# BREMER WHYTE BROWN & O'MEARA LLP



www.bremerandwhyte.com



## **ABOUT BREMER WHYTE**

Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara, LLP ("Bremer Whyte") is an AV rated law firm that provides a full range of transaction and litigation services to businesses and individuals. With offices in Newport Beach, Los Angeles, San Diego, Riverside, Northern California, Las Vegas, Phoenix, Reno and Denver, we take great pride as a full-service law firm committed to high-quality and responsive legal services.

Our law firm is known for its well-balanced combination of aggressive, competent litigators and negotiators, seasoned trial practitioners, and experienced transactional attorneys. Our attorneys have extensive experience in corporate law, contract negotiation and drafting, personal, product and property injury law, advertising loss, copyright and trademark infringement, family law, construction law, insurance coverage, employment law, entertainment litigation, estate planning, and general business and personal litigation services.

Our law firm is committed to our slogan - DEVELOPING SOLUTIONS TO MEET YOUR GOALS. We believe that an ethical, creative, thoughtful and tactful approach for each of our clients helps them meet their business, financial, and personal goals.

## FIRM PROFILE

Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara LLP, an AV rated firm in Martindale-Hubbell, has branch offices in the cities of Newport Beach, Los Angeles, San Diego, Riverside, Northen California, Las Vegas (Nevada) and Phoenix (Arizona). Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara LLP is a full-service law firm with approximately 80+ attorneys firm wide, and is committed to high-quality, economic and responsive legal services.

The firm represents a combination of aggressive, competent litigators and negotiators, seasoned trial practitioners, and experienced transactional attorneys providing in-depth expertise in a wide range of legal areas. Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara LLP focuses its practice throughout the states of California, Nevada and Arizona.

#### GENERAL CIVIL LITIGATION

Bremer Whyte's civil trial lawyers practice in state and federal courts, appellate courts, administrative tribunals and in arbitration and mediation proceedings. Clients range from individuals to small businesses to large multinational corporations. From the initial interview, to pre-suit counseling, negotiation, mediation and trial, each attorney works closely with you to develop solutions to meet your goals.

Bremer Whyte has represented a large number of local and national corporations and insurance companies facing product liability and mass tort actions involving an array of claims for personal injuries, property damages and economic losses. We offer experienced first-chair trial lawyers who know how to present the client's most effective defense to judge or jury in cases presenting the potential for significant damages exposure. We also have a large number of clients in related litigation for indemnity, lost profits and coverage claims.

We are especially skilled at developing factual and legal defenses for complex scientific and technical issues. We select technologies that minimize the cost of managing information and enhance communication with clients.

The Firm prides itself on developing a partnership with corporate counsel. Our attorneys emphasize early strategic thinking with the goal of obtaining the best business result for the client. Our approach to case management emphasizes litigation efficiencies. As examples, we have routinely engaged in early case assessment of risks and strategies, front-end trial readiness, collaboration and leveraging with other firms, innovative expert and jury work, and other techniques designed to reach early and favorable results. We are often asked to suggest methods of risk management to minimize the impact of an anticipated problem. Our attorneys have substantial experience in the following areas:

- Large Accident Cases
- Food Contamination
- Product Failure
- Trucking Accidents
- Commercial Claims for Product Defects
- Construction Site Injuries
- Design Professional and Attorney Malpractice Defense
- Prosecution of Qui Tam Action under Federal False Claims Act
- Representation of clients in Federal Multi-District Litigation

#### **GOVERNMENT ENTITY DEFENSE**

Bremer Whyte is skilled in the defense of claims against municipalities and other governmental entities throughout California, Nevada and Arizona. Governmental entities can be easy targets in claims of negligence, abuse of authority, or dangerous condition. At Bremer Whyte, we have extensive experience with aggressively and successfully defending governmental municipalities and their employees. The genesis of our ties with public entities and our results are based upon the firm's commitment to understanding important issues, guidelines and immunities paramount to local government. Bremer Whyte has represented public entities in every stage of litigation and successfully tried cases involving virtually every aspect of governmental service. We have successfully served city governments, law enforcement agencies, school districts, public service districts, law enforcement officers and public utilities.

#### CONSTRUCTION LAW AND LITIGATION

Bremer Whyte is well respected by colleagues, opposing counsel, judges, insurance carriers, and clients within this specialized category of civil litigation. Bremer Whyte's attorneys have significant trial experience representing developers, general contractors, owners, major and minor subtrades, and insurance carriers directly throughout California, Nevada and Arizona. Regardless of the size of the lawsuit, from a commercial structure to a single family home to more than 5000 condominium units, Bremer Whyte has the resources to zealously defend and resolve construction disputes on behalf of its clientele. Bremer Whyte has the contacts necessary to undertake representation when trial is near to determine case strategies and thereafter take an active role in the cost effective resolution of the case.

