Company

Education

- J.D., Georgetown University Law School, 1971
- B.A., Lawrence University, Wisconsin, 1965

Professional Associations

- American Bar Association
- State Bar of California

Admitted to Practice

- California State Bar – 1972

In Brief

Ms. Ogdie is a partner with over twenty-seven years of general litigation experience (predominantly, defense-oriented), specializing in labor and employment-related law, personal injury, products liability, and environmental contamination. Ms. Ogdie has been the principal attorney in more than two dozen trials in areas such as wrongful termination, various forms of alleged employment discrimination, product and premises liability under theories of negligence and strict product liability, asbestos litigation, maritime law and medical malpractice, with related sub-issues involving areas such as psychiatric and wrongful death damage evaluations. Ms. Ogdie has represented members of a significant array of industries in litigation, such as petro-chemical, food processing, lumber, machinery, trucking, agriculture, rubber and synthetics, electrical power, water, steel, and medical devices and instrumentation.

Examples of trials to verdict in which Ms. Ogdie has participated are: Raymond Kimbrough, et al., v. Caterpillar Corporation, et al. (San Francisco Superior Court – product liability, wrongful death-lung cancer; Rudi Diaz, et al., v. Exxon Corporation (San Francisco Superior Court, premises liability-lung cancer – defense verdict); Wilson Cozby v. Metalclad Insulation, et al. (San Francisco Superior Court, premises liability – lung cancer); Billy Armstrong v. Plant Insulation, et al. (San Francisco Superior Court, mesothelioma --defense verdict); Gerald Grahn v. AC&S, et al. (San Francisco Superior Court – premises and product liability, pulmonary disease: non-suit granted at close of plaintiff's case); Robert Grahn v. Abex Corporation, et al. (San Francisco Superior Court – premises and product liability, lung cancer: defense verdict); Alan Vasen v. Asbestos Defendants (San Francisco Superior Court – premises liability, mesothelioma – plaintiff verdict); and Eddie Forward v. Texaco Inc. (San Francisco Superior Court – premises and product liability, pulmonary disease: defense verdict).

Ms. Ogdie has been directly involved in more than two dozen cases in the preceding ten years in which trial has commenced through at least the taking of initial testimony prior to obtaining dismissal. These cases include Genevieve Gunderson v. A.W. Chesterton, et al. (San Francisco Superior Court – premises liability, mesothelioma: client dismissed on final day of testimony); John and Kathy Kiss v. Asbestos Defendants (San Francisco Superior Court – product liability, colon cancer; client dismissed during plaintiff's case); and the consolidated cases of James W. Szuch, James and Elsie Davis v. and Harold McIntosh v. A.P Green Industries, et al. (San Francisco Superior Court – premises liability, pulmonary diseases).

In addition to trial practice, which necessarily includes the ability to effectively evaluate a case in terms of risk management for the client, Ms. Ogdie has served for fifteen years as an Arbitrator for the San Francisco Superior Court in cases subject to CRC Rule 3.8 mandatory alternative dispute resolution process, including service contract disputes, personal injury, real property litigation, commercial sales, and banking disputes. Ms. Ogdie's current arbitration and mediation work follows approximately ten years of practice at McCutchen Doyle Brown & Enersen (now Bingham McCutchen) in the field of federal and state labor law, much of which involved arbitrations pursuant to various collective bargaining agreements between clients and various labor organizations.

Partner

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Ms. Ogdie's practice in the area of personal injury, premises liability, and employment related litigation has involved the preparation of, and argument at, numerous motions for summary judgment, including such motions in the matters of James A. Bonnifield v. Chevron Corporation (Los Angeles Superior Court – corporate successor-in-interest issues); and Lisa Lee Ingram, et al., v. Raytheon Aircraft Company (San Francisco Superior Court – evidentiary exclusion issues). Ms. Ogdie has been directly responsible for a number of successful writ proceedings in those instances in which the trial court's denial of summary judgment was believed to be contrary to existing law.

During law school, Ms. Ogdie served as a law clerk and legislative analyst to Thomas Corcoran of Corcoran, Foley, Youngman & Rowe. Upon graduation from Georgetown, Ms. Ogdie joined McCutchen, Doyle, Brown & Enersen in San Francisco, California, in its general litigation and labor law departments. Ms. Ogdie was a partner at McCutchen for eighteen years before forming her own firm, Ogdie & Armstrong. Ms. Ogdie joined FBE&M in 2001 as a partner.