#### **CORPORATE**

Bremer Whyte's business department is highly experienced in corporate transactional law and business litigation, focusing on a wide array of issues, including corporate formation and related start-up requirements and advising corporate directors, officers, and business entities with regard to everyday business activities. Bremer Whyte attorneys are well versed on complex corporate requirements, and have assisted clientele with critical contract review, analysis, negotiation, drafting, and enforcement; employment/labor issues; Americans With Disabilities Act, Family and Medical Leave Act, and California Family Rights Act requirements; intellectual property issues; securities concerns; and shareholder rights.

Bremer Whyte acts as general counsel to numerous businesses, varying in size from 1 - 500+ employees. Bremer Whyte has assisted in the formation and continuing growth of sole proprietorships, general partnerships, limited partnerships, limited liability companies, limited liability partnerships, and corporations.

At the same time, Bremer Whyte's attorneys have an unwavering commitment to its business clients' interests, standing ready to litigate any dispute that cannot be resolved through informal negotiations. Regardless of the client's size, however, Bremer Whyte's primary emphasis of quality, yet personable service, remains a key factor to maintaining client relations.

#### **FAMILY LAW**

Bremer Whyte provides individualized counseling and representation in all areas of family law. Of the myriad of difficult issues that a client may confront, family issues are often the most mentally and emotionally draining. When faced with issues of this nature, it is important that you retain an attorney who will listen carefully to your problems and provide thoughtful, competent representation.

Bremer Whyte understands that each case is unique, and will spend the time to thoroughly evaluate your case in order to provide effective solutions tailored to the unique circumstances of your case. Bremer Whyte has the experience and expertise necessary to help you successfully navigate through the legal complexities associated with many family issues. Our expertise includes: Divorce, Custody,

Visitation, Modifications, Adoptions, Guardianships, Child Support, Parentage / Paternity, Property Division, Prenuptial Agreements, Postnuptial Agreements, Contempt/Enforcement, Wills, Probate.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL TOXIC TORT/HABITATIONAL LITIGATION

Bremer Whyte has extensive, broad-based experience representing businesses, corporations, individuals and insurance companies facing liability and mass tort actions stemming from environmental, toxic tort and habitational statute violation claims and litigation. The Firm represents clients in cases ranging from personal injury claims from benzene and asbestos exposure, to toxic mold claims and landlord habitation statute violations. These complex, multiple-party cases create overlapping areas of liability including extensive personal injuries, property damages and economic losses, as well as possible massive statutory-based penalties. We offer highly respected, well-seasoned counsel trial counsel who combine their litigation skills with well-known expertise in early evaluation, mediation and alternate dispute resolution.

The Firm is at the cutting edge of scientific research and medical/technical evaluations of claims for its environmental toxic tort and habitation cases, and we work closely with the acknowledged leaders in the scientific and technical fields to provide the best evaluation and defenses for our clients.

The Firm has developed a well-regarded reputation as the attorneys who resolve or take to trial the most technically difficult large exposure mass tort cases by virtue of its strategic approach of early evaluation of liability and potential client exposure, close work with client and corporate counsel, and technically advanced scientific and medical analysis of claims.

#### COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION AND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT LITIGATION

Bremer Whyte's experience in litigation stemming from homeowner/community association and property management issues is extensive and covers a wide array of claims ranging from CC&R, Bylaw or rules issues to common area maintenance and repair issues to personal injury and property claims. The Firm also represents property management companies retained by homeowner/community associations in litigation involving the management and care of homeowner/association common areas and general management.

Bremer Whyte has developed a well-deserved reputation for handling these complex, highly contentious litigation matters with a calm focus on issues and resolutions, and for resolving those cases generally considered as impossible to reconcile. The Firm takes pride in providing creative or alternative solutions to difficult cases and claims, with the goal of providing the best resolution possible for the client. Bremer Whyte works very closely with the client's corporate counsel in such matters, partnering on the client's defenses and representation all with the goal of obtaining the very best possible outcome for the client.

However, when resolution is not possible, Bremer Whyte's well experienced trial counsel are ready and able to litigate homeowner/community association and property management matters, and have earned the respect of opposing counsel through hard fought legal battles while doing so.

#### **EMPLOYMENT LAW**

Bremer Whyte maintains a full-service employment law department. The law firm provides legal advice, guidance and representation to its various business/corporate clientele, including counseling and defense against Federal and State based wrongful termination, harassment, and discrimination claims, wage and hour claims, preparation and updating of employee policies/employee handbooks, assistance and guidance with respect to employee discipline and termination issues, and FMLA/CMLA/ADA employee accommodations. Bremer Whyte also provides on-site seminars for employers to assure compliance with California's mandatory supervisor employee harassment training requirements.

#### **WILLS TRUSTS & ESTATES**

Bremer Whyte provides complete estate planning and probate services including consultation regarding the most appropriate plan for you and your family given the composition of your estate and your goals. Our services in this regard include wills, advance healthcare directives, powers of attorney, and all forms of trusts including revocable and irrevocable trusts, disclaimer trusts, A/B trusts, Q-Tip trusts, charitable trusts, and companion animal trusts. Moreover, as your family situation, the composition of your estate, and the federal estate laws change, it may be that your existing plan is no longer suitable for your needs. We can review your existing estate planning documents to update them to match your current situation in light of the shifting laws in this area. In addition, for those who have family members who were unable to establish trusts before passing, we will also handle the probate of their estates, whether testate or intestate. Often there are ways to avoid probate even without a trust. Finally, we can also establish guardianships and conservatorships when needed.

#### **REAL ESTATE**

Bremer Whyte's attorneys are well versed in real estate law, both residential and commercial, and stand ready to assist its clients with any legal issue that arises, whether such issue involves a landlord/tenant dispute, creation of a complex commercial lease, or residential non-disclosure issues. Bremer Whyte's clients include individual homeowners, brokers and agents, property inspection companies, landlords, residential and commercial tenants, homeowners associations, and property management firms

Thank you for your interest in Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara LLP

# **PARTNERS**

Nicole Whyte<sup>1,2,3,10</sup>

Keith G. Bremer<sup>1</sup>

Raymond Meyer, Jr.<sup>1</sup>

Peter C. Brown<sup>1,2,3,4,10</sup>

John V. O'Meara<sup>1,2,4</sup>

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# BREMER WHYTE BROWN & O'MEARA LLP

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# REPRESENTATIVE CLIENTS

#### **Business Clients:**

ACS Security Industries, Inc.

Bi-State Propane

Bravo Sports, Inc.

Covi Concrete Construction, Inc.

Del Taco Corporation

Discover

Enterprise Rentals

McCormick Construction Company

Merzon Industries

Money Tree

Nationwide Holdings

Owens Corning

Toshiba North America

Vector Control Joint Powers Agency

Waste Management, Inc.

Nobel Biocare Holdings USA, Inc.

Sears Holdings Corporation

Sysco Corporation

The Del Mar Fairgrounds

#### **Third Party Claims Companies:**

Devonshire Group

Broadspire

Carl Warren & Company

Claims Resource Management

Midlands Claim Administrators, Inc.

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Riverstone Resources

West Coast Casualty Services, Inc.

American Claims Services, Inc.

Crawford & Co.

#### **Insurance Carriers:**

Allied Insurance Co.

Arch Specialty Insurance Services

**ARCH Trinity Insurance** 

Clarendon Insurance Company

Commercial Underwriters/ Underwriters Insurance Company

Connecticut Specialty Insurance Company

Employer's Mutual Casualty Co.

Farmers Insurance Exchange

Federated Insurance Company

Gemini Insurance Co. of Forth Worth, Texas

Hawkeye Insurance

LMI Insurance Company

Certain Underwriters at Lloyds of London

North American Services Insurance

One Beacon Insurance Co.

Ranger Insurance Company

Safeco Insurance Company

TIG Insurance Company

Truck Insurance Exchange

Tudor Insurance Company

Unigard Insurance

USLI

AIU Holdings, Inc.

Everest National Ins. Co.

Lincoln general Ins. Co.

Ace Insurance Co.

CNA

Allianz Insurance Co.

Zurich North American Ins. Co.

#### **Governmental Entities**

City Of La Habra

City Of Hesperia

City Of San Diego

City Of Del Mar

City Of Orange

City Of Los Angeles

City Of Anaheim

City Of Pico Rivera

City Of Bakserfield

City Of Canyon Lake

City Of Boulder City



# KEITH G. BREMER

Keith G. Bremer is an ABOTA member, an AV rated attorney by Martindale-Hubbell and voted Super Lawyer. He is the senior partner of Bremer, Whyte, Brown and O'Meara LLP, an 80 plus member law firm with full service offices in Los Angeles, Newport Beach, Northern California, Las Vegas, San Diego, Arizona and a satellite office in Riverside. Mr. Bremer has experience in all aspects of civil litigation and has had the privilege of representing auto manufacturers, auto dealerships, contractors and business owners in trial. Mr. Bremer has been a featured contributor in the Orange County Register, Business Section and has been editorialized in, among others, the Los Angeles Times, Los Angeles Daily Journal, CBS, NBC, Fox, KCAL and KTLA news. He recently consulted and appeared on ABC's 20/20 and The CBS Evening News with Katie Couric. Mr. Bremer is regularly consulted by lobbyists and the insurance industry to provide input on proposed legislation in the legal field from California to Colorado. Mr. Bremer has obtained a verdict for \$3.25 million which was affirmed by way of a published opinion out of the 4th Appellate Court of Appeals. He is a two time recipient of Farmers Gladiator Trial Award. He is a member of the Southern California Defense Counsel and the Orange County Bar Association. Mr. Bremer is a regularly featured speaker at seminars throughout the United States. Keith G. Bremer is certified to argue before the U.S. Supreme Court.



# NICOLE WHYTE

Nicole Whyte is a founding principal of Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara LLP. Admitted to the South African Supreme Court in 1990, the California State Bar in 1991, the Nevada State Bar in 2000, and the Washington D.C. State Bar in 2011, Ms. Whyte has extensive experience in all aspects of litigation, with a focus in the areas of complex civil litigation, trucking law and insurance defense. Ms. Whyte serves as lead trial counsel on the west coast to Waste Management, Inc., a fortune 500 company. Ms. Whyte has successfully handled hundreds of complex, multi-million dollar lawsuits and has been awarded the highest accolade in Martindale-Hubbell: an AV rating. This was as a result of an extensive, confidential review conducted among the legal profession in her community. The AV rating signifies Ms. Whyte's legal abilities are of the very highest standard and her professional ethics are unquestioned. Ms. Whyte has been named California "Super Lawyer" by Los Angeles Magazine in 2006 and 2012. Ms. Whyte is also a certified family law specialist and recipient of the prestigious Angelo Palmieri award for professional excellence in litigation and trial work.

Ms. Whyte has written extensively in the field of civil litigation, with many published articles in this area of specialty. Ms. Whyte has also lectured to various organizations on her other areas of specialty, including West Coast Casualty Seminar 1998: Care, Feeding and Handling of Experts; West Coast Casualty Seminar 2000: The Effects of the Aas decision - A Subcontractor's Perspective; Lorman's Construction Defect Claims in California: The Subcontractor's Perspective: Defending the Trades; Mealey's Construction Defect Litigation Conference 2001: The Art of the Release: From Standing to Structured Settlements; and West Coast Casualty Seminar 2002: The Nuts and Bolts of Handling a Construction Defect Lawsuit: Mc<sup>2</sup> 2011 Seminar: The Art of Voir Dire.

In addition to speaking for many organizations, Ms. Whyte is a member of the Construction and Insurance sections of the Orange County Bar Association, the Clark County Bar Association (Nevada) and ABA (American Bar Association). She is a past member of the Association of Certified Family Law Specialists. She is also a member of the Civil Procedure and Evidence panels of the Orange County Bar Association's Resolutions Committee, responsible for invoking constructive changes in the legislation. She is a twice graduate from the National Institute For Trial Advocacy (NITA) program in trial advocacy, and is Master Bencher of the Robert A. Banyard Inn of Court. In addition, Ms. Whyte serves as a mediator and settlement officer for the local Superior Courts.

A native of Johannesburg, Ms. Whyte received her Bachelor of Arts and her LLB from the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa in 1985 and 1987, respectively. After graduating from law school, she served as state prosecutor at the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court, handling criminal trials. Following her tenure as state prosecutor, she gained civil litigation experience at a general practice, civil law firm in Johannesburg, South Africa. Ms. Whyte immigrated to the United States in 1991.

Ms Whyte and her husband, Steven Nataupsky, managing partner of the Intellectual Property law firm Knobbe Martens, live with their 4 young children in Newport Beach. When not practicing law, Ms Whyte enjoys spending time with her family, exercise and piano, travel, and reading.



PETER C. BROWN

Peter C. Brown is the managing partner of the Las Vegas and Denver offices of Bremer, Whyte, Brown & O'Meara. Las Vegas serves as Mr. Brown's home base, but he is constantly on the move handling complex litigation for his clients throughout the western United States. Mr. Brown has extensive experience in all aspects of civil litigation, including construction defect, personal injury and general liability. Mr. Brown has handled numerous multi-million dollar cases to verdict.

Mr. Brown earned his Bachelor of Arts in Theatre from U.C. Davis and his Master of Fine Arts in Theatre from U.C. San Diego. Prior to becoming an attorney, Mr. Brown worked as a professional actor in the fields of television, film and theatre. Mr. Brown worked throughout the country in numerous productions before deciding to "take his act" from the stage to the courtroom. Mr. Brown's acting background has served him in good stead both in court and as a speaker at numerous seminars on civil litigation.

Mr. Brown earned his Juris Doctorate from Pepperdine University School of Law. Mr. Brown is a member in good standing of the California, Nevada, Arizona, Colorado and Washington State Bars.



JOHN V. O'MEARA

John O'Meara, an AV rated attorney, is the managing partner of Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara LLP's Los Angeles, California office. Mr. O'Meara's career as a defense and coverage lawyer spans 20 years and includes the defense of the following on behalf of individuals, entities and over 50 insurance companies:

- \* Physicians and hospitals in medical malpractice cases
- \* Attorneys, accountants and other specialists in professional liability cases
- \* Premises owners in general liability and employment cases
- Automobile, tractor-trailer and other vehicle owners and drivers in accident cases
- \* Product manufacturers, suppliers and sellers in product liability cases
- \* Contractors, developers, general contractors, subcontractors and design professionals in construction cases

Mr. O'Meara is also regularly retained by insurance companies to evaluate claims pre-litigation, and also to provide opinions on the existence or non-existence of coverage for a claim in the states of California, Nevada, Arizona and Colorado. Mr. O'Meara has assisted insurance companies in drafting and establishing underwriting criteria in an effort to make insurance coverage more available.

Mr. O'Meara regularly speaks nationally and internationally on various topics to trade groups and the insurance industry. Mr. O'Meara is a paneled mediator and arbitrator for Alternative Resolution Centers, where he specializes in the economical resolution of construction defect and general liability cases. His success rate as a mediator is over 95%. He is also on the mediation and arbitration panels for the counties of Los Angeles and Ventura.

Mr. O'Meara is licensed to practice in the states of California, Nevada and Colorado, as well as the United States District Court and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeal. Mr. O'Meara is a member of the Ventura Bar Association, San Fernando Bar Association, Orange County Bar Association, Los Angeles Bar Association, Clark County (Nevada) Bar Association and the Nevada Trial Lawyers Association.

Mr. O'Meara is also a Planning Commissioner for the City of Agoura Hills, California.



RAYMOND MEYER, JR.

Raymond Meyer, Jr. is the managing partner of the Northern California office of Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara LLP. Mr. Meyer is an aggressive litigator who has successfully handled numerous multi-million dollar cases to conclusion through arbitration, settlement and trial. Mr. Meyer's trial results have been profiled in the Los Angeles Daily Journal's Verdicts and Settlements "Litigator Profile" section under the "Cases in Focus.

Mr. Meyer was born in Washington. After earning his Bachelor of Science degree in International Business from New York State University in 1984, he entered the United States Air Force where he served, among other things, as a Czech linguist. Mr. Meyer subsequently earned his Masters in Business Administration, with a concentration in management, from Golden Gate University in 1988. Mr. Meyer earned his Juris Doctorate from Western State University in San Diego in 1994. While in law school, Mr. Meyer clerked for Judge Victor Bianchini of the San Diego Superior Court and later interned with the United States Attorney in San Diego, in the Asset Forfeiture Unit.

Mr. Meyer has handled a variety of insurance coverage, insurance defense, construction defect, injury and product liability matters. Currently, Mr. Meyer is involved in various local building trade events and has spoken before trade organization groups on various topics related to construction defect litigation. Mr. Meyer has been nominated by his peers through balloting to the 2004 and 2005 Southern California Super Lawyers which identifies attorneys in the Southern California Bar region under 40 years of age or with ten or fewer years of practice as The Rising Stars of Southern California Law." He was nominated in the "Construction" practice area. The attorneys who make this list are limited to the top 2.5% of ballot point earners from the responding attorneys who have actually seen the nominated attorney in action.

Mr. Meyer focuses his litigation and transactional experience in the representation of contractors throughout California, as well as complex construction defect, general liability, personal injury, insurance and business litigation.



KERE K. TICKNER

A partner with Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara LLP, Ms. Tickner's experience in complex civil litigation is extensive. She handles a broad variety of civil litigation matters including construction defect, personal injury, labor/employment and general business litigation, while also tailoring her practice towards the corporate, labor/employment, and general business legal needs of her various clientele. Within Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara LLP, Ms. Tickner's knowledge of procedural law and law and motion, both orally and written, is used to mentor new associates in writing technique and style.

Ms. Tickner was born in Texas in 1962. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of San Francisco in 1984. During college, and continuing upon graduation, Ms. Tickner worked as a paralegal, specializing in business law, taxation, wills and trusts, real property, and transactional law.

Ms. Tickner thereafter received her Juris Doctorate degree from the University of La Verne, College of Law in 1994. During law school at the University of La Verne, Ms. Tickner received American Jurisprudence Awards for Torts and for Appellate Advocacy, and received an invitation to join the Law Review. She also received awards for Best Brief and Best Oral Argument at the Moot Court Finals Competition in 1992. Ms. Tickner was elected Vice Dean of the Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity and also clerked at the Fourth District Court of Appeals, Second Division for then Associate Justice Robert J. Timlin (now Federal Justice Timlin). Ms. Tickner graduated 4th in her class, with honors.

Ms. Tickner is admitted to practice before all courts in the State of California and the U.S. District Court, Central, Southern and Eastern Districts of California, as well as the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Prior to joining Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara LLP, Ms. Tickner worked as an associate for Kring & Brown, and also spent one year with Mundell, Odlum & Haws, a firm specializing in complex business, labor and employment litigation.

Ms. Tickner is a Barrister of the prestigious Banyard Inn of Court and a member of the American Bar Association. Ms. Tickner emphasizes the areas of complex civil litigation, labor/employment litigation, construction litigation, business litigation, and corporate and general labor/employment and business law.



KIT NATLAND

Kit Natland acts as Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara LLP's hiring partner, coordinating recruiting for the firm's Summer Associate program. Mr. Natland has been with Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara LLP since its inception in 1997, and has been an integral part of the firm's growth from five to over seventy attorneys during that tenure. Mr. Natland represents private businesses and individuals throughout the State of California. He has successfully handled hundreds of complex litigation matters, from inception through trial or resolution. In addition, Mr. Natland handles the firm's estate planning practice, including the drafting of wills, trusts, and related documents, as well as litigation related to estate planning matters. Mr. Natland also teaches as an Adjunct Professor at the Chapman University School of Law.

A native of Newport Beach, California, Mr. Natland received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science with a minor in English from the University of California, Irvine in 1992. He graduated from UCI with numerous honors, including such accolades as Phi Beta Kappa, Pi Sigma Alpha, Campuswide Honors, Cum Laude, and the Order of Merit. After first attending Cornell University School of Law, Mr. Natland received his Juris Doctorate with honors in moot court from the UCLA School of Law in 1996. During law school, Mr. Natland attended the Institute for World Legal Problems at the University of Innsbruck, Austria, where he studied under former U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist.

Mr. Natland is admitted to practice before all courts in the State of California, the United States District Court for the Central District of California, and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. He actively participates in the Orange County Bar Association, the American Bar Association, the UCLA Alumni Association and the Surfrider Foundation. Mr. Natland is active in the local business community and participates in many local charities, including the Anti-Defamation League and the Surf Industry Manufacturer's Association, in addition to coordinating the firm's pro bono activities through the Public Law Center. Mr. Natland is an avid sailor and golfer, and has extensive international travel experience, including throughout Asia, Central America, Europe and Africa. Mr. Natland currently emphasizes estate planning and civil litigation.



# TYLER D. OFFENHAUSER

Tyler D. Offenhauser is a partner with Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara LLP's Newport Beach Office. He has been a member of the firm since 1999. Mr. Offenhauser was born in San Diego, California in 1966. He graduated from San Diego State University in 1991 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science. Mr. Offenhauser obtained his law degree from the American College of Law in January 1996.

Mr. Offenhauser has successfully handled numerous trials and appeals involving a wide variety of legal issues in the areas of personal injury, construction law and general negligence. He is admitted to practice before the California Supreme Court as well as the United States District Court, Central District. Mr. Offenhauser is a member of the Orange County Bar Association and Robert A. Banyard Inn of Court.

As a trial attorney, Mr. Offenhauser is responsible not only for the litigation aspects of the case, but also the day to day management of the cases that he is involved with. His primary goal, and that of the firm, is to work closely with all of his clients on their cases from inception through settlement or trial. He limits his practice to complex civil litigation, with particular emphasis in personal injury, wrongful death, catastrophic loss and high profile liability litigation involving automobile accidents, slip and falls, product liability, and medical malpractice.



PATRICK AU

Mr. Au is a partner with Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara LLP's Woodland Hills office and has experience in a variety of civil litigation areas including construction defect, general liability, business litigation, municipal defense, premises liability and personal injury. Mr. Au's primary focus is construction defect litigation where he has over fifteen years of experience. Mr. Au has defended general contractors, developers as well as practically every subtrade imaginable.

Patrick Au was born in Hong Kong, China, and moved to the United States at age 2. Mr. Au attended the University of California at Los Angeles where he obtained his Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics in May, 1990. Subsequently, Mr. Au studied at Pepperdine University School of Law where he earned his Juris Doctorate degree in May, 1993. During law school, Mr. Au participated in Pepperdine's prestigious Alternative Dispute Resolution Program completing courses in Negotiations, Mediation and Arbitration.



**NELSON L. COHEN** 

Nelson L. Cohen is a partner with Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara LLP, concentrating his practice in the areas of General Liability, Construction Defect, and Business Litigation defense. Mr. Cohen is responsible for managing the General Liability department in our Las Vegas office. Mr. Cohen is an experienced trial lawyer, having been lead counsel in over 35 Superior/District Court jury trials. Mr. Cohen is licensed to practice in California and Nevada, the Central District of the United States, and the Supreme Court of Nevada. He obtained his undergraduate degree in Business Administration from the University of Southern California, where he majored in finance and was a writer for the Business School Newspaper. Mr. Cohen obtained his Juris Doctorate from Whittier College. Prior to joining Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara LLP, Mr. Cohen was the managing attorney for Precision Risk Management in Southern California, and a trial attorney with Perona, Langer & Beck, a well-respected Plaintiff's firm in Long Beach, California. He has a published opinion - Rivera v. Sassoon, 39 Cal.App. 4th 1045 (1995).



JEREMY S. JOHNSON

Jeremy Johnson is a partner with Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara, LLP. Mr. Johnson devotes his practice primarily to cases involving varying business and real estate disputes, complex civil litigation and corporate matters. He has represented a wide variety of clients during litigation and through trial in cases concerning contractual disputes, trade secret misappropriation claims, corporate governance and fiduciary litigation. Since 2006, he has managed the Firm's business and corporate practice group.

#### Representative Matters

- Lead trial counsel in defense of multi-million dollar staffing business relating to partnership dispute and fraud claims.
- Lead trial counsel in defense of a former director of a company relating to claims director breached his
  fiduciary duties during his service.
- Lead trial counsel for statewide transportation company in a class action lawsuit relating to various labor claims brought by numerous plaintiffs.
- Lead trial counsel for defense of national vitamin supplement company against plaintiff's claims for breach
  of contract and fiduciary duties.
- Lead counsel for regional real estate developer defending claims by plaintiffs of fraud and violation of statutory requirements in developing a project.
- Lead counsel for international medical supply company in legal action relating to a dispute against its broker concerning a high dollar commercial real property lease.
- Lead counsel for pharmaceutical valve manufacturer in matter involving trade secret claims and related allegations.
- Lead counsel for national lighting company in a Federal action involving the misappropriation of trade secrets against its regional competitors.
- Representation of memory module manufacturer in claims against its supplier for trade secret misappropriation and related business tort claims.
- Representation of national mortgage lender concerning varying claims for breach of its service agreements.
- Representation of real estate developer in matters concerning multiple lien issues on several of its developments.
- · Representation of commercial real estate developer/owner in varying claims concerning its holdings.

#### **Publications**

- 2005, Protecting Your Competitive Advantage in the Marketplace, Grand Tour Magazine, September 2005
- 2006, The Pros and Cons of Arbitration Agreements, Grand Tour Magazine, September 2006.
- 2006, Keeping in Line with the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act (RESPA), Grand Tour Magazine, July 2006



# JOHN H. TOOHEY

John H. Toohey is a partner in the Newport Beach Office of Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara, LLP. Mr. Toohey emphasizes his practice in contract negotiation and litigation, and complex product liability cases, including wrongful death and catastrophic injury. His representation spans industry, construction and insurance leaders such as Waste Management, Inc., Ellias Construction Company and Arch Insurance Company.

Mr. Toohey is admitted to practice in the State of California, the State of Arizona, and the United States District Courts - Eastern, Central and Southern. He is also a member of the Orange County Bar Association.

Mr. Toohey was born in Laguna Beach, California. He obtained his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Long Beach State University in 1993. Mr. Toohey was a member of the Long Beach State Rowing Team and won the 1989 U.S. Rowing Pacific Coast Rowing Competition. He then obtained his Juris Doctorate from Thomas Jefferson School of Law in 1999. While in law school, Mr. Toohey clerked for the Honorable Robert E. May, externed for the United States Attorneys' Office - Appellate Division and was the founder of the Mulligan Golf Club.

John currently resides in Costa Mesa with his wife Lynn and two daughters, Lily and Lucy.



VIK NAGPAL

Vik Nagpal is the managing partner with Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara LLP's San Diego office. He has extensive real estate and business litigation experience, having practiced law in both Northern and Southern California since 2000. Mr. Nagpal is admitted to practice law before all of the courts in California.

Mr. Nagpal graduated from San Diego State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and a Minor in Psychology. Mr. Nagpal received his law degree from the Thomas Jefferson School of Law in San Diego in 1999, receiving an American Jurisprudence Award in Criminal Procedure and a Trustee's Scholarship for Academic Achievement. Additionally, Mr. Nagpal externed at the San Diego Superior Court for the Honorable Ronald Prager.

Mr. Nagpal thereafter earned his Masters of Law in Real Estate from the John Marshall Law School in Chicago, Illinois, in 2001. Between 2001-2002, Mr. Nagpal acted as legal counsel for CB/Richard Ellis in Sacramento, handling site acquisitions for commercial properties and drafted commercial leases throughout the western United States. Mr. Nagpal concentrates in the areas of construction defect, real estate, and business litigation. Vik also specializes in the defense of Environmental claims relating to asbestos, toxic torts and hazardous waste. Additionally, he has dealt with cases complying with federal and state environmental laws



KAREN M. BAYTOSH

Karen M. Baytosh is a partner with Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara LLP. She has experience with all aspects of insurance defense litigation, with particular focus with complex litigation matters, including general liability and construction litigation in both State and Federal Court. Ms. Baytosh serves as the Westlaw representative and promotes continuing education seminars to Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara LLP's attorneys.

Born in Orange, California, Ms. Baytosh received her Bachelors of Science with honors from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona in 1991, with a major in Hotel and Restaurant Management and a minor in Business Administration. Ms. Baytosh received her Juris Doctorate with honors from Stetson University College of Law. While in law school she clerked for the Hon. Donetta Ambrose in the United States District Court, Western District of Pennsylvania and for Hon. R. Timothy Peters in the State of Florida, Sixth Judicial District. Ms. Baytosh is now admitted to practice before the State of California, the State of Nevada and the United States District Court for the Central District of California and the Southern District of California. She is a member of the American Bar Association, the Orange County Bar Association and the St. Thomas More Society in Orange County. Ms. Baytosh is currently focusing her practice in the areas of construction defect and general liability defense.



# MONIQUE R. DONAVAN

Monique R. Donavan works predominantly in the areas of insurance defense litigation and business litigation. She also has experience in insurance bad faith, construction, and employment litigation. She is licensed to practice before the Supreme Court of California and the Central District Court of the United States.

Ms. Donavan is a native Californian. She received her Bachelors of Science degree in Criminal Justice from California State University, Long Beach in 1992. While attending college, she worked as a law clerk at the Long Beach City Prosecutor's Office and was a member of an international soccer team that played in England and Holland. She obtained her Juris Doctor degree and Tax Certificate from Western State University, College of Law in 1995. Ms. Donavan concentrates her practice in the areas of civil litigation and business litigation.



ARASH S. ARABI

Arash S. Arabi is a partner with Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara LLP directing his focus towards insurance defense litigation. Admitted to the California State Bar in 2003, Mr. Arabi is licensed to practice before all courts in the State of California.

Mr. Arabi received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Politics, Magna Cum Laude, from Ithaca College in New York. He thereafter received his Juris Doctor degree from Pepperdine University School of Law in 2003. During law school, Mr. Arabi participated in Moot Court, was Chairperson of the prestigious Dalsimer Moot Court Competition and was Managing Editor of the Pepperdine Dispute Resolution Law Journal. Mr. Arabi's article, Renegotiating Third World Debt, 3 Pepp. Disp. Resol. L.J. 251, was published in 2003.

Mr. Arabi concentrates his practice in all aspects of complex civil litigation, including construction defect and general liability defense matters.



# LANETTA D.W. RINEHART

Lanetta D.W. Rinehart is a partner with Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara LLP's Newport Beach office. Ms. Rinehart is admitted to practice before all courts in the State of California.

Ms. Rinehart earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy from Chapman University, and was awarded the William James Award for departmental excellence in philosophy. Ms. Rinehart earned her Juris Doctor degree in 2000 from Loyola Law School while also handling complex litigation cases as a Certified Law Clerk at the busy civil litigation law firm of Smith, Smith & Harter, LLP. At Loyola Law School, Ms. Rinehart was awarded two First Honors Awards and offered a membership in the Phi Alpha Delta Honors Fraternity and Sir Thomas Moore Honor Society.

Prior to working with Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara LLP, Ms. Rinehart worked as an associate attorney handling microbial contamination, homeowners association, construction defect, and tenants' rights cases at the law firms of Cross & Associates in Irvine, California and Perona, Langer, Beck, Lallande & Serbin in Long Beach, California.

Ms. Rinehart is an Associate Member of the Robert A. Banyard Inn of Court, Orange County, and has lectured on indoor environmental law to industry professionals and experts at the May 2003 Forensic Consultants Association - Mold Workshop and several consumer seminars. Ms. Rinehart was also interviewed for the June 2003 issue of REO Magazine, Arizona.

Ms Rinehart presently concentrates her practice in complex construction defect law, homeowner's association issues, and environmental law.



JOHN J. BELANGER

John J. Belanger is the managing partner of Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara LLP's office in Phoenix, Arizona. Mr. Belanger has extensive experience in complex insurance defense litigation, including construction defect matters and wrongful death claims. His practice areas also include business litigation, contract and corporate law.

Mr. Belanger was born in Traverse City, Michigan but spent most of his childhood in Phoenix, Arizona. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree, Cum Laude, in English from the University of Arizona in 1998. As a Dean Scholarship recipient, Mr. Belanger attended Pepperdine University School of Law and obtained his Juris Doctor degree, Cum Laude, in 2002. He also obtained a Certificate in Alternative Dispute Resolution form the nationally recognized Strauss Institute for Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine University.

While attending law school, Mr. Belanger externed with for the Honorable Lawrence Anderson in the United States District Court, District of Arizona. Mr. Belanger was also a certified high school basketball referee for both the California Interscholastic Federation and the Arizona Interscholastic Association. Mr. Belanger over a decade of experience working as a metal stud framer and drywall journeyman.

Mr. Belanger is admitted to practice law before the United States Supreme Court as well as before all Arizona State Courts and the United States District Court, District of Arizona. Mr. Belanger is a member of the Arizona State Bar, the American Bar Association and the Maricopa County Bar Association. He maintains active membership in the Construction Section of the Arizona State Bar.



PAUL A. ACKER

Paul A. Acker is a partner in the Nevada office of Bremer, Whyte, Brown & O'Meara, LLP. Mr. Acker is admitted to practice in all State and Federal Courts in the State of Nevada as well as the Ninth Circuit of Appeals and the United States Supreme Court. He is a member of the State Bar of Nevada and has extensive experience in complex civil litigation.

Mr. Acker received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with Honors at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in 1985. During his collegiate career, he was admitted into the Phi Kappa Phi and Phi Lambdu Alpha Honor Societies as well as the Sigma Nu and Alpha Kappa Psi fraternities. Following his graduation from college, Mr. Acker was awarded a WICHE scholarship and obtained his Juris Doctorate degree from Hastings College of the Law at the University of California at San Francisco in 1988. While in law school, Mr. Acker clerked with the Organized Crime Strike Force within the United States Department of Justice.

Mr. Acker returned to the State of Nevada in 1989. He was inducted in the Nevada American Inns of Court in 1992. Since 1989, Mr. Acker has concentrated his practice in the fields of insurance defense, general civil litigation, construction litigation, and transportation liability.



# JOSHUA BORDIN-WOSK

Joshua Bordin-Wosk is a partner with Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara LLP's Newport Beach office, and emphasizes his practice on all aspects of civil litigation including catastrophic injury, governmental entity defense, entertainment, and employment law. In his handing of countless complex, multi-million dollar lawsuits, Mr. Bordin-Wosk prides himself as an aggressive, thorough, creative and well-prepared litigator, negotiator and trial attorney. Mr. Bordin-Wosk has successfully tried numerous cases on behalf of various clients throughout the State of California. Mr. Bordin-Wosk is admitted to practice law in the state of California.

Mr. Bordin-Wosk was born in San Diego, California. He obtained his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Educational Studies from Washington University in Saint Louis in 2001, and his Juris Doctorate from Chapman University School of Law in 2005.





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